

Prodigies 2891

Chapter 2891 Trap

Yuan Changtian asked, "Tell me, in the entire Origin Sect, who is closest to Lin Xun?"

Yuan Xiliu pondered for a moment before replying, "Li Zhen should be one, and Tao Leng should also count."

Yuan Changtian nodded slowly. "If we're to deal with Lin Xun, we'll have to start with those two. Old Ancestor, please go in person. Tell Fu Wenli and the others to find an opportunity to send Tao Leng out on a mission."

Yuan Xiliu blinked in surprise. "Why Tao Leng?"

"Li Zhen is an elder of the Origin Clarity Pavilion." Yuan Changtian explained. "Although Tang Qiu is its deputy pavilion master, he's still kept in check by the other two deputy pavilion masters, Fang Daoping and Yu Xing. If Tang Qiu were to send Li Zhen out, it would immediately draw suspicion."

He paused, then added, "But Tao Leng is different. In the Origin Sky Pavilion, he's merely a deacon. Both Fu Wenli and Qi Xiaoyun can dispatch him as they please without attracting any attention."

A faint smile touched Yuan Xiliu's lips. "As expected of Young Master...always thinking three steps ahead."

Yuan Changtian sighed softly, "Tao Leng alone may not be enough to threaten Lin Xun...but there's no better choice. In the whole Origin Sect, he's the only one who fits the role."

Yuan Xiliu bowed and swiftly took his leave.

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Half an hour later.

“Young Master,” Yuan Xiliu reported upon his return, “everything has been arranged. We’re simply waiting for the right opportunity to lure Tao Leng out of the sect.”

Yuan Changtian nodded lightly. “Good. But be careful, Old Ancestor. Leave no traces. If this leaks out, it won’t end well for either of us.”

Yuan Xiliu smiled faintly, “Rest assured, Young Master. I’ll make sure nothing leads back to you.”

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Seven days later.

“Young Master, Tao Leng has left the Origin Sect!”

Yuan Xiliu strode in with barely concealed excitement. “What a coincidence...just a few days ago, he accepted a mission from the sect. He’s gone out to find a promising young seedling to take as his disciple. That means if something happens to him...no one will suspect us!”

Yuan Changtian’s eyes narrowed in disbelief. “Such a coincidence?”

Yuan Xiliu chuckled. “Heaven itself must favor us. Fu Wenli and the others were still planning how to send him out, and before they could act, the news came that Tao Leng had already taken the mission. Even the heavens lend us a hand!”

Yuan Changtian’s expression remained solemn. “Don’t celebrate yet. Capturing Tao Leng is only the first step. The second is far less certain.”

Yuan Xiliu asked, “Young Master, you mean...Lin Xun?”

Yuan Changtian’s voice turned low and thoughtful. “Think about it. Once Lin Xun learns that Tao Leng has been captured, what will he do? If I were him, I’d immediately suspect a trap aimed at me. It’s obvious enough. At that time, do you think he’ll still risk going out to rescue Tao Leng?”

Yuan Xiliu hesitated for a moment before replying, "That depends on how much Tao Leng means to him."

Yuan Changtian nodded. "Exactly, the key to the next move lies entirely in Lin Xun's decision. If he thinks Tao Leng isn't worth saving and stays holed up in the sect, our plan fails."

"And if he does go to save him?" Yuan Xiliu asked quietly.

Yuan Changtian replied, "Then he'll surely be well-prepared. Which brings us to the real question...how can we make sure that Lin Xun goes alone, without the protection of those old monsters from the Origin Sect?"

Yuan Xiliu frowned. "Then we tell Lin Xun that if anyone other than him shows up, Tao Leng dies!"

Yuan Changtian shook his head slowly. "That's far too naive. Nothing ever goes exactly to plan. We must prepare contingencies."

"Young Master, please explain," Yuan Xiliu urged.

"Tell Fu Wenli and the others to mobilize all forces!" Yuan Changtian's tone hardened as his eyes gleamed coldly. "If Lin Xun shows up, whether alone or with reinforcements, he must be killed. Leave no chance for trouble to rise again!"

A chill ran down Yuan Xiliu's spine. "Lin Xun is only at the initial Transcendence Stage. Is such preparation truly necessary?"

Yuan Changtian's voice turned icy. "When we joined the Immortal Dao Battle, you asked me the same question. And what happened? Even with Old Ancestor Xukun's Will Dharma Form, Lin Xun still lived!"

Yuan Xiliu quickly cupped his fists. "Young Master is absolutely right."

Yuan Changtian's brows furrowed slightly. "There's only one thing that worries me...Lin Xun's martial uncle, Kong Jue. Although Eternal Stage beings can't act directly here without suffering backlash from the heavens, they can send a Will Dharma Form. If Kong Jue sends his again...our entire plan will crumble."

Yuan Xiliu smiled faintly. "Young Master, rest assured. Every time an Eternal Stage expert expends a Will Dharma Form, it takes at least a month to condense another. It's only been eight days since Lin Xun returned to the sect. It's impossible for him to possess another."

At that, Yuan Changtian's eyes brightened. "Good, then things will proceed smoothly."

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Before Lin Xun's abode, a disciple who guarded the ancient teleportation array approached respectfully and presented a jade slip. "Elder Lin, someone asked me to deliver this to you. They said that you'll understand once you read it."

Without waiting for a response, the disciple was about to hurry away. Lin Xun blinked, then set the jade slip aside. He retrieved ten Sun Moon Immortal Pills and handed them over.

"Take these," he said gently. "Cultivate well."

The disciple froze in disbelief. He had never expected that a simple errand would earn such a reward. Moments later, his face lit up with excitement. "Thank you, Elder Lin! I won't let you down!"

He turned and sped off like a beam of light. Only then did Lin Xun pick up the jade slip and scan its contents. His pupils constricted sharply. After a moment, he put the jade slip away.

Instead of returning to his abode, he stepped straight into the void, his figure streaking toward the distant horizon.

"Elder Lin, where are you headed?" A surprised voice echoed across the void.

Lin Xun turned and saw Yuan Xiliu gliding through the void toward him.

“Just going for a walk.” Lin Xun replied indifferently.

Even as he spoke, his figure faded into the void.

“Heh...I didn’t think Lin Xun would be this sentimental. For Tao Leng’s sake, he’s actually going alone...”
Yuan Xiliu chuckled under his breath.

Without another moment’s delay, he turned and sped off toward Yuan Changtian’s abode to deliver the news.

Buzz!

The ancient teleportation array leading beyond the Origin World flared with a rain of strange light, and Lin Xun vanished in an instant.

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Three hours later, in a remote stretch of the starry void far from the Origin World. A flash of radiance tore through the darkness, and Lin Xun stepped forth amid the drifting starlight. The jade slip in his hand quivered faintly, letting out a low hum, as though responding to an unseen call.

Shua!

His eyes blazed like lightning, instantly locking onto a distant star. However, that star was utterly barren, desolate and devoid of even the faintest breath of vitality. Even so, Lin Xun descended upon the star. Before long, he arrived before a bare hill.

Boom!

He flicked his sleeve, and the barren hill before him erupted with a muffled boom. From the explosion shot a streak of azure light. Lin Xun reached out and caught it with ease. It was another jade slip and upon it lay a map, marked by a single striking blood-red dot.

“They’re cautious.” A cold sneer tugged at Lin Xun’s lips.

Without the slightest hesitation, he set off again, following the path shown on the slip. In this manner, he journeyed onward. Each destination led to another jade slip, and within it, another map.

Anyone else would have grown suspicious long ago. After all, he had been traveling for a full day through unfamiliar stars and strange, silent worlds. However, Lin Xun remained perfectly calm. He understood all too well why his enemies were so cautious.

Two days later, deep in the boundless starry expanse, a colossal vortex of flowing light hung suspended in the void, swirling in eerie silence. Before the vortex stood a lone figure, hazy and indistinct, like smoke drifting through mist.

“Lin Xun, you finally came.” The figure’s voice was low and hoarse, and his black robe shrouded him in a murky aura so dense that even his face was lost to shadow.

Lin Xun hovered in the air, his expression calm. “Where is he?”

The black-robed figure replied coldly, “Hand over the Divine Rank law, and Tao Leng will be returned to you alive.”

“I’ll see him first,” Lin Xun said flatly. “Otherwise, I leave.”

A silence fell. Then the black-robed figure spoke again. “Behind this vortex lies a special secret realm. Should an Eternal being approach, this portal will collapse and vanish. Tao Leng is inside. Do you dare to come in with me?”

Lin Xun’s brows lifted slightly. “Your preparations are thorough.”

“Do you dare or not?”

“Lead the way.”

However, the black-robed figure didn’t move. He merely fixed his gaze on Lin Xun for a long moment, then let out a low, humorless laugh. “Good. Now I can finally be sure you didn’t bring any Eternal Stage helpers this time.”

“You were testing me?” Lin Xun’s brows knit together.

The black-robed figure replied, “Caution never hurts.”

A flicker of frost glinted in Lin Xun’s gaze. “My patience is limited. Let Tao Leng out now.”

“I’m afraid that won’t do. You’ll have to wait.”

“How long?”

“Three days, at most.”

Lin Xun inhaled slowly. “And why is this?”

“You don’t need to know.”

Lin Xun gave him a long, steady look, then said, “Fine, I’ll wait.”

“A wise choice.” The figure sneered.

Lin Xun sat cross-legged in the air, his breath calm and his presence utterly still, like an ancient monk sunk deep in meditation.

The black-robed figure let out a hollow laugh. "At a time like this, you can still sit there so calmly? Truly unexpected."

Lin Xun gave no response. The black-robed figure found himself talking to the air and fell silent.

Time passed. Three days slipped away like drifting dust.

Swoosh!

A streak of light whistled across the void and landed in the black-robed man's palm, condensing into a jade slip. He gave it a quick glance. The tension in his shoulders eased and his entire being seemed to relax.

From afar, Lin Xun, who had sat motionless for the past three days, opened his eyes and asked coldly, "Feeling relieved now?"

"Haha, I can hear the anger in your voice." The black-robed figure gave a dry chuckle. "Then allow me to tell you that the jade slip you've waited three days for was only to confirm one thing."

"And what might that be?"

The black-robed figure said indifferently, "That you came alone, without any helpers."

Lin Xun's eyes narrowed. "Did that message come from the Origin Sect?"

"That...isn't something you need to know." As the black-robed figure spoke, he flicked a jade talisman into the vortex of flowing light behind him.

Moments later, shadows stirred within the vortex, and then, one after another, figures emerged from the whirling light.

Chapter 2892 Breaking the Trap

The figures emerged one after another from the colossal vortex of flowing light, coming to stand in a half circle before it. Each figure was shrouded in mist that obscured their faces. All but Tao Leng, whose face was laid bare before them. He hung limp in their grasp, unconscious, his neck clutched in one hand.

Lin Xun rose slowly to his feet. Then, he suddenly laughed.

The black-robed figure frowned. "Lin Xun, hand over the Divine Rank law immediately! If you dare make a single move, Tao Leng dies where he stands!"

Lin Xun sighed, his expression unreadable. "Everyone here are elders of the Origin Sect, yet you are using your own to threaten me. If this ever spreads...tell me, how will the world view our sect?"

His words hit like a slap of thunder.

"Enough of your nonsense!" The black-robed figure barked, voice sharp with fury. "Delay any longer, and don't blame us for being merciless!"

Lin Xun laughed again. "Merciless? You've gone to such lengths to lure me here...was that not your intention from the start? Why bother pretending otherwise? You'll only make me despise you more."

"You..."

The black-robed figure was seething, about to retort when a cold voice interrupted, "Enough. Although this brat's words are venomous, he's right. There's no need for disguises."

Swoosh!

Light rippled through the air as the man at the center dropped his concealment. It was Fu Wenli, Deputy Pavilion Master of the Origin Sky Pavilion.

One after another, the others followed suit. Qi Xiaoyun, Chi Wen, and Tang Qiu, all deputy pavilion masters, stood revealed beneath the starlight.

The black-robed figure was Qi Xiaoyun! Now, four towering figures of the Origin Sect faced Lin Xun, their gazes like blades, their killing intent flooding the void.

Lin Xun let out a low chuckle. "Four deputy pavilion masters joined hands just to deal with me, and even resorted to such tricks. Truly...an eye-opener."

When he first joined the Origin Sect, he was only at the Supreme Emperor Ancestor Stage. Back then, these deputy pavilion masters were giants he could only look up to. Now, in just a few short decades, everything had changed. The flowers may bloom year after year, but the people...were never the same.

Fu Wenli and the others' expressions darkened slightly. They knew well that their methods were shameful, but for the Divine Rank law, such scruples no longer mattered.

Chi Wen barked, "Enough chatter! Hand over the Divine Rank law!" He tightened his grip on Tao Leng's neck, veins bulging with murderous intent.

Lin Xun's tone was calm. "Release Elder Tao Leng first. I'm already here. Do you think I can escape?"

Everyone frowned.

Fu Wenli's gaze flickered. "Give him Tao Leng."

With a flick of his wrist, Chi Wen hurled Tao Leng through the air. At the same instant, blinding dao light erupted as the four old monsters struck in unison. The starry heavens quaked and roared as divine weapons screamed through the void.

Their attacks were so swift they seemed to tear through time itself! Years of battle-hardened experience turned their ambush into a seamless killing formation! Each movement was swift and precise, and every strike was perfectly synchronized.

An ordinary cultivator would have faltered, torn between rescuing Tao Leng or evading the onslaught. That single heartbeat of hesitation would have given the enemy full control of the battle.

However, Lin Xun's response was simple and decisive. He moved like lightning, rushing toward Tao Leng without a trace of hesitation or delay.

There was a chill in Fu Wenli and the others' eyes. In their view, Lin Xun's reckless charge was nothing short of courting death. Perhaps he could save Tao Leng, but in the next instant, both would be obliterated beneath their barrage of attacks.

However, in the very next heartbeat, their expressions froze. They saw five dao bodies bursting forth from Lin Xun, each unleashing its own supreme dao art.

Rumble!

Heaven and earth shuddered. Mist and divine light surged like tidal waves, filling the starry void with thunderous brilliance. Those five dao bodies intercepted and dissolved every attack. Amidst that chaos, Lin Xun's true body cut through the storm, rescuing Tao Leng with effortless precision.

Fu Wenli and the others stared wide-eyed as disbelief ripped across their faces. The combined strike of the four of them was enough to annihilate any peer at the same cultivation stage, but Lin Xun, who was only at the initial Transcendence Stage, managed to withstand it all!

Unthinkable. Impossible.

Lin Xun first examined Tao Leng and found there were no injuries. With a flick of his sleeve, he placed him safely into the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron.

Then, he raised his gaze toward the four deputy pavilion masters, who still looked dazed and uncertain. A faint mocking smile curved his lips. "Ah, I see now. You don't know what happened on my journey back to the sect. No wonder you were so confident and fearless."

His voice was calm, but every word dripped with irony. Back then, while fleeing pursuit, Lin Xun had slain Wang Zhongyuan, Zu Wenheng and other beings who were at the perfect Transcendence Stage. That battle shook the heavens, and since then, no one who knew of it would dare underestimate him again.

Unfortunately for these four, they were unaware of the truth, and that ignorance would soon be their ruin.

“What do you mean?” Fu Wenli demanded, his brows knitting together.

“It means exactly what I said.” Lin Xun burst out laughing, and in the next instant, his true body and five dao bodies surged forward as one.

“Kill him!”

“Use your full strength! Don’t give him a chance!”

“Understood!”

Fu Wenli’s, Qi Xiaoyu’s, Chi Wen’s, and Tang Qiu’s eyes blazed with killing intent as they erupted with their full strength. For a single general’s triumph, ten thousand had to perish beneath his feet.

To rise step by step to the rank of deputy pavilion master within the Origin Sect, such figures had to stand at the absolute pinnacle of their realm. Their foundations were deeper than canyons and their power struck fear even into their equals.

They had lived through countless ages, and with unmatched battle experience. Not only in the Seventh Heaven Domain, but also in the Eighth Heaven Domain, they would be unshakable pillars of great clans!

After all, even among the Ten Immortal Giants, the strongest of them had only ever reached the perfect Transcendence Stage. Now, as the four deputy pavilion masters struck in unison, their combined might surged like a storm capable of tearing the heavens apart.

Boom!

For a moment, the starry sky roiled in chaos, and countless stars and meteorites shattered into dust, unable to withstand the crushing might radiating from the four old monsters. However, what made their faces pale was that, even beneath such a terrifying barrage, Lin Xun and his five dao bodies stood utterly unshaken!

No matter what divine arts or dao weapons they unleashed, everything was effortlessly dissolved by Lin Xun and his dao bodies. It completely defied their understanding!

“How can this be?!” Qi Xiaoyun’s face darkened in disbelief.

The four had already cast aside their pride by joining forces just to kill Lin Xun. In their eyes, this operation should have been nothing different from crushing an ant beneath their feet. Had they not feared news of it spreading, they would never have gone to such lengths to lay this secret trap.

Who could have imagined that Lin Xun, who came alone, would unleash a power that defied the very heavens?! It was a truth they found impossible to accept.

Ten years ago, he was nothing more than a youth at the initial Nirvana Spirit Stage, a junior they had watched for years beneath their very eyes. Now, he possessed the power to stand as their equal!

Who in this world would dare believe it? So this was the darkness beneath the lamp. The more you discover and understand, the harder it was to believe or accept when everything suddenly turned upside down!

This was exactly the case for Fu Wenli and the others. They had watched Lin Xun enter the Origin Sect, watched him rise to prominence, and knew every detail about him. However, in just ten short years, everything had changed beyond recognition.

This was utterly beyond their expectations!

Rumble!

The battle raged with terrifying ferocity. Lin Xun soon realized that the four deputy pavilion masters possessed overwhelming power, far superior to Wang Zhongyuan and the others, and even stronger than Earth Shaman, Zu Wenheng.

Once, throughout the world, only those who had ascended to the Eternal Realm could suppress such ancient monsters.

However, Lin Xun was no ordinary cultivator. He walked the Eternal Supremacy Path. When he broke through to the Transcendence Realm, the years of potential he had quietly amassed erupted in full, transforming him into something far beyond his former self.

At this moment, his true body and the Red Flame Dao Body were locked in combat with Qi Xiaoyun, while his remaining four dao bodies clashed with Fu Wenli, Chi Wen, and Tang Qiu. Whether his true body or his dao bodies, each radiated the heaven-defying, invincible might of this realm!

Not only was Lin Xun not suppressed, but he was also beginning to overwhelm them all!

“Die!”

Before long, Lin Xun let out a thunderous roar. The Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron crashed forth with a resounding clang, violently knocking the black halberd from Qi Xiaoyun’s grasp. It continued forward without losing momentum, slamming straight into Qi Xiaoyun with unstoppable might.

PU!

Qi Xiaoyun spewed blood from his mouth and nose, his chest caving in as his defenses shattered completely. In that instant, the Red Flame Dao Body lunged forth and slammed out a burning palm strike.

Bang!

Qi Xiaoyun had no time to react before his body exploded, scattering into ashes across the void. A veteran old monster who had served as deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sky Pavilion for countless years was slain in an instant!

Fu Wenli and the others went deathly pale, a chill seeping through their bones. Only then did they finally understand why Lin Xun had dared to come alone. With his current strength, he had no need for anyone's help.

Lin Xun's gaze was cold as ice as his voice rang across the battlefield like a death knell. "Now, do you understand how I returned alive? I'll tell you...Wang Zhongyuan and nine other old monsters of the Ten Immortal Giants, and even the Shaman Sect's Earth Shaman, Zu Wenheng...were all slain by my hand."

His tone remained calm, almost coldly indifferent. "Deputy Pavilion Master Xuan Feiling and the others already know of this. I simply chose to keep you in the dark. Who could have imagined you'd be so foolish enough to strike at me? How is this any different from courting death?"

Fu Wenli and the others' faces contorted with rage and humiliation.

"Kill him!" they roared, unleashing every forbidden art and secret technique at their disposal.

Unfortunately, it was futile. Lin Xun and his dao bodies moved in perfect unison. Six against three, their flawless cooperation completely crushed Fu Wenli and the others.

"Die!"

Before long, the Black Water Dao Body let out a thunderous roar and joined forces with the Green Wood Dao Body. Together, they struck and obliterated Chi Wen on the spot. His body exploded and his primordial spirit was ground to dust. It was a swift and gruesome death.

"Run!"

Terror gripped Fu Wenli and Tang Qiu so fiercely that their souls nearly fled their bodies. No longer daring to resist, they fled at once, activating forbidden escape arts that turned their bodies into streaks of light.

They did so to guarantee their escape. At that same instant, Lin Xun too unleashed his innate divine power——The Seal of Temporal Restriction!

In that instant, the laws of time themselves were stirred. Heaven and earth fell silent as countless threads of time intertwined and fused, weaving into a forbidden power that sealed the entire starry sky.

Bang! Bang!

Mid-flight, Fu Wenli and Tang Qiu slammed headfirst into the Seal of Temporal Restriction. The violent recoil made their vision flash with stars and blood surge up their throats. When they looked again, the Seal of Temporal Restriction hadn't even shifted, only rippling faintly.

Unshakable as divine iron.

Chapter 2893 Purging Operation

Fu Wenli and Tang Qiu were like cornered beasts, their eyes wild with fury and panic as they crashed helplessly against the invisible walls of the Seal of Temporal Restriction.

Outside the barrier, Lin Xun stood with his hands behind his back, calm as still water. "How does it feel?" he asked lightly.

Fu Wenli's face was ashen. His voice was cold and sharp. "If you kill us, the Ten Immortal Giants of the Eighth Heaven Domain will hunt you to the ends of the heavens. Your arrogance today will only sow disaster for the Origin Sect itself. Take my advice, Lin Xun...now is not the time to show off your might!"

Lin Xun laughed softly. "I'd like to ask, when have your Ten Immortal Giants ever stopped hunting me? From the Great Thousand Battle Domain to the Eternal True Realm, every battlefield, every drop of blood bore your shadow. Do you think I still fear you now?"

After a pause, he continued, "Long ago, when my master, the Lord of Fangchun Mountain, passed through the Eighth Heaven Domain on his way to the Ninth, you all bowed your heads and dared not breathe too loud. But the moment you heard he'd met with disaster in the Ninth Heaven Domain, you reveled in it and turned your fangs on the successors of Fangchun Mountain. Tell me, aren't you nothing more than a pack of watchdogs?"

His gaze hardened. "And my great-grandfather Luo Tongtian...you dogs ambushed him when he sought the Eternity Door, didn't you? That debt is one I'll never forget."

Fu Wenli's face twisted with fury. "The strong rule, the weak perish. If you think this is your chance to humiliate me...keep dreaming!"

Lin Xun's tone was indifferent. "Whether I wish to or not...your life and death depend solely on my will!"

Tang Qiu, pale as paper, suddenly shouted, "Lin Xun! We are deputy pavilion masters of the Origin Sect! If you dare to kill us, the sect will never forgive you!"

Lin Xun smiled faintly, his eyes dark as the abyss. "Everything that happened today has already been recorded on a jade slip. What do you think the sect will say when they see it?"

Tang Qiu's heart sank like stone, and his eyes bulged with fury. "So you planned this from the very start!"

Lin Xun said with calm indifference. "It can't be helped...better to be cautious than to regret later."

Boom!

In that instant, Fu Wenli lashed out, hurling his full power against the seal. He realized Lin Xun was about to make his move, so he chose to fight to the death. However, this seal was powerful enough to trap even a Will Dharma Form of Eternal beings like Yuan Xukun for several hours. How could he possibly shake it?

The seal rippled faintly, like waves brushing an indestructible wall. No matter how furiously Fu Wenli attacked, he couldn't so much as crack it. Despair flooded Fu Wenli's heart.

When...when did this damned brat from Fangchun Mountain become this powerful?!

Lin Xun said nothing. His true body and five dao bodies advanced together, plunging into the shimmering seal and unleashing slaughter. In the blink of an eye, Fu Wenli and Tang Qiu were cut down one after another!

They tried to drag Lin Xun into death with them, but their struggle was in vain. Even in death, their eyes still blazed with unwilling hatred.

When silence finally fell, Lin Xun swept his gaze over the battlefield and found a jade slip among Qi Xiaoyun's belongings. Qi Xiaoyun had waited three days for this jade slip to arrive. It was this very jade slip that convinced him that Lin Xun hadn't sought aid from any of the sect's great figures.

As Lin Xun opened the jade slip, an ancient voice echoed forth, "Xuan Feiling, Dugu Yong, Fang Daoping, Yu Xing...none have left the sect. You may kill Lin Xun without concern."

It was Yuan Xiliu's voice!

Lin Xun's eyes narrowed. "As expected. So, you've been colluding all along."

There was no anger in his tone; this was exactly as he had foreseen.

"Old Tao, how are you feeling?" Lin Xun lifted Tao Leng out of the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron, gently awakening him.

Tao Leng blinked in confusion, rubbing his aching temples. "Has...the matter been settled?"

Lin Xun shook his head. "Not one of them walked away."

Tao Leng let out a dazed, “Oh,” then suddenly froze. His eyes widened, breath catching. “You mean...you killed Fu Wenli and the others?”

“Must you make such a big deal out of it?” Lin Xun frowned.

Tao Leng was speechless, his face a mix of disbelief and horror. “Not make a big deal? Those four were deputy pavilion masters! Do you even realize what that means? If just one of them appeared in public alone, the Immortal Giants of the Eighth Heaven Domain would bow their heads with respect...and you killed all four! How could I not make this a big deal?”

Lin Xun rubbed his temples, then said in a serious voice, “Old Tao...you should start getting used to the fact that I’m not the same weak kid anymore.”

Once upon a time, Tao Leng would have scoffed and accused him of bragging. But now...

He just stared. It struck him then that, in his heart, Lin Xun was no longer the weak young man who had joined the Origin Sect years ago. Come to think of it, wasn’t that the same for everyone else in the sect? None of them had truly realized that Lin Xun was no longer that youth.

Lin Xun was now a Transcendence-level cultivator, capable of suppressing and killing even those at its pinnacle. Within the entire Origin Sect, there was no one left among the deputy pavilion masters who could compare!

If the three pavilion masters remained in seclusion, then within the sect...there was simply no one who could stand against him. Across the vast Eternal True Realm, Lin Xun now stood beyond the Seventh Heaven Domain, and was capable of clashing head-on with the strongest among the Ten Immortal Giants!

His might had long since surpassed that of ordinary immortals. So what if they had lived for countless years? So what if their prestige once shook the heavens? Before Lin Xun, all would be shattered!

It was no exaggeration to say that the Lin Xun of today was in no way inferior to the Omega Lord in his prime. Perhaps...he had already even surpassed him! Tao Leng was overwhelmed with emotion and fell silent.

“Old Tao, are you sure you’re not hurt?” Lin Xun asked, growing concerned at his silence.

Tao Leng shook his head hard. “No injuries. I let them capture me on purpose, remember? And besides, with their arrogance, they’d never bother laying a hand on a deacon like me.”

Lin Xun nodded and exhaled softly. “Good.”

They had planned this long before. Tao Leng would act as bait, leaving the Origin Sect to draw the enemy’s attention. The ultimate goal was to eradicate the great enemies hidden within the Origin Sect.

According to Lin Xun’s assessment, if he remained within the Origin Sect, not only would he have no opportunity to act, but any move against its members would also violate the sect’s laws.

On the other hand, by luring his enemies into striking first, he could destroy them openly, in full accordance with sect law.

As for why Lin Xun chose Tao Leng, the reason was simple. Had he gone out himself, his enemies would have immediately been alarmed and suspicious of his true motives. It was a different story with Tao Leng. He was close to Lin Xun, yet held only the position of a deacon. Having him go out as bait on a simple assignment would draw little suspicion.

Sure enough, the enemy took the bait!

Fu Wenli and his accomplices had been exceedingly cautious. Along the way, they laid false trails, concealed their tracks and even tested Lin Xun several times to confirm he had brought no reinforcements. It could be said that they went to painstaking lengths to ensure their plan’s success. None of them could have imagined that everything they did was part of Lin Xun’s own plan!

Of course, Lin Xun himself hadn’t anticipated that Yuan Changtian had already devised such an elaborate plan and with Tao Leng as its target. Thus, when the two sides’ plans overlapped, instead of colliding, they meshed together flawlessly, and everything unfolded perfectly.

Perhaps, just as Yuan Xiliu had once said...some things are decreed by fate.

Without further delay, Lin Xun and Tao Leng returned to the sect together.

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Two days later.

The Origin Sect.

In the Central Dao Palace, the five deputy pavilion masters, Xuan Feiling, Dugu Yong, Fang Daoping, Yu Xing, and Yuan Wutian, were assembled. Standing before them were Lin Xun and Tao Leng who had just returned to the sect.

A luminous screen shimmered in the air, displaying vivid scenes of Lin Xun's confrontation with Fu Wenli, Qi Xiaoyun, Chi Wen, and Tang Qiu. When the recording ended, silence filled the hall.

A storm of emotions rippled across every face...shock, astonishment, anger, disbelief...

After a long pause, Xuan Feiling turned to Lin Xun, his expression unreadable. "Why didn't you inform us of this beforehand?"

Lin Xun replied calmly, "At the time, I was desperate to rescue Deacon Tao Leng. Moreover, those people made it clear I couldn't tell anyone. For his safety, I had no choice but to go alone."

"Ha!" Xuan Feiling snorted. "You expect us to believe that? You clearly dug the pit long ago and waited for Fu Wenli and the others to jump in!"

The other old monsters' expressions were just as complicated. Their eyes on Lin Xun held a strange mix of awe and unease. It was only through this incident that they finally understood Lin Xun's strength had risen to the point where even they, the old monsters of the sect, felt threatened.

Lin Xun's face remained calm and he smiled lightly. "Elder, I only acted out of righteousness, risking my life to save Deacon Tao Leng. How could you possibly doubt my intentions?"

A ripple of laughter swept through the hall. Everyone knew perfectly well that Lin Xun had orchestrated everything, but none would dare expose it aloud.

Then Fang Daoping's brows furrowed. "With four deputy pavilion masters dead at once, the sect will be thrown into turmoil. And if word of this leaks beyond our sect, it could stir storms we cannot control."

He looked at the others. "What do you propose we do?"

Xuan Feiling's tone was indifferent. "Since things have already come to this, we might as well seize the moment to cleanse the sect once and for all. We've waited years for this chance, have we not?"

At those words, the other elders' gazes sharpened.

"I fear this could wound the sect to its very core," Dugu Yong sighed softly.

Within the current Origin Sect, many figures hailed from the Ten Immortal Giants, including successors of the Nine Peaks, as well as peak masters, deacons, and elders. If they were purged entirely, the sect's numbers would drop by at least forty percent!

"Without destruction, there can be no renewal. Unless we root out the internal rot once and for all, our Origin Sect will never again rival the other ancestral courts." Fang Daoping drew a deep breath. "I support the purge, but there's no need to make a spectacle of it. We can simply find a few excuses and quietly remove these internal threats, one by one."

Xuan Feiling nodded slightly. "Agreed. This isn't something to be announced. Once the purge is complete, only then will we inform the rest of the sect."

The other old monsters nodded in agreement. Just like that, after only a few calm exchanges, a purge that would rock the very foundation of the Origin Sect was decided!

Chapter 2894 Without a Doubt A Scheme

In the current Origin Sect, following the deaths of four deputy pavilion masters, including Fu Wenli, the forces of the Ten Immortal Giants scattered throughout the sect were now like dragons without a head. For Xuan Feiling and the others, removing these internal parasites would finally be simple.

Just as they were about to take action, Lin Xun suddenly spoke up. "Elders, there's one more matter."

Xuan Feiling raised a brow. "Oh? What is it?"

Lin Xun flicked his sleeve, and a jade slip appeared in his hand. A moment later, a familiar, aged voice echoed from it: "Xuan Feiling, Dugu Yong, Fang Daoping, Yu Xing...none have left the sect. You may kill Lin Xun without concern."

At those words, the atmosphere in the hall turned frigid. Xuan Feiling and the others' expressions darkened. Only now did they realize the truth: Yuan Xiliu had been involved behind the scenes in the plot against Lin Xun.

Naturally, Yuan Changtian must have been complicit as well.

"Not long ago, when Lin Xun and I were returning to the sect, we were ambushed by Yuan Xukun's Will Dharma Form." Fang Daoping growled, his voice low and venomous. "Before we could even settle that debt, these madmen dared to strike within our own walls. Do they truly think we won't strike back?"

Murderous intent surged from him.

"They must have the full backing of the Yuan Clan," Dugu Yong said ruminatively. "Their true goal is clearly the Divine Rank law on Lin Xun. The question is...how should we deal with those two?"

Lin Xun's response came calmly, "Let them live."

The others froze, startled.

However, Lin Xun went on, his tone calm and unwavering. "Our top priority now is to root out the internal threats within the sect. This is not the time to tear our faces off with the Yuan Clan."

Xuan Feiling frowned in surprise. "You intend to just let them go?"

Lin Xun smiled faintly. "Of course not. My suggestion is to suppress them first. If the Divine Yuan Clan questions us later, we can claim they're in closed-door cultivation. Better yet, we can even announce that Yuan Changtian has been exceptionally promoted to deputy pavilion master, and that the sect intends to support him in competing for the position of pavilion master of the Origin Clarity Pavilion."

He paused briefly, then added, "That way, as long as the truth doesn't leak, why would the Divine Yuan Clan turn against us? On the contrary, they might even dream of the day Yuan Changtian becomes the pavilion master of the Origin Clarity Pavilion."

The hall fell into silence. The old monsters exchanged glances, their expressions strange and unreadable. Lin Xun felt a twinge of unease beneath their stares.

Then Xuan Feiling suddenly chuckled. "Very well, we'll proceed as you suggest."

He nodded approvingly, a rare smile tugging at his lips. The others followed suit, their gazes toward Lin Xun filled with undisguised admiration.

Lin Xun's decision was tantamount to buying precious time for the Origin Sect. If they could hold out until Pavilion Master You Beihai attained eternity, the entire situation would be stabilized. Otherwise, with the sect's current condition, a direct clash with the Divine Yuan Clan of the Ninth Heaven Domain would surely leave them gravely weakened.

Moreover, once the internal purge was complete, the first storm to come would most likely be the wrath of the Ten Immortal Giants themselves. At such a critical time, it would be unwise to provoke an even stronger foe.

Admittedly, with the Origin Sect's foundation, they had no reason to fear competing with the Yuan Clan, but doing so now would only invite uncontrollable risks. For instance, if the Shaman Sect and the Zen Sect seized the chance to meddle in that chaos, the consequences would turn dire.

In the end, what the Origin Sect needed most was...time! Time for You Beihai to step into eternity. Time for Yan Ji to mend his shattered state of mind. Time for Taixuan to emerge from his long closed-door cultivation. When that time came...would they fear anyone beneath the heavens?

It was clear that Lin Xun's proposal stemmed from concern for the Origin Sect as a whole, not from personal vengeance. He understood the greater good and the weight of righteousness. This was precisely what gratified and impressed Xuan Feiling and the others.

Such breadth of vision and magnanimity were precisely what one required to lead the Origin Clarity Pavilion! One who fixated solely on personal grudges and ignored the greater whole was doomed to bring nothing but calamity upon the sect.

.....

In a cave dwelling, Yuan Xiliu's expression was grim as he hurried reported, "Young Master, I've just received word that Lin Xun and Tao Leng have returned alive."

Bang!

Yuan Changtian crushed the wine cup in his hand. Liquid splattered everywhere. His face darkened. "Four deputy pavilion masters were dispatched and still they failed to do anything to Lin Xun? Where are Fu Wenli and the others now? Have they come back?"

Yuan Xiliu shook his head.

Yuan Changtian's heart sank. "It's over. From now on, our footing within the sect will be perilous."

He finally grasped the full weight of the situation. He could forget scheming for the Divine Rank law on Lin Xun because his own position and safety had now become dangerously uncertain!

"Young Master, this is odd," Yuan Xiliu said with a frown. "No one came to Lin Xun's aid, yet he managed to bring Tao Leng back alive. Could there be a powerful figure outside the Origin Sect supporting him?"

He was still unaware that, with Lin Xun's current strength, he could have resolved this matter single-handedly. In his mind, there had to be some hidden powerhouse aiding him. It was nothing more than a flaw in perception.

Yuan Changtian drew a long breath. "That no longer matters. With Fu Wenli and the others dead, the entire structure of the Origin Sect is bound to change. If my guess is right, Xuan Feiling and his faction will seize this opportunity to launch a full-scale purge. Only by doing so can they stabilize the sect into a single, unified force that is strong enough to face outside storms."

His voice sank, heavy with foreboding. "In such a situation, I have no hope of contending for the seat of Pavilion Master of the Origin Clarity Pavilion. In fact...both you and I may very well meet our end!"

Yuan Xiliu's heart trembled, his face paling. "Young Master, if the Origin Sect truly dares to do this, won't they be afraid of utterly offending our clan?"

"Why would they hesitate?" Yuan Changtian said coldly. "Even though I am a Divine Son of our clan, who can guarantee that if I die, the clan would truly go to war with the Origin Sect for my sake?"

"Besides, the Origin Sect is no easy prey. Although its sect master has long been wandering the world and has yet to return, the sect is still guarded by a complete Divine Rank law. Whoever dares to challenge the Origin Sect will have to pay a heavy price."

Hearing that, Yuan Xiliu realized the gravity of their situation. "Young Master, what do you propose we do?"

At that moment, the restriction force that cloaked the cave rippled.

Yuan Changtian swept it aside and a voice called from outside, "Elder Yuan, Deputy Pavilion Master Xuan Feiling requests your presence at the Central Dao Court, along with Guest Elder Yuan Xiliu."

Both men's pupils narrowed. They exchanged a look and their faces hardened.

“Tell Deputy Pavilion Master Xuan we’ll be there shortly,” Yuan Changtian said.

“Understood,” the messenger replied and left.

“Young Master, are you really going?” Yuan Xiliu blurted, unable to hide his alarm. “If we go, it’ll be like lambs stepping into a tiger’s jaw. We must leave now! There’s no time to waste!”

As he spoke, Yuan Changtian rose to his feet and strode out of the cave. “Old Ancestor, on the road ahead, anyone who dares stand in our way...kill without mercy! If we move fast enough, we can reach the ancient teleportation array and leave the Origin World within half a quarter-hour.”

“Understood!” Yuan Xiliu replied, murderous intent blazing in his eyes.

After stepping out of the cave dwelling, the two moved at full speed, streaking through the void toward the ancient teleportation array. They encountered no obstacles along the way. This made them feel much more at ease.

Yuan Xiliu sent a voice transmission, “Even Xuan Feiling and the others probably never expected us to leave so soon, right?”

There was a faint note of relief in his tone.

“Old Ancestor, fleeing in disgrace is nothing to be happy about.” Yuan Changtian’s expression was dark, his voice low and cold.

Beneath his calm facade, fury churned like a storm. Back when he had first joined the Origin Sect, he shone brilliantly, and was admired, respected, and envied by all. However, everything changed the day Lin Xun returned from the Fortune Dominion.

Now, he was nothing but a street rat, shunned, isolated and despised where he went....

The difference was unbearable!

Before long, the ancient teleportation array appeared in the distance, its surface pulsing faintly. Yuan Changtian turned back to glance in the direction they had come. The fury he had suppressed for so long erupted like a storm.

When I return...I'll make you kneel before me!

He clenched his teeth, a silent oath burning in his chest.

"Young Master." Yuan Xiliu's sudden, grim voice snapped him back.

Yuan Changtian turned and froze. A tall figure had appeared before the ancient teleportation array. Clad in a moon-white robe, with long black hair cascading down his back and eyes as deep as the abyss, he stood calm and graceful.

Yuan Changtian's face went ashen. "Kill him!"

Boom!

Yuan Xiliu charged forward instantly, his power of the pinnacle Transcendence Realm erupting like a storm.

"Get out of the way!" he roared, throwing a punch that shattered the air. At the same time, Yuan Changtian took this opportunity to dart toward the ancient teleportation array.

From the instant Lin Xun appeared, he knew that every heartbeat counted. In truth, the reason he sent Yuan Xiliu to attack was because he had already decided to let Yuan Xiliu stall Lin Xun while he made his escape alone!

The very next instant, Yuan Changtian froze midair, his pupils constricting in shock. The charging Yuan Xiliu was instantly surrounded by five dao bodies erupting from Lin Xun. He didn't even last a single breath before being smashed to the ground, blood spraying from his mouth.

Boom!

Dust filled the air. Yuan Xiliu knelt, his hair disheveled, coughing blood, unable to rise again. Yuan Changtian's limbs went cold. He pointed a trembling finger at Lin Xun, shouting hoarsely, "You...you...dare raise your hand against a guest elder?!"

Lin Xun's tone was calm, almost indifferent. "Elder Yuan, you saw it yourself. He attacked first. I merely defended myself."

Yuan Changtian stood frozen for a long moment, then realization dawned and his eyes went wide. "Your strength...you can suppress a being at the perfect Transcendence Stage?!"

His voice trembled with disbelief. At this moment, he thought of the four deputy pavilion masters, Fu Wenli and the others, who failed to return alive. There was no longer any doubt about who had killed them.

"Since you've already realized it, Elder Yuan, there's no need to struggle further," Lin Xun said evenly. "Besides, I only came here to share some good news with you."

"Good news?" Yuan Changtian forced himself to stay calm. "And what good news might that be, Brother Lin?"

"Deputy Pavilion Master Xuan and others have decided to make an exception and promote you directly to the rank of deputy pavilion master. In other words, from this day forth, you shall be a deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sky Pavilion. I came personally to offer my congratulations, Deputy Pavilion Master Yuan." Lin Xun smiled faintly and clasped his hands in salute toward Yuan Changtian.

Yuan Changtian stood stunned, with only one thought in his mind...A scheme! Without a doubt, this is a scheme!

Chapter 2895 Positions

Yuan Xiliu was a perfect Transcendence Stage expert, yet he was suppressed by Lin Xun in the blink of an eye! This already made Yuan Changtian feel uneasy, and now Lin Xun was promoting him to deputy pavilion master. How could he not understand that there was a scheme going on?

Taking a deep breath, Yuan Changtian bowed and said, "Brother Lin, I admit defeat. I no longer wish to be your enemy, nor do I wish to compete for the position of pavilion master in the Origin Clarity Pavilion. Could you please let me go?"

His attitude was extremely humble and sincere.

Lin Xun let out a long sigh before he said, "Brother Yuan, you're now a deputy pavilion master and have a bright future ahead of you. Why do you want to leave the sect now? Even if I agree to your request, the rest of the sect won't. Don't worry, Brother Yuan, I promise your life is safe here."

Yuan Changtian stiffened. He raised his head with difficulty, his expression shifting. "Well, now that you've said that, I'll go with you, Brother Lin."

Lin Xun gave him a thumbs-up and praised, "Smart of you."

That day, before anyone in the Origin Sect noticed, Yuan Changtian and Yuan Xiliu had already been suppressed. That same day, a vigorous purge began.

...

Third Peak.

Nan Bohong was sipping tea when a disciple arrived to deliver the message. "Peak Master, Deputy Pavilion Master Xuan requests that you immediately proceed to the Central Dao Court."

Nan Bohong was startled and frowned. "What's going on?"

"I don't know," responded the disciple.

Nan Bohong pondered for a moment, then stood up and said, "Never mind, I'll go take a look."

A quarter of an hour later, Nan Bohong arrived at the Central Dao Court and found many people already seated there. There was Origin Clarity Pavilion Elder Donghuang Qing, Origin Emptiness Pavilion Elder Zhongli Zhanyun, and the Fourth Peak Master Mu Yunzheng...[1]

It came out to a total of thirty-five people! Among them were two peak masters, eleven elders from the three pavilions, and twenty-two deacons from the three pavilions. Including Nan Bohong, that made a total of thirty-six people.

Seeing this, Nan Bohong's heart sank as he now knew that something was amiss. He had noticed that everyone who had been summoned to the Central Dao Court was from the Ten Immortal Giants! A gloomy look appeared on each of their faces when the rest realized the same thing.

"Excuse me, Deputy Pavilion Master Xuan, what is the purpose of summoning me here?"

Nan Bohong glanced at Xuan Feiling, who sat on the main chair in the center of the hall. Everyone else in the hall also looked over.

Xuan Feiling said calmly, "Please be patient. Once everyone arrives, we can discuss the business at hand."

Nan Bohong grew increasingly unsettled, and he came to a quick decision, "I'm currently refining a batch of elixirs. I'm afraid I'll be delayed for too long here. I'll come back later when I'm done to listen to Deputy Pavilion Master Xuan's instructions."

With that, he turned to leave. In front of the main gate, the figures of four deputy pavilion masters, Dugu Yong, Fang Daoping, Yu Xing, and Yuan Wutian, appeared simultaneously. They were like a wall, blocking the way out.

Nan Bohong's face darkened, and he shouted angrily, "Deputy Pavilion Masters, what are you planning?"

Crack!

The other prominent figures in the hall who had also been summoned stood up. They were filled with a mixture of shock and anger. How could they not tell that this was a trap? However, they couldn't figure out why Xuan Feiling and his men would launch a crusade against them today. Weren't they worried about causing chaos within the sect?

"I told you, everyone, please be patient. You'll soon understand what is going on here." Xuan Feiling continued to sit in the central chair, his expression impassive.

Nan Bohong shouted, "No, we're going to see Deputy Pavilion Master Fu!"

"Yes, we're going to see Deputy Pavilion Master Fu!" The others joined in, raising a clamor.

Fang Daoping suddenly chuckled with a subtle look in his eyes. "Seeing Fu Wenli isn't a simple matter. But don't worry, we'll take you to see him later."

These words sent a chill down Nan Bohong's spine. Guessing something, he exclaimed, "You...you have already killed Deputy Pavilion Master Fu?"

"Well, since they're so anxious, we might as well just tell them the truth." Xuan Feiling stood up and waved his sleeves.

Bang!

The main door to the central hall slammed shut. Nan Bohong's and the others' faces paled. They were screwed!

...

After a short while, the main door to the central hall slowly opened again. The five deputy pavilion masters emerged one after another.

"Everyone, how about we split up?"

"Okay."

"Remember, don't alarm the other successors, lest they become frightened and panic."

"Let's go."

In an instant, they vanished. The Central Dao Court behind them was now deserted. Nan Bohong and the other thirty-five prominent figures of the Origin Sect had been wiped out from the face of the earth, leaving no trace behind!

A couple hours later, all those who were a part of the Ten Immortal Giants throughout the Origin Sect had been silently and swiftly wiped out. Among them were people like Qi Qingshi, Donghuang Shaowen, and Mu Zunwu, who had joined the sect at the same time as Lin Xun.

Of note, over the years, those who had joined the Origin Sect at the same time as Lin Xun had also matured, with the lowest becoming core disciples of the Nine Peaks.

People like Qi Qingshi, Donghuang Shaowen, and Mu Zunwu had long since joined the Three Pavilions for training. However, compared to Lin Xun, whose rank had been continuously rocketing up, they paled in comparison.

That evening, in the vast square in front of the central hall, everyone in the Origin Sect was summoned. The elders, deacons, deputy deacons, and disciples of the Three Pavilions, as well as all who were a part of the Nine Peaks had gathered together. It was only then that those present realized that many people were missing.

"It seems that none of the people from the Ten Immortal Giants, whether disciples or prominent figures, have shown up..."

"Indeed."

"It seems something big has happened."

The crowd was buzzing with confusion and uncertainty.

Peak masters like Yue Wuchou, Qin Wuyu, and Cang Zhongxue had already vaguely guessed what was going on, so their brows were etched with surprise.

Soon, five deputy pavilion masters—Xuan Feiling, Dugu Yong, Fang Daoping, Yuan Wutian, and Yu Xing—appeared before the central hall. To everyone's surprise, Lin Xun followed them.

"I've summoned you all here because I have something important to announce." In the twilight, Xuan Feiling stood tall and majestic, his voice resonating throughout the room, filling the air with a solemn silence. "After consultation with the other deputy pavilion masters, I have decided that, effective today, Elder Yuan Changtian will be appointed as deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sky Pavilion, taking Deputy Pavilion Master Qi Xiaoyun's place."

Xuan Feiling's first announcement caused a stir in the audience.

"What?"

"How could this be..."

"How could Yuan Changtian, an incredibly despicable and shameless person, hold the position of deputy pavilion master?"

The entire audience erupted in an uproar with many disciples filled with righteous indignation.

"Silence!" Fang Daoping shouted, silencing the entire crowd with just two words.

"Everyone, please listen to me." Xuan Feiling said, "Since Deputy Pavilion Master Yuan Changtian is currently in the process of breaking through, he has no time to attend to other matters. He is currently

in seclusion. He will only assume the responsibilities of a deputy pavilion master when he emerges from seclusion."

Everyone was stunned by this announcement, now vaguely sensing that something was amiss.

Xuan Feiling continued, "Secondly, over the years, many sources of trouble have infiltrated our sect, eroding the stability of the Origin Sect like cancerous tumors. But from today on, we no longer need to worry about this. These tumors have been completely eradicated and will never reappear."

The entire place erupted with excitement. Everyone finally understood why the people from the Ten Immortal Giants hadn't appeared; they had already been completely eliminated! This shocked them immensely.

After all, four deputy pavilion masters, specifically Fu Wenli, Qi Xiaoyun, Chi Wen, and Tang Qiu, had also failed to appear. This undoubtedly meant that even those four had also likely been eliminated as a part of the tumor-purging operation!

This was truly surprising. Some were shocked, some were ecstatic, and some were terrified.

Only after the commotion in the room had gradually subsided did Xuan Feiling speak. "The cancerous tumors have been eradicated, but this means that many positions in the sect remain vacant. We are now in a unique situation. Next, Deputy Pavilion Master Fang Daoping will announce a group of candidates to temporarily fill these open spots."

Immediately, Fang Daoping stepped forward and announced, "The position of Second Peak Master will be filled by Mo Lanshan."

Mo Lanshan looked surprised, but after a moment, he suppressed his excitement and bowed as he said, "I will definitely live up to the sect's high expectations!"

Seeing this, the others couldn't help but feel excited. After the eradication of the cancerous tumors, the remaining vacancies were bound to be numerous, and there would be no shortage of replacements to be selected.

Of note, there were many people in the Origin Sect who were actually qualified to fill those positions. For example, for the position of peak master, there were many qualified candidates among the deputy deacons of the three pavilions! The reason why they didn't get promoted before was simply because there wasn't an opportunity for them to do so.

"Qu Jingchi will now be the peak master of the Third Peak."

"Liang Xiao will now be the peak master of the Fourth Peak."

Fang Daoping then announced one appointment after another. Those whose names were mentioned were all excited and overjoyed.

Those who weren't chosen had nothing to say. After all, they were indeed inferior to those who had been selected, so they couldn't help but accept the decisions. Before long, the vacant positions of peak masters and elders on the Nine Peaks were filled one by one.

Fang Daoping then announced the selection and appointment of deputy deacons, deacons, and elders within the Three Pavilions. During this process, Lin Xun noticed that Liu Yunfeng and Feng Qixi were both selected as deputy deacons, while Tao Leng was selected as an elder.

In addition, Qin Wuyu, the peak master of the Ninth Peak, was also promoted to an elder within the Origin Emptiness Pavilion, while someone else had taken his previous peak master position. Regardless, Lin Xun felt quite happy from seeing this all happen.

When all the vacancies below the deputy pavilion master position were filled, the atmosphere in the room had already reached a fever pitch. In the past, how could there have been an opportunity to select so many people?

Even more delightful was the fact that as someone was promoted, their previous position now needed a replacement. The number of people changing positions this time was truly astonishing!

At this point, Xuan Feiling said, "There are still three vacancies among the deputy pavilion master positions."

With that declaration, the boiling atmosphere in the room suddenly fell silent. Everyone realized that the real highlight had arrived! Some of the more discerning figures couldn't help but glance at Lin Xun, who was standing beside Xuan Feiling and the others.

Chapter 2896 Gifts from Deputy Pavilion Master Lin

As expected, Xuan Feiling announced directly, "During this campaign to cleanse the sect of its malignant tumors, Elder Lin Xun rendered remarkable contributions. After consultation between me and the other deputy pavilion masters, he has been selected to become a deputy pavilion master of Origin Sky Pavilion, taking over the position formerly held by Fu Wenli!"

The entire audience erupted in excitement. Many looked incredulous. After the end of the Immortal Dao Battle, Lin Xun had been promoted to an elder of the Origin Sky Pavilion upon returning to the sect, taking over the position previously held by Cao Beidou.

Now, less than a month later, his rank had been elevated again to a deputy pavilion master! This rapid promotion had shattered all records since the founding of the Origin Sect!

Xiang Xiaoyuan was now a core successor of the Origin Sect, and Feng Qixi and Liu Yunfeng, now deputy deacons, were all in awe. Lin Xun's current cultivation power and status far surpassed theirs, leaving them completely envious and unable to feel anything but admiration!

Not only them, but even elders like Qin Wuyu and Tao Leng were also stunned and sighed. They couldn't help but reminisce about the past, when they first watched Lin Xun join the Origin Sect. Now, with the passage of time, he had assumed the authority of a deputy pavilion master. Compared to him, their status and positions were far inferior!

Suddenly, someone spoke up in a deep voice, "Deputy Pavilion Master Xuan, Elder Lin is only at the early Transcendence Stage. Among the elders in our three pavilions, there are many who have reached the perfect Transcendence Stage. Why not select a deputy pavilion master from among them?"

All eyes turned to that person. It was Tong Chaoyun, the head of the nine elders of the Origin Emptiness Pavilion, and he was a perfect Transcendence Stage expert. Therefore, he was a true veteran old monster. Speaking of which, if the number of deputy pavilion masters hadn't been limited, his abilities would have qualified him for that position long ago.

Xuan Feiling smiled, "Old Tong, I knew you were outspoken and wouldn't just accept this. How about this? You and Lin Xun can have a sparring match here?"

Tong Chaoyun said angrily, "I'm not someone who bullies the weak. You can rest assured. I have no objection to Lin Xun's talents and I admire him immensely. However, it's just that his advancement is so rapid that I'm afraid that he might be biting off more than he can chew, and it might be counterproductive to his future."

Fang Daoping, Dugu Yong, and the others all looked puzzled and were at a loss for words. Lin Xun's current combat prowess was such that he could threaten old men like them. How could this be considered biting off more than he could chew?

Xuan Feiling was also amused. After a moment's thought, he sent a telepathic message to Tong Chaoyun about Lin Xun's feat of killing Fu Wenli and the other three deputy pavilion masters solo.

Tong Chaoyun suddenly lost his composure, and a look of bewilderment appeared on his face. After repeated questioning and confirmation, he finally said, half-believing and half-doubting, "If that's the case, then I have no more objections."

Everyone present was confused, puzzled by Tong Chaoyun's sudden change of heart. Unfortunately for them, both Xuan Feiling and his companions, as well as Tong Chaoyun, chose to remain silent.

If such news were to get out, it would only put Lin Xun at the center of public attention. Once the Ten Immortal Giants learned of it, they would undoubtedly regard him as their number one enemy! On the other hand, concealing the knowledge of his combat power could be seen as a hidden trump card, catching any enemies off guard in the future.

From this point on, no one questioned or objected to Lin Xun's new promotion.

"Congratulations, Deputy Pavilion Master Lin!"

"Congratulations, Deputy Pavilion Master Lin!"

A wave of congratulations echoed throughout the venue, resonating throughout the heavens and earth. Many successors looked on with enthusiastic admiration and respect. To them, Lin Xun was simply a legend beyond legends, a mythical figure they could never hope to reach!

Since he had entered the sect, in just a few decades, he had risen through the ranks from an ordinary disciple to his current position as deputy pavilion master. What else could this be but a legend?

The veterans present were also filled with emotion. Lin Xun's rapid rise had once weighed on them, leaving them feeling pressured and astonished. Now, they felt only admiration. Jealousy and envy were of no use. After all, a figure as legendary as this was truly beyond their reach as well.

With this, Lin Xun naturally became a deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sky Pavilion! He was only one step away from the position of pavilion master. Now, nearly eighty years remained until You Beihai was going to attempt to certify his Eternal Dao!

Next, Xuan Feiling announced the appointments of two more deputy pavilion masters.

Tong Chaoyun assumed the position of deputy pavilion master of the Origin Emptiness Pavilion, while Zhang Qianxi, another veteran with comparable experience, was appointed deputy pavilion master of Origin Clarity Pavilion. These two, respectively, assumed the responsibilities previously held by Chi Wen and Tang Qiu.

After announcing these appointments, Xuan Feiling said in a deep voice, "Due to the need for internal reorganization within the sect, from today onwards, no one may leave without our permission."

A sudden silence fell. Everyone present was no fool. From today's events, they had already grasped many hidden issues.

For example, if the experts of the Ten Immortal Giants, led by Fu Wenli and others, had been completely eliminated from the sect, once the news spread, it would undoubtedly cause a great shock throughout the world. How could the Ten Immortal Giants possibly let this go?

As the crowd was about to disperse, Lin Xun suddenly spoke up, "I have something to announce. Fellow disciples who have reached the Nirvana Spirit Stage, please stay."

Everyone was stunned. Even Xuan Feiling and the others couldn't help but glance at Lin Xun, unsure of what he was about to do.

After a brief pause, Xuan Feiling said, "Follow Deputy Pavilion Master Lin's orders. Those in the Nirvana Spirit Stage will stay. The rest may disperse now."

Soon, only a little over a hundred people remained. Eighty percent of them were deacons and elders from the three pavilions, while the nine peak masters and elders comprised the other twenty percent. The weakest were in the early Nirvana Spirit Stage, while the strongest were at the perfect stage.

"I previously acquired a considerable amount of law power in the Ten Directions Demon Realm. I'd like to take this opportunity to bestow these treasures upon you all."

Lin Xun's declaration astonished the Nirvana Spirit Immortals present. They seemed surprised that Lin Xun, fresh from his new appointment to a deputy pavilion master, would offer them benefits. Was this an attempt to win over their hearts?

Someone said loudly, "Deputy Pavilion Master Lin, you've worked so hard to gather those law powers. Without the corresponding merit, I cannot possibly accept such a gift shamelessly."

"Indeed, if everyone here accepted such treasures, it would surely drain Deputy Pavilion Master Lin's entire fortune." Someone else said with a smile, causing laughter to ripple through the room.

Odd expressions appeared on Fang Daoping's and Li Zhen's faces. These fellows probably had no idea how deep Lin Xun's pockets were.

Then Lin Xun smiled faintly and waved his sleeves. Clatter!

A mountain of law power surged forth, producing a dazzling array of colors. They emanated a distinct and mystical aura, drenching the entire world with a vibrant, multicolored sheen.

"This..."

The laughter ceased abruptly. The Nirvana Spirit Immortals stared with wide eyes, utterly dumbfounded. So many! There must have been thousands!

Xuan Feiling, Dugu Yong, and the others were also unaware of this, so they were also flabbergasted by this scene, their hearts churning. In the Eternal True Realm, finding a single law power would require immense effort, sometimes relying purely on luck.

Lin Xun, on the other hand, had thrown out thousands of law powers with a single wave! This was like unleashing a truly extraordinary opportunity before everyone's eyes. The visual impact was truly immense.

"These are law powers below the sixth grade Earth Rank, and there are over 3,300 in total. They are all damaged and cannot be used to comprehend an immortal law, but they hold immeasurable benefits for those in the early Nirvana Spirit Stage."

Lin Xun then said while looking at Li Zhen. "Elder Li Zhen, how about you be in charge of distributing these law powers?"

"Yes." Li Zhen accepted the task solemnly.

All of a sudden, the early Nirvana Spirit Immortals were thrilled, and they all bowed in unison, "Thank you, Deputy Pavilion Master Lin, for your grace!"

Their voices resounded through the air.

"Then...can we receive things too?"

Some intermediate and advanced stage Nirvana Spirit Immortals had become envious, disregarding their dignity and manners. They stared at Lin Xun expectantly, like hungry chicks.

Fang Daoping couldn't help but jokingly ask, "Now, shouldn't you all say that you shouldn't accept rewards without the corresponding merit?"

Everyone felt a wave of embarrassment and a flush of shame. There was nothing they could do. To them, a law power was a peerless treasure that could enhance their cultivation. Furthermore, such a vast amount had appeared that it was simply too hard for them to control themselves...

Lin Xun smiled and waved his sleeves.

Clatter!

Another mountain of law power appeared out of thin air, dazzling and radiant, giving off an alluring sheen that would dazzle any Nirvana Spirit Immortal. Everyone noticed that these law powers were actually treasures that were between the sixth and ninth grade Earth Rank! This made them even rarer and more precious than the previous set!

Seeing this, the Nirvana Spirit Immortal who had previously expressed concern about draining Lin Xun's family fortune was stunned and shouted, "I've changed my mind. I'm willing to be bribed by Deputy Pavilion Master Lin. No one can possibly stop me!"

Everyone burst into laughter. However, the look in their eyes also became warm. This scene made Xuan Feiling and the others envious. These guys were so lucky to have met a wealthy patron like Lin Xun. Thinking back to when they were in the Nirvana Spirit Stage, they must have expended countless efforts and time just to collect a single law power...

"There are over two thousand of these law powers in total. How about Deputy Pavilion Master Fang be in charge of distributing them?" Lin Xun looked at Fang Daoping.

"Wow, on your first day as a deputy pavilion master, and you're already bossing an old man like me around?" Fang Daoping glared, but he still agreed with a smile.

How could he not tell that Lin Xun intended to use these law powers to rapidly strengthen the sect's core members? His willingness to share these precious treasures moved even these old monsters deeply, leaving them filled with emotion. Undoubtedly, Lin Xun truly considered the sect his home!

"Thank you, Deputy Pavilion Master Lin!"

The intermediate and advanced Nirvana Spirit Stage experts all bowed in gratitude, each one filled with excitement and joy. Was this bribery? But who would be so foolish as to offer so many precious treasures to buy people's hearts? If it truly was bribery, then they would rather be among the bribed!

Just when everyone thought the distribution of benefits was about to conclude, Lin Xun waved his sleeves again. A dense mass of law power appeared once again in their field of vision. All of a sudden, everyone lost their composure!

Chapter 2897 Outbound Mission

Lin Xun had taken out very few law powers this time. However, this was relative compared to before. Seeing over a hundred Heaven Rank law powers made not only the Nirvana Spirit Immortals gape, but even Xuan Feiling and the others also gasped.

Heaven Rank law powers! These were peerless treasures far beyond the reach of Earth Rank law powers! One first grade Heaven Rank law power was worth nearly a hundred ninth grade Earth Rank law powers!

Now, Lin Xun had brought forth over a hundred of them. Such a quantity would cause a tremendous sensation not only within the Origin Sect, but also among the Shaman Sect, the Zen Sect, and the other divine forces of the Ninth Heaven Domain.

A momentary silence fell. The first time, Lin Xun had brought forth over three thousand Earth Rank law powers that were below the sixth grade. The second time, over a thousand Earth Rank law powers between the sixth and ninth grades had appeared.

Although the third offering only contained a little over a hundred law powers, they were all Heaven Rank law powers, which far exceeded the previous two in value! Anyone still claiming about draining Lin Xun's wealth at this point would be laughed at by others.

In the silence, Lin Xun declared, "From now on, any fellow disciple who has the opportunity to achieve enlightenment and reach the Transcendence Stage will receive some of these Heaven Rank law powers."

The entire audience erupted in excitement, their eyes aglow. Lin Xun looked at Xuan Feiling and said with a smile, "Senior, how about you take care of distributing these Heaven Rank law powers?"

Xuan Feiling smiled and said, "Look everyone, Deputy Pavilion Master Lin, on his first day in office, is distributing treasures and ordering us old bones around. He's truly unreserved."

Everyone laughed. After this incident, the people felt a growing respect for Lin Xun and also a sense of closeness. Everyone knew that with Lin Xun's current foundation, given more time, he would eventually ascend even higher on the path of the great dao! Furthermore, with him at the helm, why would the Origin Sect not be able to regain its former glory?

Soon, those Nirvana Spirit Immortals gradually dispersed. Only the eight deputy pavilion masters remained in front of the central hall. Among them, Lin Xun, Tong Chaoyun, and Zhang Qianxi had just been promoted to deputy pavilion masters today. They had taken over the authority previously held by Fu Wenli, Chi Wen, and Tang Qiu respectively.

As for Yuan Changtian, who was now suppressed, although he had been appointed a deputy pavilion master, everyone present understood that this was merely a show for the Yuan Clan.

"Lin Xun, I received news yesterday that in a month, prominent figures from the Wen and Cang clans of the Eternal Divine Clans will be visiting our sect. They specifically requested a meeting with you. What are your thoughts?" Xuan Feiling turned to business, his gaze fixed on Lin Xun.

"Are they planning to take advantage of this opportunity to cause trouble?" Lin Xun asked out of surprise.

"Not really. After all, our Origin World is protected by a Divine Rank law power. Even if an Eternal was to arrive, they wouldn't dare to act rashly." Xuan Feiling pondered, "As for why they insist on seeing you, even I'm not entirely sure."

Lin Xun said, "Okay, I'll go meet them with you then. We'll see what they're up to."

"Old Fang, Yuan Changtian and Yuan Xiliu being suppressed here will surely attract the attention of the Eternal Divine Yuan Clan. If they send someone to inquire about this, just tell them what we agreed upon earlier."

Xuan Feiling looked at Fang Daoping again and gave him instructions. Fang Daoping nodded. Now, within the entire Origin Sect, only these deputy pavilion masters knew Yuan Changtian and Yuan Xiliu had been suppressed, so there was no risk of leaks.

Furthermore, Yuan Changtian was nominally a deputy pavilion master. This news would quickly spread throughout the Four Great Ancestral Courts and reach countless powerful factions. Under these circumstances, the Yuan Clan of the Eternal Divine Clans would undoubtedly be unable to find a proper excuse to launch an attack.

"If my hunch is correct, news of today's purge will not be concealed for long. Once the Ten Immortal Giants learn of this, they will be furious." Xuan Feiling's eyes flashed with cold lightning. "However, even if they had the utmost courage, they wouldn't dare to come to our Origin Sect and cause trouble. Our only concern is that these powerful factions might do something else."

A chill struck everyone's heart. The most influential figures in the Origin Sect each had their own clans and relatives behind them. For example, Dugu Yong was backed by the Dugu Clan, one of the most powerful Immortal Imperial Clans in the Seventh Heaven Domain.

In the past, with Dugu Yong around, no one in the entire Eternal True Realm dared to offend the Dugu Clan. However, things were different now. If the Ten Immortal Giants, enraged, attacked the Dugu Clan, threatening Dugu Yong with their lives, the consequences would be absolutely disastrous. There were countless similar examples throughout the Origin Sect.

Thus, Xuan Feiling's reminder made everyone present realize the gravity of the situation. They, within the Origin Sect, naturally had no fear of an attack from the Ten Immortal Giants, but the clans and forces behind them would likely become their targets!

"What we need to do next is eliminate these hidden dangers before the Ten Immortal Giants act."

Xuan Feiling made a decision and began issuing orders. Four deputy pavilion masters: Fang Daoping, Yu Xing, Tong Chaoyun, and Zhang Qianxi, were to jointly oversee this matter. Each would lead the elders, deacons, and deputy deacons of the Origin Sect.

All clans and forces behind the Origin Sect's successors were to relocate their entire clans to the Origin World within seven days. Once peace was restored, these clans would be allowed to relocate.

This task was a formidable one. The powerful figures within the Origin Sect had numerous clans scattered across the Seventh and Sixth Heaven Domains. Relocating all of these clans to the Origin World within seven days would undoubtedly be a tremendous undertaking.

However, this task had to be done immediately. Otherwise, if those clans were attacked by the enemy, these powerful figures within the Origin Sect would be threatened and uneasy.

Luckily, relocating a clan was relatively simple: simply pack all its members into a treasure and bring them back. Unfortunately, the price these clans had to pay was the loss of their territory.

A single Immortal Imperial Clan commanded numerous and complex forces. If their entire clan were to relocate, then the power and territory they had cultivated for countless years would naturally vanish into thin air. The cost of doing so was quite considerable.

However, compared to this cost, everyone understood that, in such a situation, preserving the entire clan was far more important!

"Brother Dugu, Brother Yuan." Xuan Feiling looked at Dugu Yong and Yuan Wutian. "For the past ten thousand years, the power of the sect's Divine Rank law power has been controlled by the three of us. This means that for the next period of time, the three of us must remain within the sect to prevent any danger."

Dugu Yong and Yuan Wutian both nodded.

Xuan Feiling smiled and said, "But don't worry you two. I've decided to have Lin Xun personally travel to the Seventh Heaven Domain to bring the clansmen behind you back to the Origin World. What do you think, Lin Xun?"

Lin Xun was stunned for a moment and then readily agreed, "Yes."

Dugu Yong and Yuan Wutian both breathed a sigh of relief, their expressions relaxed. They had previously worried about what to do about the clansmen behind them, but now that Lin Xun was personally traveling, that problem would be easily resolved.

After all, with Lin Xun's current level of cultivation, unless someone in the Eternal Stage took action, no one in the world could possibly be his match! To some extent, Lin Xun could now be considered the strongest person under the Eternal Stage!

Dugu Yong said gently, "Lin Xun, when you leave, you can take Youran with you. With her leading the way, it will be much easier for you."

Dugu Youran... The image of a beautiful figure involuntarily surfaced in Lin Xun's mind.

"Is she...still within the sect?" Lin Xun was surprised.

"That girl has been cultivating beside me this entire time. She should still be in seclusion." The look in Dugu Yong's eyes was subtle as he said, "But I'll let her go with you when you leave."

Lin Xun nodded and then it dawned on him. No wonder Dugu Youran wasn't there when he'd gathered everyone in the sect to make the announcement. It turned out she was in seclusion.

"Lin Xun, take this token." Yuan Wutian said while handing a token to Lin Xun. "My Yuan Clan awaits. Simply present this token, and they will obey your orders."

Lin Xun immediately reached out to take it, smiling, "Speaking of which, Miss Yuan Qingheng and I are friends. I'd like to pay her a visit this time."

Yuan Qingheng was a woman who had once appeared on Cangwu Mountain in the Ancient Wasteland Domain, and the two had clashed over the possession of the Sacred Cangwu Tree's origin root spirits.[1]

Later, Yuan Qingheng took the initiative to back down and shared some extremely valuable information with Lin Xun. For example, she provided an overview of the Eternal True Realm and how to reach it. She also gave an overview regarding law powers and the Luo Clan's previous predicament.

In addition, when Lin Xun was about to depart for the Great Thousand Battle Domain, Yuan Qingheng had left behind a green sparrow, asking it to guide him.

Although the green sparrow was somewhat arrogant, it did offer Lin Xun much guidance and advice after he entered the Great Thousand Battle Domain. It wasn't until the shocking battle that erupted in the Ruins of the Gods next to Chaotian City within the Great Thousand Battle Domain that he and the green sparrow became separated.

It could be said that Yuan Qingheng had invisibly provided him with considerable assistance in the years leading up to his arrival in the Eternal True Realm.

Seeing that Lin Xun actually knew Yuan Qingheng, Yuan Wutian was stunned and couldn't help but jokingly say, "Lin Xun, you're now a deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sect, a position of high power and prestige. You mustn't set your sights on my Qingheng. Otherwise, you'd become my great-grandson-in-law."

Lin Xun fell silent at this.

"Dugu Youran is Brother Dugu's great-niece and a good friend of Lin Xun. And my great-great-grandson Xuan Jiuyin is also a good friend of Lin Xun. If we really make a fuss about seniority, it'll be a complete mess, hahaha." Xuan Feiling laughed.

Everyone present guffawed as well. For cultivators, unless they were family or friends, the greater their strength, the higher their status, and the greater their seniority. Lin Xun was now on equal footing with these old monsters. Trying to figure out seniority between them would be an unholy mess.

Of course, no one cared. The principle they adhered to was simply this: strength was key.

Xuan Feiling warned, "Lin Xun, the journey to the Seventh Heaven Domain isn't too far. If all goes well, you'll be back within three days. However, before you leave the Origin Sect, please visit the forbidden territory, Unfettered Spirit Cave, on Origin Sky Mountain. Pavilion Master Yan Ji wants to see you."

Chapter 2898 Sect Founder

Unfettered Spirit Cave.

The retreat of Pavilion Master Yan Ji was actually a secret realm comparable to a small world in Origin Sky Pavilion. Its entrance was located midway up a sacred mountain.

When Lin Xun arrived, a deep, commanding voice emanated from within: "The restrictions have been lifted. Enter."

Lin Xun immediately stepped inside. Instantly, what he saw shifted, revealing a tranquil and peaceful world, with verdant bamboo forests lining the hillsides. Vibrant greenery was everywhere.

Beside a gurgling stream, a slender figure sat cross-legged in a lush bamboo forest. As Lin Xun appeared, the figure said softly, "Over here."

A moment later, Lin Xun teleported through the void. A swaying bamboo forest shone, and a slender figure, fishing rod in hand, was fishing by the stream's edge.

Lin Xun floated down, bowing. "Lin Xun greets Senior."

As he spoke, he glanced around, only to find that Yan Ji was alone.

"Are you looking for Kong Jue? He just left yesterday."

Yan Ji was thin, dressed in a gray robe, his expression calm and gentle. He resembled a fisherman who was indifferent to fame and fortune, living in seclusion.

Lin Xun was surprised. "Where did he go?"

"I don't know." Yan Ji shook his fishing rod, and a large, plump, green-scaled fish was brought up. It splashed vigorously before landing in the basket in front of him. He put down his fishing rod, picked up the basket, and headed deeper into the bamboo forest. "Come with me. You are now a deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sky Pavilion, and there are things you should know."

Lin Xun immediately followed.

Deep in the bamboo forest stood a simple and elegant house made of bamboo, with a courtyard in front of it. Yan Ji built a bonfire, cleaned the large green-scaled fish, and then skewered it on bamboo sticks, placing it over the bonfire and grilling it.

"Please sit down. Before we eat, I'll tell you about the origins of the Four Great Ancestral Courts and some stories about your master, the Lord of Fangchun Mountain," said Yan Ji casually as he took out some bottles and jars of seasoning and began to spread them on the grilling fish.

Lin Xun was astonished by this revelation. He immediately sat cross-legged to one side and said, "I'm all ears, Pavilion Master."

"The founders of the Four Great Ancestral Courts don't belong to this epoch. They are actually experts who have walked through the changing of epochs, so each has their own origin and background."

Yan Ji then continued, "The founder of the Origin Sect came from the Kunlun Dominion and called himself Yuan Chu. He has traveled through many epochs and witnessed the changes of the world."

"The Kunlun Dominion, one of the four great dao dominions?" Lin Xun was beyond shocked at this point.

"Indeed." Yan Ji added, "Although the Kunlun Dominion has long become a place of desolate ruins, every time an epoch ends, the powerful experts of the universe who are attempting to survive such a catastrophe will seek a glimmer of hope within the Kunlun Dominion."

"What kind of opportunity?"

"A glimmer of hope to reach the All-Wonder Dominion. Because only by entering the All-Wonder Dominion can one truly be fearless in the face of an epochal destruction. Otherwise, every time an epoch ends, even those in the Eternal Stage will endure unimaginable tribulations."

Yan Ji's answer surprised Lin Xun, so he blurted out, "Senior, are you talking about the Great Silence Unlife Calamity?"

Back in the Fortune Dominion, Lin Xun had heard Chen Linkong talk about the Great Silence Unlife Calamity. Rumors said that this tribulation had originated from the mastermind behind the destruction of epochs. Long ago, the Eternal Night Divine Emperor was also struck by this tribulation and was trapped within the Flowing Light Forbidden Realm.

Yan Ji couldn't help but be surprised. He glanced at Lin Xun and said, "Indeed, for all living beings in the universe, no one can escape the impact of the Five Dao Decays. Whereas for those in the Eternal Realm, the Great Silence Unlife Calamity is the most deadly of all. Even if they can avert it this time, when the next epoch-ending tribulation arrives, they will be struck again by the Great Silence Unlife Calamity, and its power will be even greater than the previous one."

Lin Xun asked, "So, only by reaching the All-Wonder Dominion can one truly no longer fear such a tribulation?"

"That should be so." Yan Ji said, "The founder of the Origin Sect has experienced eighteen epochs and survived eighteen iterations of the Great Silence Unlife Calamity. Based on that alone, you can imagine how powerful he is. But this time...he had a premonition that when the epochal tribulation would erupt again, he would find it difficult to withstand it. Therefore, many years ago, he traveled abroad under the guise of wandering, but in reality, he was searching for clues to the All-Wonder Dominion."

"I see." Lin Xun suddenly realized something. He remembered that when he and Chen Linkong had parted ways at the Fortune Dominion, the latter had also decided to seek the All-Wonder Dominion. It seemed that the greatest experts who walked through different epochs viewed the All-Wonder Dominion as a place that could avert the Great Silence Unlife Calamity!

Then, Lin Xun thought of the Fortune Divine City. That city was protected by the Precious River Map, which could also offset the devastation of the Great Silence Unlife Calamity.

However, this was ultimately only temporary. Even the founder of the Origin Sect had survived such a tribulation eighteen times before. His search for the All-Wonder Dominion was likely intended to find a permanent solution to the danger of the Great Silence Unlife Calamity!

While Lin Xun was pondering, Yan Ji continued, "The founder of the Shaman Sect is named Tian Wu, the founder of the Zen Sect's dharma name is Shi, and the leader of the Spirit Sect's dao name is Xu Yin. Like the founder of the Origin Sect, Yuan Chu, they are all powerful beings who have traveled through many epochs. Their origins are widely debated, but what is certain is that they too have entered the Kunlun Dominion and traversed the Fortune Dominion.

"In addition, like the founder of the Origin Sect, these three masters have also departed long ago, and their motives are all related to the search for the All-Wonder Dominion.

"The fact that the four founding sect leaders have left together prematurely demonstrates just how unusual this upcoming epoch-ending catastrophe is. It is destined to be different from previous ones. Otherwise, such powerful figures who have traveled through the epochs would never have taken action so early."

After hearing this, Lin Xun took a deep breath and said, "It is said that this epoch-ending catastrophe will occur within the next thousand years."

Yan Ji said, "Indeed, so in recent years, the Eternal Divine Clans of the Ninth Heaven Domain have begun to prepare. Unless it's absolutely necessary, no Eternal from their clan will leave the Ninth Heaven Domain."

After a pause, he continued, "This is because only the Ninth Heaven Domain is truly eternal, having survived through the destruction of countless epochs. However, this epoch-ending catastrophe is different from the past, so even the Eternal Divine Clans are feeling quite wary."

Lin Xun pondered, "Based on that, if the Ten Immortal Giants were in danger of being annihilated now or a few years in the future, would they also find it hard to invite an Eternal figure over to intervene?"

Yan Ji responded, "That interpretation is not entirely wrong. However, the Ten Immortal Giants have served certain Eternal Divine Clans in the Ninth Heaven Domain for many years, so they possess some trump cards and hidden weapons, such as Eternal-level Will Dharma Forms."

Lin Xun's eyes narrowed.

A sizzling sound then rang out, and Yan Ji lifted the finished grilled fish from the campfire, which instantly filled the air with an alluring aroma. He reached out and slashed out with his hand, splitting the entire grilled fish in half and handing one half to Lin Xun.

He took a large bite of his half. His mouth drooled as a look of intoxication crossed his face. "Fish nurtured with divine spring water and fed with hundreds of divine ingredients truly tastes different from other kinds."

Lin Xun couldn't help but take a bite, his eyes brightening as he exclaimed, "Delicious!"

This grilled fish was truly a supreme delicacy.

"If it tastes good, then eat more." Yan Ji smiled, took out his wine gourd, and happily ate the fish and drank.

After finishing half of his portion, he said, "Kong Jue and I have speculated that your master, the Lord of Fangchun Mountain, must have been searching for the All-Wonder Dominion throughout the years as well. We even suspect that your master has already entered the All-Wonder Dominion. Otherwise, there's no way he'd be missing until now."

Lin Xun asked, "Are there any other possibilities?"

He couldn't believe his master had simply abandoned them, his disciples, like this.

Yan Ji smiled meaningfully, "Lin Xun, your master has waited an eternity, finally finding someone like you. What do you think he'd be planning if he stayed?"

Lin Xun frowned. He had never considered this question before.

Yan Ji said softly, "Since you possess the potential to become the Eternal Supreme, you should shoulder its responsibilities. If your master has to handle everything in this world, what use are you, his disciples? How can you, the disciples of Fangchun Mountain, surpass your master in the future?"

After a pause, he continued, "Furthermore, your master hailed from the Return Dominion. As one of the four great dao dominions, its mysteries are no less profound than those of the other three.

"Your martial uncle Kong Jue once said that your master, like the founders of the Four Great Ancestral Courts, must be a terrifying being who has walked through countless epochs. His true form has only appeared briefly in the beginning of the primordial times. Since then, no one in this world has ever seen your master's true form."

Lin Xun's expression flickered. He recalled that in the past, all he had seen was the manifestation of his master's Will Dharma Form. Even now, his third senior sister and the others had never seen their master's true form.

"Those who don't plan for eternity aren't qualified to plan for the moment; those who don't plan for the overall situation aren't qualified to plan for a region. For countless years, your master, though elusive, has paved the way for you, his disciples. Whether it's your path to the Eternal Supreme or the great daos of the other disciples, your master's dedication is behind it all."

Speaking of this, Yan Ji couldn't help but sigh with admiration, "The great dao is formless and therefore is omnipresent. Isn't your master, the Lord of Fangchun Mountain, also like this?"

Lin Xun sighed, "Yet, over these countless years, many disciples of Fangchun Mountain have perished."

He thought of his ninth senior brother Ge Yupu, his forty-ninth senior brother Xuan Kong, and other successors of Fangchun Mountain who had fallen and disappeared.

Yan Ji said, "Look across the heavens. Which faction hasn't suffered casualties among its successors? This is the way of life; life and death are unpredictable."

Lin Xun shook his head and said, "Senior, you misunderstood me. I don't blame Master. I was simply wondering, if Master is so powerful, why has he never revealed his true form in all these countless years? There must be a reason."

Yan Ji said softly, "Your martial uncle Kong Jue also said so. Perhaps when you meet one day, as master and disciple, we'll know the answer."

Lin Xun nodded. Like the other disciples of Fangchun Mountain, he had been waiting for the day to meet his master!

Chapter 2899 Traveling with a Beauty

Yan Ji then turned to matters concerning the Origin Sect.

"In the past, the Origin Sect enjoyed close relations with the Jue and Ye Clans, two Eternal Divine Clans of the Ninth Heaven Domain. Every so often, the Origin Sect would select some prominent individuals to train in the Ninth Heaven Domain. Most of these powerful individuals have now become important figures within the Jue and Ye Clans.

"However, in the past ten thousand years, with the departure of the sect master, our contact with these two major Eternal Divine Clans has become minimal. Therefore, even if our sect were to face a major crisis, we wouldn't be able to count on them for any assistance. The Shaman Sect, Zen Sect, and Spirit Sect are under similar circumstances.

"However, as I said before, the epoch-ending tribulation will arrive within the next thousand years, and the Eternal Divine Clans of the Ninth Heaven Domain are making their own preparations under that time crunch. Unless something threatens their clans, they will likely avoid interfering in matters outside of the Ninth Heaven Domain now.

"Of course, nothing is certain. No one can predict what will happen in the coming years. Therefore, it's always better to be cautious." After saying that, Yan Ji took out a sword-shaped jade talisman and handed it to Lin Xun. "This is what your martial uncle Kong Jue left you. You can use it when you encounter an irreconcilable danger."

"His Will Dharma Form?" Lin Xun asked.

"Indeed." Yan Ji nodded.

Lin Xun suddenly remembered something. "Senior, have your dao injuries healed?"

Yan Ji smiled and said, "To achieve eternity, all I need is a breakthrough now."

Lin Xun immediately understood what he meant and bowed, saying, "Then I wish you good will on certifying your Eternal dao in advance."

Yan Ji smiled and waved a hand. "Go along."

"Yes." Lin Xun nodded in assent and left.

...

Origin Sky Pavilion.

"Senior, please give these law powers to Xuan Jiuyin and Miss Xuanyue." Lin Xun handed Xuan Feiling a batch of law powers he had specially prepared. These law powers included both Earth Rank and Heaven Rank laws, so they were naturally extremely valuable.

"They haven't even achieved immortality yet, so how could they possibly use these?" Xuan Feiling sighed. Compared to Lin Xun, his great-great-grandson Xuan Jiuyin was a complete dunce, still lingering at the peak of the Supreme Emperor Ancestor Stage.

"They'll be useful in the future," Lin Xun said with a smile.

Xuan Feiling said, "Why don't you go meet them yourself?"

"After I resolve the issues with the Yuan and Dugu Clans, I'll have a good reunion with them," Lin Xun explained.

"Okay." Xuan Feiling nodded in agreement. "When you return, you can also comprehend the Divine Rank law power of our sect."

As a deputy pavilion master, the privileges Lin Xun now enjoyed were naturally unmatched by others. He could freely browse any tomes in Scripture Mountain and comprehend the Divine Rank law of the Origin Sect.

The authority he wielded was also unparalleled. For example, Lin Xun could now freely command the elders, deacons, and deputy deacons of the Origin Sky Pavilion to serve him.

Soon, Lin Xun said his farewells and took his leave.

...

A lot had happened in the Origin Sect today.

First, the sect's internal tumors had been eliminated, and then, Xuan Feiling and the other deputy pavilion masters announced a series of personnel appointments. Then, the deputy pavilion masters made decisions on various matters.

For example, how to deal with the threat posed by the Ten Immortal Giants, and how to deal with the Eternal Divine Clans, and so on.

As for Lin Xun, in the span of one day, he had been appointed deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sky Pavilion, met Yan Ji, and learned about the past of the founders of the Four Great Ancestral Courts and the Lord of Fangchun Mountain. Finally, he was also going to immediately depart for the Seventh Heaven Domain!

In front of the ancient teleportation array, Lin Xun waited for a moment before he saw a graceful figure flitting across the distant void. Dressed in a long azure dress, with picturesque features and a refined and elegant demeanor, it was none other than Dugu Youran.

"Miss Youran, long time no see."

Lin Xun greeted her with a smile. In the past few years, he had either been roaming the Fortune Dominion or participating in the Immortal Dao Battle in the Ten Directions Demon Realm, spending very little time in the Origin Sect. In all those years, let alone meeting Dugu Youran, he hadn't even seen Xuan Jiuyin or Jintian Xuanyue much.

Dugu Youran landed gracefully in front of Lin Xun. Her beautiful eyes sparkled, and she bowed with a smile that revealed her perfect pearly teeth. "I, Dugu Youran, greet Deputy Pavilion Master Lin."

Lin Xun snorted. "There's no need for such formalities between you and me. Just call me Lin Xun as before."

Dugu Youran blinked and said crisply, "How can that be? My great-uncle has said that your status is different now. He told me to be respectful and not neglect you."

Lin Xun was speechless for a moment, then smiled wryly, "Alright, your great-uncle is your great-uncle, and you are you. We'll interact with each other as we please."

"Really?" asked Dugu Youran.

"Of course." Lin Xun smiled.

Dugu Youran looked Lin Xun up and down with her beautiful eyes. She then said, "I thought you'd completely change after becoming a deputy pavilion master."

Lin Xun pointed to his heart and said, "On the path of the great dao, one must cultivate oneself and never forget one's original aspiration."

Dugu Youran chuckled and said, "You still have your original aspiration? You used to be so annoyed when I bothered you. Every time you saw me, you looked as if you were facing a plague goddess."

Lin Xun's eyes couldn't help but flicker with nostalgia. Back in the Great Thousand Battle Domain, the relationship between him and Dugu Youran was truly unique. They hadn't been particularly familiar with each other, yet they had so many interactions. He saw her as a troublemaker, yet she insisted on challenging him.

Thinking of these things now, Lin Xun couldn't help but sigh with emotion. After a moment's hesitation, he said, "Back when I joined the Origin Sect, I..."

As if knowing what he was about to say, Dugu Youran interrupted before he could finish, "Are you talking about that issue with Yun Muzhe? I've never really cared about it."

"Really?" Lin Xun asked.

"Of course!" Dugu Youran's delicate face shone.

Lin Xun relaxed and said, "Without further delay, shall we talk while we walk?"

"Deputy Pavilion Master Lin has given orders, and I dare not disobey," said Dugu Youran.

Lin Xun smiled and shook his head repeatedly.

Buzz~

Soon, a ripple spread across the ancient teleportation array, and Lin Xun and Dugu Youran quickly vanished.

...

Ziwei Starfield. One of the Four Great Starfields in the Seventh Heaven Domain.

In the Ziwei Starfield, three of the twelve grotto heavens were located there: Xuanji Grotto Heaven, Yaoguang Grotto Heaven, and Kaiyang Grotto Heaven. The Dugu Clan, an Immortal Imperial Clan, resided in Xuanji Grotto Heaven.

Half a day later, Lin Xun and Dugu Youran appeared in the Ziwei Starfield.

"Up ahead is Thousand Brews City, home to over a thousand of the Seventh Heaven Domain's finest restaurants. Each boasts a unique and legendary brew, attracting countless patrons for countless years."

Dugu Youran pointed to the far distance and said excitedly, "Would you like to take this opportunity to take a visit? It won't take much time anyway, and even buying some brewed rice wine to enjoy on the way would be wonderful."

Lin Xun smiled wryly. No doubt, Dugu Youran was treating this outing as a leisurely trip. After a moment's thought, he nodded. "Two hours at most."

Dugu Youran readily agreed, "As you say."

Soon, the two appeared within a vast, towering ancient city. The city bustled with activity. Roads were thronged with tourists, and crowds of people jostled each other shoulder to shoulder. The cries of hawkers rose incessantly. The myriad aspects of life and the turbulent world of mortals unfolded before his eyes.

Lin Xun couldn't help but feel a bit lost. How many years had it been since he had last walked so leisurely and peacefully in such a bustling place? Along the way, Dugu Youran, familiar with the streets and alleys, led Lin Xun through them, her lively and pretty face radiating joy.

The dao was difficult, and cultivation was arduous. Some clung to the world's myriad joys and sorrows, while others preferred seclusion, devoting themselves to the pursuit of truth. Though profoundly different, leaving the world and entering it were both part of the path of cultivation.

"This is Clear Fortune Restaurant, a place with a hundred thousand years of heritage. They produce a divine brew called Intoxicating Clear Fortune, which is truly incomparable."

"Look here! The owner's ancestor was a famous winemaker, renowned far and wide. Their Fluttering Butterfly on a Flower alcohol, while seemingly feminine in name, is actually quite sharp, like a knife piercing your throat – the ultimate indulgence."

"And this restaurant is also truly remarkable..."

While walking through the bustling streets, Dugu Youran's knowledge of every restaurant was astounding, leaving Lin Xun completely amazed. Along the way, they visited numerous restaurants,

buying all sorts of divine brews and spending money like water. Of course, Lin Xun wasn't short of money.

Over an hour passed quickly. Just as Lin Xun was considering leaving, Dugu Youran suddenly paused and called out, "Tianqin."

Not far away, a handsome young man was walking through the crowd. Hearing this, he turned around. Upon seeing Dugu Youran, the young man said with surprise, "Older Sister Youran, weren't you cultivating in the Origin Sect? Why are you back?"

"Why can't I come back?" Dugu Youran glanced at the young man. "Tianqin, what are you doing in such a hurry?"

The young man, Dugu Tianqin, said quickly, "The clan just sent out an order, asking those of us scattered throughout the Ziwei Starfield to return to the clan as soon as possible using the teleportation array."

Dugu Youran suddenly came to a realization. "So that's what's going on. My great-uncle must have sent a message to the clan in advance."

The great-uncle she was referring to was, of course, Dugu Yong.

Lin Xun couldn't help but ask, "Is there a teleportation array in this city leading to your Dugu Clan's headquarters?"

Dugu Youran blinked. "Hmm, I must have forgotten to tell you."

Next to him, Dugu Tianqin chuckled, "This friend is a little ignorant. In the Ziwei Starfield, every city has a teleportation array leading to the Dugu Clan's headquarters. With a single command from our clan, no matter where we are in the starfield, we can reach our clan headquarters instantly."

The look in Lin Xun's eyes suddenly grew strange. So, after entering the Ziwei Starfield, he could have used the ancient teleportation array to reach the Dugu Clan's headquarters directly, but Dugu Youran had been taking him around like that...

Dugu Youran glared at Dugu Tianqin fiercely and snapped angrily, "Shut up! You have no right to talk here!"

She feigned composure, avoiding Lin Xun's gaze, but she couldn't help but feel a little guilty. Earlier, she had just wanted to take Lin Xun on a nice tour, so she had deliberately concealed the information about the teleportation array...

Chapter 2900 The Dugu Clan's Crisis

Lin Xun naturally wouldn't have cared about such things.

Having her fun ruined, Dugu Youran lost all interest in shopping and said listlessly, "Tianqin, take us to the clan's stronghold. Let's return to Xuanji Grotto Heaven together."

Dugu Tianqin smiled and led the way.

The Dugu Clan's stronghold in Thousand Brews City was located in the southwest, making it easy to find. It was sparsely populated and filled with magnificent, ancient buildings. Among them stood a striking thousand-foot-tall building, representing the Dugu Clan's main stronghold within the city.

"Huh? Why are the guards guarding the gate gone?"

Dugu Tianqin was startled as he led Lin Xun and Dugu Youran forward. The guards who usually stood guard outside the gate were nowhere to be seen.

"Is something wrong?" Dugu Youran asked.

"Let's go in and take a look," Lin Xun said as he stepped into the main hall.

"Sister Youran, who is this guy? Why is he so arrogant?" Dugu Tianqin asked, raising an eyebrow.

"He's a deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sect," Dugu Youran said, following suit.

"Deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sect?"

Dugu Tianqin was startled, then sneered. In a place like the Origin Sect, a deputy pavilion master was a supreme figure, like a ruler. How could he be so young? How could such a person have the leisure to accompany you, my cousin, shopping?

Dugu Tianqin pondered this as he entered the main hall.

The hall's vast expanse of space overlapped, comparable to a gigantic square. In its center stood an ancient teleportation array.

When Lin Xun and the others appeared, they saw over twenty figures standing near the teleportation array. There were men and women, the young and old. These were all members of the Dugu Clan. However, upon seeing Dugu Youran and Dugu Tianqin, the expressions of these people instantly changed.

Someone immediately shouted, "Youran, Tianqin, run!"

Their expression was anxious. As soon as their voice rang out, the main hall's doors slammed shut. Following this, a group rushed out from the side halls on either side of the main hall.

Each of them was filled with energy, and as soon as they rushed out, they radiated murderous intent that swept towards Lin Xun and the others like an overwhelming force. The leader of this group was a middle-aged man in a purple robe. He was the most powerful cultivator present in the group and was a being who had reached the perfect Heavenly Longevity Stage.

When he saw Dugu Youran, the purple-robed middle-aged man was startled at first, then smiled broadly and said, "Haha, it's Miss Youran. Aren't you cultivating in the Origin Sect? Why are you back so suddenly?"

"Who are you?" Dugu Youran frowned.

Dugu Tianqin's face turned grim. "They're from the Yun Clan, and they're led by Yun Xiaohong, Yun Muzhe's cousin!"

"The Yun Clan..." Dugu Youran seemed to realize what was happening, and her pretty face turned icy. "What are you planning to do?"

The smile on the purple-robed middle-aged Yun Xiaohong's face faded. With a stern expression, he declared, "We're under the orders of the Donghuang Clan. This time, we're going to capture all the members of the Dugu Clan!"

"Just you guys?" Dugu Youran scoffed.

Yun Xiaohong, however, remained unperturbed. Instead, his expression turned playful. "Miss Youran, now that things have come to this, I won't hide it from you. Besides our Yun Clan, the Nan, Gu, and Li Clans are also going to take down your Dugu Clan! With all four clans under Donghuang mobilized, do you still believe we can't take down your Dugu Clan?"

Dugu Youran's heart sank. The Dugu and Yun Clans had been friends for generations, sharing a deep bond. Despite that, the Yun Clan had turned on them, joining forces with the other three Immortal Imperial Clans against the Dugu Clan!

This unexpected turn of events had caught Dugu Youran off guard; it was truly unexpected.

Looking again, in the distance, near the teleportation array, the twenty or so members of the Dugu Clan all displayed faces full of fury. They had clearly been imprisoned and were no longer in control of themselves. Thus, it was obvious that the Dugu Clan's stronghold in this city had fallen under enemy control.

"Was this operation really ordered by the Donghuang Clan?" Lin Xun asked abruptly, his dark eyes deep.

Yesterday, the Origin Sect had just carried out a purge, and today the Donghuang Clan had ordered the four clans under Donghuang to mobilize together to deal with the Dugu Clan. Things were moving incredibly swiftly.

"Who are you?" Yun Xiaohong frowned. He couldn't fathom Lin Xun. His aura was calm and composed, seemingly like a leisurely cloud, yet it left him with an unfathomable feeling.

"I'm the one who is asking you a question." As Lin Xun spoke, a terrifying aura of pressure suddenly emanated from him.

Instantly, Yun Xiaohong and the other powerful experts of the Yun Clan felt their vision go dark. It felt as if their bodies were being crushed by the very heavens, and they fell uncontrollably to their knees.

Bang, bang, bang!

A series of muffled thuds followed, and regardless of their cultivation level, they all knelt before Lin Xun. This caused the experts of the Dugu Clan present to freeze, stunned.

Even Dugu Youran was shocked. She hadn't seen Lin Xun in years. Although she knew that Lin Xun had reached the Transcendence Stage and had become a deputy pavilion master of the Origin Sect, she had never seen him in action.

One could only imagine the astonishment she felt when she saw Lin Xun force the Yun Clan's powerful experts to their knees with just his imposing aura alone. A hushed silence fell over the scene.

Yun Xiaohong's expression changed, his eyes widening in anger. "Friend, are you really going to make an enemy of my Yun Clan?"

His voice was threatening.

Bang!

The next moment, his body exploded, blood gushing out onto the ground. Lin Xun snatched his primordial spirit from the air and, without further ado, began a soul search. Everyone present trembled with fear, horrified by the bloody scene.

A being who had reached the perfect Heavenly Longevity Stage was a giant in the entire Seventh Heaven Domain. After all, he was a figure on the path to immortality. In the eyes of billions of beings, he was no different from a deity in the heavens.

Now, he had been slain like an ant! This was horrifying! When they looked at Lin Xun again, everyone's gazes changed. The silence didn't last long before Lin Xun crushed the primordial spirit in his hand into nothing.

He breathed a sigh of relief and said, "They don't know what's happened in the sect yet. This attack on the Dugu Clan was entirely the Donghuang Clan's idea. Their goal is to capture your members and use them to coerce Deputy Pavilion Master Dugu Yong."

Dugu Youran said, "Since they don't know what happened to the Origin Sect, wouldn't this anger my great-uncle?"

Lin Xun explained, "The Ten Immortal Giants suffered heavy casualties in the Immortal Dao Battle, so they must have realized that if the Origin Sect found out they had sent people against me and Deputy Pavilion Master Fang Daoping, they would not let it go. That's why they took action in advance, so they could use this as a threat if the Origin Sect declared war on them."

Dugu Youran finally understood and asked anxiously, "Doesn't that mean that the Dugu Clan is no longer safe?"

Lin Xun softly soothed, "Don't panic. The four clans under Donghuang are operating in complete secrecy this time. They've split up into smaller groups and infiltrated the Dugu Clan's territory. They've only begun their operations today. With the time they've had, there's no way they can swallow the entire clan up."

With a flick of his sleeve—Boom!

The over thirty clan warriors from the Yun Clan who had fallen to the ground were instantly reduced to ash. This horrific scene caused a wave of gasps to echo throughout the crowd.

"Without further delay, we'll head to your clan's headquarters now."

Lin Xun headed towards the ancient teleportation array ahead. Dugu Youran, completely bewildered, instinctively followed him.

"Everyone, quickly activate the teleportation array. Let's go together."

Lin Xun stepped forward and released the restraining power from the twenty or so Dugu Clan members.

"Yes!"

At this moment, no one objected. They seemed intimidated by Lin Xun's aura, so they all displayed exceptional cooperation.

It was at this moment that Dugu Youran suddenly realized that while Lin Xun's demeanor toward her might not have changed over the years, his cultivation had surpassed that of most Immortals. His power was so immense that all living beings could only look up to him!

To everyone present, Yun Xiaohong and the others were powerful beyond measure, gods they could only look up to. However, in his eyes, they were no different from ants...

In fact, Dugu Youran's assumption was correct. Over the years, Lin Xun had witnessed countless bloody massacres, and even a minor scene like this was no longer a concern for him.

Buzz~

With a spatial ripple, the ancient teleportation array roared, and the figures of Lin Xun and the others vanished.

...

Xuanji Grotto Heaven World

This was one of the legendary twelve grotto heavens, revered as the lands of immortal ancestry and the origin of all daos in the Seventh Heaven Domain, and it was the territory occupied by the Dugu Clan.

However, the once picturesque Xuanji Grotto Heaven, once a world of divine beauty and picturesque mountains and rivers, now lay in a shocking state of ruin. Majestic mountain ridges had collapsed and sunk, cracks threaded through the earth, and many medicinal fields had been reduced to scorched earth. There were scarlet bloodstains still lingering in many places.

The air was filled with the pungent smell of the remains of a battle. This place has clearly just experienced an extremely brutal fight.

Central area.

Here, three magnificent peaks stood in a triangular formation. They were now enveloped by countless restrictive forces, with particles of light flowing and divine mist rising. An even more powerful law power lingered above and below the three peaks.

This was the Dugu Clan's core stronghold! At this moment, not far from these three peaks, a dense crowd of figures stood.

Leading the charge were the Yun Clan's leader Yun Changkong, Nan Clan's leader Nan Zhenyuan, Li Clan's leader Li Qingzheng, and Gu Clan's leader Gu Shanxing. Each of them had reached the Nirvana Spirit Stage!

In the Seventh Heaven Domain, they were true overlords, leaders held in awe by all the Immortal Imperial Clans. Behind them were the mightiest of their respective clans, ranging from Immortals to Emperors. The combined might of the four major clans numbered well over a thousand!

Such a formidable lineup could easily sweep away any Immortal Imperial Clan in the Seventh Heaven Domain!

The previous battle had concluded. The four Donghuang Clans had united to sweep through Xuanji Grotto Heaven, forcing the Dugu Clan members into these three peaks.

This was the Dugu Clan's core stronghold, enshrouded in countless restrictions and law power, which had held off the attacks of the four Immortal Imperial Clans. However, everyone knew this was only temporary!

"Brother Dugu, the longer we delay, the less safe your Dugu Clan will become. Considering the generations of friendship between our two clans, I, Yun Changkong, can guarantee that as long as you surrender with your people, I will not slaughter a single soul!"

At this moment, Yun Changkong, the clan leader of the Yun Clan, spoke in a loud voice, his voice resonating throughout the heavens and earth.