Prodigies 2971

Chapter 2971 Master and Disciple Meet

Chaotian City appeared both grand and majestic. It gleamed coldly as if it were directly cast from divine metal, and a layer of dark red halation seemed to rise from its surface, resembling specks of blood-red light.

Legend had it that it was the blood from generation after generation of Emperor and even Immortal experts who had managed to fight their way here. Of course, the essence of the blood had long since dried up and dispersed. Otherwise, a murderous aura would surround the city, making it impossible to approach.

The huge city gates stood thousands of feet tall, their immense magnificence emitting an intimidating feeling of oppression.Forged from a mixture of galaxy sand and immortal matter, anyone would feel awed in their presence.

This was Chaotian City!

Since ancient times, countless cultivators from all over the Great Thousand Worlds dreamed of arriving at this place one day. After all, as long as they managed to make it here, they would have the opportunity to ascend to the Eternal True Realm!

The buildings in the city were all incredibly old and an orderly atmosphere pervaded the air. The streets were bustling with activity and liveliness, crowded with people going about their business.

Lin Xun and the others withdrew their auras and walked amongst the crowds. As the group strolled along, numerous scenes began to surface in his mind. Back then, this city was where he had met his martial uncle, Kong Jue, who had lost his mind and gone insane.

He had gotten involved in the Ruins of the Gods operation outside the city, resulting in a grudge between him and the experts from the Donghuang Four Clans.

Under the Primordial Chaos Thousand Daos Tree, he had overcome an unprecedented dao tribulation to certify the Supreme Emperor Ancestor Stage, and slayed top-tier talents from the Eighth Heaven Domain such as Qi Lingyun, Zhongli Xiao, and Chi Pojun.

Outside the Ruins of the Gods, a deadly calamity befell him, and he barely managed to escape under the protection of his fourth senior brother, Ling Xuanzi, and his martial uncle, Kong Jue...

The vivid memories flooded Lin Xun’s heart with various emotions. Without realizing it, they arrived at the Battle Stele of the Domains.

The Battle Stele of the Domains could measure the combat power of Emperor experts and recorded their accomplishments in the Great Thousand Battle Domain. Back then, Lin Xun had risen straight to first in one go!

Numerous figures were also gathered in front of the stele. Each of them exuded a strong and unique presence. Some auras gave off a feeling of unmatched elegance, some felt domineering and aggressive, some resembled immortals who had come to the earthly realm, and some were like rulers surveying their lands...

Since ancient times, only Emperor and above cultivators were able to enter the Great Thousand Battle Domain.

Those who succeeded in traveling all the way from the first Immortal Heavenly Pass to the forty-ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass, were without question the most outstanding and formidable individuals amongst the Emperor Stage!

The crowd gathered in the vicinity of the stele was undoubtedly composed of such powerhouses.

"Elder Lin Xun once took the ranking test at this very location all those years ago. At that time, he had yet to certify the Supreme Emperor Ancestor Stage, but now, it's said that he's already the most brilliant Immortal Stage hegemon in the Eternal True Realm!"

Someone sighed in admiration.

Lin Xun!

The crowd of Emperor experts couldn't help but narrow their eyes, revealing various expressions.

"Talents emerge in every generation, and the page of Lin Xun’s era is destined to be turned one day. The future will ultimately belong to our generation!"

A cultivator’s eyes burned with ambition.

"True, we have overcome countless deadly trials to reach Chaotian City. In the future, we will surely shine in the Eternal True Realm and create our own legends!"

"Agreed, that’s exactly how the greats should be!"

For a time, many voices rang out, filled with aspiration and pride. Lin Xun and Xuan Jiuyin couldn’t help but smile as they exchanged a knowing look. Given their current status, they naturally didn’t mind such things. On the contrary, they found it amusing since this was exactly how they had been back then.

The new generation should surpass the old like how waves in a river endlessly pushed forward. However, in Xuan Jiuyin’s and Jintian Xuanyue’s opinion, the subsequent generations didn’t have much hope of breaking any of Lin Xun’s records.

Suddenly, a cold voice rang out, "Big talk."

All the Emperors present frowned as their gazes shifted over in unison. They found a simply-dressed youth approaching with a sword behind his back. "Dare I ask everyone present, how many of you have certified the Supreme Emperor Stage before the age of five hundred?"

The crowd looked at each other, not understanding what he was getting at.

"Then let me ask again, how many of you have certified the Supreme Emperor Stage before the age of two hundred?"

The sword-bearing youth’s eyes scanned the crowd. All of a sudden, the atmosphere grew increasingly silent. They were finally beginning to realize what the sword-bearing youth was trying to say.

"Why isn't anyone answering?" The sword-bearing youth said, "Never mind, I'll just say it straight. When Elder Lin Xun first certified to the Supreme Emperor Stage, he had cultivated for only a hundred years. In fact, his current cultivation age has yet to surpass four hundred years. "In terms of age, he’s probably younger than most of you here, yet he's already an Immortal hegemon famous throughout the Eternal True Realm!

"Do you know what it means to be an Immortal hegemon? It means to be an existence whose cultivation has reached the Transcendence Stage! Do you know what it means to be famous under the heavens? It means your name is known in all nine great Heaven Domains!"

His words silenced the entire place. The crowd was stunned as their hearts heaved in their chests. To certify the Supreme Emperor Stage in less than a hundred years? To attain the Transcendence Stage at less than four hundred years old? To be famed in all nine great Heaven Domains?

Each sentence ruthlessly pressed down on their hearts like mountains, causing some of them to show ashamed expressions, while others looked shocked and even lost. Some also revealed defiant looks and coldly questioned, "Who are you and how do you know Lin Xun's background? How do we know whether what you’re claiming is true or not?"

The sword-bearing youth merely replied, "It’s up to you whether to believe it or not."

With that, he turned away.

"This guy seems to be rather familiar with you."

Xuan Jiuyin, who had witnessed everything, couldn't help but be surprised.

"That’s my disciple, wouldn't it be unseemly for him to be unfamiliar with his master?"

Lin Xun left these words behind as he followed after the sword-bearing youth.

Since they had withdrawn their auras, those present had naturally been unaware of them. However, when Lin Xun chased after the sword-bearing youth, he immediately sensed something and said without turning his head, "Oh, making a move because you're not convinced? Chaotian City is covered by law power, why don't we go outside to spar against each other?"

His flat voice brimmed with confidence.

A chuckle followed. "Heh, I see that you now dare to rebel after not seeing each other for so many years."

The sword-bearing youth clearly shuddered, and he hurriedly turned around. When he saw the appearance of the person who had spoken, a stupefied look emerged on his previously calm face as his eyes widened little by little.

After quite some time, he finally returned to his senses and croaked, "Master, why are you here?"

Lin Xun smilingly answered, "It's a coincidence. I just arrived in the city and didn't expect to bump into you, brat."

The sword-bearing youth was none other than Su Bai! In the many years since they last met, Su Bai had already stepped into the Supreme Emperor Stage, and even reached the eighth realm, which meant he wasn't far from the Supreme Emperor Ancestor Stage.

Lin Xun couldn't help but be surprised by this. When he returned to the Ancient Wasteland Domain to rescue Su Bai, who had been fighting on the Great Emperor Pass, he had only been at the Quasi-Emperor Stage.

This meant that in only slightly over a hundred years, Su Bai had become an eighth realm supreme Emperor expert, which was remarkable progress, to say the least. Of course, it was still somewhat inferior compared to Tang Jiang, who had cultivated the Origin Sect.

After all, one had been left to 'fend for himself' in the Ancient Nebula Road, while the other was carefully trained by a group of old monsters in the Origin Sect since childhood.

However, the temperament and heart-state Su Bai had honed through countless often dangerous and bloody experiences was something Tang Jiang was still far from being able to match.

By this juncture, Xia Zhi, Xuan Jiuyin, and Jintian Xuanyue had also arrived.

"Is this the disciple you were talking about?" Xuan Jiuyin couldn’t help but click his tongue as he looked Su Bai up and down.

"Yes." Lin Xun introduced Su Bai to the group.

Su Bai felt like he was dreaming even until now. Over the years, he had crossed the stars and killed his way from the first Immortal Heavenly Pass to Chaotian City. Wherever he went, he would always hear people discussing his master.

He often imagined what it would be like to meet his master in the Eternal True Realm. Who could have anticipated that he would instead meet his master here in Chaotian City?! It was an unexpected, yet happy surprise!

"Come, let's find a place to chat." Lin Xun also had many things he wanted to ask Su Bai.

"Wait a moment, Master." Su Bai looked slightly uncomfortable as he said, "There's someone I have to wait for."

"Who?" Lin Xun raised an eyebrow.

At this moment, a pleasant voice sounded in the distance, "There you are, husband."

Following the voice, a beautiful blue-robed woman with a slender figure and fair skin approached. Lin Xun instantly recognized her. She was Gu Xi!

Back then, it was Gu Xi who, despite bearing grievous injuries, trekked all the way to the Lin Clan to seek help from Lin Xun, thus enabling him to arrive at the Great Emperor Pass in time to save Su Bai, who had fallen into an almost hopeless situation.

Lin Xun grinned and said, "So, you guys have already become a dao couple."

Meanwhile, Gu Xi finally got a clear look of Lin Xun and couldn't help but stutter in surprise, "Elder, how...how is it you?"

Su Bai hurriedly explained, but Gu Xi was still stuck in a state of surprise. Not even in her wildest dreams did she imagine that they would meet Lin Xun here.

Lin Xun chuckled and said, "Come, I remember that there’s a Baofeng Restaurant in Chaotian City, which sells a divine brew called Winding Stream Banquet. I’ll bring you guys there to try it."

Back then, his mentally unsound martial uncle, Kong Jue, had often camped outside Baofeng Restaurant, clamoring to drink Winding Stream Banquet.

In a high-class room in Baofeng Restaurant, jar after jar of Winding Stream Banquet was served, along with various other delicacies and dishes. Lin Xun and the others seated themselves one by one and engaged in merry conversation.

However, they only managed to enjoy a few moments before knocking sounded from the door. Bang bang bang!

The rough and heavy knocks were accompanied by a frosty voice, "Su Bai, I know you're inside. Come out and face me if you have the guts!"

Lin Xun and the others exchanged glances before they turned to Su Bai.

Su Bai frowned. "Master, you guys wait here for a while, I'll be right back."

As he spoke, he got up from his seat.

Gu Xi also rose to her feet. "I’m coming with you."

"It's just a small matter. A’xi, you stay and accompany Master, I'll take care of it."

Su Bai pushed open the doors.

Chapter 2972 Shocking Change in the Return Dominion

Su Bai walked out of the room and closed the doors behind him. The atmosphere inside grew much quieter because Xia Zhi was the only one still eating and drinking by herself.

Jintian Xuanyue couldn't help but ask, "Young Master, shall I go out to check?"

Lin Xun shook his head. "Let him resolve it himself."

Xuan Jiuyin clicked his tongue and remarked, "To think his enemies would come knocking before he could start warming his seat...that disciple of yours must be quite the troublemaker."

Lin Xun chuckled. "The rise of the strong is always accompanied by bloodshed. I’m sure Su Bai must have made quite a few enemies while making his way here to Chaotian City. After all, it was very normal for me to attract even more trouble when I killed my way to Chaotian City all those years ago."

Gu Xi softly said, "Elder’s words are very true. Su Bai also often says that all the strife in the world is merely a whetstone to temper his dao. He has never been afraid of trouble, and only fears that there aren’t enough whetstones."

Lin Xun couldn't help but feel gratified by this. "With such a heart, his dao will eventually be realized."

He then asked, "When did you two leave the Ancient Wasteland Domain?"

Gu Xi answered, "About sixty years ago. Back then, Su Bai had just certified the Supreme Emperor Stage and deeply wished to seek greater heights. So, he brought me across the stars to the Great Thousand Battle Domain. However, it wasn't a rushed journey. Su Bai treated it as training, making all sorts of stops along the way before we finally managed to arrive at Chaotian City."

"Sixty years ago..." Lin Xun mused, "How was the Lin Clan doing when you left?"

Back then, he had been in seclusion in the Origin Sect, making preparations to ascend to the Immortal Stage. Meanwhile, Fu Wenli and the other deputy pavilion masters had mobilized the forces from the Immortal Giants in an attempt to disturb his heart. The forces had been dispatched to the Ancient Wasteland Domain with the goal of capturing his friends and family.

Later on, Xuan Feiling handed a jade slip to Lin Xun, which had been passed to the Xuan Clan by Zhao Jingxuan, which in turn sent it to the Origin Sect. There was only a single sentence in the jade slip. "All of us from the Lin Clan are hidden in the Return Dominion, so please be at ease, you don't need to miss us or worry."

It was signed off by Zhao Jingxuan. Back then, that jade slip had singlehandedly swept away all of Lin Xun's worries.

However, it was foreseeable that the forces dispatched by Fu Wenli had indeed entered the Ancient Wasteland Domain. Otherwise, the Lin Clan, which had already taken root in the Ziyao Empire, would never have relocated and hid in the Return Dominion!

Gu Xi organized her thoughts for a moment before she narrated. After Lin Xun left, the energy of heaven and earth began to grow increasingly agitated, which quickly drew the attention of the entire Ancient Wasteland Domain.

The New Genesis Sect he personally established also grew rapidly, becoming the number one sect in the lower realm. Even the great factions of Spirit Burial Sea didn't dare to offend them in the slightest. However, seventy years ago, a group of extremely terrifying and powerful experts suddenly descended to the lower realm, and immediately called for the arrest of anyone related to Lin Xun.

At that time, the head of the Xuan Clan, Xuan Shangchen, immediately traveled to the New Genesis Sect to inform them of the news. Thus, they were able to evacuate everyone from the Ziyao Empire before the catastrophe arrived.

In the end, the Lin Clan and the New Genesis Sect moved to the Fangchun Secret Realm of the Return Dominion. As such, they didn't suffer any losses except for the loss of their original territory.

About ten years later, Su Bai and Gu Xi departed, leaving the Return Dominion to begin a cultivation journey to the Great Thousand Battle Domain. After hearing all of this, Lin Xun felt much more at ease.

"I'll have to invite your father to drink if I meet him." Lin Xun looked toward Xuan Jiuyin.

Xuan Jiuyin grinned and said, "Why him? Just drink with me instead."

"Why not indeed. Here, have a toast from me." Lin Xun smiled as he raised his cup, before downing everything in one go. Originally, he had planned to ask more about Lin Clan's situation, but decided not to after some thought.

Su Bai and Gu Xi had been away for sixty years and naturally couldn't know what happened during that time.

It was best for him to go back and see for himself. It didn't take long for Su Bai to return with a calm and unhurried expression.

Lin Xun asked, "Done?"

Su Bai nodded and said, "It's been resolved, sorry for worrying Master earlier."

Gu Xi couldn't help but give him a look. Acting like it's a small matter? Many of his enemies were from formidable factions in the Eternal True Realm, so how could it be a small matter?

However, seeing that Su Bai was unwilling to mention it in the presence of his master, she ultimately held back.

Lin Xun chuckled and said, "It's a blessing that us master and disciple can reunite here today. Come, drink."

Su Bai smiled, picked up his cup, and said "Disciple pays his respect to Master!"

The feast went on for several hours. Finally, Lin Xun asked, "Would you like to come back with me to the Ancient Nebula Road?"

Su Bai hesitated for a moment before he said, "Master, disciple wishes to retrace the path Master took back then and kill my way to the Eternal True Realm. However, disciple will follow Master's arrangement."

Lin Xun nodded. "Since that's the case, I won't force you. Let us part ways here."

"Disciple won’t let Master down." Su Bai bowed.

"Just make sure to stick to your path." Lin Xun laughed.

That same day, he left Chaotian City with Xia Zhi, Xuan Jiuyin, and Jintian Xuanyue.

Only after watching Lin Xun and his party disappear did Su Bai finally withdraw his gaze and sighed. "I haven't seen Master for many years, and he has only become more and more powerful."

Before leaving, Lin Xun had handed over a jade slip containing his cultivation experience, which had been carefully stored away by Su Bai.

From the side, Gu Xi couldn't help but ask, "Husband, why didn't you tell your master about your current situation?"

Su Bai laughed. "How can I bother Master with these small matters? It will only make me appear incompetent as his disciple. Don’t worry, no matter how great of a danger we face, I’ll protect you with my life."

Gu Xi sighed softly. "Then you're going to have to become much, much stronger. Given Master's reputation in the Eternal True Realm, he could have easily dealt with all of your current enemies."

Su Bai patted her shoulder and said, "I know you're worried about me, but some things that are best handled by oneself."

Gu Xi hummed in acknowledgement. She didn't tell him that before leaving, Lin Xun had gifted her a jade talisman and instructed her to activate it with her cultivation if they encountered a killing calamity that was impossible to overcome.

She inwardly lamented, "As expected, Elder is the one who best understands Husband's character. He knows that Husband would never accept the talisman if it was given to him instead."

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"Brother Lin, that disciple of yours is quite something."

Along the way, Xuan Jiuyin can't help but sigh. "In him, I can see similarities with you in regards to character, such as being firm of heart and being persistent in one’s path. However, he is also different in that his temperament is as sharp as a sword. While he might seem extremely reserved in front of you, he will not hold back in the slightest against an enemy."

"He’d best not be like me." Lin Xun offhandedly said, "Those who learn from me live, and those who resemble me die. It's best for him to have his own path to seek."

Xuan Jiuyin briefly pondered over these words, before he couldn't help but ask, "Are you really not worried about the trouble he encountered in Chaotian City?"

Lin Xun smiled. "If my disciple can't even solve these troubles, it will only make me, his master, appear incompetent."

Of course, he didn't tell Xuan Jiuyin that he had left a jade talisman containing some of his Will Dharma Form with Gu Xi. Its power could easily destroy even a perfect Transcendence Stage expert!

There were no more delays for the subsequent journey. In only two hours, he drove the small boat past the forty-nine Immortal Heavenly Passes of the Great Thousand Battle Domain, and entered the Great Thousand Worlds.

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Ten days later, a small boat carried Lin Xun and his companions past numerous worlds. According to his estimation, they should be able to arrive at the Ancient Nebula Road in another three days.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

It was also from this moment that they began to encounter many figures trekking past the stars. All of them were above the Emperor Stage, and even the occasional figure of an Immortal cultivator could be seen.

He couldn’t help but feel surprised by this. Of course, the strongest among them were only at the perfect Heavenly Longevity Stage, and were existences that Lin Xun could easily disregard.

Of note, this was the Great Thousand Worlds, which was far away from the Eternal True Realm. Hence, seeing so many of these old fellows heading in the same direction was very unusual.

As far as he knew, in the Great Thousand Worlds, only the top ten worlds could produce cultivators at the Immortal Stage, most of whom were old monsters who had spent countless years on their cultivation paths.

"They can't all be going to the Ancient Nebula Road like us, right?"

Xuan Jiuyin joked.

"That might just be possible." As Lin Xun replied, he suddenly sensed an Immortal-level aura rapidly approaching from far away. He immediately stepped forward and asked, "Please stop for a moment, Dao Friend."

It was a black-robed elder who exuded an exceedingly strong presence. He was also accompanied by a large group of Emperor experts.

Initially, the black-robed elder's brows furrowed, seemingly somewhat displeased. However, when he noticed a hint of aura leak from Lin Xun, he suddenly shuddered and immediately cupped his hands together.

"Little Oldy Wen Tianqi from Tianxuan World greets Dao Friend."

Lin Xun inclined his head and said, "May I ask you something? On the way here, I saw many people traveling in the same direction, why is that?"

Clearly surprised, Wen Tianqi responded, "Doesn't Dao Friend know?"

Lin Xun said, "Please enlighten me."

Wen Tianqi hurriedly said, "I dare not claim to enlighten anyone. This little old man only knows that about ten years ago, news spread that an unbelievably shocking change has occurred at the Return Dominion of the Ancient Nebula Road, and many peerless opportunities have appeared."

After a pause, he continued, "However, it’s still a rumor, after all, and not many people took it seriously. But recently, reliable news spread that someone obtained a heaven-defying blessing in the Return Dominion. It is said to be a dao sword of astonishing origin which gives off an aura of eternity!"

At this point, Wen Tianqi's eyes began to glow with desire. "The news quickly spread throughout the Great Thousand Worlds. Those people Dao Friend saw are probably planning to head to the Return Dominion to investigate like this little old man."

Lin Xun couldn't help but raise his eyebrows...a shocking change occurred at the Return Dominion ten years ago?

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Lin Xun quickly digested the information and cupped his hands together. "Many thanks.”

With that, he stepped aside. Wen Tianqi's body relaxed as if a heavy burden had been lifted from his shoulders. Only now was he certain that the other party was really just asking a few questions, and not finding an excuse to stop them.

"Farewell."

He hurried off with his group.

It wasn't until they could no longer see Lin Xun and his group, that one of the Emperor experts curiously asked, "Supreme Elder, who was that earlier for you to have acted so politely?"

Wen Tianqi’s eyes flickered as he answered, "An extremely terrifying existence. He deliberately leaked a hint of his aura to let me know, otherwise, I wouldn't have realized how high his cultivation was. However, it's certain that as long as he wishes, he could effortlessly kill someone like me."

The crowd around him gasped, deeply horrified by the revelation.

"Let’s hurry up and leave." Not daring to linger a second longer, Wen Tianqi led the group on their way.

"The Return Dominion’s source power was depleted as early as the beginning of the primeval era. How can a change occur now? And the appearance of a dao sword imprinted with an aura of eternity as well? This is far too strange."

Xuan Jiuyin was filled with suspicions.

"Whatever changes that happened are not my concern. I'm only worried that my friends and family might get caught in the crossfires since so many experts have been drawn there." Lin Xun frowned.

"First the Return Dominion, then to the Xuan Clan." Xuan Jiuyin made his decision.

Lin Xun nodded. Next, they rushed with all their might, encountering more and more figures along the way. It felt like a giant cluster of meteors were shooting across space, creating a rather spectacular scene.

Only, all of them were soon overtaken by the small boat. Before any of them could get a clear look, the boat swiftly vanished into the stars.

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"We're here."

The original three day journey was cut short to a single day. At the sight of the familiar Ancient Nebula Road, Lin Xun's heart couldn't help but stir slightly. It had been more than a hundred years since he left...

"Brother Lin, have you noticed? The principles of heaven and earth seem to have changed." [1]

Xuan Jiuyin couldn't help but remark as his gaze scanned the surroundings.

"True, it's not the same as it used to be." Lin Xun nodded in agreement.

There were nine Great Star Fields in the Ancient Nebula Road. Each of them housed numerous worlds, and the Central Star Field, where the Great Primordial Chaos World was located, was the core of the entire domain.

Although they had only arrived at the outer area, they could already sense that the heavenly principles covering the Ancient Nebula Road had changed.

In the past, the heavenly principles had been shattered and broken, which led to cultivators calling the heavenly dao flawed. As a result, for countless years, whether a cultivator could attain the supreme path had mainly depended on luck, and the most powerful experts in the entire Ancient Nebula Road were limited to the Emperor Ancestor Stage.

Moreover, it wasn't the Supreme Emperor Ancestor Stage, but the Ninth Realm Ancestor Stage. These cultivators naturally wished to progress along their path, but they couldn't due to the broken heavenly dao.

Similarly, it was also because of the broken heavenly principles that the Ancient Nebula Road could at most endure the power of the Ninth Realm Ancestor Stage. Once a cultivator beyond this realm appeared, drastic changes would follow.

However, Lin Xun now sensed that the heavenly principles had long become complete and solid. Moreover, it even surged with primal and ancient life energy!

"The present Ancient Nebula Road is now capable of bearing the Immortal-level power..." Lin Xun focused his senses and arrived at this conclusion. Little by little, he released his power until it reached the perfect Heavenly Longevity Stage, which also happened to be the maximum limit of the surrounding heavenly principles.

This was only the outer edges of the Ancient Nebula Road. He sensed that the deeper they ventured, the denser that primal life force permeating the heavenly principles would become!

"Brother Lin, this change is simply astonishing. If Ninth Realm Ancestors stood at the peak in the past, then now...even Immortal-level experts can be born here!" Xuan Jiuyin couldn't remain calm.

The fact that the Ancient Nebula Road had transformed so unbelievably in such a short span of time was completely beyond their expectation.

Extremely far away, a group of figures appeared and one of them sighed deeply. "More than a decade ago, the Ancient Nebula Road was a declining domain which couldn't even touch the top hundred of the Great Thousand Worlds. However, at the rate it is changing, it'll probably be able to match the top three in the future."

Someone humbly asked, "Why is that, Old Ancestor?"

"Have any of you noticed that surge of life force in the heavenly principles? It is rumored that this stream of life force was born in one of the Four Great Dao Dominions, the Return Dominion. The Return Dominion is the place where all daos originated, and if traced back to the beginning, even the Eternal True Realm's source power has some connection with the Return Dominion."

"The Return Dominion! Does that mean all of this is related to the shocking change that occurred in the Return Dominion?"

"That's right. Ten years ago, an unpredictable and shocking change arose in the Return Dominion. Since then, a primordial and ancient life force has surged forth and spread to the Ancient Nebula Road, causing its broken heavenly principles to transform. A short ten years later, the Ancient Nebula Road has become a completely different place."

"Isn't the Return Dominion way too magical? Wasn't it said that its source power dried up a long time ago?"

"Even a withered tree can recover when spring arrives. Moreover, don't forget that the Return Dominion is one of the Four Great Dao Dominions, so it isn't that surprising for such a change to occur. Looking at the Ancient Nebula Road instead, it seems that their luck has finally changed, and they now monopolize the fortune of the heavens. If my guess is correct, their ranking among the Great Thousand Worlds is destined to climb in the future!"

While conversing, the group swiftly passed by and disappeared from sight.

"So, all of these changes have something to do with the Return Dominion." Xuan Jiuyin couldn't help but feel amazed.

"It's hard to tell if it's a blessing or a curse." Lin Xun frowned slightly. "As we've seen so far, many experts from other powerhouse worlds of the Great Thousand Worlds are swarming in like schools of sharks that have smelled blood. Such people can be capable of anything in the competition for opportunities.

"This is a great calamity for those living in the Ancient Nebula Road. If the local factions fail to resist the invaders, this world will eventually fall under the control of outsiders, like magpies stealing another bird’s nest.

"Of course, the rise of the Ancient Nebula Road is unstoppable in the long run, which is a blessing for every cultivator living there."

After listening, Xuan Jiunyin also couldn’t help but furrow his brows. "The Ancient Nebula Road has been in decline for far too long. In the past, their strongest cultivators were at most at the Ninth Realm Ancestor Stage. Given that everything only started ten years ago, I doubt that many more formidable experts have managed to emerge. Under these circumstances, how could they possibly stop the invasion?"

"Those that monopolize heaven's fortune and enjoy great blessings naturally have to bear its weight. That is reality." Lin Xun shook his head and decided not to think further about the topic as they continued on their way.

Along the way, Xuan Jiuyin couldn't help but ask, "Brother Lin, are you just going to stand by and watch the Ancient Nebula Road be invaded by those outsiders?"

He offhandedly replied, "We've only just returned, and all of our analyses are mere speculations. Since we don't know the current situation, what we should do now is to first find out as much as we can."

He didn’t really feel any sense of belonging to the Ancient Nebula Road. After all, he had been oppressed plenty by many factions from the Ancient Wasteland Domain, and even the Great Primordial Chaos World during his rise to power. The only place he truly felt a sense of belonging to was the Ziyao Empire in the lower plane!

Several hours later, the outline of the Great Primordial Chaos World gradually appeared in Lin Xun’s field of vision.

This was the number one world of the Ancient Nebula Road, a place that carried many of his past memories.

However, Lin Xun was concerned about the safety of his friends and family, and thus didn’t plan to make a stop here. Of note, just as he was about to continue moving on to the Return Dominion, the sounds of battle suddenly spread from far away.

"Chase! We mustn't let that old thing escape!"

"Quick!"

A thunderous bellow echoed across the empty expanse of space. A lone figure escaped while a group of figures pursued. Lin Xun didn’t find this strange as he had witnessed many similar scenes on the way here.

He originally planned to ignore it, but soon stopped in his tracks when he saw the figure who was being chased.

With a body stained with blood, and pale, gaunt cheeks, the figure was clearly gravely injured and in a very wretched state. In fact, even the sword in his hand was badly damaged.

"Emperor Ancestor Qingye?"

Lin Xun was taken aback. Memories of participating in the Dao Debate Assembly at the Mythical Huang Dao Court surfaced in his mind.

Back then, the Great Six Courts held Dao Debate Contests in order to select a group of young experts to head for the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone in search of opportunities.

That was also where Lin Xun met Emperor Ancestor Qingye, who was an old acquaintance of Ruo Su, and the Martial Uncle of the leader of the Mythical Huang Dao Court, Taishu Hong.

Lin Xun had nearly forgotten these old memories. However, he never imagined he would see the other party again under such circumstances.

"Attack!”

While he was lost in his memories, the enemies had already caught up to and surrounded Emperor Ancestor Qingye.

"Qingye, hand over the Mythical Huang Heaven Suppressing Token and this honored one may grant you a painless death!"

The leader was a gray-robed man who ruthlessly a bronze halberd as he spoke. The power he emanated had clearly reached the supreme Emperor Ancestor level.

The group of experts accompanying him were either supreme Great Emperors, or Ninth Realm Ancestors. In the Ancient Nebula Road, such an astonishing force could easily make a claim for the strongest.

"It’s over..."

Emperor Ancestor Qingye’s heart overflowed with bitterness, but his expression remained resolute as he hissed back, "I’d rather destroy the Mythical Huang Heaven Suppressing Token than let you people get your hands on it!"

With these words, he retrieved a golden token from his sleeve as if preparing to destroy it.

"You dare?!”

The gray-robed man was furious. With a loud rumble, unparalleled dao light surged from the halberd in his hand and swiftly subdued and suppressed Emperor Ancestor Qingye.

"Hand it over!"

The gray-robed man reached out to grab the golden token. In that moment, despair filled the eyes of Emperor Ancestor Qingye.

At that very moment, however, an imposing figure appeared in front of Emperor Ancestor Qingye and softly said, "Elder Qingye, long time no see."

Chapter 2974 True Understanding Only Comes Through Experience

Bang!

When the imposing figure appeared, the gray-robed man's grab-force soundlessly vanished like a popping bubble.

Rumble!

Immediately after, all of the other incoming attacks dissipated before they could get any closer.

The gray-robed man's pupils shrank, realizing that the situation wasn't looking good. He sternly asked, "Who are you? How dare you obstruct the work of my Cangfu Divine Court?"

The surroundings fell silent as the gray-robed man and his party's dark expressions flickered with uncertainty.

Emperor Ancestor Qingye, who had narrowly escaped death, stared at the figure who had appeared in front of him in disbelief. "You...are Emperor Daoyuan?"

Lin Xun nodded and said, "So Elder still remembers me."

Emperor Ancestor Qingye excitedly said, "It really is you, I thought I was dreaming for a moment. But didn't you already travel to the other side of the cosmos?"

Lin Xun answered, "I just got back. Elder, who are these people, and why are they after you?"

Only then did Emperor Ancestor Qingye suddenly realize the gravity of the situation. His expression immediately changed as he said, "Run quickly! They're from the Divine Ascension Starfield, and their faction has a terrifying Immortal-tier existence!"

"It’s already too late for any of you to leave!”

Some distance away, the gray-robed man who had been ignored all this time declared with a stormy expression, "What Emperor Daoyuan? Those who offend the Cangfu Divine Court will be punished with death!"

Piak!

An invisible palm viciously smacked the gray-robed man. His body immediately burst apart, and even his primordial spirit evaporated into nothingness.

The culprit was Xuan Jiuyin, who smiled playfully as he said, "In the past, the Supreme Emperor Ancestor Stage was an existence that my generation could only look up to, but now...it has become no different from grass by the roadside."

With a single slap, he had erased a supreme Emperor Ancestor! Chills ran down the remaining experts’ bodies as their expressions changed completely.

"Don't waste Young Master’s time,” Jintian Xuanyue said as she waved her hand, causing sword qi to sweep across the surroundings. The remaining experts were wiped out with a single sword strike, the entire action appearing as easy as a flick of the wrist.

Emperor Ancestor Qingye was frozen in shock. Those had been powerful experts from the Divine Ascension Starfield’s Cangfu Divine Court. Yet, it was clear that Lin Xun and his companions weren’t the least bit concerned about them!

"Elder, it's safe now." Lin Xun softly said, "Can you tell me why they were after you?"

Emperor Ancestor Qingye took a deep breath to compose himself before beginning to tell the entire story.

Ten years ago, the shocking change of the Return Dominion drew the attention of many powerful starfields in the Great Thousand Worlds. Since then, top factions had arrived here in droves.

The Cangfu Divine Court of the Divine Ascension Starfield was merely one of many. Anyone could foresee that the Ancient Nebula Road would soon undergo a tremendous transformation, making cultivating here infinitely better.

Hence, these foreign factions arrived at a similar decision without any discussion: establish themselves in the Ancient Nebula Road. Of course, the most direct and effective way to do so was undoubtedly to replace the local factions here.

This was also known as a magpie stealing a nest. Under these circumstances, the Great Six Courts of the Ancient Nebula Road were the first to be targeted.

At present, the Heaven and Earth Dao Court, the All-Demon Dao Court, the Panwu Dao Court, and the Primordial Dao Court had long since collapsed. Of note, their subsidiary factions and territories were swallowed by the invading factions.

Those who chose to submit were given a chance to live, while those who resisted were slaughtered without exception. The Mythical Huang Dao Court was no exception. They too were struck by the terrible calamity of being targeted by the Cangfu Divine Court.

In fact, the entire sect was practically toppled overnight, leaving only a handful of survivors, such as Emperor Ancestor Qingye.

Additionally, he was being hunted because of the Mythical Huang Heaven Suppressing Token in his possession, which was a treasure which allowed the user to draw upon and wield the law power covering the sect.

After learning all that had transpired, Lin Xun was momentarily dazed. Originally, he had also returned with the intention of seeking revenge on his enemies.

Among the Great Six Dao Courts, the Absolute Origin Dao Court was established by First Senior Brother, the Mythical Huang Dao Court maintained neutrality, while the other four dao courts were Lin Xun's enemies.

However, he was now told that his enemies had already been wiped out! Such was the impermanence of the world.

Moreover, according to Emperor Ancestor Qingye, the Great Ten Battle Clans had also suffered greatly over the past few years. There were those who died, and those who fled, but none of them could avoid a miserable fate.

In other words, most of the top factions, which had been around for countless years, had been destroyed by the invading factions!

Everything could essentially be traced back to the shocking change in the Return Dominion. It had not only incited a transformation of the heavenly principles, but also aroused the greed of many top-tier factions from various starfields, leading to the Ancient Nebula Road being filled with scenes of battle and carnage in recent years.

The Great Primordial Chaos World, which was once known as the number one world in the star field, became an especially juicy target for the invading factions. It could be said that the present Ancient Nebula Road was no longer the same place Lin Xun was once familiar with.

If things were already so turbulent here, one could easily imagine how much more chaotic the Return Dominion, which was the source of everything, would be. This made Lin Xun's heart tighten again.

The entire Lin Clan was at the Fangchun Secret Realm in the Return Dominion, which was practically the eye of the storm. How could they possibly remain unaffected in such a place?

"Young Master, I...wish to go home to have a look." Jintian Xuanyue suddenly spoke up, a touch of worry visible on her beautiful face. After understanding the circumstances, she was clearly worried about the Jintian Clan in the White Emperor Star Field.

Xuan Jiuyin sighed softly. "Xuanyue, I'll be blunt. Back then, your Jintian Clan was worried about being implicated by Brother Lin, and ordered that you cut all relations with him or be expelled from the clan. Since you refused, you are no longer a member of the Jintian Clan."

Lin Xun said, "Even broken bones are still connected by the tendons. At that time, the Jintian Clan was seeking self-preservation. Although what they did was excessive, it was also because of me that Miss Xuanyue suffered such treatment. In any case, Miss Xuanyue must still have some loved ones in the Jintian Clan, so it's only right to go back and take a look."

Jintian Xuanyue's eyes glowed with gratitude as she said, "Young Master understands my feelings best."

"It just so happens that we'll be passing by the White Emperor Star Field. Let's pay a visit to your Jintian Clan together." Lin Xun made his decision.

He then gazed at Emperor Ancestor Qingye and offered him a bottle of medicine. "Elder, please accept these healing elixirs. These are turbulent times, so please take care."

Qingye rejected the elixirs with a complicated expression and said, "Back then, the Mythical Huang Dao Court maintained a neutral stance and didn't give your Fangchun Mountain any help because we did not wish to be implicated. I'm already surprised and more than grateful that you've saved me, how can I still take your elixir?"

He cupped his hands together and said, "Emperor Daoyuan, I will not forget this kindness and I will definitely repay it if I have the opportunity in the future. Farewell."

With that, he turned away. His wounded figure looked especially forlorn in that moment.

Lin Xun couldn't help but let out a soft sigh. Back then, the Mythical Huang Dao Court had indeed used neutrality as a cover to avoid drawing fire to them, and only stood by and watched like a bystander.

While there was nothing inherently wrong with that, Emperor Ancestor Qingye clearly felt ashamed for being saved despite not lending his aid all those years ago. That was why he had refused the elixir and left.

Xuan Jiuyin remarked, "At least this Emperor Ancestor Qingye has some semblance of a backbone."

"In this world, no one can always be a complete bystander. The Mythical Huang Dao Court was wrong to believe that they could always remain neutral. Although they wouldn't offend anyone, it was also impossible for them to make any true friends." Lin Xun said, "In the old days, the Mythical Huang Dao Court was one of the Great Six Dao Courts, so they didn't need to worry, but now..."

He shook his head without continuing. Despite this, Xuan Jiuyin still understood and said, "If the Mythical Huang Dao Court had lent you a little help back then, you would probably have already gone off to avenge them by now, instead of being as indifferent as you are now."

Lin Xun didn't comment. The ways of the world could only be truly understood after experiencing it for oneself.

"Let's go. To the White Emperor Star Field."

Lin Xun steered the boat, resuming their journey.

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There were nine star fields in the Ancient Nebula Road, and the White Emperor Star Field was located closest to the Central Star Field.

The Jintian Clan was the number one Imperial Clan in the White Emperor Star Field. As a powerful faction that controlled a star field, the Jintian Clan was destined to be swept up in the invasion of the foreign factions.

Indeed, reality didn't disappoint. In recent times, the Jintian Clan was plagued by both internal and external troubles, placing them in a precarious position.

The Great Everlasting Sword Hall of the Sky Capital Starfield gave the Jintian Clan two choices: either submit, or be exterminated. Only three days remained for the Jintian Clan to make their decision.

The forces from the Great Everlasting Sword Hall were already gathered ten thousand miles from the Jintian Clan, threatening to move out at any moment! At the moment, there was a serious fracture within the Jintian Clan.

One group refused to submit, and wanted to fight to the end against Great Everlasting Sword Hall. They believed that as long as they could hold out long enough, more and more powerful cultivators would emerge from the clan as the heavenly principles grew increasingly robust, and it was even highly likely that an Immortal-level expert would be born.

However, the other group opposed this, believing that they must endure the humiliation and submit to the Great Everlasting Sword Hall in order to preserve their lives. This disagreement made the situation within the clan grow tense and hostile.

The Great Everlasting Sword Hall had given the Jintian Clan three days to decide. However, after only a single day, a rebellion erupted. A group headed by the clan's grand elder, Jintian Wuhong, suddenly struck and captured the group led by the clan leader, Jintian Jingyuan. As a result, the grand elder's group gained control over the clan.

On that same day, Grand Elder Jintian Wuhong led the clansmen to submit to the Great Everlasting Sword Hall!

Chapter 2975 Xuanyue's Fury

The main hall of the Jintian Clan.

Grand Elder Jintian Wuhong and a group of other higher-ups stood solemnly in place.

A handsome young man in white robes was seated at the central seat. Electricity seemed to flow whenever he opened or closed his eyes, and a terrifying pressure spread from him, causing everyone in the hall to tremble in fear.

Fang Xiaoyun!

He was the Supreme Elder of the Great Everlasting Sword Hall, and an Immortal-level expert who had reached the Heavenly Longevity Stage! Although he was alone, his mere presence made all of the Jintian Clan higher-ups lower their heads in unison.

From the central seat, Fang Xiaoyun nonchalantly said, "Those who submit should also have the demeanor of submission. I've heard that there is a group of people in your clan who refuse to surrender, and intend to fight my Great Everlasting Sword Hall to the bitter end. Where are those people now?"

The words made Jintian Wuhong's and the others' expressions change, realizing that this probably wasn't going to end well.

"Reporting to Elder, all of those sinners have been captured and imprisoned in the clan's forbidden zone, so they can no longer cause any trouble. Please rest assured, from today onwards, our Jintian Clan will definitely follow the Great Everlasting Sword Hall and obediently obey your commands." Jintian Wuhong solemnly cupped his hands together.

"Obediently obey, what a way to put it!" Fang Xiaoyun rubbed his hands together as he smiled. "Since that's the case, go bring those sinners here now."

Jintian Wuhong's heart sank. He had a vague idea of what Fang Xiaoyun was planning to do.

"Why? You just said you would obediently obey, but you're now hesitating?" A terrifying pressure spread as he frowned, making Jintian Wuhong feel a suffocating, bone-chilling fear.

He immediately cast aside his hesitation, gritted his teeth, and said, "Go bring those sinners here!"

"Yes!"

A few people hurriedly left to comply. Soon, more than a dozen restrained cultivators, headed by the clan leader, Jintian Jingyuan, were brought before Fang Xiaoyun.

Jintian Wuhong shouted, "Quickly kneel and repent to Elder Fang. If you show enough sincerity, your lives might be spared."

"Pui!" Some disdainfully spat.

Some angrily cursed, "Jintian Wuhong, you traitorous bastard, your infamy will go down forever in history!"

Some displayed calm expressions, viewing death as the return home. "You can kill us or torture us, but don’t even dream about making us submit!"

Jintian Wuhong and the others rapidly grew anxious and angry. These foolish idiots, what kind of words are they spewing even now? Do they want to die?

"They are indeed a group of hard nuts to crack." In the central seat, Fang Xiaoyun's eyes flashed like lightning as he indifferently said, "Since that's the case, there's no use in keeping them. Jintian Wuhong."

"Yes." Jintian Wuhong bowed his head.

Fang Xiaoyun's expression appeared especially cruel as he said, "Since you people have already chosen to submit, I will now give you an opportunity to express your loyalty. Step forward one by one and kill a sinner of your clan. After the deed is done, your entire Jintian Clan will gain the protection of my Great Everlasting Sword Hall, and it’ll only be a matter of time before you’ll rise to even greater heights."

Jintian Wuhong and the others felt as if they were struck by lightning. Asking us to personally kill our own clansmen!? What a vicious and cruel command!

If they did it, they would shoulder the eternal sin of harming their own kin, and every clansman would curse them until the end of time! For a time, their expressions were clouded with uncertainty as they struggled internally, feeling unbearably tormented.

Clan Leader Jintian Jingyuan coldly said, "See, this is the price of being a dog. How pathetic and shameful!"

"You shut up!" Jintian Wuhong's eyes were bloodshot as he hissed, "Would this have happened if it weren't for your stubborn resistance and refusal to submit? Remember this, we’re killing you to preserve the Jintian Clan. For that, I’ll willingly bear that eternal sin!"

Fang Xiaoyun uncaringly said, "No matter how nice words sound, they'll never be as good as action. My patience has its limit. You have ten breaths to act."

Ten breaths!

Jintian Wuhong's and the others' breathing turned ragged as their eyes began to redden with madness and murder.

"Everyone, don't blame us, we...are also doing this to protect the Jintian Clan!"

With a sudden roar, a white-haired elder charged forward and swung his palm at one of the clan members.

Bang! The clan member instantly burned into nothingness. The white-haired elder panted heavily, appearing as he had lost an incomparably important part of his soul. After all, how could it possibly feel good to personally kill a blood-related clan member?

"Excellent!" Fang Xiaoyun rubbed his hands together as he laughed. "Wise men submit to the circumstances. That's what you should do in order to survive. Continue!"

With the white-haired elder leading the way, the others cast aside their hesitation and rushed forward with red eyes and twisted expressions. Even Jintian Wuhong stepped forward, intending to reap the clan leader's life.

Suddenly, a furious and icy voice rang out, "Stop!"

Rumble!

In its wake, a terrifying pressure swept forth like a storm and slammed into Jintian Wuhong and the others, sending them crashing into the walls and stone pillars. Fang Xiaoyun abruptly stood up and narrowed his eyes.

A graceful figure flew into the hall. Dressed in snow-white clothes with a golden sash around her waist, she resembled a fairy who had stepped out from a painting, only her beautiful eyes were overflowing with fury.

"Xuanyue?" Jintian Jingyuan, who had thought he was doomed, couldn't help but exclaim in shock, his expression filled with disbelief. The new arrival was indeed his daughter, Jintian Xuanyue!

"Father, I...I'm back..." Her eyes reddened, feeling both emotional and furious. If she had arrived just a moment later, she would probably be looking at her father's corpse.

"Xuanyue, I can't believe that you've returned." Jintian Wuhong climbed up from the ground in shock, unable to comprehend how Jintian Xuanyue had been able to knock away elders like them with pressure alone.

Fang Xiaoyun asked, "Is she also from your Jintian Clan?"

"Yes." Jintian Wuhong instinctively answered.

Jintian Jingyuan's expression changed, and he shouted angrily, "Xuanyue, hurry and leave. You're no match for the Great Everlasting Sword Hall, so don't get involved!"

How could he not tell that Jintian Xuanyue had become incredibly powerful? However, he was far more familiar with how terrifying the Great Everlasting Sword Hall was! As a father, he naturally didn't want to see Jintian Xuanyue throw her life away against the Great Everlasting Sword Hall!

As long as the seeds remained, there would be a chance for revenge in the future. If they staked their lives and fought now, that chance would be gone forever!

"Heh heh, it's not that easy to leave. Or perhaps I should say that if this woman dares to leave, everyone in the Jintian Clan will die today." Fang Xiaoyun revealed a smile resembling that of a predator eyeing an incredibly tempting prey. "On the contrary, if this woman submits to my Great Everlasting Sword Hall, all of you from the Jintian Clan may live."

Jintian Wuhong anxiously said, "Xuanyue, did you hear that? As long as you submit, your father and the others can live!"

"Xuanyue, the lives of the entire clan are in your hands!"

"Xuanyue, you must consider the bigger picture. You might just be the future leader of the Jintian Clan."

Others also chimed in one after another.

Jintian Xuanyue trembled in rage. The ugly appearances of her clansmen made it increasingly difficult for her to control her murderous impulse.

"I'll settle things with all of you after I deal with him!" With a deep breath, Jintian Xuanyue's clear and frosty eyes locked onto Fang Xiaoyun. "Rest assured, I won't let you die so easily."

Shiing!

A dao sword shot forth and slashed at Fang Xiaoyun. He had originally felt fearless, believing that he could use the lives of the Jintian Clan to coerce Jintian Xuanyue. However, he never imagined that she would attack without hesitating instead!

Swish!

In the face of the slashing sword, even an ancient who had lived for countless years like Fang Xiaoyun felt intense fear and danger. His expression abruptly changed, and he immediately tried to dodge.

Rumble!

In the next instant, however, he was crushed into the ground, smashing it so hard that cracks appeared. He convulsed violently as the dao sword pressed down on him like an ancient divine mountain, nearly shattering his body and making it impossible to move.

"How is this possible..." Fang Xiaoyun cried out in disbelief as his eyes rounded in shock. A single sword strike had suppressed him. When did this tiny Jintian Clan produce such an extraordinary woman?

Jintian Wuhong and the others were dumbfounded, feeling utterly stupefied. After all, they had just witnessed a single sword strike subdue a terrifying Immortal existence they didn't dare to disrespect in the slightest. It was a huge psychological blow!

Even Jintian Jingyuan and the others were deeply shaken by this scene, unable to speak a single word. Never in their wildest dreams would they have imagined that Jintian Xuanyue, who had severed ties with the clan, would become so powerful a hundred years later.

Silence blanketed the hall.

Fang Xiaoyun hissed, "Doing this will only harm your Jintian Clan. No matter how strong you are, how can you possibly contend with the power of my Great Everlasting Sword Hall?"

Jintian Jingyuan's and the others' hearts trembled at these words.

At this moment, a sneer sounded outside the hall. "What crappy Great Everlasting Sword Hall are you on about? How dare you threaten Sister Xuanyue? The ignorant truly have no fear."

Lin Xun, Xuan Jiuyin, and Xia Zhi walked in one after another. The speaker was naturally Xuan Jiuyin. With his hands behind his back, he stood over the suppressed Fang Xiaoyun, and said with pity, "I'm not afraid to tell you that all the members of the Great Everlasting Sword Hall within a ten thousand mile radius have been completely exterminated. Not a single survivor remains. Now, do you think you still have a chance to live?"

"That's impossible!" Fang Xiaoyun's expression changed completely.

"Here, take a look for yourself." Xuan Jiuyin extended his hand and crushed a jade slip. Light flowed in the air, taking the form of a screen.

On the screen, countless cultivators stretched out as far as the eye could see. Together, they were an unmatched force that numbered in the thousands. These were indeed the forces of the Great Everlasting Sword Hall.

However, with a casual wave of Lin Xun’s sleeve, thousands of experts from the Great Everlasting Sword Hall were instantly annihilated as if struck as if by a storm of heavenly tribulations. It didn’t matter whether they were ordinary Ninth Realm Ancestors or Immortal-level cultivators, everyone met the exact same fate.

Even the surrounding area seemed to have been erased from existence, causing space to rapidly collapse around it. The horrifying scene pulverized the last glimmer of hope in Fang Xiaoyun's heart like a sledge hammer, making him feel utterly devastated.

Jintian Wuhong and the others were also dumbfounded, their expressions blank and dazed. How the hell had the seemingly unstoppable experts of the Great Everlasting Sword Hall been annihilated so easily?

Meanwhile, Jintian Jingyuan and the others finally recognized Lin Xun, causing their emotions to fall into turmoil. How could they ever forget that they had chosen to sever ties with Jintian Xuanyue back then out of fear of being implicated by him?

Chapter 2976 The Seven Great Factions of the Return Dominion

Amidst the silence, Jintian Xuanyue ignored the various gazes around her and softly asked, "Young Master, what should we do with him?"

Lin Xun answered, "I’ll leave it to you. Don't worry, the Great Everlasting Sword Hall is not even worth mentioning. No need to worry about causing trouble for me."

Jintian Xuanyue nodded.

Omm!

The dao sword pressing down on Fang Xiaoyun suddenly shuddered, releasing sword intent that shattered his body along with his primordial spirit. The death of an Immortal-level expert made the Jintian Clan higher-ups stiffen in shock.

Thud! Thud!

As dread slowly began to seep in, Jintian Wuhong and the others fell to their knees and begged for mercy. "Xuanyue, we only did it for the sake of the other clansmen and wouldn’t truly have submitted to the Great Everlasting Sword Hall. Your uncles know that we have done wrong. We don't ask for your forgiveness, but hope that you can give us an option to live."

"Xuanyue, do you remember? I watched you grow up and even taught you cultivation methods when you were a child."

Various pleas were made one after another.

The scenes left Lin Xun shaking his head as he turned around to walk out of the hall. "Xuanyue, I’ll leave it to you."

Xia Zhi and Xuan Jiuyin followed him out.

"Miss Xuanyue is so pitiful to have clansmen like them." Xuan Jiuyin let out a small sigh.

Lin Xun couldn't help but sigh deeply. After all, he had experienced similar events before.

For instance, when he first entered the Forbidden City to settle the Lin Clan’s internal affairs. And again, when he traveled to the Eternal True Realm to settle his grudge with the Luo Clan. In fact, there had been several hidden dangers and persistent problems even in the Origin Sect. Such matters were simply commonplace in the world.

A few minutes later, Jintian Xuanyue emerged from the hall.

Xuan Jiuyin couldn't help but ask, "Done?"

Jintian Xuanyue acknowledged with a soft grunt before she looked at Lin Xun and said, "Young Master, my father and the others wish to personally apologize to you, but they're worried you'll be angry and refuse to forgive them for what happened back then."

Lin Xun chuckled. "There's no need for that because I don't hold anything against them. It's enough as long as you feel you can forgive them."

Jintian Xuanyue nodded. "I understand."

Lin Xun gently said, "Don't overthink it. I don't care about what they did, but I do feel guilty toward you. If you're worried about them, bring them along when we return to the Eternal True Realm."

Back then, Jintian Xuanyue had resolutely cut ties with her clan for his sake. Since then, she had accompanied him through thick and thin without any complaints, not even making a single request of him.

How could he possibly remain impassive in the face of such devotion? The truth was that he often felt guilty towards her.

"Really?"

Jintian Xuanyue's eyes brightened in elation and surprise. She hadn't dared to make this request earlier, fearing he would be reluctant to fulfil it. Hence, she never imagined that he would voluntarily bring it up instead.

Lin Xun smiled and patted her shoulder. "Xuanyue, you should stop being overly concerned about what I would think. As long as it is within my ability, I will help you with whatever you wish to do."

An enchanting and genuine smile blossomed on her peerlessly beautiful face as she nodded. "I understand."

On the side, Xuan Jiuyin grew increasingly anxious for her. What do you mean you understand? Do you even dare to tell him what you wish for the most?

Regretfully, Jintian Xuanyue didn’t do so. It was as if Lin Xun's promise to take along the Jintian clansmen had already made her more than content and immensely happy.

Two hours later, all the Jintian clansmen were gathered and settled into Jintian Xuanyue’s Immortal treasure. An Immortal-level treasure could easily contain a small world, so it was naturally more than enough to store all of her clansmen.

Of course, this also meant that they had to leave behind their properties and territories in the White Emperor Star Field. However, an opportunity to travel to the Eternal True Realm was considered a huge blessing that could change the entire fate of their clan.

It was worth mentioning that Jintian Wuhong and his group of higher-ups were executed for the crime of treason. After settling everything, Lin Xun and the others didn't delay further and continued on their way.

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Spirit Burial Sea.

Waves extended as far as the eye could see under the high and vast skies.

Omm~

Space began to ripple as Lin Xun and his group emerged. It was his third visit here after a long gap of many years.

"Everything has changed..."

Almost immediately, he sensed the boundless Heavenly Principles surging around them, exuding astonishing ancient and primal life energy. The last time he was here, his cultivation had been forcibly suppressed to the perfect Quasi-Emperor Stage to accommodate the Heavenly Principles of the land.

The reason being that Spirit Burial Sea simply couldn't withstand power above the Emperor Stage, otherwise, terrible consequences would follow.

Now, however, Lin Xun, who was at the perfect Transcendence Stage, couldn’t feel even the slightest trace of discomfort. Undoubtedly, the Heavenly Principles of Spirit Burial Sea could now withstand the pinnacle power of the Immortal Stage. It was astonishing, to say the least.

"In just ten years, the dao aura concentration of this land is now hot on the heels of the Eternal True Realm's Sixth Heaven Domain. What a tremendous change..." Lin Xun couldn't help but gasp.

When they first arrived at the outskirts of the Ancient Nebula Road, the changes they observed in the Heavenly Principles there were already considered astonishing. However, even that was incomparable to the Heavenly Principles here at Spirit Burial Sea. In fact, it felt so drastically different that he would have believed he was at the Eternal True Realm instead.

"It is indeed very inconceivable."

Xuan Jiuyin and Jintian Xuanyue couldn’t stop their expressions from changing either. Only Xia Zhi remained silent as usual, completely unconcerned about everything.

"One’s cultivation will most certainly progress rapidly in a place like this, not to mention that rare spiritual veins, divine materials, and divine medicines will continuously be born from such a blessed land. While the changes might have only begun ten years ago, cultivators who have been stuck at their cultivation realm will benefit tremendously from the blessed environment and experience repeated breakthroughs." Lin Xun said, "It makes me wonder about what has become of Return Dominion..."

"Brother Lin, the entire Lin Clan relocated to the Return Dominion and settled in the Fangchun Ruins as early as seventy years ago. Hence, they would have been the first to benefit the moment these shocking changes occurred."

Xuan Jiuyin grinned as he continued, "What's more, you've been gone for more than a hundred years. In that time, the Lin Clan’s strength has probably become unrecognizable from before, so any foreign faction that tried to invade likely wouldn’t have found much success."

"I hope so," said Lin Xun as he walked forward.

As someone all too familiar with Spirit Burial Sea, he knew exactly where the Return Dominion was located. Soon after, his spirit sense picked up the presences of many cultivators scattered across various sea zones.

These cultivators were clearly from different factions and had occupied islands as if preparing to stay for the long term. The islands were covered in arrays, and constructed to resemble the typical blessed cultivation dwellings.

Lin Xun thought to himself. Since Spirit Burial Sea was the first to benefit from the changes, establishing a sect with proper cultivation dwellings here would indeed be very advantageous."

As the group neared their destination, the auras of the cultivators became stronger and stronger. Evidently, only powerful factions and those with high cultivation could occupy positions closer to the Return Dominion.

Rumble!

The sounds of battle suddenly erupted in the distance. Lin Xun raised his eyes and looked. Two factions were clashing, likely fighting over the rights to a stretch of sea and islands nearby.

Both sides fought until the sea was dyed red, embodying a picture of bitter desperation. Quite a number of experts were also watching from afar as if it were a common occurrence.

"This sea zone will likely soon fall under the territory of the Mystical Cavern World's Water Cloud Sword Pavilion."

"This should be the forty-ninth faction battle since last month, right?"

"Yeah, with the news of the Return Dominion’s transformation spreading, the top factions from various major star fields of the Great Thousand Worlds have all been drawn here."

"Just wait and see, as time passes, the sea zones in the vicinity of the Return Dominion are destined to undergo round after round of reshuffling. While someone might occupy an island now, there's no guarantee that it won't be snatched away tomorrow."

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These comments gave Lin Xun and the others new insights into the situation. Spirit Burial Sea had become a piece of prime meat that numerous powerhouse factions were fighting over. Whoever won would become king of the island and control the surrounding sea zone, resulting in frequent fighting and killing.

However, the bloody and turbulent situation only made him increasingly worried about his friends and family in the Lin Clan.

"Brother, may I inquire about a few matters?" Xuan Jiuyin grabbed one of the onlookers to question.

Dressed in silver robes, the man was a supreme Emperor Ancestor, making him one of the most powerful experts below the Immortal Stage. Hence, he was initially startled and furious to be grabbed by Xuan Jiuyin.

However, he shivered all over the moment he met Xuan Jiuyin's eyes, and immediately changed his expression. With a submissive attitude, he nervously asked, "Dare I ask what Elder wishes to know?"

"What's the situation in the Return Dominion?" Xuan Jiuyin cut straight to the heart of the matter.

The silver-robed man hurriedly answered, "Reporting to Elder, the entrance to the Return Dominion is still being occupied by the Seven Great Factions. It's been almost a year now, but no one has been able to break through their defensive line. Instead, everyone who tried has been slaughtered. It's gotten so bad that no one has tried to approach for quite some time."

"Seven Great Factions? Which seven?" Xuan Jiuyin raised an eyebrow.

Before the silver-robed man could reply, he was interrupted by Lin Xun, "None of that matters. Let me ask you this, has anyone managed to invade the Fangchun Secret Realm in the Return Dominion?"

The silver-robed man's pupils shrunk in surprise. "Are you referring to the New Genesis Sect's territory?"

Lin Xun and Xuan Jiuyin exchanged a glance and nodded. "Exactly."

The silver-robed man said, "The New Genesis Sect is a tough bone to chew. As early as a few years ago, the Seven Great Factions joined forces and launched attacks many times, only to be stopped outside the Fangchun Secret Realm. Rumor says that it once used to be the nest of the Fangchun Mountain Sect and is extremely difficult to invade. To present, all the Seven Great Factions can do is watch them from afar..."

After determining that the Fangchun Secret Realm had yet to be conquered, Lin Xun was no longer in the mood to listen any further, feeling his worries fade away significantly. Only now did he finally feel a sense of relief as if a heavy burden had been lifted from his shoulders.

Chapter 2977 Rising Wind

The silver-robed man suddenly said, "Ah right, I heard some rumors that the Seven Great Factions will be launching another assault on the New Genesis Sect soon."

Xuan Jiuyin sneered. "They really are getting bolder and bolder."

His voice was full of contempt.

The silver-robed man solemnly said, "Elder, the Seven Great Factions' next operation cannot be underestimated. It is said that they will be mobilizing every Immortal-level expert they have. Moreover, each of them will be bringing a law power treasure of unfathomable power. They are determined to smash open the Fangchun Secret Realm this time!"

Xuan Jiuyin offhandedly acknowledged with a soft grunt and looked towards Lin Xun.

"Many thanks!" He casually tossed a treasure to the silver-robed man before departing with Xuan Jiuyin and the others.

The silver-robed man was stunned. He hadn’t expected to be rewarded for answering a few simple questions. However, his expression immediately changed when he lowered his head to look at the palm-sized silver flying sword in his hand.

An Immortal dao weapon!

The silver-robed man gasped. His eyes quickly darted around, before stealthily storing away the silver flying sword. His heart couldn’t help but shudder as he recalled the people from earlier. To so casually give someone an Immortal dao weapon, how terrifying were those people?

Soon after, the silver-robed man broke out into a grin. What a blessing from the heavens!

After all, for a supreme Emperor Ancestor like him, obtaining an Immortal dao weapon was no different from striking the lottery.

.....

Along the way, Xuan Jiuyin smiled and asked, "Brother Lin, does this finally put you at ease?"

Lin Xun casually responded, "How can I truly feel at ease until I see them?"

The figures of Zhao Jingxuan, Lin Fan, Lin Zhong, Toady, A’lu, A’hu, Little Silver, and Little Sky surfaced in his mind. The closer he got to home, the more these subtle feelings began to swirl around his heart. As they advanced, they saw many cultivators flying towards the Return Dominion as well.

"Are the Seven Great Factions really going to attack soon?"

"They’ve thoroughly explored the secret realms on the outer regions of the Return Dominion over the past few years, and rumors say that they have obtained quite a number of treasures and blessings. However, if they wish to head deeper into the Return Dominion, they must first vanquish the New Genesis Sect blocking their way. It seems...that their patience has finally run out."

"Is the New Genesis Sect really that powerful?"

"It's said to be an orthodoxy founded by a legendary figure called Emperor Daoyuan, who is also a disciple of Fangchun Mountain. Many years ago, he surpassed everyone in the Ancient Nebula Road and became famous throughout the land. He is also said to have performed many legendary feats, and was once known as the number one Emperor of the Ancient Nebula Road.

"Of course, that's all in the past. I heard that Emperor Daoyuan left the Ancient Nebula Road and headed for the Eternal True Realm long ago.

"On the other hand, the New Genesis Sect settled in the Return Dominion many years ago, giving them a huge advantage when the change to the Return Dominion occurred. When the transformation finally happened, they were able to move before anyone else, and obtained many unimaginable and heaven-defying blessings.

"From what I know, there are at least three powerful Immortal experts in the New Genesis Sect. One is called Jin Duyi, one is called A'lu, and the last is called Zhao Jingxuan. Ah right, that Zhao Jingxuan is also Emperor Daoyuan's wife. Moreover, she is also presently the highest authority in the New Genesis Sect."

Lin Xun and the others heard all sorts of information along the way. He had originally planned to rush over at full speed, but was now no longer in a hurry.

Xuan Jiuyin exclaimed, "Brother Lin, I didn't expect Miss Jingxuan to have already attained immortality."

Lin Xun appeared to be in a joyful mood as he said, "Jingxuan possesses the True Dragon Bloodline, and even obtained the Origin Dragon Blood left behind by her ancestor. She was already at the Emperor Stage when I was last in the Ancient Wasteland Domain. More than a hundred years have passed since then, and coupled with the shocking change of the Return Dominion, it is only natural that she has ascended to the Immortal Stage."

Xuan Jiuyin couldn't help but glance at Jintian Xuanyue, only to see that the latter was listening quietly like normal. Only then did he secretly sigh in relief.

Zhao Jingxuan was Lin Xun's wife and his first woman. There would definitely be trouble if there was any dislike towards her.

"It's been more than a hundred years, but they still address the Young Master as Emperor Daoyuan. I imagine that they will probably be scared out of their wits if they found out about Young Master's current cultivation and identity." Jintian Xuanyue smiled sweetly.

Lin Xun sneered. "Just a mere hundred years. To some older cultivators, that's not even enough time for a session of secluded cultivation. For me, however, far too many things have happened in the past hundred years. If I hadn't chosen to go to the Eternal True Realm back then, I probably wouldn't have become the person I am today."

"That's right, although the Return Dominion has undergone a shocking change and the Ancient Nebula Road is indeed different from before, they're still far from being comparable to the Eternal True Realm."

Xuan Jiuyin clearly thought the same. "For instance, if Miss Xuanyue and I hadn't gone to the Origin World, it would have been impossible for us to step onto the path of immortality so easily."

Lin Xun thoughtfully remarked, "The Return Dominion might not be as good as the Eternal True Realm for now, but that might not be certain in the future."

In a short span of ten years, the Return Dominion had completely transformed the Ancient Nebula Road. If this trend continued, more and more changes were certain to follow.

"That's hard to say. Don't forget that the epochal calamity will descend within a thousand years." Xuan Jiuyin said, "In fact, I'm starting to suspect that the changes in the Return Dominion might be related to the approaching epochal calamity."

Lin Xun's pupils shrank slightly. He shared the same speculation, but wasn't entirely certain yet.

As they conversed, a loud and boundless horn suddenly sounded in the distance. Woowoowoo~

The atmosphere grew heavy, as if a storm was approaching. Lin Xun looked up and saw a huge abyss in the sea zone far away. The surrounding seawater silently poured in, disappearing without a splash.

It was the entrance to the Return Dominion! With a radius of more than a hundred thousand feet, it was certainly exceedingly vast.

In its vicinity, multitudes of cultivators were divided into seven clear camps. Each camp was composed of thousands of cultivators and occupied a sea zone near the Return Dominion.

Among them, the weakest possessed Ninth Realm Ancestor cultivation. Moreover, there were plenty of supreme Emperor Ancestors, and even Immortal Stage powerhouses present. Such a mighty line-up was akin to a grand divine army of the heavens. The aura they emitted alone was already more than enough to intimidate any sane person.

Further away from the Return Dominion, many more cultivators were watching, not daring to approach. These cultivators, who had rushed here like Lin Xun, made sure to stand far away, their expressions a mix of astonishment, fear, and reverence.

After all, those were the seven strongest factions among the many great starfields of the Great Thousand Worlds! Over the years, countless factions had attacked in hopes of entering the Return Dominion. However, none of them had been able to break through the Seven Great Factions' defense line. Instead, their blood ended up dyeing the nearby seas red.

As a result, no one dared to step beyond the line anymore.

"This lineup is almost as strong as the Immortal Imperial Clans of the Sixth Heaven Domain."

Even Lin Xun couldn't help but feel somewhat surprised. Of course, the Immortal Imperial Clans of the Sixth Heaven Domain had Nirvana Spirit experts on top of that. This was something the Seven Great Factions couldn't match, because the strongest among them was only at the perfect Heavenly Longevity Stage.

Naturally, such strength wasn’t even worth mentioning to Lin Xun. Just a few years prior, he had charged into the Eighth Heaven Domain and killed numerous perfect Transcendence Stage existences. In fact, even the Eternal Stage Will Dharma Forms could only die at his hands!

Xuan Jiuyin said, "Brother Lin, the fact that they’ve sounded a signal horn means they’re probably going into battle soon. Could today be the day they plan on attacking Fangchun Secret Realm?"

The vast and powerful noise seemed to fill the entire domain. The sound stirred the sea water and rippled the air, accompanied by stern killing intent.

From the seven camps, Immortals rose into the air one after another as Immortal Halos emerged behind them. They resembled divine rulers descending upon the mortal world, drawing everyone’s attention.

Countless people revealed expressions of awe and reverence.

Immortals!

To the cultivators from the various starfields of the Great Thousand Worlds, these were existences akin to overlords of the heavens.

"There's no rush, let’s watch how it plays out."

Lin Xun, Xia Zhi, Xuan Jiuyin, and Jintian Xuanyue retracted their auras and stopped far away, making sure not to draw any attention.

"Everyone, now that we’ve joined forces, we will definitely smash open Fangchun Secret Realm in one fell swoop. However, this old man has one small suggestion to make. After entering, we must first destroy the New Genesis Sect that occupies it!"

A red-robed, black-haired man stood in the air, holding a jade cauldron enveloped in flowing purple light, appearing both intimidating and domineering.

"Naturally."

"How can a mere New Genesis Sect be allowed to monopolize the blessings of the Return Dominion? For the past few years, they've been preventing us from exploring the place, and their actions have long since angered the heavens and the people. If we don't destroy them today, the hatred in our hearts will never be sated!"

Several Immortals brimmed with murderous intent as their Immortal pressure shot into the air, scattering the clouds.

The onlookers in the distance forgot to breathe for a moment, realizing that an unprecedented battle would be breaking out today! How could the New Genesis Sect survive if the Seven Great Factions attacked together?

Xuan Jiuyin couldn't help but find this comical as an itch began to rise within him. "Brother Lin, why don't I go and deal with them now?"

Jintian Xuanyue said, "You're also at the Heavenly Longevity Stage. Can you handle so many of those old fellows by yourself?"

Xuan Jiuyin unhappily retorted, "Xuanyue, how can our Immortal path be the same as theirs? Moreover, when I left, my great-ancestor gave me many trump cards, any of which can probably kill these people a hundred times over in mere minutes!"

Jintian Xuanyue merely pursed her lips together into a smile, not saying anything else.

"What shameless bragging. Years have passed and yet all of you are still stuck here. Don't you feel embarrassed making such a fuss?"

Suddenly, a figure flew out of the Return Dominion as his loud laughter shook the heavens. His words echoed across heaven and earth, accompanied by an arrogant aura. Dressed in green robes with gleaming golden eyes, the handsome youth proudly stood above the Return Dominion and stared down at the crowd as if they were insignificant peons.

That arrogant attitude immediately drew everyone’s attention.

Chapter 2978 A Wave of the Sleeve

At the sight of the green-robed young man arrogantly looking down on the crowd, Xuan Jiuyin couldn't help but ask in surprise, "Who is that guy? He seems very cocky."

Lin Xun grinned. "That’s my brother, Jin Duyi, whom I call Toady. He’s a descendant of the Three-Legged Golden Toad lineage, and had been slumbering in the Spirit Burial Sea since the ancient era. When I first arrived here in my youth, we somehow became friends after fighting. After which, he began to follow me almost everywhere."

A look of reminiscence appeared in his eyes. That was also when he first became acquainted with Zhao Jingxuan. He had accompanied her and a small detachment from her sect to search for the Return Dominion in Spirit Burial Sea.

Back then, everyone had been full of talent and youthful vigor. It felt like just yesterday, but hundreds of years had passed since then.

"No wonder." Xuan Jiuyin revealed a knowing grin. After all, how could any of Lin Xun’s brothers be ordinary?

The red-robed, black-haired man coldly said, "Jin Duyi, it seems that your New Genesis Sect has become anxious. Why else would you jump out so quickly?"

The Immortal experts of the Seven Great Factions numbered a dozen in total. Together, they stood in the air, blocking the path to the Return Dominion as their qi locked onto Jin Duyi.

Jin Duyi frostily responded, "Ridiculous, it looks more like you guys are anxious. Isn’t that why you decided to join forces and stake it all today?"

The red-robed man snorted coldly. "Things must eventually be settled once and for all."

Jin Duyi suddenly laughed and said, "If that's the case, I have a suggestion. To avoid unnecessary casualties on both sides, how about we do a wager?"

"What kind of wager?" The red-robed man raised an eyebrow.

Jin Duyi answered without hesitation, "Your seven factions and my New Genesis Sect choose three people each to participate in duels. If we win, you will leave immediately. If we lose, we will no longer stop you from exploring the Return Dominion."

The red-robed man and the others grew hesitant. They naturally knew that while attacking Fangchun Secret Realm might eventually lead to their victory, they would definitely suffer heavy casualties.

"It seems that the New Genesis Sect also feels threatened and can no longer sit still. Why else would they suggest such a compromise?" Xuan Jiuyin sighed softly. Lin Xun nodded, his expression still calm as ever.

"Why, don’t dare to wager?" Seeing that there was no response, Jin Duyi couldn't help but frown.

The red-robed man suddenly sneered. "Since we’ve already gained the upper hand, why should we bother with a wager?"

Jin Duyi's expression darkened. "Do you really want to fight to the death?"

A chilling voice cut in, "Fight to the death? Wrong, it's your New Genesis Sect that is doomed to be erased from history today!"

Another expert chuckled and remarked, "He’s trying to use a trick to save the New Genesis Sect, don't be fooled."

"Then what are all of you hesitating for, kill that evil spawn!" One of the experts directly took action, brandishing a black stave as he rushed towards Jin Duyi.

"Go!"

Almost simultaneously, the other Immortal experts present also launched their attacks. The onlookers in the distance couldn't help but gasp. These Immortal experts were indeed not to be trifled with. After all, they were clearly decisive individuals who were quick to act when required!

Rumble rumble~

The surroundings rippled and distorted as Immortal dao light raged like a hurricane. Radiant light streams mixed with the dao weapons' unfathomable power rapidly enveloped Jin Duyi like the rising tide.

"Then fight to the death we shall! I'll be waiting in the Fangchun Secret Realm!"

His face changed slightly as he tried to slip away. He was still only at the Heavenly Longevity Stage, and while he was confident in handling a few opponents of the same realm, he knew full-well that he would be swiftly overwhelmed by the combined attacks of several Immortal experts.

Therefore, he decided to retreat into the Fangchun Secret Realm. While he was preparing to leave, however, countless web-like strands of law power surged out around him with a loud rumble. They formed a vast net that seemed to cover the sky, imprisoning the space around the entrance to the Return Dominion.

Jin Duyi's only way out was now sealed, causing him to stiffen mid-movement and realize he was unable to escape from the imprisoning law power!

"Hahaha, you still don't realize that you've already walked into our trap. After killing you, we'll destroy the New Genesis Sect!"

Amidst triumphant laughter, the dozen Immortal experts swiftly closed in.

Rumble! Dreadful dao light roared towards Jin Duyi. He gritted his teeth, his long hair flying wildly as he resolved himself to stake his life on one final struggle. "Think I'm afraid of you? Even if I die, I'll make sure to drag you guys down with me!"

At this critical moment, he suddenly felt himself become lighter and was grabbed away, disappearing from the entrance to the Return Dominion.

Boom!

The incoming attacks and dao weapons struck empty air, only succeeding in leaving behind berserk waves of destructive energies that spread across the area.

"This..."

"Where is he?"

"Damnit! All our law power has been broken."

"Who saved him?"

This sudden turn of events caught the Immortal experts by surprise, leaving them confused and perplexed. They weren't alone. The experts of the Seven Great Factions, as well as the spectators in the distance were also stunned, unable to comprehend what had happened.

Even Jin Duyi himself was bewildered. He had barely registered the scenery flashing before him as he was taken away without warning. By the time he returned to his senses, he found himself at a nearby sea zone.

His eyes soon widened in disbelief, nearly jumping on the spot as he blurted out, "Big...Big Brother?"

"What's wrong, it's only been a little over a hundred years and you're already unable to recognize me?" Lin Xun smiled. He was naturally the one who had taken action earlier.

A look of ecstatic joy filled Jin Duyi's handsome face. Unable to contain himself, he laughed excitedly. "It really is you. Oh my goodness, am I dreaming?"

He immediately slapped his thigh, allowing the sharp pain to tell him that this was no illusion. Lin Xun's heart couldn’t help but churn at the overly emotional Toady. He patted Toady on the shoulder and said, "I already know the situation. Leave the rest to me."

Toady nodded, only to cry out moments later, "There’s more than ten of those Immortal-level scoundrels, I will fight with you!"

Xuan Jiuyin couldn't help but interject, "Brother, let’s just watch from the sidelines. Don't you want to see how strong your Big Brother has become after all these years?"

Toady was taken aback.

By this juncture, the dozen Immortal experts had already found Toady's tracks. Their gazes shifted to Lin Xun’s group with dark expressions. One of them frowned and shouted in a reproachful tone, "Who are you? How dare you meddle in the affairs between us and the New Genesis Sect! Are you tired of living?"

Their eyes scanned Lin Xun, Xia Zhi, Xuan Jiuyin and Jintian Xuanyue, finding them very unfamiliar. However, the Immortal aura emanating from Lin Xun made them inwardly shiver. The experts of the Seven Great Factions and the onlookers also looked over in bewilderment, unable to believe that outsiders had dared to get involved in spite of the circumstances.

"Heh heh."

Xuan Jiuyin merely chuckled and revealed a pitying expression, not bothering to respond.

Lin Xun nonchalantly asked, "Has our New Genesis Sect suffered any casualties?"

Jin Duyi shook his head. "Nope, we've been holding our ground in the Fangchun Secret Realm for the past few years. Under its protection, everyone has been able to avoid danger so far."

These words finally put Lin Xun at ease. With a heartfelt smile, he said, "That's good."

They chatted as if they were alone in the place, completely ignoring everyone else. As a result, the faces of the Immortal experts grew stormier and stormier.

"Who are you, Esteemed One? Are you truly not afraid of meeting misfortune here?"

The red-robed man's icy voice was full of killing intent as a terrifying pressure emanated from him.

Lin Xun glanced at them and said, "You should be thankful that no one from my Lin Clan has died. Otherwise, none of you will be able to leave today."

"How arrogant! This old man would love to see what right you have to make such threats!" An elder shouted in retort as he summoned a golden dao seal and sent it smashing towards Lin Xun.

Rumble!

The golden seal soared across the air, releasing a power that made heaven and earth tremble. Even the sea churned and boiled in its wake as countless people inwardly shivered at its might.

However, Lin Xun didn't move. The golden seal suddenly stopped a hundred feet from him, unable to advance as if it had hit an immovable wall.

Bang! Almost immediately after, the golden seal exploded, scattering light everywhere. An Immortal dao weapon had been destroyed just like that!

The bizarre and frightening scene left Jin Duyi dumbstruck, completely subverting his expectations. In the distance, the elder was struck by the backlash and coughed up a mouthful of blood. The expressions of the other Immortal experts near him also changed, realizing that something was wrong.

Almost instinctively, the red-robed man shouted, "Attack together!"

"Kill him!"

The Immortal experts advanced once more. They summoned their dao weapons, and displayed their dao arts, fully unleashing the might of their Immortal cultivation at Lin Xun.

Boom~

It felt as if the sky and land were reversed and even the sun and moon lost their light. The terrifying flood of Immortal power made the countless spectators nearby scream and flee in panic.

"Ignorant fools."

A cold arc appeared on Lin Xun's lips as he suddenly reached out and grabbed. The various dao techniques were immediately crushed like paper, exploding into a dazzling rain of light that brightened the surroundings.

Bang bang bang!

The Immortal weapons were also crushed one after another. Jade cauldrons, swords, spears, and halberds...were all turned into scrap in a single move. The Immortal experts were naturally struck by the backlash and coughed up blood. Their expressions changed once more as fear rapidly rose within them.

A single grab had easily smashed apart all of their power! It made them finally smell the scent of death, feeling terrified at the realization that they had encountered a very formidable foe.

"This..."

Jin Duyi was dazed and unable to form any coherent thought. How terrifying must one’s cultivation be to achieve such a dreadful feat with ease? It was simply inconceivable!

Silence dominated the surroundings. Even the onlookers in the distance were utterly shocked and rendered unable to think. That strike from earlier had felt as invincible as a divine hand reaching down from the heavens!

When they looked at Lin Xun again, their eyes were filled with fear. Who is he? What kind of overwhelming power does he possess?

Amidst the deathly silence, Lin Xun indifferently said, "It would be a pity to kill you, so I'll spare your lives and use you lot as whetstones for the New Genesis Sect in the future."

As he spoke, his sleeve began to flutter. Everyone else could only watch as the dozen Immortal experts were immobilized in the air like trapped flies. Next, they turned into streams of dao light as they disappeared into his fluttering sleeve.

The thousands of experts from the Seven Great Factions felt their vision darken as they uncontrollably flew into the air and also vanished in his sleeve like the receding tide. In the blink of an eye, everyone from the Seven Great Factions vanished without a trace as if they had been erased from the world!

Chapter 2979 Reunion of Old Friends

He had simply waved his sleeve! However, the divine power unleashed by Lin Xun was nothing short of monstrous. In the blink of an eye, it had taken away all the powerful experts from the Seven Great Factions. Even Immortals, as strong as they were, were rendered as insignificant as ants.

Jin Duyi stood there, completely stunned, unable to recover for a long time. The onlookers in the distance were also struck dumb, their minds reeling from this astonishing scene.

The Seven Great Factions, which had gathered the most powerful forces from various parts of the Great Thousand Worlds, had controlled the seas surrounding the Return Dominion for years. They had been utterly unshakable

This was especially true for their Immortal experts, who were so powerful that their mere mention of their names instilled fear. Now, they had all been swept away like fallen leaves in an autumn wind. Not a single one had escaped! Who could remain calm amidst this unbelievable scene?

Only Xuan Jiuyin and Jintian Xuanyue remained calm. If those present knew what had happened in the Eternal True Realm, they probably wouldn't be so surprised by what had occurred here.

Xia Zhi, on the other hand, had been munching on melon seeds the entire time. The aeth melon seeds Lin Xun had roasted for her were incredibly delicious, so she had been obsessed with them lately. As for

anything else, she truly didn't care. Not because she was lazy, but simply because she had no interest in it.

At this moment, Lin Xun acted as if he were doing something utterly ordinary. He glanced around and announced, "Within three days, no one is allowed to appear within a thousand miles of the Return Dominion. Otherwise, don't blame me for being impolite."

His voice clearly spread out, sweeping across the sea and carrying far into the distance. At this moment, cultivators from numerous forces scattered across the Spirit Burial Sea, whether they were in battle or in seclusion, whether they were powerful Immortals or other cultivators, heard this voice that was filled with immense pressure, shaking their very spirits.

Instantly, everyone's expression changed. Who had issued such an overbearing command? Lin Xun ignored all of this. After speaking, he looked at Jin Duyi and laughed, "Toady, what are you standing there for? Lead the way."

Jin Duyi immediately snapped out of his daze and led Lin Xun and the others towards the Return Dominion. Only after their figures disappeared did the spectators in the far distance gradually come to their senses, and then the atmosphere in the area completely boiled over.

"Heavens! The power of the Seven Great Factions was wiped out just like that?"

"Who is that person? Just how terrifying is his cultivation? Could he be an old monster at the Nirvana Spirit Stage?"

"He claims his surname is Lin, could it be..."

Amidst the discussions, someone suddenly let out an extremely excited scream, "It's him, Emperor Daoyuan! He's back!"

Emperor Daoyuan!

Instantly, even those powerful figures from the forces that came from outside the Ancient Nebula Road remembered one person. Lin Daoyuan, the number one Emperor of the Ancient Nebula Road, had once single-handedly dominated the Ancient Nebula Road for a period of time.

He was a successor of Fangchun Mountain, the founder of the New Genesis Sect, and a universally acknowledged legend!

"Yes, he must be Emperor Daoyuan. He founded the New Genesis Sect for the Lin Clan. Now that he has returned, it's only natural that he would act now after seeing the sect being besieged from all sides." Many people were filled with excitement.

"When Emperor Daoyuan left, he was at the peak of the Emperor Stage. Only a little over a hundred years have passed, and his cultivation has already reached such an incredible level..." Some others trembled.

With a wave of his sleeve, he had swept away the Seven Great Factions like a whirlwind. He was simply like a god from heaven! The news here quickly spread like wildfire, reaching the entire Spirit Burial Sea that very day.

"Lin Daoyuan...he's that powerful?"

The powerful figures from the foreign forces trembled, stunned by Lin Xun's domineering methods. The Seven Great Factions had been swept away with a mere wave of his hand; who wouldn't be wary of such power?

"This is troublesome!"

"With Lin Daoyuan here, who can still venture into the Return Dominion to seek opportunities?"

The foreign invaders had immediately realized the gravity of the situation.

"Hahaha, Emperor Daoyuan has finally returned! The Ancient Nebula Road will finally see the light of dawn!"

For the cultivators of the Ancient Nebula Road, Lin Xun's return filled them with excitement, exhilaration, and joy. In recent years, foreign forces had launched massive invasions across the Ancient Nebula Road, unleashing bloodshed and chaos across the land, leaving behind scenes of unrest and devastation.

This was especially true in the lower realm's Spirit Burial Sea. In their quest to seize the treasures of the Return Dominion, these foreign forces had committed countless massacres. The native inhabitants of the lower realms were naturally the first to suffer, and countless people had been slaughtered and killed.

Before Lin Xun's return, the world felt sorrow and despair, believing that the Ancient Nebula Road would inevitably fall under the control of foreign forces. Now, things were different!

"The return of Emperor Daoyuan is destined to unleash a reckoning. Just wait, the reckoning of those foreign invaders has arrived!"

As the news spread, countless cultivators who had suffered oppression and humiliation at the hands of foreign forces couldn't help but feel a renewed hope, anticipating the day when those invaders would meet their end. The Return Dominion was now the focus of attention throughout the heavens.

Lin Xun's return and the annihilation of the Seven Great Factions were earth-shattering events. News of it quickly spread to every region of the Ancient Nebula Road. In an instant, countless uproars ensued.

...

Return Dominion. The entrance to the Fangchun Secret Realm.

A'lu paced back and forth, anxiously waiting. His imposing figure, as majestic as a mountain, towered high, and his skin surged with powerful, immortal energy.

The big black bird lay on the iron pot that it usually carried on its back, sighing, "Look at how anxious you are! With this kind of mentality, I really don't know how you, a big dummy, had even embarked on the path to immortality."

"You thieving bird, what do you know about a person’s mentality?" A'lu spat.

"Yeah, this thieving bird is all talk and no action. When faced with a real crisis, it’s completely clueless."

Not far away, Little Silver stood with his arms crossed, a look of disdain on his face. He was still only a few inches tall, with an incomparably handsome face. He was standing on the shoulders of a beautiful young girl.

The girl had large, bright eyes, skin as white as alabaster, and was extremely beautiful. She was reserved and shy. The girl was none other than Little Sky, transformed from the Sky Splitting Demonic Butterfly.

Nestled in her arms was a plump little creature, wreathed in flames, with round eyes, a round nose, and a round mouth, utterly adorable. This was naturally Jiujiu.

“If you’re all so capable, then go out and kill all the Seven Great Factions. Then I will kowtow to you with a loud thud.” The big black bird lazily continued, “Don’t laugh at me if you can’t handle it.”

A'lu raised an eyebrow, clenching his fist, ready to punch the big black bird. Just then, a ripple appeared in the space around them. Whoosh!

Everyone stopped what they were doing, their gazes all turning in the direction of the ripple. When they saw Jin Duyi appear unharmed, they all breathed a sigh of relief. However, before they could ask about the outside world, they all froze in shock.

Another tall and imposing figure appeared closely behind Jin Duyi. This person was clad in moon-white robes that were ethereal and otherworldly. He looked so, so familiar, that everyone present felt as if they were dreaming, their eyes widening in disbelief.

As for Xia Zhi, Xuan Jiuyin, and Jintian Xuanyue, who had appeared afterward, they were completely ignored. Toady coughed lightly and said, "What's wrong? Don't you recognize my Big Bro?"

Suddenly, A'lu rushed forward, spreading his thick, boulder-like arms to embrace the tall and imposing figure, shouting, "Big Bro! You're finally back!"

"Chirp chirp~"

Jiujiu, nestled in Little Sky's arms, transformed into a streak of fire and rushed over, its plump body easily squeezing into Lin Xun's embrace as it chirped happily and incessantly.

"Master!" Little Silver grinned brightly, flying to Lin Xun's shoulder.

"Master!" Little Sky rushed forward, her long eyelashes trembling slightly, her clear eyes brimming with excitement and surprise. She was almost at a loss for words.

Clang!

The big black bird slammed its head against the large black pot, seemingly startled, and jumped up, flapping its wings and crying out, "Heavens! What did I just see? Am I seeing things?"

Further away, the array spirit Little Five and the sword spirit Yezi, who were busy setting up the protective barrier, also stopped what they were doing, their faces filled with joy.

"Master!"

The array spirit Little Five flew over, circling around Lin Xun. The sword spirit Yezi was much calmer, but his expression couldn't hide his joy and excitement. Upon entering the small secret realm, seeing so many familiar companions, Lin Xun couldn't help but smile, overjoyed, more so than after slaying a formidable enemy.

Toady, seeing this scene, chuckled incessantly. Xuan Jiuyin and Jintian Xuanyue exchanged a glance and smiled. The sight of such a long-awaited reunion was indeed infectious.

"Oh, right, I forgot to tell you, the Seven Great Factions circling the entrance to Return Dominion have all been suppressed by Big Bro." At this point, Toady's eyes fixed on the big black bird. "You thieving bird, what did you just say? You said you'd kowtow if the enemy was wiped out?"

Everyone was stunned. The Seven Great Factions had all been suppressed? If Toady hadn't said it himself, they almost wouldn't have believed it.

At the same time, the big black bird's expression froze, and it quickly protested, "I was talking about the others, not Lin Xun. If I had known he was coming back, I wouldn't have said such a thing! In any case, the Seven Great Factions are all destroyed, this is a great joy! Let's not talk about kowtowing anymore!"

Everyone couldn't help but laugh. That was just how the big black bird was; they were already used to it.

“Big Bro, everyone has missed you terribly these past years,” A'lu grinned. “By the way, let’s not stay here. Let’s go back. Sister-in-law and the others are still waiting for news of Toady in the council hall.”

“Okay.” Lin Xun nodded.

Immediately, the group sped forward. Compared to back then, the Fangchun Secret Realm was completely different. A thick, powerful primordial vitality had transformed into divine light, covering the sky and showering down pure, surging primordial dao energy.

The mountains on the land undulated, winding like dragons, and every blade of grass and tree growing there radiated an astonishing divine aura, brimming with life. Not far from the Fangchun Ruins was the mountain gate of the New Genesis Sect.

Buildings were lined up one after another along a divine mountain that included alchemy rooms, herb gardens, martial arts training grounds, a scripture library, a preaching pavilion, and so on. Besides these, numerous cave dwellings dotted the landscape, creating a magnificent scene of a secluded paradise and a sacred land of immortals.

Finally back...

Lin Xun's heart couldn't help but flutter with excitement. Many familiar figures involuntarily surfaced in his mind: Zhao Jingxuan, Lin Fan when he was still a child, Uncle Zhong, and so on.

Chapter 2980 Reminiscing Over Wine

The atmosphere in the council hall of the New Genesis Sect was extremely tense. Clad in a jade colored robe, with a tall and slender figure and a beautiful, clear face, Zhao Jingxuan sat regally on the central chair. Unfortunately, her dark brows slightly furrowed.

Since they had relocated to this small secret realm, she had personally handled all affairs related to the New Genesis Sect and the Lin Clan.

Lin Zhong, sitting to one side, said calmly, “Madam, there’s no need to be anxious. It’s just a major battle; we are not afraid of those Seven Great Factions.”

“Indeed, Elder Jin Duyi has already gone to challenge them. If they agree to the bet, this predicament will be easily resolved,” Zhao Tailai added.

“I’m just worried that they won’t agree to it. The opportunities hidden in the Return Dominion are too great; even Immortals would go crazy over them.” Zhao Jingxuan sighed softly.

“Madam, in my opinion, the situation isn’t that dire yet. Even if those Seven Great Factions really come knocking, we still have options.” A’hu’s voice was gentle.

“If we abandon this place, it’s the same as abandoning my husband’s sect’s former territory. If he returns, he might not blame us, but he will surely be heartbroken.” As Zhao Jingxuan spoke, her gaze swept across the hall, passing over Lin Zhong, A’hu, Lin Huaiyuan, Lin Xuefeng, and the other high-ranking members of the New Genesis Sect. Her heart grew heavier.

“A’hu, are all the clansmen in the sect settled?” Zhao Jingxuan had asked this question more than once in the past two days, but A’hu understood her feelings and nodded with a smile. “We have already settled everyone as Madam has instructed.”

Zhao Jingxuan thought for a moment before saying, “Good, then we’ll wait for Old Jin to return before making a decision.”

Suddenly, a commotion arose outside the hall, and it was quite noisy.

“Who’s making such a racket outside?” Zhao Jingxuan was somewhat displeased.

“Jingxuan, it’s me.” A voice rang out from outside the hall.

Instantly, everyone in the hall froze. That voice...it was so familiar...

Zhao Jingxuan jumped to her feet, her beautiful face filled with disbelief. How could she forget that haunting voice? However, it felt like a dream; she didn’t dare to believe it was him.

Then, a tall, imposing figure entered the hall. As he stepped inside, everyone present jumped to their feet, their expressions revealing undisguised surprise and astonishment.

Lin Xun! He’s actually back!

At this moment, Lin Xun's gaze swept across the hall, and his surging emotions erupted as he revealed a genuine smile. "I'm back."

"Husband!" Zhao Jingxuan's voice trembled, "Is it really you?"

Even when facing such a ferocious situation, she had remained calm, but now she seemed to have lost all control of herself as her beautiful eyes brimmed with tears. They were tears of joy and excitement.

Lin Xun instantly stepped forward and embraced Zhao Jingxuan tightly. While inhaling her familiar scent, he felt a sense of peace, tranquility, and contentment wash over him.

"Jingxuan, I've made you suffer all these years," he said softly.

Zhao Jingxuan rested her head on Lin Xun's shoulder and said gently, "Not at all. As long as you're safe and sound, I... I'm at peace."

Seeing this, the others in the hall tactfully left first. Only the long-separated couple remained in the hall.

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That day, news of Lin Xun's return spread throughout the Fangchun Secret Realm, causing a sensation throughout the New Genesis Sect. All members of the Lin Clan cheered excitedly.

After learning that the Seven Great Factions stationed outside Return Dominion had been suppressed, the entire realm was filled with laughter and jubilation.

For years, they had guarded this place, constantly threatened by numerous external forces and had been attacked countless times. If it weren't for the protection of the Fangchun Secret Realm, they probably wouldn't have survived until now.

As for today, it had been a matter of life or death. However, no one had expected that Lin Xun, far away in the Eternal True Realm, would return today, sweeping away the Seven Great Factions in one fell swoop and completely averting this catastrophic disaster!

Gradually, more and more figures gathered outside the council hall, all waiting. Among these figures were members of the Lin Clan, such as Lin Huaiyuan and Lin Xuefeng. There were also the disciples that the New Genesis Sect had recruited over the years, as well as many friends Lin Xun had made in the past.

These people included Yu Beidou and Chu Feng from the Ziyao Empire's Rune Master Association, the instructors from Qinglu Academy, Gu Yanping and Gu Liang from Golden Jade Hall, Shi Yu and Shi Linlang from Stone Cauldron Arms, and so on.

When Lin Xun founded the New Genesis Sect, he chose the name based off of “when a genesis begins, everything renews.” From the very beginning, he included all members of the Lin Clan and his friends.

Over a hundred years have passed, and the New Genesis Sect had gained many new faces, now numbering in the thousands. They all waited before the council hall, their hearts filled with excitement.

Those friends who knew Lin Xun well hadn't seen him for a long time, so they rushed here as soon as they learned of his return.

On the other hand, most of the new faces who joined the New Genesis Sect had never seen Lin Xun in person, but they had heard countless legends about him. At this moment, their eyes shone with excitement, their expressions filled with anticipation. They resembled pilgrims about to embark on a pilgrimage.

Toady, A'lu, A'hu, Little Silver, and Little Sky were also present, watching all of this occur with deep emotion. Thinking back to the days when they roamed the world with Lin Xun, they never imagined things would turn out like this.

Time passed slowly. Soon, under everyone's watchful eyes, a man and a woman emerged from the council hall. The man wore a moon-white robe, handsome and refined. The woman wore a jade-colored robe, pure and beautiful.

It was Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan. As they appeared, a deafening roar erupted from the crowd:

"Greetings, Founding Ancestor!" The disciples of the New Genesis Sect bowed deeply, their voices echoing through the heavens.

"Greetings, Clan Head!" All the members of the Lin Clan also bowed solemnly.

Old friends like Shi Yu and Gu Yanping smiled and offered their hands up a salute.

Standing atop the high steps, Lin Xun's gaze swept across the crowd. While looking at those familiar faces, his heart became filled with turmoil.

He vividly remembered his youth, when he was utterly alone, trekking through thousands of mountains to leave Feiyun Village. Back then, he had never imagined he would be where he was today.

Taking a deep breath, Lin Xun smiled and said, "Today, I have returned and am overjoyed to see you all safe and sound. I have no further things to say. Why don't you all stay here and have a good drink together?"

"Yes!" A thunderous cheer erupted from the crowd. The sound echoed throughout the heavens and the earth.

Zhao Jingxuan gazed quietly at Lin Xun's profile, her eyes filled with tenderness and pride. This was her man!

In the distance, Jintian Xuanyue watched Zhao Jingxuan standing side by side with Lin Xun, and a fleeting, almost imperceptible, flash of envy appeared in her eyes. She couldn't help but glance beside her. Xia Zhi was oblivious to everything, still calmly munching on melon seeds, seemingly unconcerned about anything.

Soon, a banquet began before the council hall. A dense crowd stretched far into the distance, and various fine wines and delicacies were served in a continuous stream. The atmosphere was joyful and harmonious with everyone's expression radiating happiness.

Lin Xun, holding a wine cup, began to toast everyone.

"Clan Head, this is my great-grandson," Lin Xuefeng said with a smile, holding a child's hand. He was Lin Xun's cousin, but now he even had a great-grandson. Lin Xun smiled and clinked glasses with him.

"Brother Lin, it's good to see you back!" Shi Yu smiled and raised his glass.

Shi Linlang, standing to the side, said, "Uncle Lin, I still remember you. You're exactly the same as before, without a single change."

Lin Xun exclaimed in surprise, "So it's you, little girl."

Back then, Shi Linlang was just a child; now she had blossomed into a dazzling beauty. Shi Linlang blinked. "Uncle Lin, I'm over a hundred years old, not young anymore."

Lin Xun and Shi Yu couldn't help but burst into laughter.

Next, Lin Xun met with Yu Beidou, Chu Feng, Gu Yanping, Gu Liang, and other good friends he had made in his youth. They drank and chatted, all filled with emotion and nostalgia.

Upon seeing A’hu, the latter asked sweetly, "Junior Martial Uncle, when will you take me back to see Master?"

Years had passed, but A’hu still remained as beautiful as a mischievous and lively fairy. Her features were exquisite, her beauty unparalleled, and every smile and gesture of hers was captivating.

"When I leave this time, I'll take everyone with me," Lin Xun said with a smile.

Upon reaching Lin Zhong, Lin Xun tightly grasped Lin Zhong's shoulder, saying, "Uncle Zhong, I've found my parents, and you will all meet again!"

When he first entered the Forbidden City in his early teens, Lin Zhong had served him faithfully and devotedly. In Lin Xun's heart, Uncle Zhong was no different from his own father.

Lin Zhong, beaming with excitement, exclaimed, "Young Master, I've been waiting for this day!"

"Founding Ancestor, we toast you!" When Lin Xun arrived beside the disciples of the New Genesis Sect, they all raised their cups, their eyes filled with fervent admiration and joy. Lin Xun smiled and drank with them.

The banquet lasted until late into the night.

On Lin Xun's first day back, although everyone had much to say to him, they all wisely chose not to disturb him. Only Xia Zhi seemed oblivious, staying by Lin Xun's side the entire time. Zhao Jingxuan, who knew her well, wasn't surprised and smiled as he stayed by her side.

The night was as dark as ink, and a gentle breeze was blowing. Lin Xun, Zhao Jingxuan, and Xia Zhi walked together towards the location of the Fangchun Ruins.

Zhao Jingxuan had told him earlier that when the Return Dominion had experienced a cataclysmic change ten years ago, a mysterious lotus pond had emerged within the Fangchun Ruins. The pond flowed with astonishing primal chaos origin power and cultivating within it yielded immeasurable benefits.

Their son, Lin Fan, had also begun his seclusion there at that time, and ten years had passed since then. Before his seclusion, their son was already a peerless figure who had reached the supreme eighth realm Emperor Stage.

His talent, innate abilities, and foundation were so exceptional that he was considered a monstrous genius throughout the entire Ancient Nebula Road, earning him the title of ‘invincible among those of the same realm!’