**Prodigies 3231**

Chapter 3231 Old Enemies, Long Standing Rivals Until This Day

Alpha Origin gave Lin Xun a big smile. “I am all ears.”

Lin Xun pointed to the distance. “Just as what you've fathomed, the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders is the origin of the All-Wonder Dominion and was once home to a complete dao of life.”

“Once?” Alpha Origin frowned. “Does it no longer exist?”

These words took the entire attention of all present.

Lin Xun said, “It does, but as a broken dao of life.”

Next, he frankly recounted what he had seen from the All-Wonder Tree of Life, leaving out no details. Listening to the whole story, everyone's emotions rose and fell like waves.

“A catastrophe that destroyed the dao of life... It didn't appear to belong to this Chaos Era...” Chen Xi sighed.

He now knew that the power of reincarnation he had mastered was only a part of the dao of life, while the Precious River Map had been born from the All-Wonder Tree of Life.

“Since you have the power of Nirvana, is it possible to restore the All-Wonder Tree of Life? As such, the damaged dao of life can also be remodeled, right?” Alpha Origin suddenly realized something and looked at Lin Xun.

“Yes, it's possible.” Lin Xun was honest throughout this topic.

“I see.” Alpha Origin sighed with emotion. “The Nirvana principle is truly an unprecedented variable. It's even more incredible that it’s capable of such a feat too.”

He then fell into silence, seemingly pondering and deducing something.

“Grandfather, why would Lin Xun reveal all of these secrets?” Chen Linkong couldn't help from inquiring through transmission. He really didn't understand why Lin Xun would be so unhesitantly open.

Chen Xi patiently explained, “When you try to hold back and hide your abilities from your enemy during a life or death fight, it often means that you are apprehensive about something.

“Just like what Alpha Origin had previously said, he would never leave himself any escape route at such a time, because only by doing that would his state of mind demonstrate the absolute determination to win. This is a contest of mindsets.

“Lin Xun did not withhold any information for the same reason. Also, Alpha Origin had given him a jade slip, and while I took it, Lin Xun still obtained insights from it, which formed a positive karma between them.

“Should they enter a life or death duel where Lin Xun has confidence that he can certainly kill the other party, this positive karma will affect him. He will consider letting the other party die in an honorable, clean way and thus will have scruples about the way he fights. As a result, he can no longer focus wholly on killing Alpha Origin.

“To prevent that scenario, he needs to cut off this thread of karma now. This way, he won't be distracted while carrying out his goal of killing the other party. This, coupled with the fact that Lin Xun is now free of attachments, makes sure he won't leave the smallest opening when he strikes.”

At this point, Chen Xi added, “Besides, what do you think Alpha Origin can do even if he learns these mysteries? In the end, this game must have a winner.”

Thanks to him explaining in the way that one carefully spun silk from cocoons, Chen Linkong easily grasped it and also realized that he was inferior in terms of mindset! Perhaps this slight shortcoming is why I've been unable to move up from the peak Immeasurable Realm...

“Of course, this is only a contest of mindsets. Alpha Origin and Lin Xun could only discuss the dao like good friends because they both have nothing to worry or fear now. When it's actually time to fight, they will be nothing but decisive and merciless.”

As soon as Chen Xi said that, Chen Linkong had to ask, “What about you, Grandfather?”

“What do you think?” Chen Xi asked back.

Chen Linkong nodded and said no more as he vaguely understood. Judging by the way his grandfather still patiently educated him during this critical showdown, how could the former’s mentality be ordinary?

“Can't figure it out, I really can't figure it out.” Alpha Origin suddenly sighed in his contemplation. “At the end of the day, it remains necessary to personally travel into the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders to comprehend the mysteries therein.”

Saying that, his gaze went back to Lin Xun. “And I'm afraid only the power of Nirvana is capable of that.”

“You’re correct.” Lin Xun looked into the distance. “Xia Zhi is returning from the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders. When she does, it's the perfect time for you to act, so how about we decide victory and defeat then?”

Alpha Origin was stunned. Then it dawned on him, “She got in there via the Boat of Eternity?”

Lin Xun nodded. “The Boat of Eternity was a leaf of the All-Wonder Tree of Life. Like all dead leaves returning to their roots, it disappeared before the tree after carrying her there. She's borrowing the power of the tree to go back to the Realm of All Mysteries.”

Alpha Origin laughed. “I see. In that case, won't I have leverage against you if I capture her?”

Lin Xun also laughed. “Depends on whether you have what it takes.”

Hearing that, Alpha Origin threw his head back and roared with laughter. “Wonderful! Fellow Daoist Chen Xi, how fortunate that we have Young Friend Lin on our path!”

There was an indescribable pleasure in his voice. From the very start, he had been gauging Lin Xun's state of mind and observing his reactions. When he had revealed the matter of Xia Zhi, Alpha Origin finally ascertained that Lin Xun was no longer weaker than him in terms of mentality!

This was also proof that even when facing him, Lin Xun’s determination to secure victory would not allow a tiniest bit of unwavering! The open and casual manner in which he presented this attitude showed that he was truly worry free.

Chen Xi flatly said, ''Isn't this exactly what you want to see? Also, don't you find the sword seal to be an eyesore at this point?”

Alpha Origin pointed at chains on him. “Don’t be fooled by what's visible, Fellow Daoist. This sword seal ceased to exist in my mind long ago.”

Chen Xi's eyes narrowed.

“But you have a point. Leaving them on really makes an eyesore and makes it look like I, Alpha Origin, am purposely concealing my true power.”

Saying that, Alpha Origin casually tugged at the chains. The sword seal instantly crumbled inch by inch and dispersed into nothingness. This led to quite a few shaken hearts and changing gazes.

This seal was the culmination of the swordsman's lifelong dao, who had used it to suppress and confine Alpha Origin in the Taihun Domain. However, Alpha Origin had broken it with such ease! Without a doubt, his dao strength had now surpassed that of the swordsman back then! This was something anyone could see now.

However, both Chen Xi and Lin Xun were not surprised. If Alpha Origin had been restrained by the sword seal all along, how could he possibly dare to enter this life or death duel?

Stretching his body, Alpha Origin mumbled, “It’s a load off too, who would have thought? It's a pity, though. No more memento to look at whenever I want to talk to him from now on...”

“If he were around, he would only slash you with his sword without any mercy like he did back then.” Chen Xi laughed out loud.

“That's true.” Alpha Origin also laughed, then he looked at Lin Xun and asked, “Young Friend, when will the wait be over?”

“About right now.” Lin Xun gazed into the distance.

Before his voice could fade, a tiny pitter of spatial ripples occurred in the far chaos mist. There, a delicate figure was coming out from the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders, fast approaching the Realm of All Mysteries.

Everyone present noticed it right away, and the atmosphere subtly shifted. A murderous aura started surging. The sky and ground, mountains and rivers, and everything in between lurched into an oppressive state of silence.

Alpha Origin didn't turn around. He kept his eyes fixed on Lin Xun and smiled faintly. “I will stay right here as an obstacle between you and her. Let us see who is stronger between us in action, my young friend.”

Lin Xun said without thinking, “As you wish.”

Chen Xi pointed at Black Crow and said to Chen Linkong, “You go play with her.”

Chen Linkong nodded.

Frost surfaced on Black Crow's stunning features. There was no wind, but her black robe fluttered, revealing a pair of snow-white legs.

Ape Ancestor turned to look at Chen Xi with his sword in his arms. Killing intent soared in his emotionless eyes.

“Dao Brother, let's just watch so that we won't distract our young friend,” the golden cicada gently said.

Bodhi checked the situation and agreed, “Let’s do that.”

Clang!

There was a metallic chant. Ape Ancestor was the first to move. His figure turned into an infinite patch of darkness as he strode forth with his sword in hand. Chaos qi formed a Tai Chi circle around him and pulled in a divine sword intent.

His entirety seemed to have become a great dao epoch. The Tai Chi derived from chaos spun the power of the dark void into sword intent, elevating him into a supreme lord who stood above eternity.

Seeing this, Chen Xi shook his head. “Why do you have to be in such a hurry to die?”

Ape Ancestor did not respond. He merely stabbed out with his sword.

Boom!

In that instant, the power of chaos, time, and darkness all coalesced in this strike. It had long surpassed the worldly sense of dao and law, reaching a level that the Eternal path could never hope to compare!

Without a shadow of a doubt, this sword strike had broken free from the Eternal dao into something higher—it contained the mysterious power of the dao of life.

Chen Xi's handsome figure stretched out, and a long, abstruse rune river appeared, which then interpreted into all things and daos under the heavens and the thousand epochs. Even reincarnation existed in the ebb and flow of the river!

Kaboom!

As Chen Xi deployed a punch, that piece of rune-derived heaven and earth suddenly dimmed as if falling into demise. The six paths of reincarnation seemed to appear into the world of the living, striving to exterminate all gods and buddhas.

The fist and the sword clashed like two supreme daos colliding. Horrifying phenomena sprung out of nowhere: the sky crumbled, the earth split, and the epochs collapsed into void. The entire Realm of All Mysteries quaked.

Looking at Chen Xi and Ape Ancestor, one would see two supreme overlords who treaded on eternity as they launched a fierce and unprecedented battle!

It was as thrilling as the fight between Chen Xi and the Taishang Lord in the far past, but their strength was no longer the same as it was back then.

Chapter 3232 Fight When I Want, Why Wait?

When one's dao had transcended eternity, the means and power they used in battle ceased to be arts and abilities in the ordinary sense. What would be put into competition was the height of their very path, demonstrated in their mastery of its profound principles. At this level, their state of mind, will, and wisdom had long been fused into every smallest move.

What people witnessed, however, was quite different. They saw two supreme daos hitting and colliding bitterly in the chaos, raising violent currents and producing a destructive aura that could make the world's cultivators despair.

Even in the eyes of peak Immeasurable Eternals like Chen Linkong and Black Crow, such a dao battle was considered of the highest level, hiding a great terror within!

When they processed it with their spirit senses, they were inevitably impacted and influenced. Of course, they wouldn't be stupid enough to dive deeper as that would only deal a severe blow to their own dao!

RUMBLEEE!

The battle between Chen Xi and Ape Ancestor grew increasingly intense by the second, attacking as they dragged each other to the depths of the chaos-filled sky. Wherever they went, lightning and thunder roared, visions of calamities sprung up and spread without restraint, and the ten thousand paths disintegrated.

“This one will not be decided in a short time,” whispered Alpha Origin as he squinted.

“Ape Ancestor will surely die,” Lin Xun casually said.

Alpha Origin judged that the fight wouldn't end anytime soon, while Lin Xun said with conviction that Ape Ancestor would die. This reflected the difference in their state of mind.

Alpha Origin couldn't help but sneer. “What makes you say so? Nothing is absolute in this world, no?”

“Although Ape Ancestor's path has changed, he still only cares about victory or defeat and life or death,” said Lin Xun. “He once lost to Senior Chen Xi and got imprisoned in the cycle of reincarnation, so what he desires now is a victory to avenge that past. Meanwhile, Senior Chen Xi considers this duel a dao competition to see who has risen higher and traveled farther.”

After a pause, he concluded, “Ape Ancestor is obsessed with victory and bound by his need to stay alive. Senior Chen Xi, on the other hand, is obsessed with the dao and cares about respective attainments. Compared to him, Ape Ancestor still lacks some depth in mindset. Perhaps the suffering in the cycle of reincarnation for eons has become a knot in his heart.”

Alpha Origin's eyes flickered. He shook his head. “Only those who stick to their obsession will become a fine tool. I beg to differ with your opinion.”

Lin Xun casually said, “That’s normal. To each their own, after all. This is the reason why we have dao battles; only in action can we see who's better.”

“Indeed. All conflicts are ultimately settled with the fists. The crudest common sense in the world is the most correct one. Not convinced? Then you'll be beaten until you are, hahaha.” Alpha Origin laughed out loud.

“Black Crow, let's fight!”

Suddenly, Chen Linkong’s electric eyes locked on Black Crow across the distance. His qi tumbled like a boundless river, climbing up level by level as if it wanted to flood the heavens.

Seeing this, Alpha Origin smiled. “Go, Little Crow. If possible, teach this brat a good lesson in my stead, which he deserves for being a much more arrogant nuisance than his grandfather.”

“A lesson is boring. I will slaughter him.” Killing intent flashed through Black Crow's expression. She leapt into the air, her black robe fluttering as billions of chaos law power flames appeared around her delicate figures.

BOOM! She closed her hand, and a black eternal sun glided across the sky.

Chen Linkong raised his right hand and gripped, pulling a sword out of thin air. In the resounding clangs of this sword that was condensed from his dao, he stabbed it out at the black sun just as it arrived. The latter burst to pieces.

Meanwhile, Black Crow's arms flapped as she flew toward him. The two fiercely engaged. As peak Immeasurable experts, their cultivation bases stood at the pinnacle of the Immeasurable Realm. The battle being staged by them at this moment could be called the pinnacle of battles on the Eternal path.

“What do you think about their skills?” Alpha Origin only gave this battle a glance before his gaze turned back to Lin Xun.

“The result of their duel is no longer under their control. It depends on the outcomes of the duel between Senior Chen Xi and Ape Ancestor and the one between us,” Lin Xun offhandedly said.

Alpha Origin approved, “That’s certainly the case. I won't allow anything bad to happen to Black Crow, while Chen Xi and you won't allow anything to happen to Chen Linkong.”

His eyes then swept at Bodhi and the golden cicada, smiling. “As for them, they're better off as bystanders like this. They will only weigh you down in action and give me the opportunity to hurt you.”

Bodhi frowned slightly, but stayed silent. The golden cicada, on the other hand, looked ever graceful and composed.

Right at this moment, Lin Xun gazed into the heavy chaos in the distance and uttered, “Let us begin.”

The three words were said lightly, but they rang like thunder. At that instant, the whole Realm of All Mysteries tremored. From Lin Xun, an invisible aura and divinity surged forth. Other than that, there were no energy fluctuations, no heaven-shaking might, and not a trace of dao light leaking out. He was, like primal chaos, a complete void!

“Can't wait?” Alpha Origin smiled.

“The dao follows what is natural. I fight when I want to. What's the point of waiting?” Lin Xun jeered and strode forward. In a single step, he appeared right before Alpha Origin and punched.

Body like the dao and fist like primal chaos, it was simple to the point of becoming utterly ordinary and natural. Like the flow of worldly events, his movement was spontaneous and effortless, having not a trace of any thoughts put into it.

Yet, that kind of unadorned charm caused Alpha Origin’s pupils to slightly constrict, and then they lit up. He raised a thought, moving forward and directly closing the already small distance between them, and also punched out with his fist.

KABANG!

When their qi fists collided, a dao ripple spread outward from the two men. A hundred feet, a thousand feet, ten thousand feet...it eventually shook the entire Realm of All Mysteries. The countless secret domains dotting the void emitted a series of crackles and swayed like faltering stars.

Incredibly, that ripple of destruction didn't affect anyone else in this heaven and earth, much less disturb their mind. In people's eyes, their fists had seemed to clash in another dimension, viewable but their profound powers could not be sensed.

As shocking as this feat was, both Lin Xun and Alpha Origin did not seem surprised. Right after the first exchange, they attacked again.

Boom! Lin Xun's strike was another clean, efficient punch, but this time, the Fortune Dominion seemed to invisibly accompany it. A hanging river of time emerged, and the rushing water interpreted the wonders in the birth and destruction of epochs.

Alpha Origin let out a long, roaring laugh. His finger drew a stroke in the air, deploying a sharp tip of calamity power. It pierced through the churning river and headed for the spot between Lin Xun’s brows with an unrelenting force.

Lin Xun waved his hand. The calamity tip exploded midway. Alpha Origin immediately followed by putting his hands together. The space all around him suddenly collapsed as, shockingly, a Fortune Dominion coalesced into form and a long river of time rushed out of nowhere!

Immediately after that, with every step he took, the Kunlun Dominion and the Return Dominion manifested. Together with the Fortune Dominion, they evolved into his supreme dao and loudly came at Lin Xun with a crushing force.

Such a scene was simply terrifying!

The origin of this Chaos Era was made of the four great dao dominions, thus the derivation of the four origin law powers of Life, Fate, Fortune, and Five Principle Laws of the Return Dominion. Alpha Origin had undoubtedly mastered three of them.

Lin Xun wasn't surprised by this. Virtually everyone who was able to step beyond the end of the Eternal path had grasped these origin laws. It was only that, since everyone's path was different, what they understood and controlled from these origin laws differed.

Boom!

The visions of the Kunlun Dominion, the Return Dominion, and the Fortune Dominion also appeared around Lin Xun. As he attacked, they morphed accordingly in marvelous ways. The two fighters clashed

heatedly as if they were competing for the control of the entire Chaos Era. The origin laws they utilized were the same, but their paths were utterly different.

When Alpha Origin attacked, every move demonstrated a powerful aura of extreme destruction, decay, depletion, withering, degradation, perishment... All were related to destruction and death. Subsequently, the origin laws of the three great dao dominions, through his interpretation, displayed an oppressive momentum of demise!

Lin Xun's power, in contrast, followed a dao of unending growth and metamorphosis. It was infinite, construing arcane mysteries in destruction and rebirth and circulating the secret of life in the process of wither and thrive. As a result, the three great dao dominions that he projected were in a constant state of transforming, always alive...

This was the difference between dao paths. When both began to touch and explore the essence of the dao, attempting to peer into the mysteries of the dao of life, what they got in return was in fact the same, most fundamental wonders of this Chaos Era. It was the difference in their mindsets and paths that had led to the emergence of these two different dao powers.

KABOOM!

The battle became increasingly intense, to the point that the figures of Lin Xun and Alpha Origin were almost illusory. From afar, it looked like two supreme dao paths were competing with all their might. Such power could destroy a whole epochal civilization upon the slightest contact!

Bodhi and the golden cicada had retreated far away.

Right now in the Realm of All Mysteries, Chen Xi and Ape Ancestor were fighting, Lin Xun and Alpha Origin were fighting, and Chen Linkong and Black Crow were fighting. Each of these three battles was more than enough to rattle hearts with the sheer intensity of it.

If placed anywhere else, they would have triggered an unfathomable calamity that affected all worlds and killed billions and billions of living beings!

Even here in the Realm of All Mysteries, the destructive power generated by their competitions remained bone-chilling. At the very least, Bodhi knew that he might only be a match for Black Crow. He would be as good as doomed against characters like Ape Ancestor and Alpha Origin.

“Ultimately, only a comparison in our respective mastery of the dao of life can decide the winner between us. So, take a good look at this, Young Friend.” Alpha Origin's voice suddenly echoed between heaven and earth. Smiling faintly, he made a grabbing motion with his hand.

Boom!

A rain of chaos law power cascaded from the sky, converging into a massive hand. When it came blanketing down, a bizarre and terrifying scene occurred. A large portion of Lin Xun's qi and energy was ruthlessly swiped away!

Chapter 3233 The Golden Cicada Moves, Changing the Entire Situation

All of a sudden, the aura around Lin Xun dropped sharply, which was simply appalling and hard to accept. Meanwhile, taking advantage of this stunned moment, Alpha Origin strode forward and repeated his previous move, stripping away another chunk of essence energies from him!

When one's very essence energies of vitality, qi, and spirit were weakened, it would affect the performance of their dao as a whole, not to mention when it was done twice consecutively. Lin Xun staggered, his aura thrashing around.

Seeing that, Bodhi's heart leapt to his throat.

“Dao Brother, don't panic. Lin Xun definitely has a way to defuse this,” the golden cicada softly transmitted. He watched the battle without blinking, his expression peaceful and unperturbed.

In the field, as Alpha Origin was going for it again, something suddenly exploded! A rain of obscure light erupted on Lin Xun, and his lost energy recovered in an instant!

Alpha Origin sighed. “The power of Nirvana truly is something else.”

“Depriving living beings of their essence... Is this the dao of life that you have grasped?” Lin Xun asked.

“Yes. This dao involves the origin of Life. After all, every life needs vitality, qi, and spirit to refine their blood, temper their flesh, nourish their soul, and thus become capable of mobilizing their strength from inside out. Vitality, qi, and spirit are the three essentials of the origin of Life. Once I fathom its mysteries, I can wield this power to decide others’ life and death with my mind,” Alpha Origin frankly said.

The conversation didn't affect the flow of their attacks. Their exchanges remained heated. However, from this moment on, what they were competing in was their respective understanding and control of the Dao of Life.

Alpha Origin would easily chop off a part of Lin Xun's essence with every strike in a bizarre way that made it hard to evade. However, the latter's Nirvana principle would repair the damage instantly.

The particularly magical part was, as his essence again and again was shaved off and then revitalized after enduring Nirvana, it seemed to undergo a series of subtle metamorphoses, becoming stronger each time!

Alpha Origin keenly noticed this and couldn't help smiling bitterly. “At this rate, I would be helping you instead. The word ‘calamity’ is really so damn irritating.”

Having also comprehended the origin of Calamity, he knew what he was doing to Lin Xun acted as repeated tribulations. With the Nirvana principle, the other party was undoubtedly being tempered and achieving growth after overcoming the ‘tribulations’ over and over again.

Of course, this was by no means an inevitable cycle. If he successfully made Lin Xun die to a tribulation, then it would be moot. Apparently, though, he was not at a level where he could do that in a single blow.

Suddenly, Alpha Origin chortled. “However, dueling with you has allowed me to realize some of Nirvana’s arcana, so it's not entirely a loss.”

“You and I are both going through a great tribulation here. This means we will both get stronger, but only the one who wins and lives will get to enjoy the benefits,” Lin Xun indifferently said.

“Then let's see which one of us will live.” Alpha Origin laughed.

Kaboom! Their battle became even more intense.

In fact, the battle between Chen Xi and Ape Ancestor had also reached an incredibly intense and ferocious point. They had sustained injuries, but Chen Xi looked a bit more relaxed in general.

However, Ape Ancestor was not going down anytime soon, at which Chen Xi couldn't help but sigh with emotion. This Taishang Lord has made such a huge progress while I wasn't looking. Compared to back then, he is like a different person.

The fight between Chen Linkong and Black Crow had also reached the highest intensity. Both of them were peak Immeasurable Eternals, and since their cultivation bases were at the same level, what they were competing in was also their dao control and proficiency.

“Can't keep dragging it on like this...” In the middle of battle, Lin Xun glanced at the heavy chaos in the distance. He then turned back to Alpha Origin and declared, “Fellow Daoist, in terms of comprehension level of the Dao of Life, you're far behind me.”

Alpha Origin narrowed his eyes.

Rumble!

Lin Xun's aura abruptly changed as a completely different might and divinity emerged from him. The Realm of All Spirits was projected around him with perfect visual quality, branching into nine sky zones of Mortal Transformation, Calamitous, Dark, Past Retracing, Source of Evil, Thousand Tribulations, Dao Defining, Dao Derivation, and Xuanhuang.

In each sky zone, a kind of mysterious primal chaos origin law came into existence. They all mingled together, rotating in the Realm of All Spirits. Following that, the Realm of All Mysteries was also reflected in Lin Xun's dao. Dotted by countless secret domains, it resembled a universe of sparkling sand.

Gradually, a mass primal chaos origin emerged, looking like a thick curtain of light concealing a strange assortment. One could vaguely spot the mysteries of spirit empowerment, reincarnation, and many other incredible concepts in it. This mass of chaos even revealed a mysterious ancient tree!

It was the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders! Together with the Realm of All Spirits and the Realm of All Mysteries, it was sketching a near-complete All-Wonder Dominion in Lin Xun's dao.

Suddenly, his aura had charged accordingly, giving the impression that he was now the lord of the Realm of All Mysteries. His every movement and breath resonated with this heaven and earth, forming a kind of rhythm centering around him.

At this moment, all Immeasurable Eternals distributed in the nine sky zones of the Realm of All Mysteries shuddered, sensing the emergence of a supreme will. They looked at one another, their complexions pale and their minds suffering a huge impact.

To precisely explain this phenomenon, the entire All-Wonder Dominion's origin aura was being pulled and influenced by Lin Xun's dao!

It caused both Chen Xi and Ape Ancestor to be shocked even though they were still in the middle of battle. They revealed different expressions. Chen Xi laughed in delight and what seemed to be an epiphany, whereas Ape Ancestor's face took on a hint of gloom.

As for Chen Linkong and Black Crow, they both took a mental hit that disturbed their minds, which fortunately prevented either of them from taking the advantage to heavily wound the other.

Meanwhile, Bodhi’s and the golden cicada’s expressions changed slightly. The former was relieved, while the latter seemed to fall into thought.

Even Alpha Origin looked visibly impressed. “This is what you have gained from ten years of comprehending?”

“That it is,” Lin Xun said, deploying a punch. This punch was undecorated, yet it gave Alpha Origin an unprecedented sense of threat. The power in it directly threatened his life!

BAM!

Alpha Origin staggered back upon being hit, rattled to the point his life origin was in turbulence. His everything from vitality, qi, and spirit to blood and soul was as if subjected to a heavenly punishment. This was a killing attack aimed at life, so powerful that no usual means could stop it!

Despite that, Alpha Origin laughed out loud. “Not bad, not bad at all. All these countless years I've waited are not in vain. What I have waited for is exactly this Dao of Life!”

As he spoke, he suddenly extended his arms in a certain direction and grabbed through the air. The power of this move spanned across spacetime, drilling through the heavy chaos. Also right at this moment, Xia Zhi's beautiful silhouette was seen struggling to exit the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders.

Before she could secure a foothold, Alpha Origin's palm force had arrived. Lin Xun had been prepared since the moment he had openly announced that Xia Zhi would be returning, so naturally, he was not surprised that Alpha Origin would strike at this juncture.

“Go!”

Lin Xun raised a thought, and an abstruse light curtain of chaos appeared out of thin air right before Xia Zhi, blocking the palm force.

KABOOM!

An earth-shattering collision resounded, throwing that distant void into disarray. In the meantime, Lin Xun had already shot toward Xia Zhi. Compared with killing Alpha Origin, he was more concerned about her safety.

Unfortunately, how could Alpha Origin allow that? He swept over and blocked Lin Xun.

“You can't stop me.” Lin Xun said, about going to start blasting at full might.

Right at this moment, a gentle voice rang out, “Young Friend Lin, please stop. Otherwise, your master's life might be at risk.”

Lin Xun was shaken. The composed look he had maintained this entire battle completely cracked.

In his spirit sense, he saw the golden cicada pressing one hand on Bodhi's shoulder with a calm expression. In contrast, Bodhi's face was filled with shock, anger, and above all disbelief. Clearly, he had never even dreamed that the golden cicada would make a move against him!

This sudden turn of events caught Lin Xun utterly off guard as well. His state of mind slipped into a brief moment of disorder. Seizing it, Alpha Origin made a palm chop.

Boom!

Lin Xun's entire essence was stripped away this time. As if losing all vitality, his shell dried and ruptured into countless cracks.

“Lin Xun!”

Bodhi was shocked and furious. He tried to break free, but the golden cicada’s palm on his shoulder was terrifyingly firm as it confined his entire peak Immeasurable cultivation base. Not to mention breaking free, he couldn't even lift a finger.

Chen Xi’s pupils constricted, but he didn't panic. Taking a deep breath, he charged up and forcefully pushed Ape Ancestor away, then teleported toward Alpha Origin.

“Fellow Daoist, this is their dao battle. Please do not intervene.” The golden cicada suddenly appeared on Chen Xi’s path. His expression was still tranquil, and Bodhi was still restrained under his palm.

Swish!

Chen Xi chopped out, using his palm as a sword. The golden cicada's sleeve puffed up, and a divine flash of light soundlessly dissolved the sword qi.

Chen Xi's pupils shrank. At this moment, Ape Ancestor caught up. Chen Xi was thus trapped between two enemies.

Boom!

Ape Ancestor attacked, forcing Chen Xi to deal with him. His face darkened as he asked, “Golden Cicada, who on earth are you?”

Even he had never expected that the golden cicada would suddenly ‘defect.’ Moreover, the timing was simply a stroke of genius, precisely at the moment when Lin Xun was trying to receive Xia Zhi.

Bodhi's life being threatened had caught him by surprise for a split second, giving Alpha Origin the opportunity to deal a fatal blow!

Such a change had led the whole situation astray. Not only was Lin Xun in peril, but both Bodhi and Xia Zhi had also fallen into a worrying circumstance. In a domino effect, things had started to look unfavorable for Chen Xi and Chen Linkong!

One hair got pulled and the whole body jerked. The golden cicada had become the biggest variable in this game!

Chapter 3234 Find Life in the Face of Death, Be Reborn Through Nirvana

Even before the curtains of this grand battle had been drawn, the golden cicada had always stayed utterly calm. He had been like an outsider, observing these historically unprecedented duels with indifference.

When he finally moved, he created a storm. In an instant, he had used the threat to Bodhi's safety to disturb Lin Xun's state of mind, triggering a series of shocking changes in one fell swoop.

Changes meant an opportunity. Alpha Origin had taken advantage of it and dealt Lin Xun a fatal blow! It had all happened too quickly. By the time Chen Xi, Chen Linkong, and Bodhi realized it, the entire situation had changed.

“So Master's secret card is the golden cicada...” Black Crow finally reacted, astonished by both this revelation and the power displayed by the golden cicada.

Previously, everyone had only viewed him as a peak Immeasurable Eternal. As such, who would have expected him to easily reverse the situation once he acted?

Without a doubt, he had long since moved from that realm and become an existence that could rival Alpha Origin, Chen Xi, Ape Ancestor, and Lin Xun! As such, he had been able to restrain Bodhi so casually.

“Golden Cicada, I've always considered you a friend. To think that you would be this shameless and guileful!!!” Chen Linkong’s fury was boundless as this touched his nerves.

The golden cicada’s bearing remained serene. “This is a war game, a dao competition. All is fair. Chen Linkong, don't let anger affect your state of mind, or else Black Crow will crush you to dust.”

After a pause, he continued, “Also, I am not a traitor; our stances have merely differed from the very beginning. In the past, we could be friends, but in an ultimate dao battle like this, we must decide whose dao gets to live on.”

With that, he sighed softly. “Such is the competition of daos.”

He then gazed into the distance where Alpha Origin and Lin Xun were. In fact, everyone present had most of their attention on that place.

.....

It took longer to describe than how it had happened in reality. After the distracted moment leading to him to suffer a deadly blow from Alpha Origin, Lin Xun had been stripped of his essence. As a result, his

body cracked and lost all vitality. Even his primordial spirit became debilitated. Vitality, qi, and spirit were the three essentials of life. The primordial spirit belonged in the last category.

Shockingly, however, in Lin Xun's dying body and soul, there was a surge of vitality that was transforming. It was the power of the Nirvana principle and also the core origin of his dao. Now, after he had suffered such a fatal blow, the Nirvana principle had started to carry out a wonderful transformation of ‘finding rebirth in death’ at the critical moment.

However, his injuries were too serious. He was like a candle in the wind that could be extinguished anytime. Alpha Origin would not give him a chance to achieve nirvana. He immediately struck again.

Right at this moment, a figure swept in with her white bone spear and thrust it forward. She was incredibly fast, as if burning her own life force, which made this attack look exceptionally powerful. This person was naturally Xia Zhi. Her stunning face was still without a ripple, but the flames of hatred were consuming those eyes.

She did not fear death. She was scared of nothing, unless it concerned Lin Xun as she only cared about him. Long ago, she had declared to accompany him through everything, including life and death!

Seeing Xia Zhi fearlessly coming at Alpha Origin, it was actually the golden cicada who sighed. “Girl, why must you choose the hard path?”

His voice echoed as he grabbed through the air, and Xia Zhi suddenly lurched. The next second, she uncontrollably flew toward the golden cicada where she was firmly confined.

“Don't worry. Your life came from the All-Wonder Tree of Life, and you could say I watched you grow up in your previous life, so I won't kill you,” the golden cicada gently said.

Xia Zhi stared fixedly at the distant Lin Xun. Her eyes suddenly dimmed, revealing a crestfallen color. There was no greater sorrow than the death of the heart. If Lin Xun died, she would not live on alone!

Having avoided all disturbances, Alpha Origin’s palm force blanketed his target. He had waited eons for this ‘dao fruit’ cultivated by Lin Xun! This instant, it was like the descent of the darkest moment. Time seemed to come to a stand still.

Chen Xi's heart sank. He had always regarded Lin Xun as the unprecedented variable, and that any bumps that might arise would come from Alpha Origin. The only thing he had never thought of was the golden cicada turning into a variable that would overturn the whole affair!

Chen Linkong's eyes were wide with rage. He loathed the golden cicada's betrayal, and he could not accept that someone he regarded as a comrade on the path was actually an enemy whose dao could not exist alongside theirs.

Bodhi's expression was that of utter grief and anguish. He had planned ages ahead and waited until this day, only to see this catastrophe befall Lin Xun because of him. The guilt he felt inside could not be described.

He had gotten an ominous inkling before this and deduced that it was a scheme targeting him. Therefore, he had been prepared to lose his life. Who could have even dreamed that it would come from the golden cicada, whom he had appreciated as his soul mate on the path of cultivation?!

Boom! The power of the Alpha Origin shrouded Lin Xun from head to toe, attempting to refine and extract all of his dao karma.

Right at this juncture, a sword chant resounded from Lin Xun. Swish!

A qi sword shot out, cleaving apart Alpha Origin's power. As he was caught off guard, this unparalleled sword executed an excited stroke and sent him flying. In the process, it almost cut him in half!

At the sudden turn of events, Alpha Origin's expression twisted, and in his dao heart, an unspeakable rage surfaced! He was about to settle this long game once and for all. He was so close to obtaining the Nirvana dao merit from Lin Xun...only to be foiled by this sword!

The rest were startled as well. The golden cicada frowned, his sleeves fluttering as his tranquil expression clouded over for the first time. Meanwhile, Chen Xi seemed to understand something and relaxed.

Chen Linkong, Bodhi, and Black Crow looked shocked, never expecting a qi sword to come out of nowhere and repel Alpha Origin! Who was behind it?

The next second, they saw two sword whetstones, one black and one white, sweeping out from Lin Xun. Amidst their brilliant shine, the faint illusion of a figure appeared, treading on an ocean of billions of qi swords.

Seeing this, Alpha Origin let out a deep sigh. “Dao Brother, you trapped me for countless years, and now you wish to thwart my grand plan?”

How could he not recognize this figure? It was the very swordsman whom he regarded as his lifelong enemy but also could not help admiring!

A distance away, the golden cicada actually became relaxed. “It’s but an origin mark left in the sword whetstones, it won't survive one attack.”

Alpha Origin's eyes narrowed as he ridiculed himself, “So that's what, huh? Startling me with a mere origin force, my dao brother really knew how to utilize his tricks.”

As he spoke, he stormed up using teleportation.

Rumble!

Terrifying dao power dropped from the sky, followed closely by incessant sword chants. Then, the pair of sword whetstones, proving to be as powerless as the golden cicada had said, was defeated and fell into Alpha Origin’s hand.

The hearts of Chen Linkong, Bodhi, and the others sank again.

“Perfect. I'll keep this pair of treasures as a memento.” Alpha Origin put away the sword whetstones with a loud laugh.

Kabam!

Right this moment, Ape Ancestor trembled as Chen Xi’s dao power blasted him flying. His blood splashed everywhere.

The eyes of Alpha Origin, the golden cicada, and Black Crow froze in unison in shock. Chen Xi’s aura was simply terrifying right now. He was clearly furious and intent on going all out to kill.

“I expected better from this game, but you've disappointed me!” uttered Chen Xi, his voice icy and indifferent. Ignoring the heavily injured Ape Ancestor, he directly teleported towards Alpha Origin.

Boom!

Heaven and earth quaked. Chen Xi's might was too dominant. He had not even arrived, but his killing intent had already locked on Alpha Origin. The latter immediately revealed a grave look. However, the golden cicada appeared before Chen Xi while he was halfway there with a palm strike.

Bang!!

An earth-shattering clash resounded. The golden cicada staggered back several steps, but he was still blocking Chen Xi.

“Fellow Daoist, you must not intervene in their fight,” the golden cicada softly said.

“F*ck off!” Chen Xi chopped out his palm like it was a sword, not bothering to waste his breath on nonsense.

“Then...you leave me no choice.” The golden cicada sighed. A plumb and glossy chaos leaf materialized in front of him, which swiftly transformed into a divine chain and lashed out. An obscure aura belonging to the Dao of Life permeated this chain.

Meanwhile, Ape Ancestor had also closed in on Chen Xi despite his heavy injuries. He was as emotionless as ever, except the burning hatred in his eyes and a driving rage that made him throw away all regards for his life.

Obviously, being beaten so badly by Chen Xi earlier had been a great blow to his mentality. He seemed to even forget how many wounds he was carrying.

RUMBLE!

The battle erupted. This time, it was much more perilous for Chen Xi. One opponent was the golden cicada who was a level above Ape Ancestor, and the other was an almost irrational Ape Ancestor. No matter how much Chen Xi desperately wanted to come to Lin Xun's aid, it was impossible to accomplish quickly enough.

In the distance, Bodhi and Xia Zhi were both confined. Unable to move, they could only watch powerlessly. Taking advantage of this opportunity, Alpha Origin once again enveloped Lin Xun with his power.

Boom!

He started refining with all his might. In a situation like this, time was undoubtedly of the essence. Although there had been many twists and turns, as long as he obtained Lin Xun's Nirvana merits, this game would be as good as settled.

However, Lin Xun's physical shell and primordial spirit suddenly exploded completely into pieces. This caught Alpha Origin off guard. Of all the scenarios he had predicted, none of them had considered the possibility of Lin Xun choosing to self-destruct!

Rumble!

Although Lin Xun's vitality, qi, and spirit had been severed from him, his dao merits remained, so when he blew himself up, a horrifying torrent of destruction was released. Bearing the brunt of it, Alpha Origin was sent flying while coughing up blood in a disheveled state.

As for the others, they were also rattled to their core without exception.

How could this be...?

Bodhi's hands and feet went cold, his state of mind began to shake as it was unable to withstand this kind of blow. From Xia Zhi's clear eyes, two lines of tears streamed down. The world in front of her lost its luster and turned gray. Her heart was now a pile of ashes. Chen Linkong's eyes went wide. He faced the sky and let out a mournful roar at the sky.

However, Chen Xi's tightly locked brows suddenly relaxed. As if understanding something, he looked like a weight had been taken off his back. Alpha Origin seemed to realize the same thing as his pupils suddenly shrunk.

Almost at the same time, the golden cicada's expression changed drastically in a rare loss of composure. “Find life in the face of death, be reborn through nirvana... He's attempting to terminate his entire dao merits and then, with the power of Nirvana as a catalyst, use the Dao of Life to rebuild a new life for himself!”

Chapter 3235 Bowing in Defeat

Find life in the face of death, be reborn through nirvana!

The golden cicada’s and Alpha Origin’s momentary loss of composure sent a chill through Black Crow and Ape Ancestor. Bodhi, Chen Lingkong, and Xia Zhi, who were already filled with grief, suddenly sensed that something was amiss.

Could it be...Boom!

From the place where Lin Xun had self-destructed, a terrifying destructive force spread outward, shaking the entire Realm of All Mysteries.

At the same time, deep within the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders, endless primal chaos origin power surged forth, as if drawn by an unseen force. Countless streams gathered into torrents, torrents converged into a vast ocean, and then it burst forth from the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders like an overwhelming flood.

It tore through layer upon layer of primal chaos within the Realm of All Mysteries, surging violently toward the place where Lin Xun had fallen. It was as if a heavenly river had burst its banks, threatening to engulf the entire world!

“Even the primal chaos origin of the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders has been drawn here...”

This sight shook everyone to the core. The Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders had always been a place of mystery and peril. Since ancient times, even beings like Chen Xi, Alpha Origin, and that swordsman could only perceive its aura within the Realm of All Mysteries and never dared to cross its threshold.

Now, its very origin power was pouring outward like a celestial flood. Who could remain unmoved?

Find life in the face of death, be reborn through nirvana.

The golden cicada’s words surfaced once more in everyone’s mind

“Open!”

In that instant, Alpha Origin surged forward. From his tall, imposing figure erupted a boundless great dao aura, evolving into the Kunlun Dominion, Return Dominion, Fortune Dominion...

In the end, even the illusory form of the All Wonder Dominion manifested.

Standing alone, he wielded his own dao to manifest the four dao dominions, forming a celestial barrier that stretched across the heavens to block the overwhelming tide of origin power from the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders.

Boom!

A collision beyond words erupted. The celestial barrier formed by Alpha Origin was struck with tremendous force, unleashing endless torrents of radiant dao light. It was as though a single man stood against the flood of a collapsing heavenly river. It was an awe-inspiring spectacle.

Even as Chen Xi, the golden cicada, and Ape Ancestor remained locked in fierce battle, each diverted a sliver of attention to observe the unfolding scene. At that moment, all of them were deeply shaken.

Everyone could see the unwillingness in Alpha Origin. He had been on the verge of seizing Lin Xun's Nirvana Dao attainment, but Lin Xun's self-destruction not only shattered his plan, but also brought about a transformation: rebirth through Nirvana.

How could Alpha Origin accept such an outcome? Or rather, he simply could not allow Lin Xun to complete such an unprecedented transformation at this very moment. Otherwise, this game would very likely end in defeat.

Rumble—

Meanwhile, the origin power pouring forth from the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders grew ever more vast and overwhelming, and the impact on Alpha Origin grew increasingly fierce. Within that surging torrent were imprinted the profound mysteries of the Dao of Life, reincarnation, Spirit Empowerment, innate spiritual nature, essence, energy, qi. Each one was a fundamental 'dao' of this primal chaos epoch.

Under such a barrage, it was as if Alpha Origin stood alone against the entirety of the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders itself. One could easily imagine how perilous such a confrontation was.

Pu!

Within moments, blood seeped from the corner of Alpha Origin's lips, but his eyes still blazed with a wild, resolute light, "I did not wait through countless ages for this..."

His voice was low and heavy, as though something within him had begun to burn. "I only seek a higher path. If I cannot attain it...then I would rather die!"

A savage, unrestrained aura erupted from him. His cultivation flared to its absolute limit. He unleashed everything without reservation. After endless ages of lying low, after painstakingly deducing the great

dao, he had finally awaited this unprecedented turning point. Even if death awaited him, he would fight for it with everything he had!

Boom!

The entire Realm of All Mysteries shook violently, as though heaven and earth were collapsing. Alpha Origin stood like an immeasurable celestial barrier, fighting with everything, refusing to yield even a single step, blocking the overwhelming origin power of the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders from approaching the place where Lin Xun lay.

That utter fearlessness of death...that absolute resolve...even Chen Xi, Bodhi, and Chen Linkong were shaken. Enemy or not, who in this world could deny Alpha Origin's might?

Before long, Alpha Origin coughed up blood again and again. His face turned deathly pale, his hair fell into disarray, and cracks split across his once imposing body, blood seeping from them. It was a shocking sight.

Despite that, he did not retreat. Until his goal was achieved, he would not turn back. Even if his injuries deepened, even if death loomed before him, he would not retreat!

"Master!" Black Crow's cry rang out, sharp with grief. Tears streamed down her delicate face, and her scarlet eyes filled with anguish and panic.

She had been locked in fierce combat with Chen Linkong, but her heart was in chaos. In that instant of distraction, a strand of sword qi struck her directly, tearing across her body. Blood blossomed across her robes. Wracked with pain, her eyes widened as if they would split, and she cried out in madness, "So what if I die? What is there to fear!"

She was about to stake her life.

Chen Linkong suddenly withdrew his hand, his voice cold. "I am not like the golden cicada, that despicable and shameless wretch. I would never stoop to taking advantage of someone in distress!"

Black Crow froze. Her jade-like face shifted uncertainly, and then, as though stunned out of her senses, she turned with difficulty, her gaze falling once more on that distant proud and unyielding figure. Her heart twisted with unbearable pain, as though it was being torn apart. She seemed to be on the verge of collapse, tears streaming down her face like rain.

In this world, the only person who had ever treated her well was Alpha Origin. It had always been this way, and it had never changed. Even her current cultivation at the pinnacle of the Immeasurable Stage had been painstakingly forged by Alpha Origin. At this moment, watching him fight as though marching unflinchingly toward death...how could her heart not ache?

Seeing her in such anguish, Chen Linkong could not help but sigh softly. The golden cicada might be despicable and shameless, but even he did not kill Bodhi and Xia Zhi.

As for Chen Linkong, he would never stoop to taking advantage of another's weakness to claim their life. If one resorted to such means, what meaning would remain in striving for supremacy upon the great dao?!

Chen Linkong had his own pride and principles he would never abandon.

Bang!

Suddenly, Alpha Origin's body shattered and exploded, blood raining down, leaving behind only his primordial spirit. However, he seemed utterly unaware of his dire straits and was still standing firm, barring the way.

In his eyes, it was neither a fearless embrace of death nor a calm acceptance of it. He was simply unwilling to yield. He would stake his life to prove his dao and would have no regrets even in death!

However, at that very moment, a calm voice rang out. "You've lost."

These words sent a jolt through Alpha Origin's primordial spirit. Everyone present trembled inwardly.

Then, from the place where Lin Xun had self-destructed, a phantom-like figure stepped forth. With a casual flick of his sleeve, Alpha Origin's primordial spirit was sent flying backward, completely out of control.

"No!" He roared and lunged forward like a madman, but his primordial spirit was already firmly bound in place.

As for that phantom-like figure, it was as though it had become the convergence of all streams. The vast origin power surging from the Forbidden Land of Myriad Wonders poured endlessly into it. Then, its illusory form gradually solidified, undergoing constant transformation, while the aura it emitted grew increasingly obscure and profound.

In the end, his entire being seemed to merge with primal chaos itself, condensing into the Kunlun Dominion, the Fortune Dominion, the Return Dominion and the All-Wonder Dominion. Then, signs of an epochal transformation emerged, as endless great dao began to evolve and take form.

All of it unfolded before the eyes of those present. Each bore a different expression, each stirred by different emotions. The golden cicada, still locked in battle with Chen Xi, could not help but let out a long sigh. His expression was filled with desolation and his spirit utterly spent.

"Fellow Daoist, there is no need to continue." He turned to leave.

Boom! Chen Xi's palm force swept outward, but the golden cicada seemed utterly unaware. In the next instant, he was struck head-on and sent flying, blood spilling from his lips as his face turned deathly pale.

Chen Xi frowned, but in the end, he held back and did not take the opportunity to kill the golden cicada. Despite suffering such a blow, the golden cicada merely shook his head with a wry smile and did not retaliate. Instead, he walked slowly toward Bodhi and Xia Zhi. His gaze was filled with complex emotions as he let out a long sigh, "I lost."

Those two words carried an immeasurable weight of melancholy and bitterness. No one knew what he was thinking at that moment.

Bodhi said nothing, his eyes burning with hatred, anger, and an indescribable sorrow. He could not forgive the golden cicada's act of betrayal.

As for Xia Zhi, from beginning to end, she did not spare the golden cicada a single glance. Her gaze remained fixed in the distance, on that figure that was like primal chaos itself, where an unprecedented rhythm of life pulsed forth. Endless origin power flowed into his cultivation, driving a transformation beyond comprehension.

She paid no heed to any of it. All she knew was that Lin Xun was still alive! A tear slipped silently down her cheek, but a radiant smile bloomed across her beautiful face.

"Taishang, will you still refuse to admit defeat?" Chen Xi called out.

Ape Ancestor gave no reply. He simply attacked with all his might, his eyes cold and devoid of emotion. Having entered the dao through sentiment devoidness, how could he concern himself with the terror of life and death?

Boom!

Without hesitation, Chen Xi's sleeves billowed. The image of reincarnation surged forth once more, suppressing the once peerless Taishang Lord within its boundless cycle.

"Last time, I sealed you within reincarnation for eternity. This time...will be different."

As the cycle of reincarnation turned, a mysterious and unfathomable power emerged. Ape Ancestor's figure began to unravel, as if being dismantled, dissolving bit by bit into blurred phantoms until he vanished completely. Before his death, a fleeting trace of liberation flickered through his emotionless eyes.

Boom! Chen Xi withdrew the power of reincarnation and swept his gaze across the battlefield.

The golden cicada stood silent, his expression heavy with desolation. Bodhi and Xia Zhi both stared intently at Lin Xun in the distance, one with unrestrained joy, and the other smiling through tears.

Black Crow trembled faintly, her hands clenched tight, and her beautiful face filled with grief and sorrow. In the distance, Alpha Origin's imprisoned primordial spirit continued to struggle, resolute and unwilling to bow in defeat.

Chen Linkong stood in silence, a complicated expression crossing his face. He had never imagined that this battle of the great dao would give rise to so many unforeseen turns.

Then, Chen Xi's gaze fell upon Lin Xun as well. There was no doubt that Lin Xun's act of self-destruction, finding life in the face of death and being reborn through Nirvana, had become the greatest variable that overturned the entire situation.

To be reborn from the brink of death, to achieve an unimaginable transformation in the depths of despair. Because of this, even Alpha Origin's desperate struggle had already become futile. The golden cicada lowered his head, Black Crow was consumed by despair, and Ape Ancestor was left with no chance to turn the tide.

Chapter 3236 Cause and Origin

The Realm of All Mysteries gradually fell silent. Within this vast expanse, Lin Xun slowly opened his eyes. In that instant, it was as though heaven and earth trembled, and the boundless world surged with newfound vitality, as if life itself had been rekindled.

However, looking at Lin Xun, nothing about him seemed to have changed. Not even the faintest trace of aura could be sensed from him. Before, one could still perceive a trace of that divine presence, vast as primal chaos yet empty as the void. Now, even that presence had vanished. All aura had returned to nothingness.

Seeing this, the golden cicada's expression dimmed. He murmured inwardly, almost to himself, "This destined opportunity...was never mine."

In the distance, Alpha Origin's primordial spirit ceased its struggle. He stared at Lin Xun in silence, as though gazing upon a dao path he had pursued for countless ages. After a long while, he let out a quiet sigh, "In this game...I have indeed lost."

"Master!" Black Crow could no longer hold back. She rushed over, tears streaming down her face.

“Why are you crying?” Alpha Origin looked at her and smiled faintly. “Since it is a game, there are winners and losers. As I said before...there are no absolutes in this world. No matter how meticulously one plans over countless years, it cannot outweigh the change brought by a single variable.”

Black Crow lowered her head, tears falling without end. Alpha Origin reached out and gently patted her head, his voice soft, “Don’t cry. You know I can’t bear to see tears.”

Black Crow wiped the corners of her eyes, forcing down the grief in her heart. Then she lifted her tear-streaked face and said, “Master...in my heart, you have not lost!”

Alpha Origin smiled faintly. Then his gaze turned toward Lin Xun in the distance. “Will you simply stand there and watch...or do you want me to end my own life?”

Lin Xun shook his head. “I would rather you didn’t die.”

Alpha Origin was momentarily stunned. He fell silent, then suddenly burst into laughter. “Do you feel no resentment?” he asked. “Earlier, the golden cicada threatened you with Bodhi’s life, causing you to falter for a moment. That allowed me to seize the opportunity to deal you a heavy blow. You nearly lost your life.”

“That was my tribulation.” Lin Xun’s voice was calm. “If not for that, how could I have become who I am now?”

He paused, then continued, “Besides, even if the golden cicada had truly killed my master, I would still have the confidence to bring him back.”

After a moment, he let out a soft sigh, “I simply never imagined that someone I had always respected and trusted would not walk the same path as me.”

A faint trace of melancholy lingered in his voice. Indeed, when the golden cicada had threatened him with Bodhi’s life, what shook Lin Xun was not fear for his master’s survival, but the sense of betrayal. That was the true reason his composure had faltered in that instant.

In the distance, Chen Xi spoke coldly, “Golden Cicada, now that things have come to this...do you still intend to offer no explanation?”

Chen Linkong also turned his gaze toward him, his eyes cold yet filled with complicated emotions. If he had a choice, he would never have wished for the golden cicada to become a traitor.

Bodhi and Xia Zhi too fixed their gaze on him.

“There is nothing to explain.” The golden cicada pondered briefly, then said calmly, “I lost because I tried to forcibly seize a destined opportunity. I accept that defeat.”

Lin Xun frowned slightly. As he looked at the golden cicada’s gentle and composed expression, memories of the past surged within him like waves. After a long silence, he finally spoke, “Senior...do you still remember the first time we met, in the Mulberry Woodland? You spoke to me about ‘chatting,’ and told me of the past life of the Ten Thousand Tribulation Great Emperor... Do you remember?”

The golden cicada nodded, a trace of reminiscence passing through his eyes. “I remember...I once said that our meeting was a matter of fate, requiring no reason.”

Lin Xun looked at him steadily. “Back then...did you already foresee this day?”

The golden cicada fell silent for a moment before saying, “I once listened to your master expound the great dao for thirty years outside Fangchun Mountain. I once journeyed to the Return Dominion in search of the lost Nirvana origin of the All-Wonder Tree of Life. I have also heard the dao verse your master left behind...the one that speaks of the lotus...”

He took a deep breath before continuing, “Given that...from the very first moment I met you, I already had a premonition that you might one day become that lotus and that the profound meaning of Nirvana would ultimately fall into your hands.”

Lin Xun frowned slightly. “If your goal all along was the power of Nirvana, why didn’t you kill me back then?”

The golden cicada let out a light laugh. “Young friend, in your eyes, am I the kind of person who would go to such lengths?”

Lin Xun shook his head without hesitation. “Of course not. That’s precisely why I can’t understand and why I find it hard to believe you would do such a thing in this game.”

The golden cicada gave a bitter smile, but said nothing more.

Bodhi, who had remained silent all this time, finally spoke. “Golden Cicada...let me ask you this: through all those years, did you truly regard us as friends?”

The golden cicada looked at him, a faint smile on his lips. “The great dao and friendship cannot be held at the same time. This is the source of my greatest pain today.”

Bodhi seemed to understand. The tension in his expression gradually eased. “In that case...I can rest easy.”

Chen Linkong’s voice turned cold. “Golden Cicada, you have already admitted defeat. Why, then, do you still refuse to explain yourself?” There was unmistakable anger in his tone.

Chen Xi frowned as well. It was clear to him that there was far more beneath the surface.

Lin Xun asked quietly, “Then...when did you and Alpha form an alliance?”

Before the golden cicada could respond, Alpha Origin suddenly laughed. “He and I...have always been one and the same.”

That single sentence struck like a thunderclap! Everyone was taken aback. The golden cicada remained silent.

At once, Lin Xun was reminded of the relationship between the Eternal Night Divine Emperor and Xia Zhi. They had once been a single entity, but now no trace of that bond remained.

“Or rather,” Alpha Origin continued, “Taishang, Golden Cicada, and I...have always been one and the same.”

He spoke calmly, yet each word struck like thunder. “However, we are not reincarnations who, upon attaining the dao, cut off all connection with their former selves. Rather, we are three ‘incarnations’ split from the golden cicada’s original body. Have you all heard the legend of ‘One Qi Transforming into Three Pure Ones’? The profound truth behind it is no different from the relationship between me, the golden cicada, and Taishang.”

This revelation struck even deeper. Even Chen Xi and Lin Xun were shaken to the core.

“Even before this game began, I had already said that since this was a contest for supremacy over the great dao, I would leave myself no path of retreat. If I wished to leave one, the golden cicada and Taishang could both have served as my escape.”

A faint sigh escaped him. “But...even I did not foresee that, despite holding every advantage, we would still be unable to overcome a single variable.”

The atmosphere fell into silence. Golden Cicada, Alpha Origin, and Taishang all originated from a single entity! The truth felt abrupt and utterly unexpected.

However, upon reflection, it made perfect sense. After all, in today’s contest, the golden cicada, Alpha Origin, and Taishang had indeed stood on the same side.

“Golden Cicada, why remain silent at a moment like this? Are you afraid these fellow daoists will uncover the truth of your connection with me and Taishang?” Alpha Origin demanded loudly.

The golden cicada’s gaze grew complicated. “We’ve already lost...why bother digging into this any further?”

“If you will not speak, then I will,” Alpha Origin said coldly.

The golden cicada’s voice turned bitter. “Alpha Origin...are you blaming me for not using my full strength in this game?”

Alpha Origin fell silent for a moment, then he replied, his expression unreadable, “If you had struck without hesitation from the very beginning, killing Bodhi, Xia Zhi, and Chen Linkong, do you think Chen Xi and Lin Xun would have had any chance to turn the tide?”

That single question made everyone’s pupils contract. Given the strength that the golden cicada had displayed earlier, he had more than enough opportunities to kill Bodhi, Xia Zhi, and Chen Linkong. However, he chose not to.

“Have you still not seen through it? Young Friend Lin has already integrated the profound meaning of Nirvana into his very being. Even if I had killed them, with his mastery over the Dao of Life and his comprehension of the power of this entire Primal Chaos Epoch, he could have brought them back, one by one.”

The golden cicada said softly, “Even if we had done so, it would not have changed anything. Young Friend Lin’s path of Nirvana cannot be cut off. His dao attainment was never something that could be taken by force.”

Alpha Origin’s expression flickered as light and shadow shifted across his face. “I did not understand it before, but even now that I do, I still cannot accept it!”

Lin Xun’s self-destruction gave rise to a nirvana path of ‘finding life in the face of death,’ and only then did Alpha Origin truly understand what the golden cicada had meant: this nirvana dao attainment was never something that could be seized by force.

Even so, he still could not accept it! That was why, at this moment, Alpha Origin turned to golden cicada and demanded, “Taishang is dead. You and I have both lost. So tell me, what is it we have been waiting for all these ages? All for nothing?”

The golden cicada’s voice sank even lower. “This is what is called fate. It cannot be forced.”

“Fate? What utter nonsense!” Alpha Origin’s expression darkened, agitation rising within him. “Only cowards blame their failures on fate!”

The golden cicada merely sighed and said nothing more.

Lin Xun, Chen Xi, and the others watched in silence, their emotions tangled and complex. It was now clear that although Alpha Origin, the golden cicada, and Taishang shared the same origin, each had walked a different path and each carried a different heart.

However, one thing could not be denied: the golden cicada had never truly schemed against or harmed his fellow daoists such as Bodhi, Chen Linkong, or Lin Xun until this very moment. Even in today’s confrontation, he had only used Bodhi’s life to threaten Lin Xun and prevented Chen Xi from interfering in the clash between Lin Xun and Alpha Origin.

He had long foreseen that even if Bodhi was killed, Lin Xun, who had grasped the profound truth of Nirvana, would still be able to bring him back. His so-called ‘betrayal’ was precisely what led to Lin Xun’s injury.

Of course, the root of that betrayal lay elsewhere. From the very beginning, he had stood in the same camp as Alpha Origin and Taishang. After all, they were, in essence, one and the same. So in truth, it was never truly betrayal at all. In the end, it all came down to the words he had spoken before: two dao paths cannot coexist.

After a long silence, the golden cicada looked at Alpha Origin and said softly, “Alpha Origin, defeat is defeat. No one in this world is invincible. My mistake lay in never truly acknowledging the path you and Taishang pursued. But now...there is little point in speaking of it any longer.”

He paused, then added softly, “I have never regretted what I did today.”

Alpha Origin stared at him, his expression shifting repeatedly, then he finally shook his head and fell silent.

“All arising and ceasing have settled today. Farewell...everyone.”

The golden cicada's gaze swept slowly over Lin Xun, Bodhi, Chen Linkong, Xia Zhi, and Chen Xi.

At last, he withdrew his gaze and smiled faintly. It was a calm, tranquil smile. Then his figure seemed to ignite like fire. In an instant, he crumbled into drifting ashes, vanishing into the void.

Faintly, it seemed as though a lone cicada's cry echoed through the air, carrying a sense of release and quiet liberation.

Chapter 3237 The Tale of the Golden Cicada

The golden cicada was gone. Gone completely from this world. As they thought back on everything that had happened today, recalling all the memories tied to him everyone was left unsettled and at a loss.

Were they resentful? Not quite.

Were they fully without resentment? Not entirely.

Their emotions were subtle, tangled and difficult to describe.

To Bodhi and Chen Linkong, the golden cicada had been a confidant, a fellow daoist, and a close friend with whom they had shared wine, discussed the dao, and walked side by side. To Lin Xun, he was a senior worthy of trust and admiration. To Chen Xi and Xia Zhi, never once had they sensed even a trace of hostility from him.

One undeniable fact remained: golden cicada, Alpha Origin, and Taishan had all originated from the same source. Though each walked a different path, when it came to seizing the power of Nirvana, they had always stood in the same camp. It was this truth that made the golden cicada's disappearance so hard to accept, leaving a lingering unease in everyone's heart.

In the distance, Alpha Origin stood staring blankly at the place where the golden cicada had vanished. His expression flickered, caught between laughter and tears, complex beyond words. After a long while, he turned to Lin Xun. "Could you...spare Black Crow?"

Black Crow trembled, her eyes widening. In her memory, her master had lived through countless epochs, witnessed the rise and fall of all things, and endured endless life and death trials, but never once had he asked anything of anyone!

Now...for her sake, he was asking Lin Xun for a favor!

“I don’t want it! I don’t want it!” she cried out, her voice breaking as if she had lost control. “It’s only death! I want to stay with you! I’m not afraid!”

Alpha Origin smiled faintly, ignoring her as his gaze settled on Lin Xun. “She has been by my side since she was young, always following me. I can guarantee she never had the chance to do anything wrong. Even when you entered the All Wonder Dominion, she wanted to kill you, but failed. Instead, I kept her by my side...”

Alpha Origin’s voice softened. “It would be a pity...for such a good girl to die because of me.”

“Very well.” Lin Xun nodded.

Alpha Origin seemed to let out a quiet breath of relief. He cupped his hands in gratitude and smiled faintly. “Thank you.”

“Master, I said I would stay with you...even if it means death...” Black Crow lifted her face, staring at him with unwavering resolve. Tears streamed down her crimson, crystalline eyes, her voice trembling and broken. Then, her body suddenly went limp, collapsing into Alpha Origin’s arms.

Her life force was fading rapidly. Her delicate body grew colder by the moment. The smile on Alpha Origin’s face froze. He lowered his head, looking at the girl in his arms.

After a long silence, he slowly raised a trembling hand and gently stroked her hair. “I told you long ago...I cannot bear to see tears...so why wouldn’t you listen to me...?”

His voice was soft, helpless, and tinged with melancholy and an unhidden sorrow. The scene moved Lin Xun, Chen Xi, and the others watching from afar.

Dying for love? Dying for the dao? Or perhaps, she simply could not bear to live on alone in this world, and so she chose to end her life quietly in the presence of the one dearest to her.

“I can help bring her back.” Lin Xun’s voice broke the silence. Black Crow’s actions reminded him of Xia Zhi, of her unwavering resolve and her willingness to risk everything to save him. A strange surge of emotion rose uncontrollably within his heart.

“No need.” Alpha Origin lowered his gaze to the girl in his arms. Tears quietly gathered in his eyes. “For her...living on might be far more painful than dying like this.”

He gently brushed aside a strand of her hair, his voice soft. “Little crow...only you would be so foolish in this world...”

Then he lifted his head, his gaze sweeping across Lin Xun, Chen Xi, and the others. A faint smile touched his lips. “Everyone, this game today has been thoroughly satisfying. The bitterness and unwillingness in my heart have long since faded like smoke. My only regret...is that I never had the chance to meet that swordsman again. But no matter....even in death, one can still leave something behind as remembrance.”

He stood there, holding Black Crow’s delicate body. His spirit blazed bright, unrestrained and radiant. It was as though he had returned to the proud, composed man he once was. Then, his body, along with Black Crow’s, began to dissolve. Their figures turned into a drifting rain of light, scattering gently into the world, fading away bit by bit until nothing remained.

They would never appear again. Where they had vanished, a pair of whetstones lay quietly on the ground. From afar, Chen Xi cupped his hands and gave a slight bow. “Farewell!”

Lin Xun stepped forward and gathered the pair of whetstones.

“Leave something behind as remembrance...I just wonder...when that elder swordsman learns that you fell here, will he rejoice or grieve for you?” He murmured softly.

Before his words had even faded, Xia Zhi rushed forward and threw her arms tightly around him. Her beautiful face shone with heartfelt relief and joy. In the distance, Bodhi and Chen Linkong exchanged a quiet smile. In that moment, silence spoke louder than words.

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On this day, the earth-shattering battle awaited for countless ages finally came to an end. Golden Cicada, Taishang, and Alpha Origin all fell, vanishing from the world. The nine Heavenly Mandate Dao Lords, along with Tian Wu and Shi hidden within the Taihun Domain, were all suppressed by Chen Xi and eternally sealed within the cycle of reincarnation.

On this day, Lin Xun found life in the face of death, reborn through nirvana. He achieved his ultimate breakthrough and, in the truest sense, stepped onto the Dao of Life, uniting the origins of the four dao dominions into one and comprehending the deepest mysteries of the Chaos Era.

.....

A few days later.

The Realm of All Mysteries.

Lin Xun sat while drinking with Chen Xi. Mid-conversation, he suddenly paused. “Senior, would you like to hear a story?”

Chen Xi raised a brow, intrigued. “What is it about?

“A golden cicada.”

“...Him?”

Long ago...

When this Chaos Era had only just come into being, a golden cicada crossed the boundless void and flew into this world. He came in search of the dao and in search of a fated opportunity, a supreme path tied to life.

Through countless hardships and wandering across chaos, he finally arrived before the All-Wonder Tree of Life. There, he settled upon its branches, quietly sensing the tree's growth and transformation. And so he remained there for endless years.

This great tree had witnessed the four dao dominions arise from nothingness, the epochal worlds evolve from its earliest form to completion, and the endless cycles of rise and fall across countless civilizations...

This golden cicada, in turn, witnessed the growth and transformation of the tree itself.

At last, one day, the golden cicada came to sense the profound essence of Nirvana, and was filled with immense joy. He believed this to be the wondrous opportunity he had long sought, one capable of resolving the bottlenecks and hidden flaws along his own dao path.

However, at that very moment, a devastating calamity descended, tearing apart the branches and leaves of the All-Wonder Tree of Life and shattering the Dao of Life that had taken root within it. Even the origin of Nirvana was thrown into turmoil.

The golden cicada had already fled the moment the calamity fell, yet he could do nothing but helplessly watch it unfold, his heart torn by unbearable pain. A fated opportunity lay a hair's breadth away, but it slipped past him. The endless years he had waited, the painstaking effort he had poured in...all of it came to nothing.

No one knew that the golden cicada had come to this Chaos Era in search of the Dao of Life and a fated opportunity, seeking to resolve the hidden flaw within his state of mind.

Unfortunately, this very flaw erupted the moment he witnessed the great calamity that befell the All-Wonder Tree of Life.

His dao cultivation disintegrated, splitting into three. One became Alpha Origin, embodying the dao of fearless and relentless advancement. One became Taishang, upholding the supreme dao of sentiment devoidness. The last became the golden cicada, preserving his original heart.

After hearing the story, Chen Xi took a sip of wine and said, “So...does that mean there are other Chaos Eras beyond this one?”

“Correct.” Lin Xun nodded. “However, only those who have stepped onto the Dao of Life possess the ability to leave this Chaos Era.”

“Then where did the golden cicada come from?” Chen Xi asked.

Lin Xun replied, “Before the original self of him, Alpha Origin and Taishang came to this Chaos Era, he had already embarked upon the Dao of Life. But problems arose in his dao path and flaws appeared in his state of mind. This is why he was forced to search so desperately for a solution.”

Chen Xi nodded slowly. “No wonder Alpha Origin, Taishang, and the golden cicada each walked their own paths, each clinging to their own obsessions. Their understandings diverged, and at times, even clashed outright. It must have all stemmed from the hidden flaw within their state of mind from the very beginning.”

“That’s right. Only Senior Golden Cicada preserved his original heart. Unfortunately, due to the nature of cultivation, much of his later years were spent in a hazy, half-conscious state...”

Lin Xun continued, “The reason was simple...his true form is a cicada.”

Chen Xi’s eyes lit up in realization. “The morning mushroom knows nothing of the passing of days; the cicada knows nothing of the turning of the seasons. In the mortal world, cicadas appear only in summer. They cannot behold the passing of spring and autumn. If this is the way of the cicada...then it is also the flaw in its life.”

“Exactly.” Lin Xun nodded. “That is why, in the past, Senior Golden Cicada’s cultivation fluctuated. Though beings across different epochs have encountered him, very few ever realized just how extraordinary he truly was.”

Chen Xi fell into thought, then said, “If it were me, I would sever the dao of Alpha Origin and Taishang, merge it into my own, attain perfection, and then reaffirm Nirvana to resolve the flaw within my state mind.”

He paused, then shook his head. “No...someone like him would have certainly considered using such a method to prove his dao. Which means the root of the problem lies deeper...in the very foundation of his true self’s state of mind.”

Lin Xun let out a sigh. “I only came to understand Senior Golden Cicada’s past when I was deducing the aura of the All-Wonder Tree of Life. Only then did I realize why he chose to join forces with Alpha Origin and Taishang to seize the power of Nirvana. In the end, it was an obsession rooted deep within his true self.”

Chen Xi nodded, then suddenly asked, “That devastating calamity that struck the All-Wonder Tree of Life...where did it come from?”

Lin Xun pondered for a moment before replying, “I can only vaguely deduce that it came from beyond this Chaos Era and that its target being the Dao of Life itself. As for the truth, we may only uncover it once the Dao of Life has been restored to completeness.”

Chen Xi said, “So...only by reshaping the origin of the All-Wonder Tree of Life with the power of Nirvana can the Dao of Life truly manifest within this Chaos Era?”

“That’s right. But with my current strength, it would take countless years to accomplish this. So...in this matter, I’ll need your help.” As Lin Xun spoke, he flicked his finger. A sphere of light imbued with the profound essence of Nirvana appeared, drifting gently toward Chen Xi.

Chen Xi was briefly stunned, then let out a chuckle. “Worried I’d be too embarrassed to accept it, so you came up with a reason I couldn’t refuse?”

Lin Xun laughed as well. “You misunderstand. I just need someone to share the burden of restoring the Dao of Life. After all, I can’t remain in the All-Wonder Dominion forever.”

Chen Xi rubbed his nose and sighed, “So you’re just roping me in as free labor...but somehow I find I can’t refuse.”

He let out a laugh. “Where are you planning to go?”

Lin Xun exhaled slowly, a faint smile appearing on his face. “Home.”

Chapter 3238 Return

Hidden Domain.

“Now I understand why the golden cicada was so certain that the Great Silence Unlife Calamity originated from the All-Wonder Dominion...” Chen Linkong let out a soft sigh.

Many years ago, he had searched tirelessly for the mastermind behind the epochal calamity. It was the golden cicada who told him that the calamity was tied to the All-Wonder Dominion.

Now that he finally understood, his emotions only grew heavier, more complicated than before.

“Fellow Daoist, the golden cicada never truly meant us harm. Let us not dwell on him any longer.” Bodhi spoke with a faint smile, though a trace of complexity flickered in his eyes.

The golden cicada...was a fellow daoist neither he nor Chen Linkong would ever forget. As the two conversed, Lin Xun arrived with Xia Zhi and informed them of his decision to leave and return home. Neither Bodhi nor Chen Linkong showed any surprise.

The affairs of the All-Wonder Dominion had come to an end. Given Lin Xun’s nature, it was only natural that he would return to his homeland to reunite with his family and friends. At the very least, he would make arrangements for them before devoting himself fully to reshaping the Dao of Life within the All-Wonder Dominion.

Chen Linkong chuckled warmly. “Young Friend Lin, when you and Miss Xia Zhi are wed, don’t forget to send me an invitation.”

“Of course,” Lin Xun replied with a smile.

Xia Zhi’s lips curved into a faint smile as well.

Lin Xun then turned to Bodhi. “Master, I’ll have to trouble you to look after the old friends who remain in the All-Wonder Dominion.”

He was referring to Lone Man, Elder Seer, Xing Jianxia, Fu Nanli, Ren Futian, and the others.

Bodhi nodded with a gentle smile. “On your way, don’t forget to visit the Sea of Fate to see your fellow senior brothers and sisters, so they won’t have to worry about us anymore.”

“I understand,” Lin Xun said, nodding.

That very day, he departed the All-Wonder Dominion with Xia Zhi.

.....

Kunlun Dominion, the Sea of Fate.

Spirit Martial World.

Beside a quiet stream, Ruo Su sat in contemplation, speaking softly with Zhong Qiu.

“For the past few days, I’ve felt an inexplicable unease...though I cannot say why.”

After a pause, she continued, her brows faintly knit, “I’ve calculated it again and again. Within the Sea of Fate, all potential threats were eradicated before Little Junior Brother left. There should be nothing capable of bringing disaster upon us. As for Fourth Junior Brother, he is in seclusion within the Return Dominion. With his wisdom and strength, even if danger arises, he will surely resolve it.”

Zhong Qiu frowned slightly. “Then...are you worried about Little Junior Brother and Master?”

Ruo Su nodded heavily.

“A feeling of unease does not necessarily mean something has gone wrong,” Zhong Qiu said gently. “Don’t let your thoughts run too far.”

Ruo Su gave a faint nod. “I only hope that when Little Junior Brother returns one day, he can bring back all those junior brothers and sisters who perished in the past.”

Zhong Qiu sighed softly. “That will not be easy. They are not like Eldest Senior Brother. Too much time has passed...their remaining vitality is nearly gone. To bring them back...would be extraordinarily difficult.”

At that moment, a voice rang out with a light laugh, “Second Senior Brother...that is no longer a difficult task for me.”

Little Junior Brother!

Startled, both Ruo Su and Zhong Qiu shot to their feet. Before they could react further, a figure had already appeared.

“You...when did you return?” Ruo Su exclaimed, her voice filled with astonishment, almost unable to believe her own eyes.

Counting the days, it had been just over ten years since Lin Xun left the Sea of Fate and journeyed to the All-Wonder Dominion.

“Everything has been settled,” he said simply, “So I came back.”

He then briefly recounted his experiences in the All-Wonder Dominion one by one without embellishment, but his story still set Ruo Su and Zhong Qiu's hearts racing. When they finally heard of the deaths of the golden cicada, Alpha Origin, and Taishang, a wave of relief washed over them, followed by a deep, unspoken emotion.

"Wait here, I'll call the others." With that, Ruo Su hurried off.

Before long, Lin Xun met his other senior brothers and sisters, Li Xuanwei, Jun Huan, Blazing Jun, Clairvoyant, Xue Ya, Qing Ting, Pu Zhen, Well Moon, Cheng Yu, and the others. However, his eldest senior brother was nowhere to be seen.

This puzzled Lin Xun. After asking around, he learned that just yesterday, their eldest senior brother had already left the Sea of Fate, riding the Great Dao Fate Lotus to the All-Wonder Dominion.

For a moment, Lin Xun was at a loss for words. Then he smiled faintly. Since he would return to the All-Wonder Dominion himself, their reunion was only a matter of time.

That evening, a grand banquet was held. The successors of Fangchun Mountain gathered together, raising their cups and conversing freely, utterly at ease. Only after the feast came to an end did Lin Xun quietly make his decision. He would bring back to life those senior brothers and sisters who had perished long ago.

Within a great hall, Zhong Qiu, Ruo Su and the others stood to one side, holding their breath, not daring to speak.

Lin Xun stood alone at the center of the hall. His sleeves billowed softly. From him, strands of obscure and mysterious dao light of reincarnation began to flow forth. Within it, one could almost glimpse endless time and space revolving, shifting, and intertwining.

In Lin Xun's hands were relics left behind by his fallen senior brothers and sisters. Sensing the lingering aura within those relics, he closed his eyes and released his spirit sense. Guided by those faint traces, it plunged into the cycle of reincarnation, tracing back through the river of time, wandering through its vast and unfathomable depths.

Moments passed. With a thought, a strand of Nirvana power flowed from his fingertips. Amid a drifting rain of radiance, a figure slowly began to take shape: a man clad in a black crown and daoist robe, his bearing poised and dignified.

“Junior Brother Xuan Kong!” Zhong Qiu, Ruo Su, and the others cried out in trembling voices, unable to contain their excitement. They immediately recognized the man: Xuan Kong, the forty-ninth successor.

Even in their excitement, they dared not step forward. Lin Xun was still continuing. Before long, his fingertips flickered once more. Amid the drifting rain of light, the figure of another man took shape. He had honest features and was clad in a simple cloth robe.

“Junior Brother Ge Yupu!”

This time, even Zhong Qiu and the others could no longer suppress their emotions. Smiles broke across their faces as their excitement surged. Their hearts pounded wildly and their minds nearly reeled. This power of ‘bringing the dead back to life’ was not just a clever trick, but simply a reversal of life and death, the reclaiming of life from the gasp of death!

In the moments that followed, one figure after another emerged amid the cascading rain of light. Among them were Ji Xiu, the fourteenth successor, Wu Zang, the twenty-sixth successor, Wen Liu, the thirty-seventh successor, Gu Qingqu, the forty-first successor, and Xuan Yuanzi, the forty-fourth successor.

After bringing all his fallen senior brothers and sisters back to life, Lin Xun swept his sleeve. Streams of spiritual essence surged forth, flowing into their minds.

At once, Ge Yupu, Xuan Kong and the others opened their eyes, as if waking from a dream. Zhong Qiu, Ruo Su, and the others could no longer restrain their excitement and rushed forward.

“Junior Brother Ge, do you still remember us?”

“Haha! Senior Brother Ji Xiu, why are you so startled? Can it be that you can’t believe you’re alive?”

“Senior Brother Wu Zang, there’s something I’ve never told you...now I finally have the chance! That debt you owe me...you’re not getting away with it this time!”

The hall erupted with laughter and excited voices, brimming with joy and disbelief. Lin Xun stood quietly to one side, watching it all unfold. A deep sense of warmth filled his heart.

“I should find the time to bring back my family and friends as well...” He muttered softly to himself.

He remained in the Sea of Fate for several more days. Only after bidding farewell to his senior brothers and sisters of Fangchun Mountain did Lin Xun finally depart with Xia Zhi.

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Fortune Dominion, Fortune Divine City.

From afar, the outline of the city came into view. At that instant, ripples stirred uncontrollably within Lin Xun’s heart. Back before setting out for the Sea of Fate, he had arranged for all his family and friends to reside within this city to shield them from the annihilating calamity that accompanied the shifting of epochs.

Now, with his current cultivation, such an epochal calamity could no longer threaten them. However, no matter how high his cultivation had reached, he was not without feeling. He still had his own emotions. After so long apart, how could his heart remain unmoved upon returning?

After a long moment, he drew in a deep breath and suppressed his cultivation. Sometimes, what one can perceive with a single thought only robbed life of its wonder, like the joy and surprise of a long-awaited reunion.

“M...master?!’

As Lin Xun and Xia Zhi approached the Fortune Divine City, their presence was instantly perceived by Wushuang, the law spirit who guarded the city.

Shua!

A beam of white light descended, condensing into a pure and beautiful girl clad in white. Her wide eyes sparkled with astonishment and delight.

“Don’t make a scene,” Lin Xun said with a smile. “I’d like to surprise them myself.”

Wushuang nodded vigorously, her face lighting up with delight. “Master! All these years, Fortune Divine City has remained peaceful. There hasn’t been the slightest disturbance. Everyone is doing well!”

Her expression all but cried out: Master, hurry and praise me!

Lin Xun smiled and reached out, lightly tapping her fair forehead. “From now on, focus on your cultivation. In time, you will prove the dao and undergo true transformation.”

Boom!

Wushuang felt an overwhelming surge of life force pour into her body. She could clearly sense that her form, shaped entirely from the power of laws, had begun to pulse with a new rhythm of life. Essence, spirit, and qi awakened within her, breathing true life into her being and endowing her with spirituality, talent, and wisdom.

After a long while, when the transformation finally subsided, she stood there in a daze. Stammering, she asked, “Master, I...I have a life of my own?”

Lin Xun smiled and nodded. “How does it feel?”

With his current understanding and control over the Dao of Life, even granting life to a stone was no difficult feat, let alone bestowing true life upon a divine rank law like Wushuang.

Wushuang’s face lit up instantly, her brows arching with delight as she exclaimed, “Incredible!”

At that moment, she experienced emotions she had never known before, such as excitement, joy, and exhilaration. For a being like her, a spirit born of law, such sensations were nothing short of wondrous.

“Don’t get too carried away just yet,” Lin Xun said with a smile. “Lead the way, we’re going home.”

“Yes!” Wushuang hurried ahead, leading the way. Her bright, youthful face was radiant with joy, and her eyes were sparkling and full of lively charm. At last, they arrived before the gates of Fortune Divine City.

Lin Xun paused, drew a deep breath, then turned to Xia Zhi with a smile. “This time, now that we’re back...let’s get married. I’ll give us a grand and unforgettable wedding!”

Xia Zhi gave a soft hum in response. Her clear eyes shimmered with unconcealable joy. This was a promise Lin Xun had made to her long ago. Now, it would finally be fulfilled.

“Let’s go.” Lin Xun took her slender, snow-white hand in his. Together, they stepped forward, walking into Fortune Divine City.

Chapter 3239 Double Joy Arrives

The scale of Fortune Divine City was comparable to that of an entire great world. Moreover, Lin Xun had personally transformed this city back then, integrating secret realms such as the Fangchun Secret Realm, the Origin World, the Shaman World, the Zen World, and the Spirit World into its foundation. As a result, its scope and structure were far beyond anything ordinary.

As Lin Xun and Xia Zhi stepped into the city, they were greeted by bustling streets filled with people and horse-drawn carriages. The scene was lively and prosperous. The clamor of voices rose and fell like waves, causing Lin Xun’s gaze to drift.

With a simple calculation, he realized that several hundred years had passed since he had left for the Sea of Fate. Now, upon returning, Fortune Divine City before him had long changed. Everywhere he looked, there was peace, vitality, and flourishing life.

The cultivators walking the streets came from countless epochal civilizations within the Fortune Dominion. Regardless of their cultivation, they coexisted in harmony.

Street vendors even dared to argue their case with Immortal figures over the price of a single aeth herb. Attendants in the teahouse remained composed before nobles, neither servile nor overbearing. Even the humblest peddlers and laborers went about their work, each attending to their own duties. These scenes together painted the picture of a peaceful and flourishing world.

“Master,” Wushuang said with a proud smile, “over the years, there have been quite a few who tried to stir trouble. But I followed your instructions, reasoning with those who could be reasoned with and dealing firmly with those who could not. Now, throughout the entire Fortune Dominion, no one dares cause trouble in this city.”

Dressed in white, she appeared pure and delicate, like a little fairy descended into the mortal world, drawing countless admiring glances along the way. However, when people’s gazes shifted to Xia Zhi at Lin Xun’s side, they were all left dazed, their minds drifting.

Seeing this, Lin Xun hurriedly reminded her to conceal herself. Only then did Xia Zhi seem to realize. She let out a soft ‘oh,’ and her aura shifted subtly. In an instant, that breathtaking beauty capable of captivating all under heaven faded into something plain and unremarkable.

Along the way, Lin Xun deliberately suppressed his spirit sense. He chose instead to see and experience the city through the eyes of an ordinary person, and as he did, he could not help but feel a deep sense of quiet satisfaction and reflection.

He had not forgotten the great aspirations of the sages, Taixuan, Mo Yang, and the others: become the heart of heaven and earth and live for all living things, to carry forward the lost teachings of the ancient sages, and to usher in an era of lasting peace for all generations.

If even a single Fortune Divine City could embody such prosperity and harmony, then with him here, the eight wastelands, the four seas, and all under heaven would one day be the same.

As he walked, a wave of loud, boisterous noise suddenly rose in the distance, surging straight into the sky. Lin Xun lifted his gaze. The commotion was coming from a vast martial arena within the city.

“Master,” Wushuang explained softly, “this is a training ground established by Senior Xuan Feiling. It’s used for exchanging insights and discussing the dao. Of course, if disputes arise between cultivators in

the city, they can settle them here as well. Some even come here to fight to the death and settle their grudges once and for all."

Lin Xun nodded.

Even harmonious coexistence did not necessarily mean the absence of conflict. So-called 'tribulations' arose precisely from such differences, and killing and strife were destined to never truly vanish from this world.

This was the law of life. Differences in temperament and in the dao inevitably give rise to conflict, calamity, and enmity.

"Let's go take a look." Lin Xun said, his interest piqued as he stepped forward.

The training grounds were vast, capable of accommodating tens of thousands. At that moment, a battle had just ended. From the surrounding stands, cheers erupted as the crowd hailed the victor: a young man clad in black robes. The sound rolled like waves, shaking the air.

"No wonder he's the ninth young master of the Lin Clan in this generation. He truly bears the Lin Clan's blood!" someone exclaimed in admiration.

"Lin Hengdu! Hurry up and turn eighteen! I'm waiting to marry you!" A pretty young woman cried out excitedly, her eyes filled with infatuation. Her shout immediately set off a burst of laughter and playful teasing from the crowd.

In the martial arena, Lin Hengdu, the young man in black robes, had stood calm and composed throughout the battle. However, the moment he heard the girl's bold confession, his handsome face turned bright red. Embarrassed and at a complete loss, he hastily cupped his hands toward the crowd before turning and making a quick escape.

"Ahhh—I'm going to die, Lin Hengdu is too cute!" A group of excited girls shrieked from the stands.

“Master, that’s Lin Hengdu, the ninth son of Young Master Lin Fan,” Wushuang said with a grin. “He’s only fourteen this year, yet he has already stepped into the True Saint Stage. He’s quite famous in Fortune Divine City.”

She chuckled, “I watched him grow up. He has an excellent temperament...he just gets shy when girls stare at him.”

“Shy?” Lin Xun was momentarily at a loss for words. Then, as if something suddenly clicked, he asked in surprise, “Wait...did you say he’s Lin Fan’s ninth child?”

Wushuang nodded. “That’s right. Above Young Master Hengdu, he has three elder sisters and five elder brothers. The eldest is Young Master Lin Hengyun, who is two hundred and thirty-nine years old this year and he has already reached the Heavenly Longevity Immortal Stage...”

Lin Xun stood there, both surprised and delighted. His gaze drifted as he muttered in disbelief, “That brat Lin Fan...since when did he become that good at having children...”

This piece of good news was something he had never expected.

“Come on...let’s go see that brat.” Lin Xun found it hard to steady his emotions. He had only been gone for a few hundred years, yet he already had grandchildren! And not just one or two, but nine! The sudden shift in status to that of a grandfather stirred a subtle, unfamiliar change within his state of mind.

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Outside the arena, a young girl dressed in blue walked out alongside Lin Hengdu.

Along the way, many girls had originally wanted to approach him. However, the moment the girl in blue swept them with a cold glance, they froze in place, too intimidated to step forward, and could only watch from afar.

“Elder Sister, why are you scaring them like that?” Lin Hengdu said with a helpless smile. “You look so fierce. At this rate, what boy would dare come near you?”

The girl in blue snorted coldly. “My heart is set on cultivating the dao, why would I concern myself with matters of romance. As for you...you’re only fourteen. Don’t let those girls muddle your mind. Mother already said that before you turn eighteen, you’re not allowed to associate with any girl.”

“Aren’t you a girl too?” Lin Hengdu asked helplessly.

“I’m your elder sister!” She flicked his forehead without hesitation. Her fierce expression made Lin Hengdu instinctively shrink back. The two continued on, bickering as they walked.

Behind them, Wushuang’s clear voice rang out, “Master, that’s Miss Henglan, the eighth in this generation. She’s nineteen this year. She and Young Master Hengdu grew up together and are especially close.”

Lin Xun nodded, watching the siblings from afar. A quiet, subtle warmth rose in his heart.

“Master, I just remembered some good news,” Wushuang said suddenly.

Before Lin Xun could ask, she had already explained everything one by one. It turned out that Lin Fan’s dao companion, Tang Jiang, had been pregnant for ten months and was about to give birth.

Lin Xun froze, then excitement surged through him. “Why didn’t you tell me sooner?! Come! Let’s go!”

In all these years, he had never been present for the birth of his nine grandchildren. But now that another was about to be born, how could he, as their grandfather, possibly miss it? At that moment, Lin Xun lost all interest in strolling through the city. There was only one thing on his mind: to return to the Lin Clan at once.

“You two little rascals, come with me as well.”

As the thought crossed his mind, Lin Xun flicked his sleeve. In the distance, Lin Henglan and Lin Hengdu, who had been walking side by side, suddenly vanished and reappeared at his side. Both of them were startled. They opened their mouths to cry out, but the moment their eyes fell on Lin Xun's face, they froze and their eyes widened in disbelief.

"You...you're my grandfather?" Lin Hengdu stammered.

"You recognize me?" Lin Xun asked with a faint smile.

"Of course I do! I saw your portrait when I was little!" Lin Hengdu blurted out.

Lin Henglan, standing beside him, took a deep breath and said cautiously, "Little Brother, be careful. Don't let him fool you. Who knows if he's someone pretending to be our grandfather!"

Lin Xun chuckled softly. "This little girl is quite alert...not bad, not bad."

Lin Hengdu glanced at his sister, then at Lin Xun, Xia Zhi, and Wushuang, and couldn't help but say, "Elder Sister, who in this world would dare impersonate Grandfather? If someone tried, Wushuang would've already dealt with them."

"This little fellow's reasoning is sound as well." Lin Xun's smile grew even warmer.

Lin Henglan gradually calmed down, coming to the same realization. She stared at Lin Xun, still a little dazed. "You...are you really...Grandfather?"

"When we reach the Lin Clan, we'll talk properly." Lin Xun offered no further explanation. With a thought, space rippled and in the next instant, they were gone.

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Fangchun Secret Realm.

Lin Clan, inside a hall.

Lin Wenjing, Luo Qingxun, Lin Fan, Zhao Jingxuan, and the others had already gathered, waiting anxiously. Their expressions were tense, filled with anticipation

Outside the hall, Lin Fan's eldest son, Lin Hengyun, stood together with his younger siblings. They were whispering among themselves. Suddenly, the air trembled and a ripple spread outward. Several figures appeared from nothingness.

"Henglan, Hengdu, you're back. Hm? And they are...?" Lin Hengyun and the others were stunned for a moment, then their gazes shifted to Lin Xun and their eyes widened.

That face...they knew it all too well, but...

"Big Brother...he...he said he's our grandfather..." Lin Hengdu whispered.

Grandfather!

Lin Hengyun and the others were momentarily dazed. Since childhood, they had heard countless legendary tales about their grandfather, Lin Xun, and had seen his portrait more times than they could count, but never once had they met him in person.

Now, he stood before them. Caught off guard by his sudden appearance, they were all at a loss for what to do. Silence fell over everyone. Lin Xun's gaze swept slowly across the group of young men and women, the smile on his face deepening with each passing glance.

"Father!"

At that moment, a figure rushed out from the hall. It was Lin Fan. He had sensed the disturbance outside, and upon seeing Lin Xun, his expression changed dramatically as he cried out in astonishment.

Whoosh—

Behind him, Zhao Jingxuan, Lin Wenjing, Luo Qingxun, and the others hurried out as well. The moment they saw Lin Xun, they could not hide the shock and joy on their faces. Only then did Lin Hengyun and his siblings finally believe it. The man before then was truly their grandfather, Lin Xun!

He was a man who, even in their childhood, had already been regarded by all under heaven as a peerless legend!

Just then...from deep within the hall came the cry of a newborn. Tang Jiang, after ten months of pregnancy, had safely given birth to a daughter. At that moment, double joy descended.

Chapter 3240 Finale

Inside the hall, Lin Xun stood quietly, a newborn baby girl resting peacefully in his arms. His eyes softened with tenderness, while a gentle smile lingered on his lips.

Beside him, Lin Fan said with a smile, “Father, Tang Jiang hopes that you will name the child.”

Lin Wenjing and Luo Qingxun watched from the side, their expressions warm. Nearby, Lin Hengyun, Lin Henglan, and their siblings gathered close, staring at Lin Xun with bright, curious eyes, unable to conceal their excitement. On the other side stood Xia Zhi and Wushuang.

After a brief moment of thought, Lin Xun spoke, “How about...Hengyuan.”

Though the baby girl had only just been born, her features were already delicate and refined, her bright, dark eyes glistening with life. The moment Lin Xun spoke the name ‘Hengyuan,’ she let out a soft cry, as if brimming with joy.

It was only natural. This little girl was no ordinary child. She carried the bloodline of Lin Fan and Tang Jiang. She was born with innate talent. Furthermore, with Lin Xun’s cultivation, the moment he bestowed her name, an unseen current of fate power quietly flowed into her body.

“Hengyuan...what a wonderful name!” Lin Fan exclaimed, beaming.

“Your father chose it, even if it sounded terrible, would you dare say so?” Zhao Jingxuan smiled.

Laughter rippled through the hall. On that day, Lin Xun's return stirred the entire Lin Clan. The news spread swiftly, reaching the cultivators of the Origin Sect, the Ji Clan, and the New Genesis Sect within Fortune Divine City.

In an instant, it caused a great uproar. Before long, news of Lin Xun's return after attaining the dao spread from Fortune Divine City across the entire Fortune Dominion, reaching its countless epochal worlds and sending shockwaves throughout the world.

Lin Xun! Across the heavens, who would dare forget the power that name represents?

Of course, none knew what had unfolded within the All-Wonder Dominion. Had that been revealed, the resulting upheaval would have been far greater.

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Three months later.

Fortune Divine City, the Lin Clan.

Inside a grand hall, Lin Fan sat with furrowed brow. "I don't know who leaked the news, but now all the divine clan across the various epochal civilizations of the Fortune Dominion know that Father will marry Aunt Xia Zhi next month."

In recent days, the city had grown more lively than ever before. Countless influential figures had flocked there, all awaiting the wedding. Even ancient monsters who had remained in closed-door cultivation for countless years had emerged.

Tang Jiang spoke gently, "Husband, what kind of person is Father? His every move draws the attention of the world. And an event as important as a marriage...how could it possibly be kept hidden."

Lin Fan gave a wry smile. "Father had originally planned to keep it low-profile, inviting only a few close family members and friends. But now...I'm afraid that won't be possible."

“This cannot be handled lightly.” At that moment, Zhao Jingxuan walked in. “Back in his youth, your Aunt Xia Zhi stood by your father’s side through everything. Now that the two of them have finally come together, I am truly overjoyed. Since the news has already spread, we might as well make this wedding as grand as it deserves to be.”

Lin Fan looked at his mother in surprise. “Mother, aren’t you even a little jealous?”

Zhao Jingxuan gave a cold snort. “What do you know? Don’t talk nonsense. You will handle this matter. If anything goes wrong, I won’t let you off lightly!”

With that, she turned and left without another word. Tang Jiang covered her lips with a smile. “Husband, in the days ahead, everything will depend on you.”

Lin Fan rose at once. “Then I’ll go find some help.”

That very day, Lin Fan paid visits to many powerful figures, including Xuan Feiling, Dugu Yong, Fang Daoping and other old monsters of the Origin Sect, Ji Wangtu, Ji Xi, Ji Shanhai and others of the Ji Clan, as well as his father’s close friends such as A’hu, Toady, A’lu, and the big black crow. Upon hearing his purpose, every one of them agreed without hesitation.

As the days passed, Fortune Divine City grew ever more crowded. Figures of terrifying power could be seen everywhere. Mighty beings from countless epochs across the Fortune Dominion had gathered here. One after another, they arrived in advance, each bearing carefully prepared gifts of congratulations.

However, an awkward truth soon became apparent. Not just anyone could obtain an invitation to the Lin Clan’s wedding. Even the patriarchs of supreme divine clans, despite exhausting every connection at their disposal, found it exceedingly difficult to secure one.

Despite that, no one was willing to leave. Even if they could not attend the banquet, they still chose to remain, just for the chance to witness, from afar, how many supreme figures would gather when the wedding began.

After all, with Lin Xun's current standing, he could be regarded as the number one person beneath the heavens, an unparalleled existence peerless across all ages. Those qualified to attend his wedding...how could they possibly be ordinary?

In truth, in the eyes of those great figures, this was no mere wedding banquet. Rather, it was a grand occasion that had drawn the attention of the entire world.

At last, the wedding day arrived.

On that day, auspicious clouds drifted across the skies above the city, suffused with radiant hues. Cascades of divine light poured down like celestial waterfalls. Heavenly music resounded, clear as phoenix cries, solemn as the tolling of ancient bells, echoing between heaven and earth, and filling all with a boundless, joyous serenity.

The entire city was immersed in an atmosphere of celebration and harmony. The gathered cultivators were all stirred by the sight. Countless wondrous phenomena converged, weaving together a scene so magnificent and resplendent that it inspired an almost instinctive urge to bow in reverence.

Within the Fangchun Secret Realm everything had likewise been transformed. At its center stood a grand hall adorned with lanterns and vibrant decorations, with a long crimson carpet stretching across the ground.

Before the hall rose an immense archway, forged entirely from auspicious clouds of the great dao. Dao rhythms shimmered and flowed through it, and anyone passing beneath could clearly feel a vast, overwhelming aura of the great dao washing over them.

To cultivate within such an environment would be no different from obtaining a heaven-defying fortune. However, today, its purpose was remarkably simple: to welcome guests.

Inside the hall, many figures were already gathered. At the forefront stood members of the Lin Clan, led by Lin Wenjing and his wife, alongside Lin Zhong, Lin Huaiyuan, Lin Xuefeng, and others.

Nearby were Xuan Jiuyin, Jintian Xuanyue, the couple Su Bai and Gu Xi, A'hu, the big black crow, A'lu, Little Sky, Jiujiu, Toady, the array spirit Little Five, the sword spirit Yezi and many other companions who had stood by Lin Xun through the years.

Also present were Yu Beidou and Chu Feng of the Ziyao Empire's Rune Master Association, instructors from Qinglu Academy, Gu Yanping and Gu Liang of Golden Jade Hall, and Shi Yu and his daughter Shi Linlang of Stone Cauldron Alms. On the other side stood Xuan Feiling, Dugu Yong, Fang Daoping, Yuan Wutian, and other figures of the Origin Sect.

From the Ancient Wasteland Domain came great beings such as Battle Emperor Mo Yang, Saint Buddha Xingjia, Dark Blood Underworld Emperor, and the Underworld Son. These close allies had resided in Fortune Divine City for many years, and in recent times had personally overseen preparations for the wedding. Today, they would bear witness to a wedding unlike any other in history.

As time passed, the preparations were complete. The entire venue was so grand and magnificent it seemed capable of astonishing the ages. Lin Fan and Tang Jiang stood before the main hall with their children, ready to receive the honored guests.

Lin Fan's nine children stood in order: the eldest son Lin Hengyun, second son Lin Hengxiao, third daughter Lin Hengjue, fourth daughter Lin Hengshan, fifth son Lin Hengqiu, sixth son Lin Hengxue, seventh son Lin Hengfeng, eighth daughter Lin Henglan, and ninth son Lin Hengdu. Of course, the youngest, Lin Hengyuan, still lay in swaddling.

For this wedding, all of the Lin Clan's kin and allies who had long roamed the world had already returned days in advance. None dared show even the slightest neglect.

Auspicious clouds drifted in clusters as radiant hues spread across the heavens. Divine light cascaded from the azure sky, while resplendent dao radiance vied with the brilliance of the sun and moon. Waves of heavenly dao music echoed between heaven and earth, suffusing the Fangchun Secret Realm with a sacred and transcendent aura.

As the appointed hour drew near, the lively atmosphere gradually faded, replaced by a solemn stillness.

Suddenly, Xuan Feiling's deep voice rang out, echoing across heaven and earth, "The auspicious hour has arrived!"

Clang! Clang! Clang! Peal after peal of bells rang out, shaking the firmament. There were nine tolls in total.

In an instant, everyone within and beyond the venue straightened, their expressions turning solemn.

“Welcome the guests!” Xuan Feiling proclaimed.

His voice carried far and wide, echoing throughout the Fangchun Secret Realm and resounding across the skies above the entire Fortune Divine City. At that moment, the whole city fell silent. Countless cultivators held their breath, knowing that this grand, world-shaking wedding was about to unfold!

Meanwhile, within the Fangchun Secret Realm, as Xuan Feiling gave the order to welcome the guests, the fabric of space suddenly rippled. A majestic figure stepped forth, elegant and transcendent, like a sovereign presiding over the nine heavens. It was none other than Bodhi, the Lord of Fangchun Mountain!

Behind him followed forty-nine successors of Fangchun Mountain, including the Combat Emperor, Zhong Qiu, Ruo Su, Ling Xuanzi, and the others. Their arrival stirred immediate commotion. Even the gathered great figures could not help but feel shaken.

Fangchun Mountain! Who in the world did not know that this was Lin Xun’s sect? Now that even a supreme being like the Lord of Fangchun Mountain had arrived in person, how could anyone remain unmoved?

Bodhi swept his gaze across the scene and smiled faintly. “Quite lively today.”

Behind him, the successors of Fangchun Mountain all wore smiles. On their way here, they had already witnessed the immense stir caused by their little junior brother’s wedding.

Before the commotion could settle, space rippled once more. The founder of the Origin Sect, Yuan Chu, and the founder of the Spirit Sect, Xu Yin, appeared together, accompanied by Lone Man, Elder Seer, and a host of towering figures such as Xing Jianxia, Fu Nanli, and Ren Futian.

Another wave of commotion swept through the crowd. Even Xuan Feiling and Dugu Yong were visibly shaken. They had never expected that the two founders themselves, Yuan Chu and Xu Yin, would arrive, leading such a formidable assembly of elders.

Both astonished and overjoyed, they hurried forward to greet them. By now, the entire venue had erupted into an uproar, and countless onlookers stared wide-eyed in disbelief.

Many members of the Lin Clan were still completely in the dark. They had no idea that, at this very moment, mighty figures who existed only in legends would arrive one after another. Only Lin Fan remained calm, a faint smile on his lips.

After all, he had arranged everything himself. He knew full well that this gathering would be far more than just the seniors of Fangchun Mountain, the Origin Sect, and the Spirit Sect attending.

Before long, ripples stirred through the void once more. Another group had arrived. This time, there were only two figures. However, the moment they appeared, the entire venue fell silent. All eyes were drawn toward them.

They were none other than Chen Xi and Chen Linkong. Even Bodhi, Yuan Chu, Xu Yin, and the others personally stepped forward to greet them. Those who did not know their identities were instantly shaken. Seeing them receive this level of respect, they immediately understood that these two were no ordinary existences.

Today was Lin Xun's wedding day. Thus, whether it was Chen Xi and Chen Linkong, or other great figures like Bodhi, Yuan Chu, and Xu Yin, all had restrained their auras upon arrival, revealing not the slightest trace of their overwhelming power. Even so, their mere presence still pressed upon the soul itself, causing it to tremble instinctively.

Lin Hengyun and his siblings had long since frozen in place, their hearts churning. Only now did they truly begin to understand just how immense their grandfather's power was. Everything they had witnessed over the past few days paled in comparison to the shock of this moment.

Especially after hearing from their father, Lin Fan, about the backgrounds of these towering figures, each of them felt as though they were caught in a dream.

Furthermore, judging by the reactions of everyone else present, they were not alone. Ever since returning to the Fortune Divine City, Lin Xun had scarcely spoken of the Sea of Fate or the All-Wonder Dominion. Because of this, no one had truly grasped until now that the power he now possessed was utterly beyond anything he had shown in the past.

When Chen Xi, Bodhi, and the others arrived, they each presented congratulatory gifts. One after another, rare and unimaginable treasures were revealed, sending waves of astonishment through the wedding ceremony again. The value of these gifts far exceeded anything the crowd had anticipated.

Any single one of them was something even the most powerful Eternal Divine Clan would not dare dream of possessing!

Only after all the guests had taken their seats did Xuan Feiling's voice ring out, "At last...the wedding ceremony begins."

In an instant, bells and drums resounded. Waves of heavenly dao music drifted through the air as auspicious omens suffused heaven and earth. Under the gaze of all present, two figures emerged from the central hall, drawing every eye.

Today, Lin Xun stood clad in crimson wedding robes. Beside him was Xia Zhi, crowned with a phoenix coronet and draped in embroidered silks, her figure graceful beyond compare.

The newlyweds stood upon the steps of the hall. Above them, divine light streamed down from the heavens, while dao melodies echoed far and wide. In the distance, honored guests filled the seats, as the sound of bells and drums rose without end.

This moment was destined to be etched forever into the memories of all who witnessed it. The ceremony was presided over by Bodhi, Lord of Fangchun Mountain, and witnessed by countless family members, friends, and supreme figures of the world.

Then, the wedding banquet began. The celebration lasted an entire day. Lin Xun could no longer recall how many cups of wine he had drunk, nor how many friends he had spoken with. He only knew that this day passed without the slightest trace of unhappiness.

On this day, he was no supreme existence who had mastered the Dao of Life, but simply a groom, an ordinary man cherishing the unique joy of this moment. The dao was the dao. And love was love.

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That night, within the bridal chamber, red candles flickered softly as silk curtains swayed, casting the room in a tranquil, intimate glow.

Xia Zhi, dressed in a brilliant red phoenix coronet and embroidered gown, sat quietly upon the bed. Under the lamplight, her fair, delicate features appeared all the more breathtaking, and even her clear, star-like eyes shimmered with a quiet, captivating brilliance.

In the quiet of the room, only she and Lin Xun remained. The sounds of the outside world seemed to fade into nothingness. Lin Xun stepped forward and sat beside her. Her lashes trembled faintly, as if she had only just realized what this night would bring. In a soft voice, she murmured, “Lin Xun...”

Before she could finish, her words were gently stilled by a kiss. What followed was tender and beyond words, a moment that belonged to them alone, never to be shared with others.

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That same night, the city remained ablaze with light. Laughter, conversation, and the clinking of cups echoed without end. The guests of the wedding banquet were still gathered, drinking and chatting in high spirits.

Meanwhile, in a quiet hall upon the mountainside, the atmosphere was serene. Cradling the sleeping Lin Hengyuan in her arms, Zhao Jingxuan spoke softly, “Miss Xuanyue, I told you before, if you were willing, I would speak to my husband on your behalf. So many years have passed...surely he should know your feelings by now.”

Beside her, clad in white, the stunning Jintian Xuanyue felt her heart tremble slightly. After a pause, she shook her head. “Sister, there’s no need. As long as I can remain by the young master’s side, I am already content.”

Zhao Jingxuan sighed inwardly. “Of all things in this world, perhaps the most unfathomable is the matter of the heart. As cultivators, who among us can truly sever the seven emotions and six desires?”

She could not help but feel pity for Jintian Xuanyue.

Jintian Xuanyue only smiled, her expression calm and untroubled. “Cultivating the dao is also cultivating the heart. I once served as the young master’s dao attendant, and long ago, I made up my mind that I will never marry in this life.”

Zhao Jingxuan gave a soft hum of acknowledgement, then chuckled lightly, “Like father, like son. Fan’er is just as clueless. Over the years, who knows how many women have fallen for him, yet he gives his heart to Tang Jiang alone.”

Jintian Xuanyue couldn’t help but smile as well.

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The day after the wedding ceremony ended.

Chen Xi, Chen Linkong, Bodhi and the other great figures departed one after another. The remaining guests also gradually took their leave. At the same time, news of the events at the wedding spread beyond the city, stirring waves of discussion.

“Senior Lin Xun’s cultivation...has it already reached a level unrivaled beneath the heavens?”

“It must be so. Otherwise, how could so many supreme figures have personally come to offer their congratulations?”

“The Lin Clan is truly blessed!”

Across Fortune Divine City and throughout the various epochal worlds of the Fortune Dominion, people spoke endlessly of the wedding. Before long, the news spread even further, reaching the Nine Great Heaven Domains of the Eternal True Realm, the Great Thousand Worlds, the Ancient Nebula Road, and beyond, setting off wave after wave of astonishment.

Time flowed on, and year followed year. Lin Xun remained within the Lin Clan, quietly enjoying the warmth of family life.

Beyond the Fortune Dominion, within the vast expanse of the Spirit Martial Epoch, encompassing countless world planes such as the Eternal True Realm and the Great Thousand Worlds, a faint aura of calamity began to spread.

“An epochal calamity is about to descend!”

Across the myriad worlds, countless powerful beings sensed the ominous signs at once, their hearts seized by unease and dread.

“How...how could this be?”

Countless cultivators were left shaken and bewildered. Once such a calamity descended, there would be nowhere to hide and nowhere to escape, for all living beings existed within the Spirit Martial Epoch. When the epochal calamity arrived, none could evade it, whether cultivator or mortal.

“This is fate, the cycle of the heavenly dao. When a great calamity befalls the world, who can possibly escape it...?”

Some fell into despair, their hearts turning to ash.

“Have you not seen? Even supreme beings like Lin Xun have chosen to lie low within the Fortune Dominion. As for insignificant figures like us...we are destined to perish along with this epoch.” A long, helpless sigh drifted through the world.

However, on that very day, a single thought resounded across the heavens: “Today, I, Lin Xun, will resolve the calamity and establish the dao.”

The voice was faint, yet it rose to the ninth heaven and spread instantly across all realms and worlds. At that moment, all living beings felt it. They stopped where they stood, gazing toward the heavens with solemn, reverent expressions, as though their very souls were being cleansed by an unseen force.

Those with great powers suddenly realized that the gathering aura of the epochal calamity had vanished without a trace. At some unknown moment, it had silently disappeared, no longer perceptible in the slightest.

However, unlike before, the Heavenly Cycle Dao Laws of the Spirit Martial Epoch now bore an additional mysterious and unfathomable law power. It was so profound that even divine beings trembled before it!

That was Lin Xun’s own dao aura! To become the heart of heaven and earth, to live for all living things, and to usher in an era of lasting peace for all generations.

“Senior Lin Xun...he actually resolved the epochal calamity...rewrote the order of heaven, and saved all living beings from the impending disaster!”

“Heavens!”

“Just how powerful has he become?!”

Countless cries of astonishment and shock resounded across the Eternal True Realm, the Great Thousand Worlds, and innumerable cosmic planes. No one had imagined that a successor of Fangchun Mountain could suppress an epochal calamity, establish the dao within the world, and save all beings from the brink of destruction.

Even more inconceivable was that he had transcended the very Heavenly Cycle Dao Laws of the Spirit Martial Epoch, forcing even the laws of heaven to bow before him.

Before long, those memories of Lin Xun and all he had done vanished silently, as though erased by an unseen hand. Confusion arose, but no matter how they racked their minds, nothing could be recalled. As for the billions of living beings in the world, they had never known that anything had happened at all.

“The dao is formless and nameless...therefore, it is omnipresent. If any trace of me, Lin Xun, were to remain within it...that would itself be a flaw.”

Within the Fangchun Secret Realm, Lin Xun reclined in a rocking chair, a faint smile on his lips as he sipped his wine. Not far away, a small child was learning to walk, stumbling and falling from time to time.

Behind them, Xia Zhi watched quietly, her eyes filled with gentle tenderness. This was their child. From the moment they were born, they became another light in Xia Zhi’s world, shining alongside Lin Xun.