

Prodigies 2721

Chapter 2721 Using a White Cat as a Pillow

Back then, outside the Ruins of the Gods, Kong Jue had been pierced through the chest by the Wang Clan's Sword of Dao Judgment, leaving him critically wounded and near death. Following that, he had been placed in the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron by Lin Xun and had remained there, silent for years.

Now, Kong Jue had finally awoken.

Lin Xun immediately ushered his martial uncle out. The disheveled man sat cross-legged on the ground, taking the wine gourd Lin Xun offered him and devouring a roasted, beast leg that was dripping with golden fat. Kong Jue's hair was disheveled and his body was grimy, yet he still looked quite handsome.

Lin Xun examined him carefully and felt relieved by his findings. Kong Jue's injuries had clearly healed, though his mind remained hazy and his mental state remained fraught. Xia Zhi gazed puzzledly at Kong Jue for a moment but didn't ask anything. However, Lin Xun explained, "His name is Kong Jue, and he's my martial uncle."

Xia Zhi nodded slightly and continued to immerse herself in the delicious food.

"Martial Uncle, do you still remember me?" Lin Xun asked tentatively.

Back then, outside the Ruins of the Gods, Kong Jue had briefly regained his sanity and cultivation, unleashing a terrifying and boundless might that left those enemy Immortals utterly helpless.

Whenever he recalled that memory, Lin Xun couldn't help but shudder. However, to his disappointment, his martial uncle simply drank and ate, ignoring him completely. Lin Xun snatched the wine gourd away and said, "Martial Uncle, do you truly not remember me? I was the one who took you out of Chaotian City."

"Drink, I want to drink!" Kong Jue raged, clamoring for the wine gourd.

"Then answer my question, and I'll give you it," Lin Xun said.

Kong Jue sized Lin Xun up, his eyes filled with bewilderment. "I don't know who you are, but since you took me away, you certainly wouldn't stop me from drinking alcohol."

Lin Xun was speechless for a moment before returning the wine gourd. He quietly released his spiritual sense, darting into Kong Jue's body to examine him, only to find it completely empty, devoid of any spiritual power or cultivation.

How strange! It seems that unless my martial uncle's mind is restored, his sanity and cultivation will never recover...

Lin Xun pondered this. Back in the Nirvana of Transcendence, a wisp of willpower of his master, the Lord of Fangchun Mountain, had stated that Kong Jue had encountered a mind tribulation while he was pursuing the Eternal Supremacy Path.

Furthermore, to help him mend his spiritual heart, he must naturally begin with the Eternal Supremacy Path. This meant that the only person in the world who could help Kong Jue was Lin Xun!

After all, he was the lone lotus that the Lord of Fangchun Mountain had awaited for eternity, possessing the law power of Nirvana. As long as he set foot on the path of immortality, he was destined to unravel the secrets of the Eternal Supremacy Path.

As the verse left by the Lord of Fangchun Mountain said: The path of eternal supremacy, the nirvana of transcendence; The endless calamity of ruin, the lotus blooms in solitude.

Every word of this dao verse held immense meaning, and it was intimately connected to Lin Xun's future path.

Lin Xun whispered softly, "When I embark on the path to immortality, I will definitely help you recover your mind. My master once said that I needed to bring you back to the Ancient Nebula Road."

Kong Jue ignored him, continuing to eat and drink, seemingly unaware that Lin Xun was speaking to him.

Suddenly, a deep, commanding voice echoed in his mind, "The wine smells good, and the food looks good. Would you mind if I have some too?"

Lin Xun froze, and he saw that a large, plump white cat had somehow appeared without a sound. It walked slowly, almost silently, as its furry tail swished leisurely. After speaking, the cat had crouched to one side, picked up a grilled fish with its paws, and began to savor it.

At this moment, Lin Xun's entire body tensed, his hair standing on end. He couldn't calm down at all. Why had this mysterious white cat appeared? The formations surrounding his cave haven seemed to be ineffective!

Xia Zhi looked up in confusion, glancing at the large white cat, but continued to remain silent. As for Kong Jue, he didn't even look at the large white cat as he was engrossed in enjoying his wine.

"This...this is a senior from the Origin Sect Ancestral Court. Don't be nervous," Lin Xun hurriedly explained to Xia Zhi, but he himself seemed very nervous.

Of course, he was unsettled for a reason. This large white cat, with its seemingly smooth and shiny fur, possessed a deadly power! Despite that, Xia Zhi, Kong Jue, and the large white cat all seemed calm, eating and drinking without interfering with each other. There was an eerie sense of harmony in the atmosphere.

Lin Xun's eyes widened at this scene, and after a moment's silence, he gradually calmed down. The big white cat's origins were definitely not simple, and it certainly hadn't come here just to eat and drink. However, he couldn't figure out why it had arrived.

Was it for Xia Zhi?

Was it for his martial uncle Kong Jue?

Or was it for the Nirvana law power?

"Is there any more food?" Xia Zhi suddenly asked.

The food had been completely devoured, and as Xia Zhi spoke, Kong Jue and the big white cat turned their gazes towards Lin Xun.

Lin Xun stiffened slightly again, then said, "Of course."

Following that, he unloaded all the delicacies he had stored over the years. Xia Zhi, Kong Jue, and the big white cat immediately looked away and returned to their food. This situation was so strange that Lin Xun was momentarily at a loss. He had experienced countless storms, waves, and dangers before, but never had he felt so uneasy.

After a long period of time, Kong Jue, his cheeks flushed from drinking and his eyes hazy, belched and let out a long sigh. For the first time, he looked at the big white cat beside him. Then, he reached out and scooped up the big white cat's plump body, placing it on the ground. He then tilted back and rested his head on it.

Lin Xun's eyes bugged out, and he almost tried to stop it. However, when he saw that the big white cat hadn't resisted at all, he was stunned. What was going on?

"Lin Xun, I'm sleepy too." Xia Zhi had also finished her meal, his voice clear.

"Yeah, okay." Lin Xun was distracted, his mind completely focused on Kong Jue and the big white cat, worried about something unforeseen happening. Xia Zhi, oblivious to everything, went to sleep on the bed at the side of the cave.

"Daoist Brother, you really don't remember me?" The big white cat's emerald eyes shone with sadness and melancholy, and its voice grew low and desolate. "Back then, you and I had also enjoyed wine while feasting, chatting freely about the dao. How joyful it was. Now, I've fallen into a state of becoming neither a human nor a ghost, and you've become insane, completely devoid of all reason..."

At the end, it let out a long sigh. Kong Jue, resting his head on the big white cat, snored soundly in his sleep. His unkempt, dirty hair stood in stark contrast to the cat's snow-white, silky fur. It suddenly dawned on Lin Xun that the big white cat had come for Kong Jue! Furthermore, it seemed that they were old friends!

Thinking of this, he felt a sense of relief. However, he kept thinking about Kong Jue, who was one of the first pioneers to travel to the Eternal True Realm from the Ancient Nebula Road in the primordial times. He was considered a 'leader' during that time, and even his master held him in high esteem.

It was easy to imagine that after arriving in the Eternal True Realm, with Kong Jue's abilities, he would surely make a name for himself!

Back in the Nirvana of Transcendence, his master had said that Kong Jue had been deceived by the Immortal Giants of the Eighth Heaven Domain, who had led him to the Nirvana of Transcendence to seize the fortune associated with the Eternal Supremacy Path.

Of course, anyone who could be deceived by the Immortal Giants of the Eighth Heaven Domain was destined to be no ordinary person! After all, ordinary people wouldn't even have the chance to be exploited, let alone be deceived...

At this point, the big white cat had undoubtedly proved that Kong Jue must have had an extremely glorious and splendid past in the Eternal True Realm.

Xia Zhi fell into a deep sleep. Kong Jue was snoring soundly.

In this cave, only Lin Xun and the big white cat were awake. The big white cat was clearly reminiscing about the past, its eyes filled with sadness and melancholy. Although Lin Xun was filled with countless questions, he forced himself not to disturb it.

"Lin Xun." After a long moment, the big white cat finally turned its emerald eyes towards Lin Xun, a look of authority already etched in them. However, with Kong Jue's head resting on it, its majestic image was noticeably diminished.

Lin Xun asked politely, "Senior, what advice do you have?"

"Don't let these two appear in the Origin Sect again." The big white cat continued, "Even though you possess the Nirvana law power, you can't do this again."

Lin Xun's eyes narrowed slightly, his heart churning, unable to calm down. After all his years of cultivation, the big white cat was the first outsider to know that he possessed the Nirvana law power!

"The power of the Origin Sect's law power has long surpassed a Heaven Rank law power. Even if the Nirvana law power can resist it, it will cause fluctuations within the Origin Sect."

The big white cat explained in a dignified voice, "This time, I came and kept the others from noticing. But the next time...there's no guarantee they won't sense something off."

Lin Xun's expression faltered, realizing that it was when he had released Xia Zhi from the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron that the Origin Sect's law power had reacted. The Nirvana law power's resistance seemed to have dissolved the Origin Sect's law power, but this unusual phenomenon had caught the big white cat's attention.

That was why it had been drawn here!

"Thank you, Senior, for your warning," Lin Xun said seriously. "But I don't know your name yet. Could you please tell me?"

The big white cat shook its head. "Let's leave that for later. Originally, I was only going to see you after you embarked on the path to immortality. This was just an unexpected accident."

As it spoke, it shook itself, freeing itself from being Kong Jue's pillow. Then it stood up and walked out of the cave. It was clearly planning to leave.

"Senior."

Lin Xun was filled with questions, but he hadn't even had a chance to ask them yet, so he wasn't willing to let the other party go like that. However, the next moment, the big white cat vanished into thin air, leaving no trace or crumb behind.

This left him feeling speechless. Having already recognized Kong Jue, was there still any need for the cat to be so secretive?

At this moment, the big white cat's deep, majestic voice echoed in Lin Xun's mind, "If you want to rise in the Origin Sect as soon as possible, seize the opportunity and go to Origin Sky Pavilion to cultivate as soon as possible."

"Origin Sky Pavilion?" Lin Xun was surprised.

"How can you be so slow? Becoming a deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sky Pavilion also allows you to compete for the position of the pavilion master of Origin Clarity Pavilion. Compared to joining Origin Clarity Pavilion, the Origin Sky Pavilion offers you more opportunities," echoed the big white cat's voice again.

Lin Xun suddenly understood.

Chapter 2722 Nine-Star Mission

The big white cat left, and Lin Xun fell into deep thought. The big white cat's appearance had seemed unexpected at first, but it was also reasonable.

What he was certain of was that the big white cat had likely recognized who he was as soon as it saw him during the third round of assessment, which was before he had officially entered the Origin Sect. Furthermore, it knew he possessed the law power of Nirvana and that his purpose in coming to the Origin Sect was to become the pavilion master of the Origin Clarity Pavilion!

The other disciples of Fangchun Mountain had to be the ones who had told it about this matter. In fact, even Senior Sister Jun Huan was kept in the dark about this matter. If she had known about the big white cat, she probably wouldn't have gone to the Zhuang Clan, hoping to leverage a past favor to gain Zhuang Shiliu's help.

However, who exactly was the big white cat? Lin Xun recalled the big white cat's previous encounter with Martial Uncle Kong Jue and its melancholy and sorrowful sighs. A thought inevitably surfaced in his mind—Pavillion Master Yan Ji of Origin Sky Pavilion!

Rumor had it that this pavilion master was an old monster who had driven to madness by cultivation and had reduced himself to a mere wisp of his primordial spirit...

This was similar to Martial Uncle Kong Jue, who had also been obsessed with pursuing the path of eternity and supremacy, leading to a serious mental breakdown and his current state of confusion.

Furthermore, before leaving, the big white cat had suggested that he should enter the Origin Sky Pavilion to cultivate. All this made Lin Xun suspect that this cat was the Origin Sky Pavilion Master who had only a wisp of his primordial spirit left.

The thought of such a dignified pavilion master, a supreme figure within the Origin Sect Ancestral Court, being stuck in the form of a fat, white cat was quite odd. However, Lin Xun couldn't dwell on it any further; he couldn't possibly forget the big white cat's warning.

The big white cat's had made him realize that within the Origin Sect Ancestral Court, there was a law power beyond the Heaven Rank, and it existed here. Of course, it was a Divine Rank law!

The thought of this filled his heart with fear. As far as he knew, even among the Ten Immortal Giants of the Eighth Heaven Domain, few seemed capable of controlling a law power that was said to exist only in the Ninth Heaven Domain!

Lin Xun wasted no time in relocating Kong Jue and Xia Zhi to the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron. Now in the Origin Sect, even if they awakened, they could no longer leave his weapon. Otherwise, without the protection of the Nirvana law power, they would likely be immediately discovered by the Origin Sect.

Despite that, after today's events, he was still very happy. Xia Zhi was safe, and Martial Uncle Kong Jue had also awakened. He had also figured out some information about the big white cat, which was enough to clear many of his questions up!

...

A day later, Lin Xun, bearing his newly acquired sect token, returned to the Heavenly Treasure Hall.

"Hey, it's Lin Xun?"

"Why is this guy here again?"

"Is he trying to stir up some big fuss again?"

There were many people in the hall, and when they saw Lin Xun, they all looked at him with surprise, as if they were witnessing a fierce beast rushing in. Lin Xun had no idea that his fame within the Origin Sect Ancestral Court had now reached an unparalleled peak.

Because of him, there were now cracks in the dao hearts of two prominent and ruthless successors, Li Zhongyuan and Shen Zaidao.

In addition, Chao Zonglin, a disciple of the Origin Emptiness Pavilion, had been punished and imprisoned for a year in the Prison of Repentance due to an issue around him. Furthermore, Zhuang Shiliu, a deacon of the Origin Clarity Pavilion, had been stripped of his power and imprisoned for a hundred years in the Prison of Repentance!

Of note, all these sensational events had occurred within the past two weeks. How could anyone ignore Lin Xun's existence now? Some admired him, some praised him, some kept their distance, and some despised and hated him.

Regardless, he had become a household name. For example, when he arrived at Heavenly Treasure Hall, he immediately attracted the attention of numerous people.

"Huang Qingyu, a disciple of Origin Emptiness Pavilion, greets Junior Brother Lin Xun. May I ask what brings you here?"

An Origin Emptiness Pavilion successor had personally greeted him with a friendly smile and a warm demeanor. A touch of trepidation had gripped the other person as he feared Lin Xun might cause trouble again.

Lin Xun bowed and said, "Thank you, Senior Brother. I've come to see if there are any sect missions suitable for me."

Huang Qingyu breathed a sigh of relief and said with a smile, "Junior Brother, please follow me."

He led Lin Xun to the area where sect missions were issued. Nine screens of light appeared, representing missions that ranged from one to nine stars. One-star missions were the most numerous, and they were diverse, involving weapon refining, alchemy, animal husbandry, spiritual plant cultivation, and so on.

Of course, completing a one-star mission only earned the person a one-star merit, and the benefits that could be redeemed from that were minimal. Nine-star missions were the rarest, but there were still over ten available.

Huang Qingyu said, "Junior Brother, which sect missions are you most interested in? Or is there something you're particularly skilled at? I could advise you on a few."

Lin Xun said directly, "Senior Brother, I'm here to get a nine-star mission."

"So it's a nine-star mission..." At this point, Huang Qingyu suddenly realized something was off. He widened his eyes and asked in astonishment, "A nine-star mission?"

He looked incredulous.

Lin Xun nodded, "Yes."

As he spoke, his eyes were already fixed on the nine-star missions that had appeared on the ninth light screen.

"Refine a complete sixth grade Heaven Rank law power or higher. Reward: one nine-star merit."

"Slay an Evil Spirit Lord whose strength rivals the Heavenly Longevity level, and retrieve its heart. Reward: one nine-star merit."

"Collect a wisp of cosmic primal chaos. Reward: one nine-star merit."

Lin Xun was very familiar with these quests; he had already seen them in the jade scroll on his first day as a disciple. However, he hadn't expected these nine-star quests would still exist, unclaimed.

Gazing at Lin Xun's serious expression, Huang Qingyu realized that his recently famous Junior Brother Lin Xun wasn't kidding.

He couldn't help but remind him, "Junior Brother, although the sect stipulates that nine-star missions can only be taken by disciples at the Supreme Ancestral Realm, over the years, not many have successfully completed them. They are also the most difficult quests for successors in our sect."

Lin Xun hummed in acknowledgement and continued to browse through the ones available.

Huang Qingyu thought for a moment and added, "Junior Brother, if you're truly determined to take on a nine-star mission, I suggest you find some fellow seniors to work with you. That way, your chances of success will be much greater."

"Getting help is allowed?" Lin Xun was quite surprised.

"Of course." Huang Qingyu smiled. "However, even if you need help, your helpers must be of the same cultivation realm, and the total number of people undertaking the mission cannot exceed three. Furthermore, the merits earned upon completing the mission are only credited to the person who accepts it initially."

"I see." Lin Xun pointed at the ninth light screen and said, "Senior Brother, I want to take this, this, and this mission."

Huang Qingyu's smile faltered as he was flabbergasted by the turn of events. After coughing dryly for a moment, he said, "Junior Brother, you can only accept one nine-star mission at a time. You can't accept more than one."

Lin Xun frowned and said, "Then I'll take the Evil Spirit Lord mission first."

Huang Qingyu was silent for a moment, his eyes quizzical. "Junior Brother, are you sure?"

"Do you think that it's inappropriate?" asked Lin Xun.

Huang Qingyu smiled wryly. "Not at all. However, this Evil Spirit Lord is extremely cunning and cruel. Over the past thousand of years, many have accepted this mission, but without exception, they have all failed.

"The reason is that, after reaching the Heavenly Longevity Realm, the Evil Spirit Lord, which is a spirit born from evil energy, becomes immune to law powers. This means that even if you, Junior Brother, were to use a law power against the Evil Spirit Lord at the Heavenly Longevity Realm, it would be useless."

Clearly, Huang Qingyu believed that Lin Xun had accepted this mission because he possessed the ultimate weapon of borrowing a law power. It wasn't surprising that he thought this way.

After all, in the Origin Sect, nearly every single disciple possessed a treasure that harbored law power, which allowed them to draw upon its power, thus threatening even Immortal-level beings when striking down enemies.

Unfortunately, the Evil Spirit Lord in the Heavenly Longevity Realm was different from all other opponents. Treasures that harbored law power were completely useless against it. Furthermore, if it came down to true strength, Huang Qingyu didn't believe that Lin Xun, at the pinnacle of the Ancestral Realm, would be a match for this opponent.

Despite that, Lin Xun didn't dwell on it and simply said, "Senior Brother, please let me take this mission."

Huang Qingyu gave Lin Xun a complicated look and said, "Since that's the case, I won't try to persuade you any further. But let me be clear, I'm not trying to trick you into accepting a mission of this difficulty."

Lin Xun smiled and agreed. Soon, he left Heavenly Treasure Hall, carrying a sealed mission jade slip.

"Brother Huang, did Lin Xun really accept a nine-star mission?"

As soon as he left, many people gathered around, asking Huang Qingyu questions.

"Yes, the mission to hunt the Evil Spirit Lord," Huang Qingyu said. Suddenly, Heavenly Treasure Hall erupted in a clamor of activity.

"Others know when to stop when ahead, but Junior Brother Lin Xun is still planning to make another big move!"

"Going on a nine-star mission alone? And to hunt the Evil Spirit Lord? Is he crazy?"

"That's called being skilled and daring. Senior Brother Shen Zaidao was defeated by Junior Brother Lin Xun with a single sword strike. What else wouldn't he dare to do?"

"Hunting the Evil Spirit Lord is different. In my opinion, Junior Brother Lin Xun will return empty-handed this time."

The news of him accepting a nine-star mission spread quickly, causing a stir. Some important figures were speechless. Wasn't Lin Xun just too much of a troublemaker? Even the Ninth Peak Master, Qin Wuyu, felt a headache when he heard the news. Yesterday, he had just told his disciple to keep a low profile and tone down his actions

Despite that, he was going off to carry out a nine-star mission a day later!

Is this kid simply determined to cause a scene?

While the Origin Sect was buzzing with discussion, Lin Xun had already sprung into action. Holding the sect token, he successfully exited through an ancient teleportation array built into the Origin World.

One day later, deep within the Thousand Star Sea, a fragmented and chaotic cosmos appeared. Vortexes, condensed from the light and shadows of various worlds, dotted the corners of that universe.

Rumors said that there were over 3,600 vortexes in total, each leading to a distinct world plane. By following the instructions on the mission jade slip, Lin Xun found a vortex portal within the chaotic and shattered universe in less than half a minute.

Through the vortex portal, one could enter Sin World!

Chapter 2723 Evil Spirit Lord's Heart

Sin World.

This was a chaotic place filled with blood and evil, and it was dotted with countless vengeful souls, evil spirits, and blood demons. According to the information contained within the jade slip, in the earliest days of when Sin World was being formed from primordial chaos, a vein of immortal essence had been born within it.

This vein elicited the frenzy of many Immortals, leading to a horrendous slaughter that left the embryonic world stained with blood, evil qi, and murderous intents.

When Sin World finally transformed from the primordial chaos into a fully formed world, it was filled with blood and murderous qi. Not a single blade of grass grew, and all living things had withered. Vengeful souls, evil spirits, blood demons, and other creatures of the same ilk were everywhere. Finally, after countless years of transformation, it became the Sin World of today.

Swish!

Lin Xun materialized out of thin air. A glance revealed a world swirling with a crimson, blood-red hue. Blood-colored mountains and rivers crisscrossed the terrain, and even the heavens were dotted with blood-red stars.

Woo woo woo~~

A gust of ominous wind blew, like a violent spatial turbulence. Hundreds and thousands of hideous, savage spirits, their fangs bared, rushed towards him like blood-red lightning. The scene resembled a swarm of demons bursting forth from hell.

He reached out and waved a sleeve. Thousands of blood-red spirits screamed in terror, their bodies exploding and dissipating in wisps of bloody mist. Lin Xun moved forward with his hands behind his back.

Sin World was dangerous. According to the mission jade slip, even a supreme Emperor Ancestor would likely perish here without a life-saving trump card on hand. When the Origin Sect's leading figures first discovered this place, they intended to destroy it. In the end, they ultimately changed their minds.

The reason for this was that, while this realm was dangerous, it also offered a natural training ground, which was ideal for the Origin Sect's successors to cultivate and hone their dao.

This was especially true of the Evil Spirit Lord, who possessed the strength of the Heavenly Longevity Realm. Its heart, known as the Evil Spirit Heart, looked to be an evil object at first glance, but it could actually be used to refine a cultivator's mental state and toughness!

While cultivating, someone simply needed to hold the Evil Spirit Heart before themselves and they would be subjected to an incomparably terrifying invasion of the mind, inviting all sorts of inner demonic chaos. A cultivator could counter this with their own willpower. The more inner demons they slayed, the stronger and more fortified their mind would become.

When the person was no longer disturbed by the power of the Evil Spirit Heart, it signified that they had attained a mental state necessary to achieve immortality! Of course, for ordinary people, cultivating with the Evil Spirit Heart would be tantamount to seeking death. It could easily lead to their mind becoming possessed and their body being destroyed.

Lin Xun was quite interested in this object. The cultivation of the mind was profound and mysterious as it was one of the most obscure and unknown arts.

His speed while traveling through Sin World wasn't fast, but it wasn't slow either. Each of his steps covered a distance of thousands of feet. Along the way, he discovered that this world was a den of evil creatures, filled with vengeful souls, blood demons, and evil spirits...

These malevolent creatures were violent and ruthless as they devoured each other to strengthen themselves and achieve a transformation in power. They were extremely brutal. However, he had no interest in hunting them down.

"Hmm?" After a while, Lin Xun suddenly sensed a cold intent. He stopped in his tracks as he gazed out at a distant, blood-red river.

"Oh no! The Origin Sect's people are here again—!"

At the bottom of the blood-red river, the icy power surged violently, as if startled.

Boom!

The next moment, Lin Xun's mighty hand swished, and the blood-red river, thousands of feet long, was lifted up like a blood-red python. At the bottom of the dried-up riverbed, a blood-red figure appeared. It was shrouded in blood mist and had a humanoid form, resembling a young man. He immediately tried to escape, but Lin Xun reached out and grabbed at him through the air.

"Where is the Evil Spirit Lord?" he asked. The figure, resembling a young man, was a materialized blood demon. His body radiated bloody evil, and his strength rivaled that of an Emperor with some consciousness to boot.

"The Seventy-Second Star Fiendish Treasure Land," the blood demon youth trembled, his face filled with fear.

Lin Xun commanded, "You lead the way. Once we get there, I'll let you leave with your life intact."

The blood demon youth dared not disobey and obediently led the way. An hour later, a massive city appeared in the void. Above it floated seventy-two crimson stars, and each star carried an endless amount of malevolent energy, as if it had absorbed the souls of billions of gods and demons.

These seventy-two stars formed a strange and mysterious formation, circulating across the sky. They shed beams of light that emitted a strong bloody aura, which the giant city continuously absorbed. Lin Xun's eyes narrowed slightly as he sensed a source of danger from the giant city.

"That is the Seventy-Second Star Fiendish Treasure Land. The Evil Spirit Lord resides there year-round, consuming and spewing the bloody aura of heaven and earth, living a carefree life." The blood demon youth's eyes flashed with blazing envy.

"You can leave now," Lin Xun said casually.

The blood demon youth turned and left, not daring to pause for a moment. Lin Xun, on the other hand, strode towards the giant city. His spiritual sense expanded, instantly capturing a black altar in the center of the vast city.

Atop it sat a towering figure, resembling a god or demon. Even in its seated position, it seemed a thousand feet tall, its body shrouded in dazzling scarlet lines of immortal laws. The faint presence of it gave off a sense of majestic dignity! It was the Evil Spirit Lord!

A cold glint flashed in the depths of Lin Xun's eyes. Almost instantly, the towering figure sitting cross-legged suddenly opened his eyes. His crimson pupils, like a pair of blood-red suns, shone with a cold and indifferent expression.

"A successor of the Origin Sect? In the nine thousand three hundred years since the fall of the previous Evil Spirit Lord, a total of nineteen groups of Origin Sect disciples have arrived here, some in groups of three, others in groups of two, all seeking my heart. Yet they have all failed, while I am still alive and well."

The Evil Spirit Lord spoke, his voice shaking the heavens and earth, like the roar of a god or demon, making the very soul tremble.

Boom!

Countless blood-red torrents suddenly surged from the giant city, like the mighty Yangtze River, sweeping across the sky and plummeting towards Lin Xun. From this rolling blood-red torrent emerged

enormous, demonic figures. They had claws and fangs bared as they roared to the heavens and descended upon him in an effort to suppress him.

The heavens and earth shook violently, and the encircling figures vanished like moths to a flame, shattering even the countless blood-red torrents, exploding into the void. Lin Xun strode forward, dao light radiating from him, annihilating countless blood-red evil spirits with immense power.

"Hmph!"

The Evil Spirit Lord snorted coldly from the black altar in the center of the vast city. Suddenly, a massive skeletal hand, several acres in size, appeared out of thin air. Each knuckle was shrouded in the dazzling light of immortal laws. Its pressure caused the void to explode, a terrifying sight.

Lin Xun took a deep breath, and the void suddenly collapsed in all directions, transforming into an unfathomable abyss that swallowed the sky.

Boom!

The giant abyss collided with the skeletal hand, sending a violent rain of dao light scattering and spreading. It caused the surrounding area to be on the verge of collapsing. Finally, the skeletal hand was forcibly worn away!

"You can withstand the power of an immortal law? You're a core disciple ranked in the top ten of the Nine Great Peaks of the Origin Sect?!" exclaimed the Evil Spirit Lord out of astonishment.

Lin Xun raised an eyebrow. This demonic being seemed to have a decent knowledge of the Origin Sect's situation. However, he ignored it and charged towards the giant city.

Boom!

At this moment, Lin Xun was like a supreme master or a celestial monarch walking in the mortal world. With every step he took, a stream of unparalleled sword qi shot up from above his head, aimed at a large crimson star, and tore it apart.

In the blink of an eye, the seventy-two stars that had transformed into a vast formation were shattered to pieces. It was like a sword slicing through the starry sky!

"You're begging for death!"

The Evil Spirit Lord appeared, thousands of feet tall, obscuring the sky and the sun. The immortal dao emanating from him surged like a waterfall, and his terrifying might permeated the heavens and the earth.

He slammed his palm towards Lin Xun. The attack was at the same level as the Heavenly Longevity Realm, which was powerful enough to make any Emperor Ancestor despair! Unfortunately, this time, he had encountered a hard opponent. Over the years, Lin Xun had slain many Immortals!

Boom!

The Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron charged forward, engaging the opponent head-on. The resulting collision sent Lin Xun reeling dozens of feet, yet he had completely dissipated the force of the palm strike, remaining unscathed.

This situation astonished the Evil Spirit Lord. Although he had encountered many successors of the Origin Sect over the years, in head-on battles, they had almost always employed some trump cards in order to fight on an equal footing.

For example, they often used secret treasures and powers beyond the Emperor Ancestor Stage. This was the first time he had encountered a character capable of confronting him solely with his own combat prowess.

"Go!"

The Evil Spirit Lord's eyes blazed with murderous intent. A seven-inch-long, snow-white finger bone suddenly materialized before him, resembling the remains of a deity as it radiated a breathtaking, immortal aura.

As soon as it appeared, it swooped towards Lin Xun. That single finger seemed to be able to crush the heavens and earth, annihilating all life! Lin Xun had no intention of confronting this attack head-on. At that moment, he instantly activated Time Stopping, abruptly arriving in front of the Evil Spirit Lord.

Puff!

From the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron, a dao sword immediately slashed out, slicing open the Evil Spirit Lord's chest, sending a cascade of blood pouring out.

"NO—"

By the time the Evil Spirit Lord realized what was happening, his heart had been removed. He let out a cry of agony that resounded through the heavens.

He then charged at the person who mutilated him like a madman. However, Lin Xun wouldn't give him a chance. The moment he had taken the heart, he retreated with all his might, fleeing into the distance.

Boom!

The Evil Spirit Lord roared in pursuit, but within moments, his aura dissipated at an alarming rate. Finally, he slammed heavily into the ground, his massive body cracking into pieces before dissipating into a billowing bloody mist.

His heart, the core of his cultivation, had been stolen, making it impossible for him to survive any longer in this world. In the distance, Lin Xun stopped and turned to observe what had happened, his expression calm and unperturbed.

Compared to a true Heavenly Longevity Immortal, the Evil Spirit Lord's fighting methods were extremely crude and direct. Therefore, fighting it was far less threatening than going against an actual Heavenly Longevity Realm powerhouse.

Therefore, killing such an evil creature offered no sense of accomplishment to him. No longer interested, Lin Xun looked at the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron.

A scarlet heart had been suppressed within it, and within that heart looked to be a miniature demonic realm. There were images of rampant demons, mountains of corpses, and seas of blood. Even the faint sounds of ghosts and wolves howling could be heard, making it a truly eerie sight.

This was the Evil Spirit Heart!

Chapter 2724 Another Hidden Murderous Intent

Putting away the Evil Spirit Heart, Lin Xun, who had intended to leave, suddenly remembered something and turned back along the old path. He stopped before the massive aerial city and spread his spirit sense. A long time later, his brows furrowed.

During the battle, the Evil Spirit Lord had used a bone finger, which was probably an extraordinary Immortal-grade artifact, but that treasure was currently nowhere to be found. Lin Xun instinctively looked up at the distant city.

Huh?

In the vision of his spirit sense, he spotted a familiar figure sitting cross-legged on the black altar at the city's center. It was none other than the blood demon youth who had guided him earlier!

"Why did you return?" exclaimed the blood demon youth whose eyes flew open in shock, clearly having also sensed Lin Xun's presence.

"It's truly expected. You concealed yourself so well that even I was deceived," said Lin Xun as he entered the city and approached the black altar.

The blood demon youth's expression flickered dimly. "You've already obtained the Evil Spirit Heart, which is enough to exchange for a nine-star merit. Why did you come back?"

Lin Xun appeared even more surprised. "You seem to know a lot about the Origin Sect?"

The blood demon youth said expressionlessly, "Your members have frequented this place since forever. It's not that hard to find out this kind of information."

"I see," Lin Xun acknowledged and swept his eyes over the black altar.

The platform, extremely eerily, resembled an open eye. It was impossible to tell what it was made of, but it emanated waves of sinister, evil aura. The former Evil Spirit Lord had designated this altar as its place of cultivation.

"Where is that finger bone?" Lin Xun turned back to the blood demon youth.

"I cannot give you that item. If you wish to live, then go now and go quickly. Otherwise, even the sect token in your hand cannot save you." The youth rose to his feet, his expression calm and his voice steady. It was a stark contrast to the fearful demeanor he had displayed during their first encounter.

Lin Xun stared at him for a moment, about to speak.

"Someone's coming! Hide inside the altar!" The blood demon youth's expression suddenly dropped. With a flick of his sleeve, a secret portal silently emerged at the base of the black altar.

Lin Xun was taken aback. "Why hide?"

The blood demon youth harshly replied, "Because they're coming to kill you!"

Lin Xun's gaze sharpened. "Who?"

The youth was anxious. "You'll see for yourself. First hide quickly, or else you'll get me killed too!"

"Alright, I'll trust you this once." Lin Xun darted into the portal.

Beneath the altar was a secret realm, though extremely small at only ten thousand square feet in area. The furniture included some meditation mats, a cauldron, a bed, and a desk that were all neatly arranged and spotless.

Lin Xun was surprised once more, and it was difficult not to. This was the Sin World, a place of unimaginable cruelty and bloodshed, and the black altar was where the Evil Spirit Lord had cultivated. Yet, right underneath it was such a simple, clean secret realm.

Soon, his attention was drawn by a bronze mirror, the smooth surface of which reflected the scene outside on the altar. The blood demon youth was standing there, seeming extremely fearful with his expression shifting constantly.

Before long, an air-ripping sound echoed, and a magnificent figure shrouded in a boundless aura of immortality appeared above the altar.

Wearing a high hat and broad waistband, this person had a tall, big build and stern features. The might he emitted by just standing there casually dispelled all the blood-red malevolent energy in the surrounding.

Peak master of the Third Peak, Nan Bohong!

Lin Xun's mind was rattled. He almost couldn't believe his eyes. Was this person among those that the blood demon youth had said wanted to kill him?

"Where is he?" Nan Bohong's eyes were ruthless as he looked down at the blood demon youth.

"Reporting to Peak Master, he has just left earlier," replied the youth with fear and respect.

"He left?" Nan Bohong's expression darkened.

A golden whip suddenly formed in his grip, and he lashed it at the blood demon youth so viciously that the latter's skin split open. The youth crashed to the ground, his body convulsing in pain.

"Please don't be angry, Peak Master. Junior Brother Lin Xun's combat prowess is unmatched. I brought him here so that the Evil Spirit Lord would kill him, but to think that it was no match for him. The battle ended in seconds. By the time I tried to stop him, it was already too late..." explained the youth through gritted teeth.

The words 'junior brother' sent another shock through Lin Xun's heart, and he could not calm down. This blood demon youth was actually a senior disciple in the Origin Sect? But how was this possible?

Nan Bohong asked with a gloomy look, "How did he, a supreme Emperor Ancestor, kill the Evil Spirit Lord?"

"Please see for yourself, Peak Master," the blood demon youth took out a finger bone and gently tapped it in the air. The scenes of Lin Xun previously slaying the Evil Spirit Lord was instantly projected.

"Time Stopping!" Nan Bohong's expression instantly displayed a series of drastic changes.

As the Third Peak Master, an ancient elder of the Nan Clan, one of the Donghuang's Four Clans, and also a Nirvana Spirit expert himself, how could he not recognize that the technique Lin Xun had used was one of the divine abilities of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer?

"If this man is allowed to live to become an Immortal, he'll become the second Luo Tongtian. No, he's also a successor of Fangchun Mountain, so his future is bound to be much more terrifying than Luo Tongtian's..."

In Sin World, Nan Bohong no longer concealed his true feelings. His expression was filled with thick killing intent, and the aura he emitted was so overwhelming that the blood demon youth felt as though he would suffocate to death.

"Worthless trash!" Nan Bohong, thinking of how such a great opportunity had passed him by, lashed his whip at the blood demon youth again. The latter writhed in agony, showing cracks all over his body.

As Nan Bohong prepared to depart in rage, the youth asked tremblingly, "Peak Master, when can I have your permission to leave?"

“You ruined my plans. You’ll never leave here in your lifetime!” Nan Bohong’s frosty voice drifted in the air as he vanished.

After a long time, the blood demon youth struggled to his feet, his eyes filled with hatred. “I knew this would happen. You old beasts will meet your demise sooner or later!”

He then waited for a long time. Only after he was certain that Nan Bohong had left the Sin World did he open the portal beneath the altar and step inside.

Lin Xun had been waiting there this entire time. Seeing the severely injured youth, he tossed him a jade bottle. “This contains divine healing pills.”

The youth caught the bottle and shook his head, his voice bitter and full of despair, “They are useless. My body has become that of a blood demon’s, so all the sacred medicines of this world are poison to me.”

Lin Xun asked, “What exactly is going on?”

The youth sat down on the bedside and looked at Lin Xun, “Before you came here, I had already received word that this was an opportunity to kill you within this Sin World. So I deliberately waited there and revealed my presence once you arrived. As expected, you fell for it.”

At this part, he continued with a strange look on his face, “If you had died, that would have been that. If you had survived, then I would have found another opportunity to kill you. That was the plan.”

Lin Xun said, “But you didn’t do that. Instead, you hid me here and helped me escape a deadly crisis.”

The blood demon youth mocked himself, “Who knows what the hell is wrong with me? I thought my conscience was gone, and I’d be a sinful scoundrel for the rest of my life, but when it came down to the actual action, I still held on to a glimmer of hope.”

Lin Xun offered, “Do you want me to help you escape?”

The youth laughed, but it was a sorrowful one. "Escape? It is easy as it sounds indeed. I could leave Sin World at any time, but once those old beasts find out, they can obliterate my soul with a single thought no matter where I hide."

Feeling the deep sadness and hatred in the blood demon youth's heart, Lin Xun said, "Could you tell me about your situation? Perhaps I can be of help."

The youth said, "Though hope is faint, I can share my story with you."

The look in his eyes then showed that he had begun a trip down the memory lane. Long ago, he was a disciple of the Origin Sect, boasting extraordinary talent and heritage. Even after joining the Third Peak, his strength was considered outstanding among the disciples there.

Third Peak Master Nan Bohong, who highly appreciated him, promised to secure him all the cultivation resources he needed to reach the path of immortality, but only under the condition that he swore an oath with his dao heart to be loyal to Nan Bohong for life.

Repulsed by such a demand, he refused. Nan Bohong said nothing in response, but from that day on, his circumstances changed. The fellow disciples of the Third Peak began to resist and exclude him. Even the sect's cultivation resources were frequently withheld from him through various means.

He knew he had angered Nan Bohong and was being neglected as a result, but he did not care. However, he would discover later on that aside from him, nearly every disciple of the Third Peak had secretly sworn an oath to be loyal to Nan Bohong for life.

He finally realized the severity of the situation and resolutely chose to report the matter to Origin Sky Pavilion. Little had he expected that on the very day he made that report, Nan Bohong remained unharmed while he himself faced misfortune.

Nan Bohong, using his position as the peak master, lured him out of the Origin World and brought him to this Sin World, personally shattering his physical form, extracting his spirit, and imprisoning him here!

From then on, he became a blood demon in this realm. Hearing his story, Lin Xun was deeply shaken. "You, a disciple of the Origin Sect, suddenly disappeared. Did the sect never investigate it?"

The blood demon youth murmured, "If Nan Bohong was alone, he would never have dared to do such a thing. But behind him are many powerful figures. When they conspired against a disciple like me, who would know?"

Lin Xun was puzzled. "Over the years, many other disciples have come to the Sin World to train. Why didn't you seek their help?"

"I would be putting them in danger if I did," said the youth. "Anyone who learns the truth and dares to expose it will face certain doom. You are different, though. Even if I told you nothing, Nan Bohong will still try to kill you, so I might as well."

Understanding the whole thing, Lin Xun realized that the Origin Sect Ancestral Court was far from as peaceful as it appeared on the surface, and that there were countless dark and cruel secrets underneath. If he hadn't encountered the blood demon youth this time, he wouldn't have believed that Nan Bohong, a peak master, would dare to be so unscrupulous!

Chapter 2725 The Leaker

After a while of silence, Lin Xun said, "You didn't want to go along with Nan Bohong back then, so why did you listen to his orders and let him control you now?"

The blood demon youth's voice was calm, but beneath that calmness was unbearable pain, "My sister, who joined the Origin Sect Ancestral Court with me back then, is currently a disciple of the Fourth Peak. She is the only one I can't let go of. Nan Bohong used her to threaten me, so I had no choice."

Lin Xun took a deep breath, "I may not be able to help you now, but once I embark on the path of immortality, I will certainly rescue you and clear your grievances!"

Nan Bohong was already his enemy, and this youth's situation only served to strengthen his resolve to eliminate the old thing.

The blood demon youth said, "I hope so."

He dared not harbor any hopes, or rather, he had almost given up hope.

Nan Bohong was the peak master of the Third Peak. Furthermore, he was backed by even more powerful figures, or else the youth would never have fallen to this state after going to Origin Sky Pavilion to expose him.

With Nan Bohong's authority, he should never have been able to influence the Origin Sky Pavilion. It proved that there were more than just one powerful figure colluding with him.

“May I know your name, Senior Brother?” asked Lin Xun.

The blood demon youth was visibly moved by the way he was addressed. After a long time, he bowed respectfully and said, “I am Gu Yujian, a disciple of the Origin Sect. It is an honor to meet you, Junior Brother Lin Xun!”[1]

Lin Xun solemnly returned the bow.

When he departed, Gu Yujian advised him, “Junior Brother, don't act alone when you go out on missions from now on. Otherwise, you are bound to face something similar to what happened today.”

.....

In the Origin Sect, Origin Emptiness Pavilion.

The Heavenly Treasure Hall was bustling as usual, with many receiving missions and exchanging merits after completing them.

Just then, there was a flash, and Lin Xun appeared in the hall.

“Hmm, Lin Xun? You're back so soon? Could it be that the mission...failed?” Huang Qingyu, who was also present, immediately revealed a look of surprise. After all, it had been less than a day since Lin Xun had accepted the mission.

Realizing that his question might embarrass Lin Xun, he quickly softened his tone, "Don't be discouraged, Junior Brother. If it cannot be done by one person, you can just find a few more help..."

Lin Xun interrupted him with a smile, "Senior Brother, take a look at this."

A sealed Evil Spirit Heart appeared.

"What..." Huang Qingyu's eyes widened like he was seeing ghosts.

This nine-star mission to hunt down the Evil Spirit Lord had not been claimed by anyone for many years, simply because it was too difficult. In the past, countless core disciples had set out in groups only to return in defeat.

Who could have imagined that in less than a day, Lin Xun had actually brought back the Evil Spirit Heart!

Huang Qingyu could not calm down for a long time, while a commotion had been sparked in the Heavenly Treasure Hall as many also saw the heart.

"Who said Lin Xun would fail this mission? Step forward!"

"Lin Xun... Isn't he a little too formidable?! Even law power treasures can't do anything to the Evil Spirit Lord. How did he manage this? Don't tell me he relied on just his strength..."

Amidst the murmurs, some even approached Lin Xun to exchange greetings, their words brimming with admiration and respect.

"Hahaha, my junior brother has truly given me a tremendous surprise!" Huang Qingyu, finally accepting the reality, lavished praise and promptly gave Lin Xun a nine-star merit.

The scene drew many envious glances. It was a nine-star merit, the highest reward for a sect's missions!

It could be exchanged within the sect for coveted cultivation resources. Simply put, a nine-star merit could be exchanged for a hundred thousand pounds of immortal divine essence!

How could everybody not understand the weight of this, when the total yearly allowance of a core disciple was only twenty-four thousand pounds of immortal divine essence?

Of course, no one would be stupid enough to exchange a nine-star merit for immortal divine essence. In the Origin Sect Ancestral Court, some most desired cultivation resources could only be redeemed with a nine-star merit!

“Senior Brother, can we chat in private?” Lin Xun transmitted to Huang Qingyu.

Huang Qingyu was startled. He quickly dispersed the crowd and followed Lin Xun to a corner, then started the conversation via transmission, “What can I do for you?”

Lin Xun replied, “Not at all, I just want to ask you something. If I accept another nine-star mission, will anyone else besides you be notified of it immediately?”

Huang Qingyu’s expression changed slightly as he realized something, “Junior Brother, did something go wrong during your mission in Sin World?”

Lin Xun said, “Mhm. On the way back, I encountered Third Peak Master Nan Bohong.”

Huang Qingyu couldn’t help but ask, “Could it be that Lord Nan Bohong intervened...”

He quickly shut his mouth at this part. Although he was a disciple of Origin Emptiness Pavilion, he dared not speculate recklessly about the actions of a peak master.

Observing Huang Qingyu's reaction closely, Lin Xun reckoned that he wasn't the one who had leaked the information to Nan Bohong.

Lin Xun urged, “Senior Brother, you still haven't answered my question.”

Huang Qingyu glanced around, then quickly transmitted, "Once a nine-star mission from Origin Emptiness Pavilion is claimed, it will immediately come to the attention of the elders. Although I don't know what you've been through, I can give you a word of advice."

Lin Xun became focused, "Please enlighten me, Senior Brother. I will never forget your help."

Huang Qingyu said, "Origin Emptiness Pavilion has ten elders. From what I know, only two of them have a close personal relationship with the third peak master. One is Elder Gu Chuan, and the other is Elder Li Beixing. Both of them, like Nan Bohong, come from the Donghuang's Four Clans."

Lin Xun immediately understood. Without a doubt, the one who had informed Nan Bohong of him accepting the mission was either Gu Chuan or Li Beixing, or it could be both of them!

"If you're worried about further complications, then it's best not to take on any more nine-star missions for now," said Huang Qingyu.

"Thank you for your concern, Senior Brother, but I'm not the type to be easily intimidated," Lin Xun smiled, then turned and left.

Huang Qingyu was stunned, but upon recounting Lin Xun's actions since joining the Origin Sect, he understood that this junior brother wasn't someone who shied away from trouble!

.....

Lin Xun returned to his cave heaven on the Ninth Peak, where he fell into contemplation. Originally, this would be an excellent opportunity to strike at Nan Bohong. If he published Gu Yujian's story, it would certainly cause turmoil in the Origin Sect.

However, he was well aware that it involved more than just Nan Bohong, so the situation would certainly spiral out of control once exposed. At that point, there was no guarantee that some of the old bastards behind the peak master wouldn't resort to desperate and thoughtless measures.

More importantly, Gu Yujian, who had already become a blood demon of Sin World, would immediately be killed to be silenced. There would be no one to corroborate Lin Xun's accusation, so who would believe him then?

"No wonder Elder Xiao Wenyan said someone wants to use my hands to stir the waters, thereby weeding out the chronic tumors in the sect. Old fogies like Nan Bohong are likely those tumors..." Lin Xun now recalled Xiao Wenyan's warning with a realization.

Some saw his arrival as a knife to address internal issues of the Origin Sect. While he felt used, he didn't feel resentful; instead, he was willing to be that tool.

Because it meant that when he caused trouble and led his enemies to attempt to eliminate him, there would also be many who would protect him. Otherwise, without the knife, what would they have to sever the tumors?

"Unfortunately, I'm just a pawn at best, a frontline fighter..." sighed Lin Xun.

Before long, his gaze became resolute. Once he had stepped onto the path of immortality, who would dare to treat him as a pawn? Even if he continued to be that knife, he would demand sufficient compensation!

No longer dwelling on it, he took out some immortal divine essence and started cultivating. By refining the power of this material now, he hoped to increase his chance of breaking into the Immortal Stage when that time came.

.....

The news of Lin Xun completing a nine-star mission spread like wildfire, raising some stir in the Nine Great Peaks. In the hearts of the disciples of the Ninth Peak, he had already rivaled a god.

In just half a month, Lin Xun alone had driven almost all the winds of change within the Origin Sect. As a result, the Ninth Peak was now frequently discussed and no longer ignored as before. Disciples from other peaks even came to inquire about news relevant to him.

Some charming and beautiful senior sisters even subtly expressed their desire to engage in one-on-one dao exchanges with him...

Ye Chunjun and the other disciples realized that as long as Lin Xun was here, the Ninth Peak was destined to become bustling.

The ninth peak master, Qin Wuyu, sighed deeply as he observed all these changes. He felt a headache coming, but was also immensely happy. After all, his peak had been too quiet and nearly forgotten, and had not been this lively in a very long time.

Only Elder Zheng Qian had been in a foul mood lately, frequently losing his temper, which caused the disciples of the Ninth Peak to avoid him at all costs.

Deep down, these disciples were amused, knowing why he had become so irritable. The more brilliant Lin Xun's performance and the greater his fame was, the more uncomfortable Elder Zheng Qian, who had always disliked and spurned him, would feel.

Lin Xun paid no attention to these matters. He in fact didn't have the time to. He just wanted to complete two more nine-star tasks as soon as possible in order to secure a spot as a disciple of Origin Sky Pavilion.

The next morning, he once again appeared in the Heavenly Treasure Hall and, under the astonished gaze of Huang Qingyu, received a nine-star mission: Refine a complete sixth grade or above Heaven Rank law to obtain a nine-star merit.

As far as Lin Xun was concerned, subjugating a complete sixth grade Heaven Rank was not a difficult task at all with the help of the Nirvana law power. However, Huang Qingyu was nothing but dumbfounded.

This was a sixth grade Heaven Rank or above law being discussed here! Looking at the entire Seventh Heaven Domain, how many Immortal Imperial Clans possessed such a law power?

Something of that caliber could only be chanced upon when the stars aligned! Furthermore, the mission's jade slip didn't include the faintest clue where one could be found...

Chapter 2726 A World Called Cangtu

The reason why a nine-star mission was nine-star was because it belonged to the highest difficulty among missions.

As perverse and heaven-defying as the disciples of the Origin Sect Ancestral Court were, only a handful of them were truly capable of completing a nine-star mission by themselves.

For example, when it came to hunting down the Evil Spirit Lord, almost none of the disciples who had taken on this mission before Lin Xun had acted alone.

In comparison, refining a sixth grade Heaven Rank or above law power was undoubtedly much harder. The danger was one reason, and the rarity of such a law power was another. Whenever one appeared, it would raise bloodshed and carnage.

More importantly, the jade slip did not record where such law powers of this rank existed, meaning those who decided to tackle the mission had to search for it on their own.

“He just returned from the Sin World yesterday, and he’s already taking on another nine-star mission today?” Elder Li Beixing, in a cave haven in the Origin Emptiness Pavilion, was surprised. He had noticed the moment Lin Xun registered for the mission.

“This is a tricky one...” Li Beixing realized that it was impossible to make plans in advance to deal with Lin Xun like last time.

This was because no one could be sure where Lin Xun would go to find law power that was at the sixth grade Heaven Rank or above. The only way was to track him from the moment he left the Origin World, but doing so would easily expose him, Li Beixing.

After thinking about it, he decided to send the word out via a coded letter.

On the Third Peak, Nan Bohong, who was in the midst of a meeting in an ancient palace, received the message from Li Beixing.

He raised an eyebrow, then discreetly stowed it. After some silence, he ordered, "Send someone to monitor the teleportation array leading to and from the Origin World. Any traces of Lin Xun found must be immediately reported to me through telepathic talisman."

"Yes," an elder said and hurried away.

.....

After Lin Xun accepted his second nine-star mission, the matter sparked a heated discussion among the three pavilions and nine peaks.

"There are only two possibilities why he's doing this: either to get the permission to enter Scripture Mountain and study the Immortal legacies there, or to join one of the three pavilions!"

There was no lack of smart individuals in this world. When hearing that Lin Xun had accepted another nine-star mission so quickly, they made speculations and touched upon the truth.

"In the history of our sect, Lin Xun should be the fastest to become a core disciple by a long margin. Does he intend to keep up the momentum and enter one of the three pavilions?" some marveled.

"Maybe Junior Brother Lin Xun is aiming to break into the Immortal Stage as quickly as possible! Given his foundation and cultivation, he probably already has the potential to do so," some of the other core disciples felt immense pressure.

"We must all strive harder. The more Lin Xun excels, the more ordinary and inadequate we all look. Are you really willing to spend your entire lives in his shadow?" one of them said angrily.

"You're right! We must not give up so easily!" many agreed.

The atmosphere of the Nine Great Peaks changed all of a sudden as numerous disciples, driven by the unwillingness to lose, began to cultivate diligently.

Lin Xun's recent actions had spurred his fellow disciples into a frenzy of self-improvement. Even the high-ranking officials of the Origin Sect had not anticipated this. It was, of course, a great thing!

However, what puzzled everyone was that after receiving his second nine-star mission, Lin Xun didn't go to carry it out right away. Instead, he went back to his secluded retreat and stayed there.

Half a month later, he still showed no signs of moving.

This even caught Third Peak Master Nan Bohong off guard. Don't tell me he has sensed danger and planned to lie low for a while?

Gradually, more and more people removed their focus from this matter. Meanwhile, on the Ninth Peak, Lin Xun continued to cultivate in secluded meditation. No one knew that on the day he received his second nine-star mission, the Ninth Peak Master, Qin Wuyu, had come to warn him not to go out alone anymore.

Lin Xun naturally found this a strange request, but Qin Wuyu only said that even if he had to go out on a mission, he must be accompanied by someone. In fact, the peak master personally appointed Elder Mo Lanshan for the role.

However, they would have to wait a month as Mo Lanshan was in the middle of refining a treasure, which he needed to complete before he could emerge from seclusion.

Upon hearing Qin Wuyu's arrangements, a warm feeling surged in Lin Xun's heart.

Only now did he realize that his peak master had been paying close attention to what he was doing, and clearly was sending Mo Lanshan to go on missions with him out of concern for his safety. How could he not be moved?

A month flew by. One day, while Lin Xun was cultivating, Mo Lanshan arrived at his place.

Mo Lanshan smiled upon seeing him, "Sorry for keeping you waiting."

Lin Xun bowed respectfully, "I'm already honored to have your company, Elder. So what if I have to wait a little?"

Mo Lanshan laughed heartily, "The peak master has already instructed me that I will only be responsible for your safety along the way, and shall not interfere with your mission. In other words, you need to complete this nine-star mission yourself."

Lin Xun also chuckled, "Of course. That's more than enough."

Mo Lanshan asked, "Where do you plan to search for the law power?"

Lin Xun took out a jade slip and handed it to Mo Lanshan, "The peak master prepared this for me a month ago. It records all the locations in the thirteen worlds where Heaven Rank laws are most likely to emerge. Please take a look, Elder."

Mo Lanshan took the jade slip and sighed, "Although the peak master initially seemed reluctant to let you join our peak, it is clear now that he regards you as one of his own."

Lin Xun nodded, "I won't let him down."

The information in the jade slip was invaluable, having been meticulously selected by Qin Wuyu from numerous ancient texts and classics in Scripture Mountain, all to help him complete this second nine-star mission as quickly as possible!

This showed how highly he valued Lin Xun.

That day, Lin Xun and Mo Lanshan left Origin World together using the ancient teleportation array.

As soon as they departed, Nan Bohong received the news. His expression immediately sank on learning that Mo Lanshan was with Lin Xun.

“That sly old fox Qin Wuyu!” Nan Bohong's eyes glinted with frost. He knew full well that without Qin Wuyu's approval and support, someone of Lin Xun's status would never have been able to persuade an elder like Mo Lanshan to accompany him on his mission.

After a moment of heavy silence, Nan Bohong walked out of the hall. The power he commanded would be more than sufficient to handle Lin Xun alone, but with Mo Lanshan in the scenario... This matter was no longer something he could resolve by himself.

.....

In the broken and chaotic cosmos at the depths of the Thousand Star Sea.

The vortexes that were the condensed images of the over three thousand six hundred worlds dotted the various corners of the cosmos. Each vortex led into a completely different plane.

It was here that Lin Xun had found the gateway to the Sin World and hunted down an Evil Spirit Lord.

This broken cosmos was referred to by the Origin Sect as the 'Chaotic Belt of Worlds.' The over three thousand vortex portals scattered across this place had all been forged long ago by the old fossils of the Origin Sect using their supreme magical abilities.

The planes behind these vortex portals were located in the starry void between the Seventh and the Eighth Heaven Domain.

It was also possible to reach this starry void by going up nine hundred thousand feet from the Seventh Heaven Domain, but then it would still be virtually impossible to find those three thousand six hundred plus planes.

This was because the starry void was too vast and hosted countless planes. Those specific planes had only been marked out one by one by the ancient sages of the Origin Sect after eons of exploration and discovery, who had then created portals to them.

Mo Lanshan and Lin Xun appeared near the Chaotic Belt of Worlds. The former suggested, "How about we start with the Origin Abundance World?"

Lin Xun agreed readily, "Alright."

The two immediately vanished.

Days turned into months, and three months had passed. The two traveled tirelessly and left their footsteps in one world after another. Although without perils, the journey had been arduous.

Each world was boundless. Even with the guidance of the jade slip from Qin Wuyu, the search often did not go as desired.

The places that could potentially produce law powers had either been emptied out by other cultivators or...had no law power at all, rendering Lin Xun speechless and helpless.

Heaven Rank laws were so rare and uncommon that even with a specific goal in mind, they were repeatedly disappointed. Lin Xun couldn't help but wonder if taking on this nine-star mission was a mistake.

However, the experiences he encountered along the way had been broadening his horizons. Each world had its own unique civilizations and cultivation factions. They were diverse and bizarre, having a variety of things he had never heard of or seen before.

Some worlds even had numerous Immortal experts dominating them, but since Lin Xun and Mo Lanshan were merely passing through, coming and going swiftly, they hadn't encountered any major setbacks or dangers.

Even without considering Lin Xun, Mo Lanshan's cultivation at the Nirvana Spirit Realm alone allowed them to move freely through these worlds.

Along the way, Mo Lanshan also provided Lin Xun with valuable guidance that proved immensely beneficial.

One could always learn something among a crowd of three, not to mention that Mo Lanshan was an ancient Immortal monster who had lived for millennia. Traveling with him was like having a round-the-clock teacher.

Today, Mo Lanshan and Lin Xun appeared in the ninth world marked in the jade slip. The name of it was Cangtu.

Following the clues in the slip, they spent several days reaching a mountain range deep in the Cangtu World called 'Meteorite.'

"Look over there. The starlight forms a hazy, thin veil over the sky, which is what the beginning of chaos would look like. This phenomenon is an absolute indication that a law power was born in that place!"

Above the mountains, Mo Lanshan's clothes fluttered in the wind as he pointed at the horizon with a hint of joy gleaming on his face. After over three months of arduous travel, it seemed they had finally found a glimmer of hope!

Lin Xun perked up, raising his eyes to look in that direction.

Chapter 2727 Dead Star Lake

The mountain range stretched endlessly into a sky full of starlight. There was not a hole in that dreamlike haze which presented the scene of primal chaos.

Lin Xun's eyes lit up, finally seeing some hope after months of arduous searching.

According to the jade slip, the Meteorite Mountains of Cangtu World had attracted countless cultivators throughout history, but they had all mysteriously vanished without a single exception. As a result, the whole region surrounding this mountain range had become a forbidden zone.

However, such warnings held no sway over Lin Xun and Mo Lanshan.

"Let's go check it out." Mo Lanshan led the way.

As they approached the starlight-shrouded region, the surroundings suddenly transformed. It felt as though they had instantly traveled back to the primordial era.

The ground was littered with remnants of stars, and no one knew why and how they had fallen here. There were also numerous deep craters caused by the impact of extraterrestrial bodies.

Wisps of mist drifted vertically in various areas. These were starlight, but multicolored as they were permeated by the purest and thickest of five elements essence. If one were to cultivate here, the benefits would only be immense.

If it weren't for the fact that he was on a quest, Lin Xun would have chosen to stay here and absorb the five elements essence to his heart's content to temper his body.

"I see what's going on here. The abundance of spacetime energy has reverted this place to an ancient time, giving it an atmosphere of primal chaos." Mo Lanshan was taken aback by the mysteries that he uncovered.

Due to the influence of spacetime power, this place had become incredibly expansive. It not only was bigger than a starfield but also hosted countless fragments of broken stars.

Lin Xun had also perceived the extraordinary nature of this world and was just as amazed.

"This place has very likely given birth to a new primal chaos origin. If this suspicion of mine is right, then this will also be an opportunity for us to harvest and refine this primal chaos origin," said Mo Lanshan.

Hearing this, Lin Xun was tempted. Among the current nine-star missions posted in the Heavenly Treasure Hall, there was one about finding primal chaos origin!

If that's the case, then even if we can't find a sixth grade Heaven Rank or a higher law here, we can still complete a nine-star mission by harvesting this primal chaos origin... The thought of it gave him a boost of exhilaration.

Clang! Clang! Clang!

As the two continued on their way, they suddenly heard deafening sword chants echoing from the distance.

Soon, a great lake came into view. The sword energy whose sound they just heard was rising from the water's depths. It was bright, sharp, and soul-shaking.

Inspecting the lake itself, it was actually a gorgeous spectacle made of very dense silver starlight. In that 'water,' one could vaguely see countless stars swirling and gleaming, emanating waves of icy, bone-chilling law power fluctuations.

This scene left even Mo Lanshan, a Nirvana Spirit Immortal, astonished. He said, "If my guess is correct, there should be a law power at the bottom of this lake, and its grade is extremely high!"

Lin Xun was stunned, "Doesn't that mean we can obtain a law power on top of the primal chaos origin?"

Mo Lanshan smiled, "Once you reach the Immortal Stage, you will understand that the birth of a primal chaos origin is often accompanied by a law power. We've arrived here at the best time possible. Otherwise, once the primal chaos origin evolves into an embryonic world and its power into the almighty dao of that world, it will then have little value."

Lin Xun was delighted, "So that's how it is."

Mo Lanshan straightened his face and said solemnly, "Lin Xun, I will not intervene, so you'll only have yourself to rely on. Asking for my help will automatically make your nine-star mission a failure."

While this sounded cold-hearted, it was the rule of the Origin Sect: disciples must complete their nine-star mission on their own!

"Don't worry, Elder," Lin Xun said, his gaze already fixed on the big lake enveloped in starlight and brimming with sword energy.

Whoosh!

He jumped into action without hesitation. A great abyss formed on his palm, deep and enigmatic with a dreadful devouring aura. He plunged into the lake with it, splashing up towering waves.

Filled with a piercing sharp aura, the water splashes cut up both the air and the ground they landed on, creating countless web-like cracks.

Not only did Lin Xun pay it no heed, but his abyss also kept disrupting the water with the devouring power generated by its rotation. Seemingly on its way to being flipped upside down, the lake took this as a provocation.

Rumble!

It boiled, suddenly producing many law ripples. Forces of law power even burst out from the water and transformed into terrifying spirit entities.

“The law power is manifesting itself in a coalesced form! This is indeed a Heaven Rank law, one above the sixth grade at that.” Mo Lanshan watched from afar in anticipation. How would Lin Xun subdue such a high-level law?

Of note, even Immortal experts often needed to rely on law treasures to conquer such a law power; they would never stand a chance against a sixth grade Heaven Rank law otherwise.

The law power in the lake churned, condensing into a patch of liquid starlight. It swiftly took the shape of a humanoid creature that radiated blazing brilliance, causing the entire world to tremble under the sheer horror of its might.

Clang!

Without a word, Lin Xun raised his hand and summoned the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron. Being invincible in the Supreme Ancestor Stage, even a casual strike from him was the sharpest, most powerful skill.

Moreover, the sword cauldron held the Nirvana law power, making it capable of fighting back the law power in this place.

Crack!

The humanoid creature was slashed to pieces.

However, over a dozen more shot out from the tumbling lake the next second, this time in a variety of odd shapes between that of gods and demons. They each emitted astonishing fluctuations of law power, their aura terrifying beyond measure.

Right at this moment, Lin Xun rose up from the lake and channeled his power into the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron.

Billions of beams of light shot out. That overwhelming power, accompanied by the energy fluctuations of the Nirvana law power, completely suppressed the law power of those dozen or so creatures.

There was no doubt that this attack was on a catastrophic scale. As strong as the lake creatures were, they became inadequate once the law power on them was snuffed.

Bang!

They exploded in an instant. The group of oddly shaped creatures hadn't lasted long before they were annihilated just like that. The lake returned to calm in the blink of an eye, except for the starlight still swirling in the water.

Watching from a distance, Mo Lanshan was astonished.

He didn't know that Lin Xun possessed the Nirvana law power, but he could tell that the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron was a law treasure capable of dominating the law power of this place!

“Still not coming out?” shouted Lin Xun who was standing in the air above the lake. He hurled the sword cauldron into the water to perform the most direct suppression.

The lake erupted into a storm of rolling starlight and flying star debris. Scary law power fluctuations burst out from the deepest part like a volcanic explosion.

Following that, whoosh!

A streak of light bolted out from the water and soared up, slicing through the sky. It was a sword wreathed in starlight, and it was attempting to escape.

The Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron immediately released a horrid dao light and confined the sword in mid-air. The Nirvana law power joined in, taking the form of a lotus pattern. It floated at the cauldron's mouth and actively attacked.

The Nirvana law power had previously subdued numerous laws on its own, so Lin Xun was long accustomed to this scene.

Clang!

The starlight sword struggled violently, ramming into the sword cauldron as it tried to break free. However, under the Nirvana law power's suppression, every struggle was in vain. The sword was soon bound to the point it could no longer move and got sealed within the sword cauldron.

This sword was, of course, the physical form of the law power that had been birthed in this place.

“Holy...” Mo Lanshan was hit dizzy by what he had witnessed.

In his original estimation, Lin Xun would likely have to pay a price, or face some danger even, to subdue this law power.

Who would have thought that he had done it so effortlessly in just moments, with such precision and skill that indicated this wasn't his first time doing so.

The law power he just wielded must be a ninth grade Heaven Rank one... Mo Lanshan thought to himself.

As an elder of the Origin Sect's Ninth Peak and a Nirvana Spirit expert, he had seen his share of ninth grade Heaven Rank laws, as rare and precious as those were. Among the Nine Great Peaks, almost every disciple possessed a law artifact, and some of those artifacts actually contained law powers of ninth grade Heaven Rank!

Therefore, what shocked Mo Lanshan wasn't the fact that Lin Xun also had one. It was the fact that even a treasure of this level normally wouldn't display such overwhelming strength when attempting to subdue a complete sixth grade Heaven Rank or higher law.

"Disciples of Fangchun Mountain are truly unfathomable," lamented Mo Lanshan.

In the meantime, Lin Xun had already seen the true face of the subdued law power: a dao sword that was entirely silver-white in color and radiating starlight. The blade was imprinted with natural law patterns, emanating an awe-inspiring aura.

"Master, this is a seventh grade Heaven Rank law. Its energy is sharp and links to stellar power, making it a type of stellar law — a rather rare one."

This came from Wushuang in the Nirvana world. She had the appearance of a young and innocent looking girl. Her voice was clear, crisp, and filled with longing as she made this assessment.

Seventh grade Heaven Rank!

Lin Xun's heart raced, but his face remained composed as he transmitted to her, "I need to use it to exchange for merits. You can absorb its power if you want, but do not compromise its rank while you do that."

Wushuang agreed with a big, happy smile.

“Be careful.” Mo Lanshan, who was supposed to be a distance away, suddenly appeared out of thin air, grabbed Lin Xun's arm, and teleported him to the void beside the lake.

Almost simultaneously, a blaring horn rang out of the blue. The heavy and oppressive sound showed no signs of stopping.

The next second, a terrifying aura swept down from the skies. Lin Xun looked up to the sight of an ancient ship enveloped in a dao glow. It was descending straight in the direction of the lake with a crushing momentum.

This was a battleship. The might it radiated upon arrival struck fear into the hearts.

Upon closer inspection, the battleship bore a massive sect emblem carved in crimson divine blood: twelve primordial mountains anchored in chaos and pierced through heavens, as if eternal and immortal. The thick, crimson blood served as its background, adding an eerie and unsettling vibe.

“God Bone Battleship! It’s the Shaman Sect Ancestral Court!” Mo Lanshan's pupils sharply constricted.

Chapter 2728 The Entire Sect is Barbaric

The Shaman Sect Ancestral Court!

Lin Xun was also shaken.

The God Bone Battleship was massive, enveloped in a divine glow that made it appear incredibly mysterious. It would be easy to mistake it for a sacred vehicle that sailed through chaos from the world of the gods.

On the battleship were several young men and women, all of them imposing and having sharp gazes. The divine light of dao they emanated made them look utterly intimidating.

Every last one of them possessed a ruthless, bloodthirsty aura, strong and domineering like sovereigns who had risen from mountains of corpses and seas of blood. They clearly had undergone the baptism of blood and battle.

“Do not act rashly,” Mo Lanshan transmitted to Lin Xun without revealing any expression on his face.

Lin Xun nodded. This was his first encounter with disciples of the Shaman Sect Ancestral Court. The Shaman Sect was an extremely ancient force who revered strength above all else. Its disciples were all formidable with outstanding combat prowess.

Unlike the Origin Sect, the Shaman Sect was even more mysterious. All of its heritages centered around the concept of power, prioritizing ‘strength’ over ‘heart.’

They disregarded etiquette, ignored precepts, and had no respect for gods or spirits. Strength was their only method to determine hierarchy, and they viewed battles as the core of cultivation. As a result, the entire sect was seen as barbarians in the eyes of the Origin Sect and the Spirit Sect.

Opinions aside, no one in the Eternal True Realm could deny the power and terror of Shaman Sect. They were the most renowned among the four ancestral courts when it came to combat power.

The God Bone Battleship landed on the lake shore.

“Looks like someone else beat us to it and seized the law power here,” said a man dressed in leather coldly who had a sturdy build and stern facial features. His gaze was already fixed on Lin Xun and Mo Lanshan in the distance.

The other men and women on the battleship also looked over.

“A Nirvana Spirit Immortal and a supreme Ancestor. They’re probably from some major power.”

“The old man looks like a tough one.”

“Hmph, they stole our target. Whoever they are, they shall hand it back!”

The way these men and women stared at the two was unscrupulous. Their tone and manner were overbearing.

Even after identifying Mo Lanshan as a Nirvana Spirit expert, they still showed no restraint. Their eyes were frosty, exuding a ruthless ferocity ingrained in their very bones.

This made Lin Xun frown. These disciples of the Shaman Sect were indeed barbaric and arrogant savages, with no regard for anything.

However, their behavior was not surprising, considering their doctrine that disregarded etiquette, heaven and earth, demons and gods, only trusting and worshipping power.

Mo Lanshan clearly understood this and did not hold it against the other party. His eyes landed on the closed cabin as he spoke up in a deep voice, “Pleased to meet you, friends of the Shaman Sect. This is Elder Mo Lanshan of Origin Sect’s Ninth Peak. May I ask which fellow cultivator is bringing out their disciples on a trip?”

Origin Sect!

The expressions of the Shaman Sect disciples immediately changed. Knowing the other party’s identity only added an eager fighting intent to their gazes.

Their eyes went from Mo Lanshan to Lin Xun, scrutinizing him without scruples like they were appraising a prey.

Lin Xun was irritated. Did these fellows actually want to challenge him to a fight?

“Long time no see, Fellow Daoist Mo,” resounded a hoarse, old voice from the tightly shut cabin of God Bone Battleship.

Its door then opened, and an old man came out. He looked awfully aged, having almost no hair left while wrinkles piled up on his face and made it look like a crumpled piece of paper.

However, he was mentally sprightly despite his appearance. His eyes resembled golden lamps, and astonishing vitality surged within him. He was quite alive.

Moreover, this was already the result of him deliberately keeping his aura in check. If his true power were to spread, all the young cultivators present would likely vomit blood and collapse due to their inability to withstand it.

Lin Xun's eyes took on a hint of gravity. This frail old man carried a profoundly dangerous aura no weaker than that of Elder Mo Lanshan.

“So it's you, Brother Meng.” Mo Lanshan slightly squinted before going back to expressionless.

At the same time, his voice echoed in Lin Xun's ears, “He is Meng Shan, an elder of the Thunder Shaman, which is one of the twelve branches of the Shaman Sect. While his status is the same as mine, his combat ability is extremely brutal. But you need not panic; I am right here.”

Lin Xun felt a chill in his heart as he detected a hint of caution and apprehension in Mo Lanshan's tone.

However, the words ‘I am right here’ gave him an indescribable sense of reassurance, immediately calming him down.

“Haha, since we are acquaintances, this matter can be settled with ease.” The wrinkled old man leaned on his cane as he tremblingly walked to the bow of the ship. His voice was hoarse, “I have brought these disciples here to let them train and, while we're at it, to subdue a law. But it appears that you have already captured that law, Daoist Mo?”

Mo Lanshan replied, “That is correct.”

“So what if he took it? It won't belong to the Origin Sect for as long as he remains here!” declared a lean, bare-chested man with skin like solidified bronze liquid. His manner was nothing but disrespectful and provocative.

Meng Shan scolded, “Don’t be rude.”

The lean man indifferently shrugged, “Elder Meng, strength is the only etiquette of the Shaman Sect; everything else is senseless.”

The other men and women on their side reacted similarly, let alone showing any surprise.

Meng Shan actually chuckled and turned to Mo Lanshan with pride in his voice, “Please don't take offense, Daoist Mo. This is just the way our disciples conduct themselves.”

Mo Lanshan replied calmly, “Who hasn't been young once? It isn't necessarily a bad thing for the youths to be passionate and fearless.”

The lean man barked, “Cut the nonsense. I've never had a good impression of your Origin Sect. Hand over the law power immediately!”

Before Mo Lanshan could speak, Lin Xun coldly interjected, “Directly demanding someone to hand you a law power? The nerve of you. You may be able to act as you please on your turf, but take a look around, this is not the Shaman Sect!”

The attitude of these Shaman Sect disciples was utterly brazen. The audacity of them to even disrespect Mo Lanshan, a Nirvana Spirit Immortal!

What Lin Xun hadn't anticipated was that his rebuke didn't anger the Shaman Sect disciples; instead, the other party burst out laughing.

“Hahaha, this kid has a spine.”

“Speaking to us like that, his courage is actually extraordinary. Now I'm curious about his true strength.”

“That's because he doesn't know the consequences of offending us.”

Their remarks remained arrogant and direct. Anyone on the receiving end would feel uncomfortable. Lin Xun finally understood why the Origin Sect regarded the entire Shaman Sect as barbarians. These guys were completely lawless and fearless!

Mo Lanshan transmitted, “Don't bother with them. The young and old of the Shaman Sect are all the same, and they've always been like this. They only believe in strength and are notorious for their impertinence.”

Lin Xun transmitted, “Elder, what's happening is rather suspicious. I don't think they will just give up even if we tolerate them. It's better that I actively step up and deal with them.”

He then swept his gaze over the Shaman Sect disciples and said calmly, “If you want the law power, fine, but you'll have to fight me. If I lose, I will hand it to you. If I win, you'd better disappear from my sight at once!”

His words were casual but incredibly domineering, effectively declaring war!

The Shaman Sect disciples were collectively astounded. When have the disciples of the Origin Sect become so bold?

Instantly, they all seethed with battle intent, itching to fight. They now sized Lin Xun up and down with cold interest.

“Since it's a battle, dare you risk your life?” shouted the lean man.

Mo Lanshan frowned, seemingly hesitant to say something. Like Lin Xun, he too could see that today's matter could not be resolved in a peaceful way. In that case, he might as well let his junior teach the other party a lesson.

Meng Shan, however, remained quiet throughout, watching everything with a smile. Lin Xun glanced at the old man and said, "If you want to decide the fight with life or death, that's fine, but I wonder if anyone will intervene when it goes wrong for you."

The lean man's expression darkened, "Elder Meng, please do not intervene in our fight no matter what happens!"

Meng Shan narrowed his eyes, "What do you think, Daoist Mo?"

Mo Lanshan replied calmly, "It would be ideal to avoid a life-or-death outcome. However, if it does come to that, I will not intervene."

Meng Shan acknowledged and said, "Very well. It has been a long time since the disciples of our two ancestral courts last engaged in a friendly competition, so let's not miss this opportunity. How about this, during the duel, neither side shall utilize law powers."

The lean man scoffed, "I don't mind, but without that kind of help, I'm afraid that our friend from the Origin Sect might meet a rather gruesome end."

The men and women around him burst into laughter.

Lin Xun also laughed, "Don't forget what you said."

The lean man no longer wasted his breath, or rather, he could no longer contain his urge to fight as well as killing intent. He suddenly charged out from the battleship.

"One thing to remember before you die, my name is Yan Tu!" he announced leisurely. He carried a murderous spear on his back and held a large bow made of beast bones in his hand.

As he drew a bronze arrow from the quiver, his eyes shone like two golden stars while the pupils turned into two crosses that glinted like swords. His sharp and angular face exuded a wild determination as he commanded, "Hit!"

Whoosh!

The bronze arrow was fired, tearing through the sky. The air in its wake exploded under its primal power and a kind of unstoppable might. It was unbelievably fast and ruthless as it streaked toward Lin Xun.

The latter merely struck out his palm, and the arrow all of a sudden went off its trajectory, sweeping past him.

Boom!

Hit by the arrow, a colossal mountain not far away instantly exploded to dust.

“Huh, this guy is interesting. He actually managed to avoid my arrow,” echoed a surprised voice.

Despite what he said, his following actions weren't delayed in the slightest. He drew his bowstring decisively, and every arrow fired was like a rainbow that cleaved apart heaven and earth with its impressive sharpness.

Moreover, he was unleashing his full power this time. The rain of arrows whistled as they shattered the void, all of them being taboo-level divine treasures.

His companions also started cheering him on.

“Go Yan Tu, kill him! Only absolute domination over this disciple of Origin Sect can demonstrate the might of our Shaman Sect!”

“Blast him into a cloud of blood with your mighty arrows!”

Chapter 2729 Reaping a Life Like Taking Candy from a Kid

The divine arrows ripped the air, their sharp and dazzling beams stirred the atmosphere, and their energy was intensely powerful!

Despite that, Lin Xun neither flinched nor dodged. His clothes fluttered as he strode forth like a god and simply flicked his finger when the first arrow came flying.

Clang!

With a loud collision, the arrow was knocked away. It squirmed like a dying snake and fell from the air.

Lin Xun kept taking steps. His sleeves danced in the process as he flicked his fingers continuously and hit every arrow with precision. Blinding sparks flew in all directions.

Lin Xun remained unscathed, continuing moving toward the distant Yan Tu.

The disciples of the Shaman Sect were taken aback. No normal cultivators would want to take Yan Tu's arrow skill head-on as it had transcended the limit of his current level. Yet, shockingly, it hadn't gained him any advantage in this duel!

"This fellow is a decent fighter. No wonder he dares to challenge us," one of them exclaimed.

"Yan Tu, you're making us Shaman Sect disciples look like fools! Use your real killing move!" another clamored.

"Haha, why the rush? It's much more interesting this way, no?" someone grinned.

Those on the ancient ship nonchalantly discussed among themselves. Only the archer wore a somber expression as he pulled back the bowstring, devoid of humor while the cross symbols in his eyes became even more glaring.

"Go!" he bellowed and released the arrow. A blood-red beam instantly shot upward, terrifying beyond measure in the company of a rolling crimson light.

The arrow's fletching was engraved with a series of strange, twisted symbols. They even manifested mid-flight and hurled themselves toward Lin Xun!

“An arrow that can harvest lives and kill souls! Splendid!” a person laughed heartily.

This was a magical arrow crafted by an Immortal figure, which gave it super power. When the archer infused a thread of their consciousness into this arrow, it would lock onto the target's primordial spirit and would not stop until they were utterly dead.

Without a question, it would unleash earth-shattering power if it successfully hit Lin Xun.

However, he who had not evaded the previous arrows, did the same with this one. Instead, his hand reached out.

KABOOM!

With a deafening noise, he actually caught the terrifying arrow with his bare hand. It proceeded to explode into fragments of light in his grip.

The disciples of Shaman Sect all froze, realizing they had underestimated the situation. Even they would not dare to face such an attack with their bare hands.

“Dodge!” someone on the battleship suddenly shouted upon seeing Lin Xun closing in on Yan Tu at breakneck speed.

Yan Tu was no ordinary expert; he reacted extremely fast. He stopped firing arrows but instead swung his longbow forward. With a bizarre luster, the bow unleashed sky-blotting murderous intent.

In response, Lin Xun simply punched out.

CLANG!

The fist force collided with the longbow, producing a devastating torrent of destruction.

Yan Tu was violently rattled, his face turning so red it was almost purple. The next second, he was sent flying back by the thunderous blow!

Lin Xun's punch was too powerful, as though it was an unstoppable force. It crushed him and left him powerless to defend himself.

"He is too strong!" The disciples of the Shaman Sect were all full of doubts and anxiety, their expressions solemn.

Yan Tu was unmatched in archery and had unparalleled combat prowess even among them, but he had been wounded in a head-on exchange. Everybody had realized at this point that Lin Xun was a formidable opponent!

Boom!

Lin Xun did not pause in his assault. Another strike sent Yan Tu screaming as his longbow flew out of his hand. He coughed up blood and crashed into a mountain.

"Damn it!" The faces of the Shaman Sect disciples grew unsightly.

Meng Shan frowned, a frightening light flickering in his eyes.

Only Mo Lanshan looked composed. Lin Xun could even defeat extraordinary characters like Li Zhongyuan and Shen Zaidao with his battle prowess, so why would some Shaman Sect disciple cause him trouble?

Swish!

On the battlefield, Lin Xun moved even faster, coming down with relentless ferocity.

Bang!

He landed one foot on Yan Tu's chest, pressing the latter against the mountain, reducing it to rubble. The other party struggled during this, his energy boiling as he tried to break free. Being trampled underfoot like this was an insult in itself.

However, Lin Xun's power was so vast and terrifying that it sent excruciating pain through Yan Tu's chest, as if his bones were breaking. Blood spurted from his mouth. Even at his current cultivation, he still felt a stabbing sensation generated from his struggles.

"Get off!" Yan Tu's hair flared up as he resisted vigorously. The cross symbols in his pupils shot out and transformed into swords in the air, clanging loudly while slashing at Lin Xun.

This attack was sharp and extremely bizarre. Although Lin Xun managed to deflect it, the impact still shook him.

Rumble!

Yan Tu seized this opportunity and freed himself. Like an enraged demon god, his hair flew wildly, and the cross symbols in his pupils grew even sharper.

"I want you dead! DEAD!" he roared and drew the battle spear from his back, striking down with it. The region was split apart. A horrifyingly massive fissure was wrecking both the sky and earth.

Too savage, too powerful!

The earth below was in two halves, separated by a churning torrent of crimson liquid that surged straight toward the mountain area. It was no less grand a spectacle than a natural flood disaster.

The state of the sky was even more spine-chilling. Wherever the murderous aura passed, everything was annihilated.

BOOM!

Almost at the same moment, Lin Xun's entirety erupted with a boundless, fiery light.

A breathtaking scene unfolded as Lin Xun caught the spear with his bare hands, his fingers clamping down on the blade like pincers forged from divine metal. He then gave it a violent shake, and the divine weapon got twisted!

The Shaman Sect disciples gawked with their eyes and jaws wide open. What kind of power was that, catching and deforming a divine weapon with one's bare hands? The display of total power left them speechless, their hearts quivering.

Of note, Yan Tu's spear was a very unique Emperor-grade weapon with matchless destructive power. It could cleave any Emperor Ancestor in two instantly, yet it was currently being tightly restrained!

Yan Tu paled drastically. He had never imagined that Lin Xun could be so perverse and bold enough to receive a divine weapon with bare hands.

“Throw him off!” he roared, running every drop of his strength.

Lin Xun's gaze was cold and sharp as he shook his arms, and with a crack, the divine spear broke!

At the same time, a thunderous sound wave erupted from Lin Xun's palms and struck Yan Tu. It was a severe blow; he got knocked flying while coughing up blood!

Immediately following that, Lin Xun swung his leg like an iron whip, sending Yan Tu flying again. He bounced like a ball, miserably battered and bruised.

Yan Tu's face contorted, his body convulsing. He had suffered severe injuries with at least dozens of broken bones. Even his primordial spirit was reeling. He looked like he might drop dead at any moment.

An unprecedented sense of defeat washed over him, leaving his face ashen.

On the battleship, many cried out, "Stop!"

Bang!

Lin Xun ignored them and delivered a deadly punch.

Yan Tu's body shattered. The pieces of flesh then crumbled bit by bit into blood mist. Finally, only his head remained, the white face on which was filled with terror. His lips twitched, so terrified that not a word could be uttered.

Lin Xun stopped. Instead of ending the opponent's life, he held up the head and asked, "You said earlier that I'd meet a gruesome end. Don't you find that amusing?"

The field lurched into silence. The expressions of the Shaman Sect disciples repeatedly shifted. Lin Xun's power had deeply impacted them.

Meng Shan's wrinkled face clouded over as he remained silent. No one knew what was going on inside his head. Mo Lanshan also kept quiet. Since Lin Xun had won, he would not tell him to spare the opponent's life because that would not be magnanimous, only idiotic.

The Shaman Sect disciples snapped out of their shock and shouted angrily, "How dare you?!"

"Release Yan Tu immediately, or we won't spare you!" Their voices were filled with threat.

Bang!

Yan Tu's head exploded in Lin Xun's hand. His life was thus obliterated.

"To begin with, this duel did not forbid taking each other's life. I gave him a chance, hoping for a nice change in attitude from you all, but you acted as arrogant as ever. How disappointing," sighed Lin Xun.

The gory scene caused Meng Shan's eyelids to twitch. Meanwhile, Lin Xun's ruthless decisiveness also left Mo Lanshan shaken nonstop. This was the first time he had ever seen this junior kill someone.

Lin Xun's previous battles within Origin Sect could only be considered friendly sparring, with no clear victor. However, it was different here as he had mercilessly taken down a disciple of the Shaman Sect!

At this point, the other Shaman Sect disciples present could no longer contain themselves, each of them besides with fury.

“Kill him!” a woman stressed each word heavily, her voice revealing infinite killing intent.

The next moment, they all sprang into action, each summoning their treasures to bombard Lin Xun.

RUMBLE!

The entire world quaked. The sun and moon lost their shine. The air was taken over by the radiance of treasures and their overwhelming power!

At this moment, Lin Xun also summoned the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron, which emitted exploding noises as it unleashed billions of rays of light.

Deafening roars ran through the clouds. Some treasures were thrown off, some were destroyed. The sound of it all was unbearably loud. Seeing this, two Shaman Sect disciples rushed out of the battleship and attacked Lin Xun together.

All of them were outstanding talents in their sect, possessing combat power no weaker than Yan Tu's. The treasures and techniques they employed were also unrivaled in might. However, since Lin Xun had summoned the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron, he no longer held back like he had before and launched a direct assault with his most powerful arts.

Poof!

A sword flew out of the cauldron and pierced through an opponent's chest. Bright red blood flowed out, painting a revolting sight.

“You...” the stabbed person stumbled back, escaping as quickly as they could, but Lin Xun's momentum was unstoppable as he went on a full killing spree.

The other one rushed over to help, only for their treasure to be sliced in half by Lin Xun's sword, while their own abdomen also got split open!

“Kill him!” sustaining severe injuries, the two men shouted loudly and executed their final desperate struggle.

Lin Xun remained cold and expressionless; he had no intention of giving them any chance to escape.

Swish!

A sword qi shot up, piercing the heavens as it slashed the waist of one person. Blood spilled as the severed body halves dropped to the ground.

“Arghhh...” the man screamed in agony. His head was still attached to the upper half, but his face was as white as a sheet and distorted with pain. He had lost both the will and the ability to fight.

Poof!

Almost simultaneously, the other one suffered an even worse fate nearby. The same boundless, piercing sword qi earlier had severed his head, penetrated him, and caused his body to explode!

In the blink of an eye, both opponents had been effectively cut up. Their primordial spirits scrambled to flee, but they could be easily shot down at any moment.

The remaining men and women on the battleship felt chills seeping into every fiber of their flesh. How could they not understand that their opponent this time was far from as simple as they had imagined?

As Lin Xun was about to completely eliminate the two defeated ones, Meng Shan, who had been observing coldly, could no longer endure it and let out a snort, "Seeking death!"

Chapter 2730 Fishing

In an instant, Lin Xun's field of vision darkened. An enormous, wrinkled hand was looming overhead with an energy so powerful that it suffocated him. He could keenly sense the deadly danger it carried.

Meng Shan had struck! The old man had already seethed with fury after witnessing Yan Tu's death, so when his two other disciples were put in mortal danger, he could no longer control himself and intervened.

"This is a dispute among juniors. Why are you so angry over it, Fellow Daoist?" echoed a calm voice as Mo Lanshan appeared out of thin air and waved his hand.

Boom!

The region quaked, and the enormous ancient hand in the void dissipated. Mo Lanshan had teleported Lin Xun to a distant location in the meantime.

Looking back, Meng Shan was radiating immortal light, and his once aged appearance had suddenly turned into that of a powerful man with ink-black hair and a big, sturdy build. The killing intent emanating from him caused the sky to grow dim and look like it was about to collapse.

"You killed a disciple of ours and expect me not to be angry?" said Meng Shan icily. "Mo Lanshan, hand over that brat, and I will forgive you for this. Otherwise, both of you shall not leave here today!"

Mo Lanshan frowned, "Are you trying to start a war between our courts?"

Meng Shan's voice was ruthless, "That depends on whether you will hand him over!"

Lin Xun sneered, "So the Shaman Sect Ancestral Court can't afford defeat. I didn't expect this."

Mo Lanshan said, "No, they're not afraid of losing; they merely don't care about rules and agreements. Thinking you can make them bow down and leave by winning one battle is a far-fetched idea."

"Enough talk. I'll ask you one last time: are you handing him over or not?" said Meng Shan without any emotion on his face, but his voice was grim and filled with murderous intent!

"Hand him over, or die," a detached voice suddenly resounded from the cabin of the distant battleship.

The next second, a blood-red rainbow shot out from the cabin, carrying a figure clad in flowy white clothes. This person was strikingly handsome, and his eyes swirled with the weight of vicissitudes of time.

Accompanying his appearance, an intangible might spread, the terror of it plunged the world into utter silence.

"Gou Hu!" Mo Lanshan's face instantly sank. "As a hallowed earth shaman of the Shaman Sect Ancestral Court, why are you meddling in this kind of matter? Don't you find it shameful?"

He finally saw that something was amiss. Meng Shan alone was enough to preside over a training trip for the disciples. They had no need for someone like Gou Hu, whose status as an earth shaman was equivalent to a deputy pavilion master in the Origin Sect!

"To be frank, I'm here specifically for him," said Gou Hu as his gaze landed on Lin Xun. He dressed and carried himself with grace, and looked like a youthful man, but in reality, he was an ancient relic.

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes, having a bad premonition.

"He's but a disciple of our Origin Sect. What is so special about him that warrants such attention from an old monster like you?" asked Mo Lanshan coldly.

"Indeed he is, but he is also a disciple of Fangchun Mountain. And you, Mo Lanshan, know very well that the Shaman Sect has always viewed Fangchun Mountain as an enemy," said Gou Hu nonchalantly as he revealed Lin Xun's true identity!

Mo Lanshan looked at Gou Hu, then at Meng Shan on the other side, his expression heavy. "I'm actually curious, who told you about this?"

This was highly suspicious! The Meteorite Forbidden Zone of the Cangtu World was known to very few others aside from the Origin Sect. Despite that, these members of the Shaman Sect Ancestral Court had not only suddenly appeared but also openly stated that they were after Lin Xun.

Mo Lanshan realized that it was most likely someone from the Origin Sect who had revealed their whereabouts to outsiders, and that was the reason why he was so angry at the moment.

"Hand over this boy, and I will answer your question." Gou Hu maintained a time-weary gaze and an air of absolute confidence this entire time, as though he was the mastermind behind this.

"You can choose not to, of course, but you'll probably end up dying here with him," Meng Shan coldly added.

At this point, even Lin Xun was furious. How could he not understand that he and Elder Mo had been betrayed by their enemies within the Origin Sect? He didn't need to guess; it was inevitably connected to Third Peak Master Nan Bohong!

Surprisingly, Mo Lanshan laughed, "Lin Xun, do you know what our peak master said about this outing of yours?"

He continued before Lin Xun could answer, "He said that you and I are going to be bait and he'd wait to see if we can catch a big fish. To think that we would, and we've caught two big ones from the Shaman Sect at that. How crazy some people within our own sect have become."

Lin Xun was dumbfounded, and then it hit him that Qin Wuyu and Mo Lanshan had probably been prepared for this situation all along!

"Bait?" Gou Hu raised his brows. As if realizing that something was off, he decided to act immediately.

He stood motionless, yet the world around him suddenly went into disarray. The stars dimmed and quivered in what seemed to be an apocalyptic disaster. Immediately afterward, the ground cracked open. From the cracks, countless blood-red spears sprouted forth and shot toward Mo Lanshan like a great flood.

A terrifying Immortal aura pierced Lin Xun's eyes. Unable to keep them open, a sense of dread filled his heart. He felt like he was teetering on the brink of death.

The power he was under was too supreme, far surpassing the Heavenly Longevity Realm as it was at the peak perfection of the Nirvana Spirit Realm. An expert in this level only needed a single thought to overturn the heavens and earth!

"Execute!" roared Meng Shan in that same moment, his voice rumbling through the clouds like heavenly thunder.

Clang!

A black bone blade flew out, wrapped in spooky skeletal-shaped Immortal law power and billowing black mist. The blade qi slashed down from above, domineering as though it sought to destroy this entire world.

Such power was far beyond what Lin Xun, a supreme Emperor Ancestor, could withstand. He had no doubt that without Mo Lanshan standing before him, the aura of the slash alone would have instantly obliterated him!

Facing such a terror of a pincer attack, Mo Lanshan took a deep breath. A strange snow-white jade talisman appeared before him.

He said softly, "Old Monster Yan, your turn."

The ocean of blood-red spears whistling toward him froze in mid-air right at that instant, entering an eerily still state.

Following that, a towering figure emerged from the snow-white jade talisman. He was as close to a blazing sun as could be, radiating brilliant light. His Immortal aura that was as vast as the sea manifested as billions of shiny swords of law power. They drifted around him, clanging loudly like the strongest of tides.

Under the sheer might of his presence, the heavens and earth collapsed in a thunderous crash with all things wiped to oblivion.

Bang, bang, bang!

The blood-red spears suspended in the air, despite being made from Gou Hu's Immortal law power, exploded like dried grass under a lightning strike. A rain of blood-red light filled the sky.

In the distance, Gou Hu exclaimed, "Yan Ji?! Old bastard, weren't you reduced to a thread of primordial spirit?"

Almost simultaneously, the towering figure reached out and grabbed at the black skeletal blade that was in mid-slash. With a light swipe of his fingers, the weapon crumbled into ashes.

"Pfff!" Meng Shan coughed up blood so hard from the backlash that his face paled. He shouted in shock and anger, "Shaman Gou Hu, the old fogey seems to have entered the Realm of Transcendence!"

He himself was also at the Nirvana Spirit Realm. Although he wasn't as strong as Gou Hu, the gap between them was not too big. Despite that, he had been injured by a single attack!

The details weren't clear to Lin Xun, but he could still see that the joint attack of Gou Hu and Meng Shan had been crushed like dried branches.

Shaken to his core, he couldn't help but think of that particular white cat. Was it truly the Origin Sky Pavilion Master, who was now only a wisp of primordial spirit?

Boom!

Lin Xun was still in a trance when the towering, radiant figure stepped forward and punched.

The region split like a torn canvas with a deafening noise. The terrifying power concentrated in the punch seemed to want to break even time!

“Descend!” bellowed the white-robed Gou Hu.

An ancient shaman god then descended the world in its dharma form, permeated with a powerful, berserk energy like it had just walked out from the primordial era. However, faced with the towering figure's punch, the shaman god turned out to be unbearably weak: it exploded into a whirlwind of chaos qi and dispersed in all directions.

Gou Hu trembled and uncontrollably coughed up a mouthful of blood. That punch had been too tyrannical!

“Go!” Gou Hu immediately grabbed Meng Shan and rushed into the cabin of the God Bone Battleship when he saw the towering figure preparing to attack again.

The ship roared and tore the sky as it sped off, but the towering figure did not stop. Instead, he inhaled deeply and made a strange seal with both hands. Resembling a gorgeous pagoda, the hand seal shot out.

In the depths of the boundless void where God Bone Battleship was fleeing at full speed, a dazzling pagoda suddenly came crashing down.

Kaboom!

A bright-red protective law diagram appeared and shrouded the entire ship, but the pagoda instantly crushed it.

“Break!” Seeing the battleship was about to be destroyed, Gou Hu soared up with a furious roar and rammed at the pagoda with every ounce of strength he had.

However, he had underestimated what he was going against. His Immortal body, as solid as divine metal, ripped under the pagoda's pressure. His blood gushed out in a river.

If it wasn't for the fact that power of the pagoda hand seal had dissipated after accomplishing that, Gou Hu, a powerful earth shaman of Shaman Sect, would have been annihilated on the spot!

Whoosh!

The God Bone Battleship quickly escaped. All of this had occurred outside of Lin Xun's sight but not Mo Lanshan's, who was unable to hold back an unwilling sigh.

The region swayed in the aftereffects. The towering figure stood in the void like the creator of this world, powerful beyond belief. However, Lin Xun noticed that its aura was rapidly fading. Clearly, this was not the true form of 'Old Monster Yan,' but likely just a dharma manifestation of his will!

"Old Monster Yan, thank you," said Mo Lanshan.

"Do not mention this matter to anyone after you return to the sect," said the towering figure.

"Why is that?" asked a startled Mo Lanshan.

"Without evidence, it would only expose my involvement, which might drive those scoundrels to overreact. That would be unwise," the towering figure explained before going up in a wisp of white smoke, as if he had never been here at all.

Mo Lanshan stood in place, his expression flickering dimly. After what seemed like half a day, he let out a long sigh, "As unpleasant as external enemies are, they can be fought directly. It is internal traitors who are the most abominable!"