

## Prodigies 591

### [The Prodigies War](#)

#### Chapter 591: World within a Lotus

A lotus flower blossomed, illuminating the entire universe like a lantern!

The divine scene shocked everyone, causing their expressions to change as they were assaulted by indescribable disbelief.

It was like a miracle had appeared.

An ethereal fragrance began to spread. It felt like a holy and clean aura that could wash away all impurities.

Meanwhile, wisp after wisp of Zen sounds spread from the lotus flower. It started off faint, but gradually grew grand and immeasurable!

It was as if three thousand Buddhas were chanting the sutras together, producing a sound close to the dao itself as it echoed across the heavens and universe while resonating with the soul.

Numerous experts stirred restlessly. The lotus flower was too divine, like something that could not possibly belong to this world. It would certainly be a peerless treasure if obtained.

Lin Xun muttered, "It seems that everything is indeed related to an ancient saint stage Buddhist cultivator..."

"Careful, we must be careful!"

Toady grew increasingly nervous. He seemed to sense something and cautioned, "Among the saints of ancient times, those bald monks are known to be the most difficult to deal with. They possess the proof of dao, comprehend karma, can deduce the Mahayana saint art, and have the most tenacious and steady hearts."

"Put bluntly, they are a bunch of crazy bigots who will do everything in their power to realize their convictions, and there is nothing in this world that will ever change their minds."

Wasn't this tantamount to scolding the Buddhist saint cultivators? Lin Xun could not help but be astonished by Toady's choice of words. It seemed that he had quite a lot to say about these Buddhist cultivators.

"You have to believe me. If this opportunity is related to Buddhist cultivators, it will be insanely difficult to obtain. Those bald monks are always fixated on fate, which is a huge headache."

Toady grumbled, "You'll understand when it fully emerges."

Above the peak, the bowl-sized lotus flower grew increasingly sacred and clear, flowing with light that could illuminate the entire universe as it gently whirled and swayed.

The ethereal Zen fragrance and sutra chanting caused the atmosphere to feel solemn and sacred.

At the foot of the mountain, the bitterly fighting experts were awed by this scene. All of them stopped what they were doing as if they had suddenly gained enlightenment, no longer fighting as they stood on the spot with pious expressions.

A similar scene was occurring on the peak. The experts felt dazed while an almighty power beat against their hearts and souls as if trying to proselytize them.

“Careful!”

“That’s the proselytism power of the Buddhist Sect. It is a terrifying force that will basically end your life if it manages to erode your heart and mind!”

“Damn it! Is this opportunity related to the Buddhist Sect? Didn’t they lose their true inheritance long ago in some ancient era?”

Several of the top experts realized that something was wrong, causing their expressions to change drastically. They hurriedly shouted to warn the other experts beside them.

“Interesting.”

A transcendental smokey aura swirled around Xiao Ran, making him untouchable. He was clearly unaffected and was instead trying to immerse himself in the power belonging to the Buddhist Sect.

Yun Che, Su Xingfeng, Gong Yangyu, and the others focused, casting aside all other thoughts, as they guarded their minds and hearts to prevent being affected.

Lin Xun circulated the Little Divine Meditation Art. The stars in his mind-sea shone like moons in the sky, instantly dispelling any undulations in his mind.

How frightening, I almost succumbed without knowing!

Lin Xun’s heart shivered, finally realizing that Toady was right. Although the opportunity seemed sacred and solemn, it was secretly filled with unpredictable changes and dangers.

He looked toward Zhao Jingxuan and Toady and immediately relaxed upon finding that they had successfully neutralized the proselytism power as well.

Gurgle!

As time passed, the lotus flower suddenly blossomed, revealing forty-nine petals. Divine paths made from light spouted from each petal, creating an indescribably gorgeous and magnificent sight.

Meanwhile, doors materialized above the forty-nine altars, pulsing with saint aura.

The doors were connected to light paths that led to the forty-nine petals!

From a distance, the altars resembled doors, and the light paths bridges that led to the center of the lotus flower.

“The altars are doors, and the petals are paths into the lotus flower’s heart? Could the opportunity be hidden in the lotus flower?”

Some experts speculated as their eyes flickered.

It was at this moment that a grand disembodied voice rang out across the area—

“A single grain of sand can contain a thousand worlds, all arts originate from the same source, and ten thousand reincarnations pass in an instant. This opportunity will only be bestowed to the destined person!”

It was like a Buddhist hymn, but it was not complicated. Instead, nearly everyone understood, the final part about the ‘opportunity being bestowed to the destined person’ especially shook up the entire place.

The experts' breathing grew heavier, and their eyes burned with desire as they rubbed their hands in anticipation.

It has finally appeared!

At some unknown time, the divine undulations had finally fallen silent, along with the Sanskrit chanting. The fragrance had also dissipated, leaving only the forty-nine softly vibrating altars.

Above the altars, doors surrounded the lotus flower in a circular phalanx while paths led from each door to the lotus flower in the middle like roads into a land of opportunity.

The lotus flower was clearly the size of a bowl. However, every sign at this moment indicated that the opportunity was hidden within the lotus flower, causing numerous experts to be startled.

However, there wasn't any time to think about it because some experts had already moved!

Rumble!

An imposing figure emerged from one of the zones on the peak, his body flowing with jet-black light and filled with terrifying, berserk power.

His piercingly cold eyes and halberd-shaped beard made him resemble a supreme overlord overlooking his domain. He took a step forward and walked into the door above the altar.

‘Little Bull Demon King’ Niu Tuntian!

The Herculean Demon Bull Clan Chosen was a famous apex heaven pride who possessed superior talent and combat power, and he was the first to move.

Lin Xun wasn't the only one who had been making a name for himself in the Deva Secret Domain. In other places, various individuals had also been distinguishing themselves from the rest and carved their own bloody rise to fame.

Niu Tuntian was one of the most famous among them. His path had been filled with battle, and he had seized uncountable treasures from the tiger's jaws. The experts who had died at his hands numbered no less than a hundred!

Swoosh!

In another zone, a beautiful figure clothed in dazzling gold light also stepped forward and walked onto the altar.

She was bathed in fiery light, dream-like golden light sprinkled down around her like rain, making it impossible to make out her features.

However, everyone immediately identified her. It was the Golden Luan Clan Saintess, Meng Lianqing!

She had once single handedly taken on three Saint-level individuals and ultimately defeated them. Her peerless cultivation most certainly made her a force to be reckoned with.

It wasn't just Niu Tuntian and Meng Lianqing. Several other unrivaled individuals had also begun to move, like Cloud Hou Clan Saint, Kong Xiu, the Mysterious Ao Clan Saint, Xuan Luozi, etc.

These individuals had been making names for themselves in the Deva Secret Domain through their battle accomplishments. Each was like a rising star that ordinary Saints could not compare to.

All of them had moved nearly in unison, clearly intent on being the first to reach the great opportunity!

“Go!”

Xiao Ran also moved and Su Xingfeng and the others quickly followed.

Just as Lin Xun was about to set off as well, he was stopped by a transmission from Toady. “The opportunity will only be bestowed onto the destined person. Do you still remember what this king said earlier? These Buddhist baldies are obsessed with fate. The first to move might not be the one to obtain the greatest benefit.”

Lin Xun was taken aback. “You're saying we should wait a little longer?”

“This king can decipher the Mahayana secret script. Since each of the forty-nine altars has been inscribed with this secret script, it won't be too late for us to get going after deciphering them all.”

Toady shiftily transmitted excitedly, “This king has a feeling that the words on the altars aren't so simple. How about it, do you want to give it a try?”

“This...”

Lin Xun was tempted and began to hesitate.

Above the altar, Su Xingfeng frowned and asked, “Why aren't you moving?”

Lin Xun casually answered, “You guys go first. I'm worried about the danger and plan to wait a little longer before going.”

“Someone like you can feel afraid?”

Su Xingfeng's lips curled in disdain.

“It's fine, we'll move first.”

Xiao Ran turned his head and looked deeply at Lin Xun. He did not say anything else and walked toward the door above the altar.

“Don't waste too much time, and don't move out too late. If you miss the timing, you'll be left with nothing but regret!”

Su Xingfeng coldly snorted as he and the others left with Xiao Ran.

Zhao Jingxuan could not help but inquire, "What are you guys doing?"

Lin Xun briefly explained. Zhao Jingxuan immediately understood. After some thought, resolve flashed in her clear eyes, and she also decided to stay behind.

On the peak, the other top experts had already begun to move. They stepped into the doors above the altars and followed the light paths toward the divine lotus flower.

However, everything changed the moment they stepped onto the paths. Stars and time seemed to whirl around them as their bodies rapidly shrunk. By the time they neared the lotus, they had already become as small as grains of sand that were nearly impossible to make out.

Several of the remaining experts on the peak gasped!

Someone exclaimed, "Squeezing Mount Xumi into a mustard seed! That's a legendary supreme divine art that uses the power of space and time to allow even a single leaf or flower to contain an entire world!"

However, this did not scare them off, but instead made them scramble even more quickly into the door.

They finally understood that although the lotus flower was only the size of a bowl, everything was different inside it. Like how Mount Xumi was contained into a mustard seed, the lotus flower likely contained a vast land of opportunity!

The experts had not actually shrunk, but had crossed into a different space where a miraculous transformation had occurred!

Only saint experts could possess such a remarkable technique.

After all forty-nine altars were emptied, the long-waiting Toady revealed an extremely smug and crude smile as he led Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan to investigate the other altars.

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#### **Chapter 592: Secret of the Bodhi**

While Lin Xun, Zhao Jingxuan, and Toady were beginning their operation, a terrifying presence suddenly appeared in an area nearby.

It was a Golden-Winged Great Peng whose wings looked as if they had been forged from solid gold. Terrifying, radiant ocean-like dao light flowed along its body as its sharp golden eyes gazed at the mountain in the distance like a king.

"My god! That's... is that the Great Peng from the ancient era?"

At the foot of the mountain, numerous experts exclaimed in surprise.

Rumble!

The Golden-Winged Great Peng opened its mouth and sucked. An unstoppable force immediately swept up a dozen experts and sent them into its mouth.

Crack! Crack!

The Golden-Winged Great Peng slowly chewed as blood began to flow from the corners of its mouth. It looked apathetic as if it was sampling an appetizer, evidently viewing the experts as nothing but food.

The appalling scene caused blood to drain from the other experts' faces before they shrieked in terror and frantically fled toward the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain.

Crash~

The sky was suddenly covered by a shadow as an enormous mountain-like snake head appeared. Its blood-colored pupils resembled a pair of lakes, and its forked tongue was akin to a blood-colored waterfall flowing in reverse.

Another dozen experts were swallowed by the snake in an instant, unable to even resist.

However, when the giant snake tried to approach the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain, it was stopped by a divine force, causing it to hiss and retreat.

Peerless Great Serpent!

Its long body resembled a mountain range covered in azure scales. It towered over the land, looking down on everyone as it gave off a terrifying aura.

"Damnit! What kind of monster is that? Why is its aura even more terrifying than a Life Death Stage King?"

"Run, quickly escape up the mountain!"

Any thoughts about fighting were long gone from the remaining experts' minds as they ran up the mountain like lunatics, creating a scene that could only be described as chaotic.

The Golden-Winged Great Peng did not move from the spot as it withdrew its wings. It proudly stood in the sky with a cold and haughty expression.

When it gazed at the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain, however, a trace of unexplainable wariness and unconcealable desire rippled in its eyes.

On the other side, the Peerless Great Serpent flicked its red tongue as it closely watched the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain as well.

They should have originally been mortal enemies, but had temporarily put aside their differences and turned their sights to the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain.

Soon after, a palm-leaf-sized butterfly appeared, its colorful wings glowing with five-colored light.

When it arrived, it glanced at the Golden-Winged Great Peng and Peerless Great Serpent before choosing another area to silently watch the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain.

Its presence was no weaker than the other two.

Swish!

A cloud of azure light appeared from another direction. It was a majestic azure fox with soft and smooth silk-like fur.

As it walked across the air, its deep, worldly, and intelligent eyes glanced over the three other terrors. In the end, it also stopped and looked at the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain.

Four great terrors who occupied different territories in the Deva Secret Domain had appeared together and were looking toward the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain as if waiting for something.

It was an extremely shocking scene.

The silver lining was that the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain was covered in terrifying restriction power and divine aura. Although the Golden-Winged Great Peng and the other beasts were powerful, the closer they were the more they would be restrained, making it impossible to approach.

Otherwise, it would be a disaster for the many experts present.

Rumble!

Not long after, a centipede appeared. Its ten-foot-long body seemed to be made from green jade, and it gave off a terrifying and sinister aura.

It seemed to be in a violent mood and immediately charged at the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain the moment it appeared. Jade-green light rose like steam from its body, supercharging it with dreadful power.

It wanted to force its way into the mountain!

This made the Golden-Winged Great Peng, the Peerless Great Serpent, the butterfly, and the azure fox narrow their eyes.

However, their expressions soon returned to normal.

Before the jade-green centipede could come anywhere close, it was crushed by a strand of divine aura. Its body nearly caved into itself as it released a piercing shriek.

Fortunately, it reacted quickly and retreated with all its might, avoiding the worst possible situation. When it looked at the mountain again, however, its gaze was filled with wariness and fear, but also a look that said it was unable to accept its failure.

In the end, it restrained itself and silently took a spot some distance away.

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Outside the Return Dominion.

“The sacred mountain’s opportunity is about to descend. It seems to be related to the legendary Buddhist saint cultivator!”

The news shook the entire place, causing the bigwigs from the various clans to reveal excited and smug expressions.

The Herculean Demon Bull Clan, the Golden Luan Clan, the Cloud Hou Clan, the Mysterious Ao Clan, and the other clans that had managed to take the initiative were even cheering.

The greatest opportunity had finally appeared. It filled the bigwigs with longing, wishing they could also enter the secret domain to explore it.

Unfortunately, all they could do was think about it.

The excitement and joy did not last for long before the bad news arrived—

“Monsters, many monsters have appeared in the vicinity of the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain. There’s a Golden-Winged Great Peng, a mysterious giant snake, and a palm-leaf-sized five-colored butterfly!”

“Many clansmen were unable to escape in time and were eaten by them!”

“They are more frightening than Life Death Stage Kings. My god, why did so many terrifying existences suddenly appear in that god-forsaken place?”

The spirits of many experts began to appear on the Life Soul Altars. They were the experts who had managed to escape using the Life Soul Bone Talisman after being killed.

Their recounts caused the bigwigs’ hearts to turn cold and their expressions to sink as they realized the severity of the issue.

“These terrifying creatures are clearly there for the opportunity in the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain! Since they can’t enter, they have decided to camp outside. In other words, no matter which disciple manages to obtain the opportunity, they will be attacked the moment they try to leave!”

One of the bigwigs gnashed his teeth in hatred.

“The fact that it managed to draw so many terrifying creatures means that it is definitely no ordinary opportunity. It’s so infuriating that we can only wait outside and cannot enter to help!”

Another bigwig bitterly lamented, his face green with rage.

Who could have anticipated that a group of terrifying creatures would gather before anyone even obtained the opportunity?

“This matter is not that simple or severe. Since those terrifying creatures can’t enter the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain, it means that there’s a chance for the disciples to escape.”

One of the more cool-headed bigwigs shared his analysis.

“If they dare to kill any of my clansmen, I will wipe them all out one day!”

A thunderous roar suddenly boomed. It was the Herculean Demon Bull Clan’s Demon Bull King Niu Xiaori. His voice was filled with murderous rage.

However, that was all they could do. After all, they were stuck outside and could not enter. No matter how angry they felt, they could only glare, hope for a good outcome, and pray that nothing would go wrong.

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Back on the peak.

“Scam? That’s all? F’ck his grandma, another useless message! Why are all those bold monks like this? They’re clearly being nonsensical!”

Toady cursed out loud, clearly rather frustrated.

He had brought Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan to investigate the other altars. Since there was no longer anyone else around, they had quickly explored nine altars.

It was exactly as Toady had predicted. Strange and cryptic Mahalayana secret script had been left on each altar. However, the contents were nothing but disappointing, and they had discovered nothing of value until now.

This left Toady dumbfounded and exasperated. He had originally believed that he would discover some secret or clue from the altars and had not expected that it instead would all be nonsensical words.

It would be a devastating loss if they ended up finding nothing. Not only would they have lost the initiative in vying for the opportunity, but they would also have wasted a lot of precious time!

“Let’s go to the next one.”

Lin Xun’s expression had become a little dejected, already somewhat regretting having listened to Toady’s nonsense. However, since they had already started this, he would make sure that they would investigate every single altar.

“Right right right, let’s go look elsewhere. We’ll definitely find something.”

Toady was feeling somewhat embarrassed and could not bear to face Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan. Hence, he hurriedly agreed to Lin Xun’s suggestion.

“They’ve been watching us since the beginning.”

Zhao Jingxuan was feeling rather uneasy as she pointed to the Golden-Winged Great Peng and the other terrors camping outside the mountain.

They had been shocked to discover them earlier and soon realized that these creatures must have been lured here by the opportunity in the mountain.

However, after realizing that the creatures could not approach the sacred mountain, Lin Xun and the others could care less about them.

“Ignore them. They’re just a bunch of useless trash that can’t even enter the mountain. It’s only fitting that all they can do is watch us in envy.”

The smug manner in which Toady said it made Lin Xun itch to hit the back of his head.

If these creatures that were comparable to Life Death Stage Kings were trash, wouldn’t all of them be worse than trash?

“Hurry up and move!”

Lin Xun glared at Toady.

Toady knew that his plan so far wasn't really working out. Hence, he didn't argue back but instead continued the operation.

"Fangchun is where the heart lies. Does that mean that Fangchun Mountain doesn't exist?"

"I did not expect that he would have tricked all of us..."

"Does Fangchun Mountain really not exist?"

Toady investigated altar after altar only to find that their contents were similar.

It made his expression grow increasingly ugly as he incessantly cursed the Buddhist saint cultivators for leaving such nonsense instead any useful clues. It was as if they were taunting and making fun of anyone who managed to decipher the words.

Even Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were speechless. What kind of place was Fangchun Mountain? Why were these Buddhist saint cultivators so obsessed over it?

Finally, while investigating the thirteenth altar, Toady was suddenly invigorated by a new discovery!

When Toady translated the Mahayana secret script on the altar, Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were first taken aback before they immediately honed in on a certain few key words.

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#### **Chapter 593: Om Mani Padme Hum**

"Why does this king feel as if things are becoming more and more complicated..." Toady was also taken aback.

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan felt the same.

Before entering the Deva Secret Domain, they had originally thought it contained the inheritance of a monster-beast saint from the ancient era.

However, after exploring the domain for some time, they discovered that the Deva Secret Domain was actually a land of legacy for a group of saints that they had established together under the leadership of a saint stage king.

The saints' aim had been to leave behind blessings for their descendants in hopes that when they emerged into the world, they would be able to surpass the older generation and create new legends on the road of cultivation.

It was only when the trio arrived at the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain and did some investigating that they discovered the mountain seemed to be related to ancient Buddhist saint cultivators as well!

The most bewildering part was that baffling words had been left on all forty-nine altars such as 'Fangchun Mountain', 'scam', 'crescent moon three stars', etc.

"This place is filled with too much mystery. We underestimated it before we came." Zhao Jingxuan sighed softly.

“Deva Secret Domain...legacy land of the saints...the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain that seems to be related to Buddhist saint cultivators...everything here is an outrageous enigma,” Lin Xun strongly agreed.

“This king is certain that this secret domain is a legacy land of the saints!”

Toady concluded after much thought, “As for the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain, it’s merely one of the legacy locations left by a saint who is also a great Buddhist saint cultivator from the ancient era!”

Lin Xun asked, “Then who is the monster-beast saint this domain was named after?”

Toady deduced, “That might only be a false rumor. Perhaps, that monster-beast saint was actually a Buddhist cultivator!”

Lin Xun was taken aback. A monster-beast saint Buddhist cultivator? It was a novel explanation that did seem to fit.

“No, the Mahayana secret script left on these forty-nine altars are definitely not from the same person.” Zhao Jingxuan suddenly pointed out something weird.

“That’s easy to explain. You guys should know that the Deva Secret Domain is from the ancient era, and countless years have passed since then. Over the years, many amazing individuals must have come here and explored.”

Toady’s thoughts gradually became clear as his golden eyes glimmered.

Zhao Jingxuan asked, “However, if many experts did come here in the past, then why did they leave these baffling words on the altars?”

At this moment, Lin Xun’s eyes suddenly narrowed and he said, “I have a certain hypothesis. For us, the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain is a place where a peerless opportunity is hidden.”

“For the experts that came here in the past, however, they might have thought this place to be ‘Fangchun Mountain’ and sought to find the ‘secret of the Bodhi’ within it!”

“Exactly!”

Toady commended, “You’re on the same page as this king. This so-called Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain was once viewed as ‘Fangchun Mountain’ by those Buddhist saint cultivators, who believed the ‘secret of the Bodhi’ was hidden within it. However, they ultimately failed to find anything and felt that it was all a scam and neither Fangchun Mountain nor the secret of the Bodhi actually existed!”

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan finally began to understand somewhat. However, when they thought about it more closely, they found that there were still several loopholes.

Zhao Jingxuan could not help but ask, “So is this Fangchun Mountain, or is it all a scam like the words on the altars have indicated?”

“The words on the altar are written in the Mahayana secret script, a rare type of Sanskrit in the ancient era that only Buddhist saint cultivators can use. Wouldn’t that mean that numerous Buddhist saint cultivators have explored this mountain over the years?”

Lin Xun also spoke up as he looked at Toady, "If that is the case, how can you be sure that the opportunity hidden in the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain is related to a certain Buddhist saint cultivator from the ancient era?"

Toady was taken aback. He looked at Zhao Jingxuan and then at Lin Xun before he angrily said in embarrassment, "We're here for the opportunity and not to investigate these stupid matters of the past. Who cares about Fangchun Mountain?"

"It seems that you don't know either." Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan had become suspicious.

Toady unhappily retorted, "Although this king has knowledge of all precious items and treasures, it doesn't mean I know all of the secrets in history!"

"Go go go, stop idiotically standing around. Time is precious, so let's head to the next altar."

Toady quickly slipped away, evidently afraid that Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan would ask him more questions he could not answer.

However, they did not find any more noteworthy clues from the following few altars.

While they were feeling disappointed, Toady's eyes suddenly widened as he excitedly scrambled forward, his face nearly touching the next altar as he blabbered, "There's a real secret here that's different from the other altars!"

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were immediately drawn over.

"The ever-changing...and inseparable from the sect...are...om...ma...ni...pad...me...hum!"

Toady read each word with a noticeable pause. Perhaps it was because he was overly excited and the Mahalayana secret script was too cryptic and complicated, so he could only identify and translate them one by one.

"The ever-changing and inseparable from the sect are om mani padme hum." Lin Xun dazedly repeated the words and asked, "What does it mean?"

The last six syllables were too difficult to pronounce and had a strange rhythm. Although there were only six syllables, they seemed to contain countless meanings.

Omm!

After he said them, a mysterious undulation suddenly arose nearby as a door swirling with dao light appeared!

In addition, light spouted from the lotus flower and connected to the door like a bridge.

The magical scene shook Lin Xun's, Zhao Jingxuan's, and Toady's hearts. As expected, they did find some kind of secret from the altars!

"The power of those words must have activated some hidden mechanism that made this door appear!"

Toady was overjoyed. "There are fifty daos but only forty-nine can be derived in the world. The altars just so happen to be opposite, and the missing 'one' has now been discovered by us! This door is the 'one that escaped'!"

Toady grew increasingly excited and nearly began bouncing up and down. "Didn't they say the opportunity would only be left to the fated person? We've now become that 'fated' person!"

"Come on, it's time for us to seize this opportunity!"

Toady leaped into the door before Lin Xun could stop him.

"Ah, whatever, let's also get going."

Zhao Jingxuan smiled faintly and said, "I feel that Toady is correct; this is the most appropriate path for us."

Lin Xun shrugged. "It's the only choice we have now."

The two of them also walked into the mysterious door and began walking across the light bridge as the stars spun around them.

Their bodies rapidly shrank as they disappeared into the lotus flower.

After they vanished, the door and bridge disappeared as well as if none of it had ever happened.

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The peak was covered in a sacred aura and mist. A lotus flower floated at the center of the peak, flowing with a bright light that seemed capable of illuminating the entire universe.

The doors above forty-nine altars were still present, as well as the forty-nine paths leading to the lotus flower.

After the first batch of experts crossed through the doors and disappeared into the world within the lotus flower, numerous experts soon arrived one after another and rushed into the doors as well.

These experts had originally been fighting at the foot of the mountain, but had fled in a panic to seek refuge at the peak after the appearance of the Golden-Winged Great Peng and the other terrifying monsters.

They were surprised to see the doors and immediately rushed in without much thought.

Although they were already lagging behind and could not eat the meat, they should at least be able to drink some soup, right?

With these thoughts, they plunged in.

"Here."

Later on, a man and a woman led a group of experts to the altar Lin Xun and the gang had disappeared from.

The woman was holding an old scroll that seemed to be made of a material that resembled jade. She stared at the Mahayana secret script on the altar and compared it with the characters on the scroll.

The man was somewhat nervous and expectant.

If Lin Xun were here, he would definitely be able to recognize them. It was Yao Susu and Lian Fei!

“It’s here. The secret map left by my father is correct!”

Soon after, Yao Susu’s face lit up in elation.

“Does that mean the pagoda and secret map from your father came from here?”

Lian Fei also grew excited.

“Of course. My father once came to the Return Dominion long ago. Although he didn’t enter the Deva Secret Domain, he unexpectedly obtained the pagoda and this secret map. That’s what I would call an effortless encounter, unlike us who still have to take many risks in order to search it out.”

Yao Susu was somewhat emotional and said, “It’s a pity that my father has died and even the Yao Clan has been destroyed...”

“Susu, don’t be sad. When we obtain the greatest blessing within, we will return to the empire and avenge your father and the others!”

Lian Fei hurriedly consoled her, “I heard that the culprits who killed your father and the others are Lin Xun and Steel-Blood King Ning Bugui. The day will come when I will personally execute both of them and use their blood as an offering to the Yao Clan!”

Yao Susu took a deep breath and cast away such thoughts before she began to focus on translating the words on the altar using the secret map.

“The ever-changing and inseparable from the sect are om mani padme hum.”

The words she uttered sounded strange and cryptic.

Space suddenly rippled and a door appeared. At the same time, light surged from the lotus flower and connected to the door.

It was exactly the same thing that had happened to Lin Xun and the gang.

“So it is here! Hahaha, those idiots from the other clans only know how to blindly rush in. Who could have imagined that the true opportunity isn’t obtainable through brute force?”

Lian Fei loudly laughed in excitement.

He only dared to mock them so openly because there was no one else on the peak.

“Why so much rubbish? Move quickly before something else happens!”

A frosty voice suddenly sounded from the group behind Lian Fei.

Icy rage flashed in Lian Fei’s eyes but he ultimately restrained himself.

These experts were from the Water Brute Tribe. Lian Fei and Yao Susu had only been able to enter the Deva Secret Domain with the help of a bigwig from the Water Brute Tribe.

However, Lian Fei abhorred the attitudes of these experts. They viewed the duo as insects and did not give them even the minimum amount of courtesy.

“Brother Fei, let’s move first. After we enter and obtain the opportunity, we can use it to kill those distasteful people!”

Yao Susu transmitted in a voice brimming with hatred.

Lian Fei immediately nodded and stepped into the door without hesitation.

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#### **Chapter 594: Saint Skeleton Passage: Origin and Destruction**

Lamps hung from the stone walls of the passageway, sprinkling away the darkness with their soft light.

Shadows flickered on the walls like they always had for countless years, giving off a sensation of eternity and silence.

“Is this the world of the lotus flower?”

Toady was surprised when he arrived and curiously looked around. He even thought about breaking off one of the lamps to have a closer look.

However, he hesitated out of wariness and caution and ultimately decided against it. Hence, he could only try his best to study them with his eyes alone.

After a long time, he disappointedly said, “They’re only the most ordinary dragon oil lamps, no wonder they could keep burning till now.”

“Careful, this place is too quiet.”

Lin Xun scanned the surroundings, feeling a sliver of unexplainable nervousness as if something dangerous was hidden deep within the passageway.

He had already taken out the Broken Blade and was firmly grasping it.

Zhao Jingxuan had also taken out the Nine Dragons Cauldron. Auspicious light sprinkled from it, forming a defensive layer around her.

They advanced along the passageway.

The atmosphere was quiet, not a single sound to be heard. Although the long passageway was illuminated by the lanterns’ soft glow, the deathly silent atmosphere would make anyone shiver uncontrollably.

Not long after, a mist-like glow surfaced in the distance like the sprinkling light left in the wake of a flying immortal. It was exceptionally eye-catching in the monotonous passageway.

“This is?”

Lin Xun and the others were slightly startled. When they looked closely, they discovered a figure seated cross-legged on the ground in the glowing area. It looked very ancient in its daoist clothes and sported snow-white hair that reached all the way to the floor.

The mist-like light seemed to originate from the figure.

The figure was currently facing them. Its silver eyes seemed to burn like the sun as a terrifying aura spread from them.

Lin Xun's and the others' turned rigid as a chill filled their bodies. Their hearts wildly thumped while their spirits trembled uncontrollably as if on the verge of crumbling.

"Oh no!"

Toady suddenly cried out as a knife handle appeared in his hand. It released a smog of black light that spread out in front of him like a halo, blocking the aura from the figure.

The bizarre sensation instantly dissipated although Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were still shivering in horror.

The aura from the figure had nearly killed them!

"What the hell, it's a saint corpse!"

Toady blurted out in alarm. Although the figure's eyes were clear, it was a corpse without any life force and had been dead for countless years.

This was even all the more alarming. How strong had the saint been to be capable of preserving his body so perfectly even after death? It was so life-like and its aura could have easily killed all of them!

It was simply inconceivable!

How terrifying would he have been if he was alive?

"This old fellow must have been an amazing existence, and yet he ended up dying here for some reason. There are no hints of any injury on his body, which makes this seem rather strange."

Toady mumbled to himself as his golden eyes inspected the saint corpse.

The knife handle in his hand continued to release clear black light as he spoke, and he did not dare to relax in the slightest.

"So this is a saint?"

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were deeply shaken.

A Life Death Stage King was already a frightening existence that they could only look up to, while a saint was an existence that stood above that!

The Saint Stage was a superior cultivation stage that could only be reached after experiencing the nine longevity tribulations. After surpassing the ordinary and entering the saint realm, it was said that a cultivator's lifespan would become equal to heaven and earth!

The shock factor of seeing the saint corpse from the ancient era appear right before their eyes was so tremendous that no one would be able to remain calm.

“This daoist robe...seems to be made from Star Soul Silver Silk!”

Toady’s eyes glowed as his breathing grew heavy. “That’s a damn nice find. A single strand of Star Soul Silver Silk can crush a mountain and is heavier than an entire planet. I can’t believe this old fellow wove it into a daoist robe!”

Toady was practically drooling. A Star Soul Silver Silk daoist robe was a saint-level supreme treasure!

Unable to restrain himself, Toady gritted his teeth and directed the knife handle in an attempt to remove the corpse’s clothes.

However, he screamed a split second later when he was knocked away by a terrifying force, causing him to cough blood.

If the black light produced by the mystical knife handle had not helped him neutralize most of the force, then it would probably have taken his life.

Fear washed over Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan. The saint corpse was too powerful. Even after being dead for countless years, it was still akin to a god that had surpassed the limitations of mortals and could destroy anything that tried to violate its sanctity.

“Damnit, the rumors are true that saints cannot be disrespected. It is the unbreakable law of the dao. Unless you possess a similar level of power, it will be impossible to take away this treasure.”

Toady dejectedly crawled up from the ground. That was a daoist robe made from Star Soul Silver Silk! But he couldn’t take it...

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan looked at each other.

Toady was far too greedy. He didn’t seem to care that he had nearly lost his life. Instead, he was in anguish over being unable to take the treasure. What an oddball.

“Toady, that knife handle of yours is pretty good.”

Suddenly, Lin Xun said as he stared at the knife handle. He had seen it before when he first met Toady.

The old pitch-black handle was wrapped in a bloody cloth and did not look like anything special.

However, the fact that it could block the saint corpse aura showed that it was far from ordinary.

Toady immediately became vigilant. “Don’t even think about it. This treasure is my life. It has always followed this king ever since I awakened, and if you dare to have any designs on it, I guarantee that I will stop you with my life!”

“Can you let me have a look?”

“No!”

Toady refused without any room for negotiation.

Lin Xun dropped the topic. He could tell that the knife handle was extremely important to Toady.

“Let’s hurry up and get going. Seeing this Star Soul Silver Silk Dao Robe without being able to take it away is the worst kind of torture in this world.”

Toady was still in agony.

They avoided the saint corpse and continued along the passageway.

It was not long before they came across another corpse. It was an azure lion that was as large as a bull and had fur that gleamed like silk. It also gave off a saint aura.

There was no doubt that the azure lion was also a terrifying creature from the ancient era that had reached the saint stage!

“Ruyi Scepter! That’s a peerless saint treasure!”

Toady’s eyes had turned red with desire again. He had seen a white Ruyi Scepter flowing with saint aura in the azure lion’s mouth.

However, he did not dare to try and take it this time and could only leave with a bleeding heart and heavy footsteps.

This continued for a while. As they traveled along the passageway, they would discover saint corpses from time to time. The corpses were all in pristine condition with no visible injuries to be seen, as if they had all died while meditating.

It made Lin Xun’s and Zhao Jingxuan’s scalps turn numb as their hearts churned incessantly. Why had so many saints from the ancient era died here?

What was this passageway?

On the other hand, Toady continued to howl in grief, his face filled with bitterness. He kept seeing treasure after treasure on the saint corpses, but could not take them away. As someone who viewed treasures above all, it nearly made him go crazy with frustration.

“If not for Toady’s knife handle, we would have long died before coming here...”

Lin Xun realized something as he shivered in fear.

He had originally believed that after solving the secret of the altars, they had found the special path that would lead them to a reward.

Who could have imagined that it would instead be a dangerous passageway littered with saint corpses?

“Is this a road of no return? Even saints have died here, is that...going to be our fate as well?”

Zhao Jingxuan had a grave expression.

“Bah! Don’t jinx us!”

Toady scolded, "The more dangerous a place, the more unimaginable the prize at the end. Just because these saints died here doesn't mean that we won't be able to leave alive. Moreover, this king is certain that the reward is still here and hasn't been taken away."

Lin Xun did not believe Toady's speculation. He turned around only to discover in shock that the passageway they had come from had disappeared!

There was nothing there but darkness. Even the saint corpses were nowhere to be seen, let alone the path.

"We can't even turn back..."

Lin Xun's voice was filled with agony as his heart thudded in fear. Although there seemed to be no direct danger, the passageway was far too bizarre and ominous. To think that something so crazy had happened without any of them noticing!

Zhao Jingxuan's expression changed slightly, also alarmed and frightened by the discovery.

"Since there's no way back, we'll have to keep walking forward!"

Toady gritted his teeth with a resolved expression. "Only forty-nine of the fifty daos can be derived in the world. We're walking the path of the only unknown dao which is also the only path of life. There must be a way to escape!"

"That's all we can do."

Lin Xun took a deep breath and suppressed his loudly thumping heart.

After they continued to move, Lin Xun began carefully observing the path behind them. Sure enough, he found that the path would disappear into darkness shortly after they left.

It felt as if a giant invisible hand was noiselessly erasing the path behind them. It was indescribably bizarre.

The only silver lining was that they had yet to encounter any danger.

Of course, if not for Toady's mysterious knife handle, the saint corpses would have made it impossible to advance!

The saint corpses' auras were too powerful and frightening and could probably destroy anything they wished.

How terrifying were such individuals when they were alive? Even after being dead for so long, the auras they left were still so outrageously powerful and frightening.

"A door!"

Toady suddenly cried out in surprise and happiness, realizing that they had reached the end of the passageway.

There was indeed a tightly shut arched stone door that gave off an ancient and worldly aura.

There was another saint corpse in front of the door. It was a monk dressed in white who was seated at the side of the door with his back bent over, facing the floor, and his right hand on the ground.

On the ground, his finger had left a single sentence—

“It originates from here, but is also destroyed here. If the time is not right, nothing can be done!”

### [The Prodigies War](#)

#### **Chapter 595: The Temple and The Prayer Mat**

It originates from here, but is also destroyed here. If the time is not right, nothing can be done!

The strange words were written in the Mahayana secret script of the Buddhist cultivators. Undoubtedly, the monk in white was a Buddhist saint cultivator!

However, it appeared that he had also died here.

Before death, he left this single sentence filled with desolation, helplessness, and sorrow.

“This king has a hypothesis.”

Toady suddenly spoke up. He stared at the tightly shut stone door and said, “In the ancient era, numerous saints came here in search of the blessing, and like us, they arrived at this stone door. However, because the timing wasn’t right, the door could not be opened, and they ended up dying here in regret.”

“Although saints are known to have a lifespan equal to heaven and earth, they are not truly immortal. They were trapped here, but unwilling to leave, hoping that if they waited, the door would eventually open one day. Unfortunately, that time never came.”

Toady sighed. This was fate. If it wasn’t yours, it would never be no matter how long you waited.

“What is hidden behind this door that would make these saints rather wait here until they die instead of leaving?”

Zhao Jingxuan stared at the tightly shut stone door with her clear eyes.

Saints were terrifying and supreme existences.

However, because of the blessing behind the door, each of them had stubbornly waited until they eventually passed on. This was probably one of the cruelest things in the world.

What kind of mysterious blessing would make all of these saints rather wait here until their deaths than try to leave?

“They might have been unwilling to leave and chose to wait here. However, there is another possibility: they had no way to return and had no choice but to wait here.”

Lin Xun looked behind him as he spoke. There was only darkness there. The route they had come from had already disappeared.

This startled Zhao Jingxuan. Soon after, she said in a frightened voice, “Then we...”

Toady suddenly transmitted, "Stop talking, someone is coming. Withdraw your aura, sit down, and act as if you're a corpse!"

He immediately sat down right beside the monk in white and used the knife handle to simultaneously block the monk's aura and hide his own. After which, he sat completely still as if he were a clay statue.

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan did not dare to tarry and quickly sat down on the other side of the passageway. Lin Xun held his Broken Blade horizontally in front of him while Zhao Jingxuan hugged the Nine Dragons Cauldron as they both withdrew their presence.

Without looking closely, it would be very difficult to discover any differences between them and the saint corpses.

It wasn't like they had other options. The passage was only twenty feet wide and the way forward was blocked by a stone door, leaving no place to hide. Hence, they had no choice but to resort to this risky measure.

Who could have also found this passageway?

Lin Xun and the others were bewildered, but they made sure to be vigilant as they prepared for battle.

Soon after, footsteps sounded from the darkness.

Lanterns began to light up, casting a soft glow around an approaching group of figures.

They were led by a man and a woman. The handsome man had a nervous expression while the pretty woman was holding a scroll that seemed to be made from a material that resembled jade.

The scroll was obviously some kind of special artifact. It gave off a dreamy, smoke-like light that protected the entire group.

It's them!

Lin Xun's heart shook. Through the detection abilities of his powerful spirit sense, he instantly recognized Lian Fei and Yao Susu!

Lin Xun never imagined that he would see them in the Deva Secret Domain!

Moreover, it was inconceivable that they had also found the mysterious passageway.

Before they approached, Lin Xun lowered his head and swiftly transmitted to Zhao Jingxuan and Toady about Lian Fei and Yao Susu.

Lin Xun also reminded them not to move for the time being.

Water Brute Tribe experts...

Lin Xun soon discovered that the experts following Lian Fei and Yao Susu were from the Water Brute Tribe.

They looked no different from humans, but their auras were easy to recognize. Lin Xun had killed many Water Brute Tribe descendants during his time in Blood Kill Camp and naturally would not mistake their identities.

It seems that they've cooperated with the Water Brute Tribe to come here...

Lin Xun began to piece things together.

He had also noted that Lian Fei and Yao Susu were still at the Spirit Sea stage and had yet to step into the Heaven Ascension stage.

If not for the Water Brute Tribe escort, then they would have died the moment they entered the Deva Secret Domain and would never have reached the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain.

Lian Fei's complexion was pale as said in a trembling voice, "So many dead saints. Susu, will we...also..."

"Don't say such inauspicious things. You've already seen that there's no way back, and we can only continue advancing."

Yao Susu softly chided, "Don't worry too much. With the secret map left to me by father, I will definitely bring us to the peerless hidden blessing."

"I hope so."

Lin Fei was clearly still frightened and worried about himself.

After all, it had been a terrifying journey so far where they encountered nothing but saint corpses. Anyone else would have already lost their composure by this juncture.

"The secret map left by my father is crazy amazing. It has not only helped us find this well-hidden passageway but is also able to block and neutralize the auras from the saint corpses. It's absolutely a rare treasure."

At this point, Lian Fei seemed to realize that he was being pretty pathetic. He quickly smiled and said, "In fact, this treasure might be able to help us escape."

Yao Susu corrected, "Not escape but search for the blessing."

"Right right right, it will definitely find it."

Lian Fei hastily nodded.

"There's a stone door ahead!"

Yao Susu's eyes brightened as she quickly walked forward.

"Have we reached the end?"

Lian Fei and the Water Brute Tribe experts hurriedly followed.

They didn't notice Lin Xun and the others, evidently subconsciously assuming that they were just another few saint corpses.

After all, none of them would have imagined that someone else had already arrived at the hidden passageway before them.

More importantly, without the secret map's protection, it would have been near impossible for them to have made it past so many saint corpses. Hence, they were also subconsciously trying to keep as far away from the saint corpses as possible.

Due to these reasons, Yao Susu and the others did not notice anything out of the ordinary as they were drawn to the stone door at the end of the passageway.

"It originates from here, but is also destroyed here. If the time is not right, nothing can be done!"

Shockingly, Yao Susu was able to decipher the words left by the white-clothed monk using the mysterious scroll in her hands.

Lin Xun transmitted, "Toady, it looks like that secret map helped them reach this place. When we move, I will deal with the Water Brute experts while you and Miss Zhao go after the secret map."

Toady and Zhao Jingxuan agreed.

"The blessing must be behind this door!"

Yao Susu and the others were still unaware of the danger nearby as they excitedly stared at the stone door.

One of the Water Brute Tribe experts urged, "Why are you hesitating? Quickly open the door!"

Lian Fei unhappily retorted, "Why don't you go and open it?"

"How dare you talk back? Without our protection, you weak humans would have died long ago. Do you think you would have made it here?"

The Water Brute expert's expression was clouded with anger and disdain. "If I say go, then go. If you keep talking nonsense, don't blame us for what happens next! I believe that even without you two, we can still find the blessing as long as we have the secret map!"

Lian Fei's expression abruptly changed, becoming fearful.

"Enough!"

Yao Susu's expression darkened. She coldly glared at the Water Brute Tribe experts and said, "Don't go too far. Without my cooperation, you guys will never obtain the blessing!"

"You..."

The Water Brute Tribe expert was enraged, but he ultimately restrained himself. "We were too anxious earlier. I hope that you will not misunderstand."

Yao Susu icily snorted. Without further ado, she walked to the stone door and began to inspect it.

Toady suddenly transmitted, "Should we go?"

Lin Xun quickly replied, "Let's wait a while longer and let them be the vanguard."

Omm!

It was at this moment that Yao Susu suddenly raised the scroll as light sprinkled from it toward the door.

Soon after, the door that had been tightly shut for countless years began to rumble as it slowly awakened from its long rest!

Yao Susu's, Lian Fei's, and the Water Brute Tribe experts' breathing grew heavy as their expressions turned excited.

For countless years, numerous saints had waited until their deaths, but none of them had managed to wait until the door opened.

And now, the door was opening so easily. Did this mean that the destined moment had finally come?

On the ground, the sentence left by the monk in white began to feel even more tragic and helpless.

The door had finally opened after countless years. Sometimes, the timing was cruel and yet also very crucial.

"Go!"

Without any hesitation, Yao Susu, Lian Fei, and the others dashed in.

Toady got up from the ground and asked in an anguished voice, "Why didn't we move earlier?"

"Let them scout the way. We'll be the fisherman that reels in the net."

Lin Xun's black eyes were calm as he said, "The likes of them won't be our match even if they obtain the blessing."

"Heh heh, you're so evil. Aren't you ashamed to make such a dirty deed sound so normal?"

Toady was elated. This was one of his favorite things to do!

"It feels like the heavens are blessing us. If we tried to force our way in earlier, we would have definitely been unable to open the door. Who could have imagined that the old lord of heaven would immediately send these guys over to help us solve the problem?!"

Toady grew increasingly excited as he spoke, "How lucky. Only the Three-legged Golden Toad Clan has such special luck."

"I think you're the most shameless one."

Lin Xun glanced at Toady before he took a deep breath, erased his presence, and stealthily walked through the stone doorway.

Toady and Zhao Jingxuan hurriedly followed.

.....

After stepping through the door, they found themselves in an entirely different area!

It felt as if they had walked into an old-fashioned Daoist temple. The ground was covered in a thick layer of dust, a sign that no one had entered for many years.

The enormous temple was divided into thirty-three levels with each level connected by a staircase consisting of exactly nine steps.

Slowly climbing up such a magnificent temple would fill one with awe and a sense of solemnness as if they had arrived at the abode of the gods.

The temple was also strangely empty with not even a single decoration to be seen, making it appear rather desolate.

Yao Susu and the others quickly walked up the steps and headed toward the highest level.

They soon reached the end and saw a scene that left them all dumbstruck—

All there was at the end of the temple was a single prayer mat!

Was this prayer mat it?

In the ancient era, many saints had searched for the rumored blessing, but had been unable to enter the stone door and ended up waiting until their deaths.

Who could have imagined that the blessing they so desired was merely an empty temple and a prayer mat?

It was a god-damned joke!

Was it really all just a scam?

Some distance away, Lin Xun and the others were also unable to remain composed in their hiding spot. They could not imagine that this was all that awaited them behind the stone door.

It made them recall the altars on the peak, and recall the many lines of Mahayana secret script left on the altars.

Fangchun Mountain is a scam?

I can't believe that he scammed all of us!

According to the common language, Fangchun refers to where the heart is. The crescent moon and three stars can be written as the character '心' which is also the word for heart. It's rumored that the secret of the Bodhi is also hidden within. Could it be that if we wish to see Fangchun, we need to search with our 'heart'?

As Toady recalled this particular sentence, something suddenly struck him and he transmitted.

"If we wish to see Fangchun, we need to search with our 'heart'," and then there's 'the ever-changing and inseparable from the sect are om mani padme hum!' Perhaps a certain method is needed to make the blessing reveal itself."

Toady paused and then transmitted, "Yes, that should be it."

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were taken aback as understanding began to dawn upon them. The empty temple now felt different when they looked at it again.

Could the thirty-three levels represent the fabled thirty-three heavens?

Each level was connected by exactly nine steps. Since nine was the 'limit number', was crossing every level equivalent to crossing a heaven?

Was the owner of the prayer mat the great power that had created this entire place?

Or could the secret of the Boddhi be hidden in the temple, but they just hadn't discovered it yet?

While they were thinking, one of the Water Brute Tribe experts moved and tried to grab the prayer mat.

Evidently, he felt that there must be something up with the prayer mat and it might contain some kind of secret.

"How can you be so forceful if you want the blessing? Unreasonable people have no fate with my blessing."

A disembodied voice suddenly sounded in the temple as if it originated from an unknown place far away.

The Water Brute Tribe expert's body suddenly froze before turning into dust that scattered to the ground.

He could not even react from start to end.

Hiss!

Horried gasps sounded. There was indeed something off about the temple, and there was unimaginable danger concealed everywhere!

"Look at the thick layer of dust on the ground, this king suspects that it's the remains of the experts who had once entered this temple. They accidentally triggered the hidden danger which turned them all to dust!"

Toady shivered as he transmitted his conjecture.

This made Lin Xun's and Zhao Jingxuan's scalps turn numb. If Toady was right, wouldn't that mean the thick layer of dust represented the remains of dead experts?

"Don't move recklessly!"

Yao Susu warned with a grave expression.

She walked forward and carefully inspected the prayer mat while referring to her mysterious scroll.

Lian Fei and the others nervously waited.

Suddenly, Yao Susu took a deep breath and shouted with a clear pause between each word, "The ever-changing and inseparable from the sect are om mani padme hum!"

Omm!

The sentence was like a key that activated a hidden mechanism. Dao light abruptly spread from the prayer mat and instantly illuminated the temple!

## [The Prodigies War](#)

### **Chapter 596: The Blessing Appears**

The chant seemed to possess some kind of mysterious power that induced a change in the prayer mat at the end of the temple and caused it to release a pulse of dao light!

The dao light gave off an ethereal and sacred aura. It gently swept through the temple and illuminated it completely.

It felt like a gauze had been lifted from the originally empty temple, revealing its true form.

Ancient carvings appeared on the walls, filled with an aura of timelessness as if they had been chiseled with the blade of time itself.

The carvings looked very mysterious and depicted people from the ancient era, the sun, the moon, mountains, rivers, deer, cranes, and many other strange creatures that they had never seen before.

Although countless years had passed, every picture on each of the thirty-three levels still gave off a terrifying dao aura.

At the end of the temple, the shining prayer mat abruptly burst into droplets of light before condensing into a three-foot-wide platform.

The platform sparkled with treasure light and was covered in scrolls, copper coins, wooden fish, horsetail whisks...and many many other treasures. All of them shone colorfully, giving off a dazzling combined radiance.

“This must be the great blessing that was concealed here!”

“My god, so many treasures. We’re rich!”

“Is it a saint’s treasure trove from the ancient era? There are mysterious manuals and even magical treasures!”

Yao Susu, Lian Fei, and the others were frozen on the spot as they breathed heavily; their eyes had turned red with excitement and desire.

Even the bigwigs outside the Return Dominion would be dazed with ecstasy, let alone them.

“How are we going to...split the treasures?”

Lian Fei spoke in a trembling voice before he swallowed with some difficulty. Not once did his gaze shift even an inch away from the three-foot-wide platform.

“You two may each choose any treasure you want, and the rest is ours!”

One of the Water Brute Tribe experts suddenly said in a sinister voice, causing the atmosphere to turn tense.

“No way! If not for me and Susu, you guys would never have found this place!”

Lian Fei’s expression darkened, nearly going mad with rage.

It had been an uphill battle to find this blessing. No one in their right mind would agree to only take one of the treasures.

“You guys are too much.”

Yao Susu’s expression also turned ugly. “According to our agreement, each side should get half if we manage to find it. Are you going back on your word?”

“So what if we do?”

The Water Brute expert laughed loudly before he murderously said, “Do you actually believe ant-like humans like you are worthy enough to negotiate with us?”

The other Water Brute experts also laughed sinisterly as their gazes turned hostile.

“You guys intend to burn bridges, kill us, and monopolize everything?”

Lian Fei’s expression turned ashen, realizing the gravity of the situation.

The Water Brute expert expressionlessly said, “That will depend on whether or not you cooperate.”

“Even if you kill us and monopolize everything here, you will never be able to leave this place. Don’t forget that there are still many saint corpses in the passageway. Do you think any of you will be able to leave without my secret map?”

Yao Susu took a deep breath and coldly said, “You guys should know that only I can wield the power of this secret map!”

The Water Brute experts’ expressions flickered indeterminately as they became somewhat hesitant.

It was at this moment that chuckle was suddenly heard—

“Two dogs trying to bite each other. What an entertaining show you’ve put up. Unfortunately, I’m pressed for time or I would have loved to see you guys go at each other more.”

Toady swaggered out on his iconic green robe.

“Who are you?!”

Lian Fei, Yao Susu, and the Water Brute experts were taken aback. They never expected that someone else would have snuck into the mysterious temple.

Their expressions turned vigilant as killing intent began to swirl around their hearts.

“Hmph, lowly peasants like you don’t have the qualifications to know this king’s identity.”

Toady’s face was the very picture of haughty disdain. His golden eyes looked at them as he condescendingly said, “I will give you guys a chance to choose now. Either slit your own throats or this king will have to personally eliminate all of you.”

“How dare you?!”

“Where did this arrogant kid pop out from? I can’t believe he dares to act so cockily!”

The Water Brute experts were enraged. Toady's arrogant appearance had triggered them, making them unable to control their emotions.

Moreover, they had already noticed that Toady's aura wasn't that powerful, so he was of no threat to them.

"Kill that cocky chump!"

Several Water Brute experts charged forward and aggressively attacked Toady from all sides with their full power.

Swoosh!

A split second after they moved, however, dazzling starlight suddenly swept down from out of nowhere like a reverse silver river!

Unable to avoid it in time, one of the Water Brute experts was engulfed by the silver stream, which severed his head from his body, instantly killing him.

"Oh no, that cocky chump has an ally!"

"Damnit!"

The other Water Brute experts were alarmed and angered.

Lin Xun's figure was revealed. With the Hornless Ice Dragon Step, he dashed toward the Water Brute experts like a ferocious phantom while wielding Broken Blade.

Rumble~

A battle erupted, breaking the solemn and silent atmosphere in the temple.

As experts who had survived in the Deva Secret Domain until now, the Water Brute experts were definitely not weaklings. Unfortunately, they were up against Lin Xun, a logic-defying monster who could not be measured with common sense.

In a few brief moments, the Water Brute experts who had intended to attack Toady were slain, and their bodies had fallen into puddles of their own blood.

This caused Lian Fei's, Yao Susu's, and the remaining Water Brute experts' hearts to shiver and their expressions to change drastically.

The youngster was too strong and had effortlessly killed several of their companions. The bloody scene was shocking and would make anyone's scalp turn numb.

"Lin Xun!"

Lian Fei suddenly shouted in disbelief, his eyes nearly popping from their sockets. He never imagined that he would meet his mortal enemy here.

It was simply absurd!

"Why him..."

Yao Susu was also shocked as if she had seen a ghost.

It wasn't their fault. After all, Lin Xun had also shared similar feelings when he detected Lian Fei and Yao Susu earlier.

As the saying went, mortal enemies would always see red when they met. Upon ascertaining Lin Xun's identity, the hatred in Lian Fei's and Yao Susu's hearts burned anew. Their expressions were incomparably ugly as they stared daggers at him, wishing they could slowly slice him to ribbons.

"Long time no see, you two."

Lin Xun smiled faintly and greeted them.

"It has indeed been a long time."

Lian Fei and Yao Susu clenched their jaws so hard in hatred that their teeth almost shattered.

For Lian Fei, his life had changed the moment he found out that Lin Xun was his father's murderer, and revenge had become his only support.

Unfortunately, Lin Xun's rise had been unstoppable the moment he stepped into the Forbidden City. His rapid growth had nearly made Lian Fei drown in despair.

Lian Fei had felt especially hopeless when he found out that the entire Yao Clan had been annihilated while trying to deal with Lin Xun.

In fact, Lian Fei and Yao Susu had come to the Deva Secret Domain in search of an opportunity in hopes of growing stronger so that they would be able to take revenge on Lin Xun in the future.

Who could have imagined that their mortal enemy would appear right when the prize was right before their eyes?!

The most infuriating part was that Lin Xun had nonchalantly greeted them like friends, which made the couple nearly lose control.

"Kid, since the greetings are done, isn't it time to send them on their way?"

Toady hurriedly said. His golden eyes were greedily staring at the treasures on the platform, his expression filled with desire and impatience.

"Sure."

Lin Xun nodded.

"Kill!"

The Water Brute experts had also realized the severity of the situation. They knew that if they didn't kill Lin Xun and Toady, even surviving was going to be difficult, let alone seizing the treasures.

Hence, they struck before Lin Xun could.

Clang!

The Broken Blade cried out. Lin Xun did not waste any time and threw himself into the battle as well.

At the end of the temple, Lian Fei's and Yao Susu's expressions fluctuated indeterminately. In the end, they held themselves back from going after their mortal enemy and instead dashed toward the platform behind them!

They evidently wanted to use this opportunity to collect all of the treasures.

Bzz!

However, before they could reach it, a golden cauldron appeared in their way. Terrifying energies and divine light flowed from the Nine Dragons Cauldrons, leaving them no choice but to scramble backward.

Meanwhile, Zhao Jingxuan's slender and graceful figure appeared. The Nine Dragons Cauldron shone above her head as her clothes fluttered around her, making her appear even more mesmerizing than usual.

Another ally!

Lian Fei's and Yao Susu's hearts turned cold, realizing the situation was worse than they had thought. The sudden turn of events was just far too shocking and difficult to accept.

The treasures were just an arm's length away, but then everything changed at this critical juncture. Just thinking how fast things had spiraled out of control nearly made them go crazy.

Why?

Rumble!

Zhao Jingxuan did not care to guess their thoughts and immediately attempted to suppress them with the Nine Dragons Cauldron.

In her view, it would be impossible for the two Spirit Sea stage experts to block this attack.

To her surprise, however, the scroll in Yao Susu's hand released a dream-like glow to block the attack.

Looks like Toady is right. They were able to safely arrive here and discover the secrets of this place because of the scroll in this woman's hand.

While these thoughts flashed in Zhao Jingxuan's head, she continued to use her full power to try and suppress the other party.

Even if she could not achieve her goal, she would make it impossible for them to escape.

Lian Fei's and Yao Susu's expressions turned extremely ugly as an uncontrollable feeling of despair rose in their hearts...

## [The Prodigies War](#)

### **Chapter 597: Unimaginable Buddhist Verse**

A battle raged in the temple as blood was continuously spilled.

Lin Xun was like a young god of war sweeping through the battlefield with Broken Blade, sending out slashes of starlight and blade qi that easily cut through all resistance.

The Water Brute experts could only roar in fear as they desperately tried to resist.

However, all of their struggling was fated to be futile. Lin Xun had previously chased many young heroes from the various clans and carved a bloody path through them. His unstoppable ferocity was feared by even the saints of the various clans, making them prefer to avoid him if possible.

Hence, how could these Heaven Ascension Water Brute experts possibly be Lin Xun's match?

For a time, the temple was filled with screams and shrieks as blood rained like a waterfall.

Even Toady was taken aback by the carnage. He originally wanted to help, but found that there was no room for him to interject.

He inwardly called Lin Xun a freak. It was too one-sided. The enemies were being chopped up by Lin Xun like vegetables, and it was clear that they were not on the same level.

In a few brief moments, the Water Brute experts were mercilessly slaughtered by Lin Xun, leaving only chunks of their corpses and blood everywhere.

Lin Xun was completely untouched. His moon-white clothes were spotless, and even the Broken Blade was clean of blood.

He stood there amidst the blood and corpses, giving off an aura of superiority. Who could imagine that this hellish bloody massacre would be in any way related to this elegant and charming young man?

"F\*ck your granny, you've taken the spotlight. How will this king ever feel useful if you keep doing this?"

Toady sighed bitterly. It was the melancholy of someone who was born in the same era as an almighty hero.

In the distance, Zhao Jingxuan said with annoyance, "Toady, why do you still have time to complain? Hurry up and come help me!"

She had been trying to suppress Yao Susu and Lian Fei using the Nine Dragons Cauldron, but was unable to deal with the mysterious scroll, causing her to grow somewhat anxious.

"Isn't the kid already going? If this king tries to interfere in your couple's affairs, wouldn't I just be a third wheel?"

Toady began to chuckle in an exceptionally vulgar manner, creating a bizarre contrast due to his bewitchingly handsome face. It was a very uniquely Toady moment.

Lin Xun had indeed gone to help. His expression darkened when he heard Toady's vulgar comment.

Third wheel?

This damn toad is asking for a beating!

Lin Xun gnashed his teeth and said, "That's fine, when we divide the treasures later, I will cut off your third leg if you dare to be a third wheel!"

"Peh!"

Before Toady could react, Zhao Jingxuan's face turned red as she viciously glared at Lin Xun as if scolding him for becoming indecent as well.

Lin Xun was speechless and felt as if he had been wronged. It was because Toady was a Three-legged Golden Toad! Was there anything wrong with cutting off his third leg?

"Look, look, you two are still bickering and flirting like a married couple even at this important juncture. How can a poor and lonely single like me endure this?"

Toady's face was filled with resentment.

This fuss caused the already despairing Yao Susu's and Lian Fei's expressions to become even uglier.

What kind of people are they? Why are they chatting so idly as if we're just air?

It was simply...too much!

Yao Susu and Lian Fei didn't know what to feel. Anger? Indignation? Despair? Humiliation? Or maybe sorrow?

"Lin Xun, kill us if you're going to kill us. Why are you humiliating us?"

In the end, Lian Fei could no longer take it and roared angrily, his eyes nearly popping from their sockets.

"Eh, sorry I didn't consider your feelings. I nearly forgot we're mortal enemies who have been feuding for many years."

Lin Xun's nonchalance caused Lian Fei to nearly cough blood in anger as his face turned steely green.

Why is he so unconcerned when his mortal enemy is right in front of him?

Does he feel that I'm not even qualified to be his enemy?

"I'll fight you!"

Anger rapidly clouded his rationality as Lian Fei bellowed and pounced at Lin Xun.

"Don't"

Yao Susu's complexion turned pale in alarm. The secret map in her hands was the only thing that was protecting them from the other party's attacks.

But if Lian Fei went on the offensive, what difference would it be from running straight to their deaths?

"It is indeed time to end the grudge between us."

Iciness flashed in Lin Xun's black eyes. This was the chance he was waiting for. In a flash, the Broken Blade slashed, causing a head to spiral into the air.

Even until death, Lian Fei's face was still filled with rage and shame, unable to accept everything that had happened.

“You’re too efficient. This king thought that you would keep torturing him a little longer to release the hatred in your heart. It’s revenge after all, and you should normally be thinking about all your past grievances. Weirdo, you killed him with a single swing. How boring.”

Toady let out a strange laugh as he commented.

“To be honest, if he didn’t jump out, I would have nearly forgotten that he existed.”

Lin Xun shrugged as he displayed an innocent face.

After entering the Forbidden City, he experienced numerous dangers and difficulties. This desensitized his feelings regarding the grudge between himself and Lian Fei. In fact, he didn’t even care about eliminating Lian Fei anymore.

Who could have imagined that the other party would refuse to forget him and continue to view him as the enemy? Lian Fei even tried to borrow Yao Tuohai’s and the entire Yao Clan’s power to set up a trap for Lin Xun.

In the end, the Yao Clan was destroyed, Yao Tuohai was killed, and even the Water Brute Tribe’s Life Death King expert, Shui Qianshan, was defeated by Steel-Blood King Ning Bugui and forced to flee.

In the present day, since Lian Fei and Yao Susu were already fish caught in the net, Lin Xun naturally would not allow them to live. He needed to nip any future problems in the bud.

It wasn’t because Lin Xun was cruel and bloodthirsty. To be frank, he was rather astonished to find out that Lian Fei and Yao Susu had entered the Deva Secret Domain. In addition, they had managed to borrow the secret map’s power to arrive at this mysterious temple where a great blessing was hidden.

It was obvious that they would have used the blessing to become strong and take revenge on him in the future!

Fortunately, the couple had been unlucky and encountered Lin Xun, allowing him to finally put an end to the grudge between them.

“Brother Fei!”

At the sight of Lian Fei’s death, Yao Susu shrieked mournfully. Her face twisted with emotion as she hatefully screamed, “You...all of you will die!”

Soon after, light rapidly boiled from the map as if the power of a saint was about to explode from within it.

Toady shouted in alarm, “Oh no, that woman is trying to destroy the map and die together with us! Quickly take it from her!”

Omm!

Even without Toady’s warning, Lin Xun had already realized that it was an emergency. He immediately pulled out the Nameless Pagoda and sent out a ray of wonder-gold dao light.

It was the only thing Lin Xun currently had to seize something.

Rumble!

Wonder-gold dao light flowed through the air and instantly bound the map in Yao Susu's hands.

However, something no one expected occurred. When the wonder-gold light touched the map, it suddenly transformed into glowing words.

Each word shimmered as if it were made from dao light, shining and filled with the immeasurable aura of a saint.

They flowed in the air, each word seemingly trying to explain the true essence of the dao.

"This..."

Lin Xun, Zhao Jingxuan, and Toady were taken aback.

Only Yao Susu had a different reaction. Amidst her rage, grief, and desperation, a look of disbelief appeared on her face when she saw the pagoda, and she involuntarily cried out, "Why is my father's pagoda with you!?"

However, no one paid any attention to her.

Because Lin Xun and the others were shocked to discover that a change was occurring in the temple. The ancient pictures on the walls seemed to awaken from their slumber and floated out from the stone.

Next, all of them surged toward the glimmering dao words!

It was an unimaginable scene that no one could have anticipated. The pictures on the walls were suddenly swallowed by the dao words.

In the end, the ancient pictures were all absorbed by the dao words. After which, the words began to rearrange and a Buddhist verse appeared in the air—

"Treading the starry path, strolling up Kunlun.

Grabbing the sun and moon with a sleeve, holding the heavens in the palm.

I come from the world of mortals, gently tapping on the gate of longevity.

Using a wondrous art to see one's true nature, to bestow Dao onto the fated person."

The dao words were imprinted into the air, glimmering with saint light. Each word gave off a deafening and holy aura that would shake anyone's heart.

There was nothing but silence for a time.

No one had expected that such an inconceivable event would occur when the wonder-dao light touched the secret map.

Indescribable dao words had appeared, the ancient pictures on the walls had floated off, fused into the dao words, and transformed them into a Buddhist verse!

"I understand, no wonder Father kept saying the secret map was incomplete and could not seek the true blessing. It turns out that the secret had been hidden in the pagoda all along. It's a pity that my father never realized their connection..."

Yao Susu's soul seemed to drain from her body as if she had suffered a terrible blow.

She seemed to have realized something.

All of a sudden, something clicked in Lin Xun's head and he questioned, "Your father obtained the pagoda and secret map from this place?"

Yao Susu bitterly laughed as a peculiar light gleamed her eyes. "You wish to know? But I refuse to tell you!"

Blood suddenly flowed from the corner of her mouth, and her life force rapidly faded as she crumpled to the ground.

Toady rushed forward to check. Soon after, he shook his head and said, "It's hopeless, she shattered her heart and channels. Even an immortal would not be able to save her."

"She's a formidable person. It's a pity that she was overly foolish. Even if she doesn't tell us, we can still tell that the secret map must be related to the pagoda. Moreover, both of these treasures likely originated from this temple."

Zhao Jingxuan kept the Nine Dragons Cauldron as she pondered.

## [The Prodigies War](#)

### **Chapter 598: Dream and Fantasy**

Yao Susu's death did not evoke much emotion in Lin Xun. Even if she didn't commit suicide, he still would have killed her. Her fate was already sealed in stone.

Lin Xun was more concerned about the Nameless Pagoda and the secret map. Had they really originated from this mysterious temple?

But who had taken them out?

How had they ended up in Yao Tuohai's hands?

Only one thing was certain from Yao Susu's final words. Yao Tuohai had failed to discover the true secret of the Nameless Pagoda and the secret map!

The secret map had already transformed into the Buddhist verse that seemed to be imprinted into the air. The words hung down like beads on a string, pulsing with sacred light. It was honestly a marvelous sight to behold.

"This is the blessing, this is fate!"

Toady suddenly sighed with a rarely seen look of solemnness. "If you only possessed the secret map, then you would not have been able to discover this verse. Likewise, this would not have happened without the Nameless Pagoda either."

He paused and looked around the entire temple before he continued, "Most importantly, even if you had both the Nameless Pagoda and the secret map, if you did not come to this place, none of these unbelievable events would have happened."

"In other words, the temple, the Nameless Pagoda, and the secret map are tied together by karma, and have a lock and key relationship. Only when all three appear together would we be able to see this!"

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan felt enlightened by Toady's words.

They looked at the glimmering Buddhist verse in the air. Each word was filled with a sacred aura and pulsed with indescribable dao profoundness.

"This Buddhist verse is not simple. It is likely left by the master of this palace and contains unimaginable secrets."

Toady's golden eyes glowed as he carefully studied the words. "Don't forget that the various ancient pictures on the walls are now fused into these dao words. There must be some deeper meaning to them!"

Lin Xun asked, "Have you discovered any clues?"

He naturally also knew that it was no ordinary verse. Why else would such a magical transformation have occurred?

"Look at the first sentence. Treading the starry path, strolling up Kunlun."

With a serious expression, Toady said, "Do you still remember the Four Great Dao Dominions this king told you about? According to ancient legend, to climb Kunlun, you must first cross an ancient path of stars that spans across the galaxy!"

"You mean the first sentence is related to entering the ancient starry path and heading to the Kunlun Dominion?"

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were bewildered. This was the first time they had heard of this ancient secret.

"I am ninety percent certain. The master of this temple must have viewed the ancient starry path as a 'shoe' to walk upon the Kunlun Dominion. From his bold view, it is certain that his cultivation must have been terrifying beyond comprehension."

Toady sighed softly and said, "That's the Kunlun Dominion, one of the Four Great Dao Dominions. It is even more mysterious than the Return Dominion and is said to be related to the true path of the immortals. Even the saints of the ancient era have never seen the true face of the Kunlun Dominion!"

Lin Xun's heart churned wildly. He could not help but ask, "What does the second sentence mean?"

"Embracing the sun and moon with a sleeve, holding the heavens in the palm..."

Toady carefully read each word, but could not seem to figure it out. After some hesitation, he said, "It could be describing some kind of cultivation stage. Upon reaching this stage, one will become capable of

grabbing the sun or moon with a wave of the sleeve, and wield all of the secrets of the world in the palm of one's hand."

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were stunned. Such a cultivation stage was far too terrifying and impossible to measure!

"However, the sentence is definitely not as simple as it appears."

Toady scratched his head. "This king has a feeling that the verse hides a big secret that we are unable to understand or figure out with our current capabilities."

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were in agreement.

"When I faced that woman earlier, she managed to block all of my attacks with that secret map. I originally thought that it was some kind of amazing saint treasure. Who could have imagined that it would ultimately transform into a Buddhist verse? This alone shows just how extraordinary the verse is."

Zhao Jingxuan's clear eyes gleamed. There was a trace of indescribable awe in her voice.

Everything they had witnessed was beyond their comprehension, and they were unable to grasp the true meaning of it all.

From this, it was easy to imagine how supreme of an existence the master who created all this was.

Omm!

At this moment, the verse imprinted on the air suddenly rippled and transformed into dazzling droplets of light that rushed into the Nameless Pagoda.

Lin Xun jerked to attention and hurriedly began to investigate. However, the outcome disappointed him.

The droplets of light were nowhere to be found after entering the Nameless Pagoda, and no changes had occurred.

Simply put, they seemed to have evaporated inside the Nameless Pagoda.

Despite this, it still made Toady turn green with envy.

His eyes bulged from their sockets as he greedily stared at the Nameless Pagoda in Lin Xun's hand like a hungry wolf that had encountered juicy prey. "This is definitely a supreme treasure with crazy origins! Not only is it made from Genesium, but there is also a great secret from the ancient era concealed within it!"

If Lin Xun didn't vigilantly store away the pagoda, then the greedy Toady would have likely already charged at him and tried to snatch it away.

Toady wasn't angered by Lin Xun's reaction because his gaze quickly shifted to the platform at the end of the temple.

That was where the important 'blessing' was!

Gorgeous treasure light flowed on the platform. There were dao manuals, copper chimes, wooden fish, horsetail whisks, guard rulers, azure lamps...

It was a dazzling mix of bright colors that would make anyone feel dizzy.

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan also moved toward the platform.

They had revealed themselves earlier in order to stop Yao Susu and the others from obtaining the treasures on the platform. Since there were no more competitors, the treasures were now theirs!

“No wonder the passageway was littered with saint corpses. They willingly waited till their deaths for the treasures in the temple. I can now see that it is indeed unimaginably enticing.”

Zhao Jingxuan sighed.

Lin Xun had the same feeling. Every treasure on the platform would probably shake the world. Any one of them would make the old monsters outside desperately fight over it.

“Oooh!”

Toady could no longer wait. Breathing heavily, he released a strange guttural cry and pounced forward like a ghost seeking reincarnation.

Swish!

His sleeve swept forth to collect all of the treasures but the treasure light suddenly shattered and disappeared like bubbles, leaving nothing but empty air.

“What! An illusion? Have the treasures on the platform been taken away by someone?”

Veins popped on Toady’s forehead. He gnashed his teeth in anger as he beat his chest with his fist.

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were also taken aback. Had everything just been an illusion? Had the treasures been taken away by someone already?

Toady roared in frustration, “Horrible, how horrible. Someone is obviously toying with us!”

They had unraveled many mysteries, found the hidden passage after much difficulty, and arrived here after crossing the passageway filled with numerous saint corpses.

They had originally believed the blessing was finally within reach. Who could have imagined that it was all just an illusion!?

Was this what it felt like when fate made fun of you?

“Quickly look!”

Lin Xun suddenly said as he pointed at the empty platform. Dao light swirled and a pile of divine materials appeared.

“Deep Void Metal, Five Elements Soil, Cloud Trace Celestial Gold...” Toady’s golden pupils burned brightly as he grew excited again.

He waved his sleeve again to collect them, but they disappeared like bubbles again.

Moments later, dao light swirled again and transformed into numerous artifacts that gave off saint auras.

Toady bellowed, "Trying to make a fool of this king?!"

He was genuinely pissed. The blessing they had tried so hard to find didn't exist and was just an illusion. Who would feel good after realizing this?

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were also filled with regret. There was nothing more disappointing than entering a treasure trove just to find nothing. Such a frustrating situation would make anyone sad.

"Oh my god! That's Violet Soul Divine Silver and a Spirit Phoenix True Feather!"

Toady's eyes opened wide. The treasures created on the platform were far too astonishing. They were rare and almost unattainable even in the ancient era.

Unfortunately, these were all just illusions!

Toady tried again many more times. In the end, he gave up amidst a tirade of cursing, his face filled with frustration and resentment.

"F\*ck his granny, it's indeed a scam. What Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain, what Fangchun Mountain, what crescent moon three stars, what secret of the Boddhi, what fated person. They all don't exist, so what else can this be but a scam?"

Toady crouched on the floor, his cheeks puffed in anger. "No wonder similar messages were left on the forty-nine altars. They were all obviously scammed! All those saint corpses in the passageway, how would they feel if they knew that the blessing they had waited their entire lives for was just an illusion..."

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan looked at each other.

"Let me try."

Unable to give up, Zhao Jingxuan took a deep breath, walked forward, and grabbed at the platform with a slender hand.

Shaa!

The treasures shattered like bubbles. Toady prepared to mock Zhao Jingxuan so she would give up as well.

Who could have imagined that at the final moment, one of the black rocks did not disappear and was caught in her hand?

"Eh?"

Toady's eyes nearly popped from their sockets. He immediately jumped to his feet and shouted, "Impossible, how come you got a treasure when you tried? Not fair! Quick, quick, quick show this king what kind of treasure it is."

He immediately lunged forward to snatch the stone.

However, Lin Xun smacked him on the back of the head and scolded, "Can you calm down? You're far too easily excited!"

Despite saying this, his gaze could not help but be drawn toward Zhao Jingxuan's hand as well.

## The Prodigies War

### Chapter 599: Another Blessing

Zhao Jingxuan was surprised as well. She never imagined that she would obtain a 'treasure' after Toady had failed so many times earlier.

However, she soon frowned because she did not recognize the 'treasure.'

It was shaped like a pebble, was entirely black, felt heavy, and looked dull like a random stone on the ground that no one would notice.

However, Zhao Jingxuan revealed a look of surprise and happiness instead of disappointment because she could not damage it no matter how much strength she used!

She muttered, "Is it some kind of divine material?"

It seemed like metal yet wasn't metal, like rock yet wasn't rock. It felt solid, indestructible, and looked ordinary, but gave off a sensation of returning to simplicity.

"Let this king see!"

Toady was already drooling with desire. He snatched the black stone and did something that shocked both Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan: he bit down hard on the black stone with his teeth!

He yelped in pain a split second later. The hard stone had nearly shattered his teeth.

"It isn't a divine material."

Toady held his jaw in agony, his golden pupils gleaming as he stared at the black stone. A while later, he gave an answer that surprised Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan.

"If this king is correct, it should be a seed."

There was a slightly odd look on his face. "Or should I say an egg or perhaps it would be more accurate to call it a stone embryo? There is primal maternal qi inside it. If planted, it could grow into a plant. If incubated, it could hatch into a baby beast. If treated as some kind of stone embryo, it might..."

"It might what?"

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan asked in unison.

"It might hatch into some kind of spirit entity!"

Toady's words made Lin Xun realize that Zhao Jingxuan had picked up an amazing treasure!

Anything from this mysterious temple was already not going to be normal. An object that could be hatched into various kinds of mysterious life forms would definitely be extraordinary.

"In the ancient era, a treasure like this was known as the 'Origin Stone' because it can give birth to an unpredictable life form."

Toady shiftily looked at the black stone in Zhao Jingxuan's hands. "It's a pity that a special secret method and timing must be used to incubate or plant the stone."

“Toady, what are you trying to imply?” Zhao Jingxuan frowned.

“Cough, cough, this king is only trying to say that it will be very difficult for you to hatch this treasure. Why not give it to this king instead?”

Toady displayed a hopeful look as he continued, “I’ll pass it back to you after I nurture some kind of exceptional herb, ancient divine beast, or spirit entity. How about it?”

“In your dreams!”

Zhao Jingxuan immediately rejected his offer and quickly stored the mysterious black Origin Stone away.

Toady felt dejected and soon glared at the nearby platform, which was still filled with treasures.

“This king refuses to believe that I can’t get anything!”

With a roar, Toady threw himself at the platform again. However, even after countless tries, all of the treasures still disappeared like bubbles.

“Unfair! So god damn unfair! This king is an always lucky Three-Legged Golden Toad. Why can’t I obtain even a single treasure?”

Toady was going crazy with anger, and even his eyes had turned red.

Lin Xun sympathetically looked at the greedy, pitiful bugger before he walked forward and said, “Let me give it a try.”

He waved his sleeve, but instead of trying to grab the treasures on the platform, he tried to take the entire platform itself!

Toady’s eyeballs nearly dropped out from their sockets as he jumped in agitation. “F\*ck his granny, you can do that? Why didn’t this king think of it?”

Zhao Jingxuan was also somewhat stunned. Lin Xun perfectly displayed the phrase ‘dig three feet deep to remove even the roots.’

Who would have dared to imagine that he would attempt to take the entire platform?

Rumble!

However, something unexpected occurred. Not only did Lin Xun fail to take the platform, but his actions also caused it to abruptly shoot out dazzling dao light with a loud rumble.

Swoosh!

Lin Xun and the others felt their bodies shudder while stars rapidly shifted before their eyes as if they had been thrown into a spatial tunnel and they soon disappeared from the temple.

.....

Mists swirled around nine majestic mountains.

It was a mysterious new area.

Space vibrated as Lin Xun and the others fell out. They had been teleported here by some mysterious force.

“No! This king’s treasures, this king’s blessing! This king doesn’t want to leave yet—”

Toady roared in frustration.

After being briefly dazed, Zhao Jingxuan rolled her eyes at Lin Xun as if resenting him for being too brazen earlier and triggering some mechanism in the platform that teleported them away.

No matter how thick Lin Xun’s skin was, he felt a little embarrassed and said, “Sorry, it was an accident, an accident.”

“Accident my ass! This king so painstakingly found the blessing only for it to be ruined by you!”

Toady was so angry that he wished he could bite Lin Xun to death.

Even if they couldn’t get anything else from the temple, there were still a huge number of saint corpses and saint treasures in the passageway!

The robe made from Purple Soul Silver Silk, the Ruyi Scepter overflowing with saint aura...etc. These were all priceless treasures!

But now...

They were all gone!

Toady felt as if his heart was bleeding.

Lin Xun was also feeling regretful as well, but since it had already happened, there was no point in dwelling on it.

“How hateful. You guys got an invaluable Origin Stone and a Buddhist verse containing a great secret while this king got nothing!”

Toady’s face was bitter with resentment.

Lin Xun could no longer stand Toady’s resentful appearance and suddenly said, “Toady, look around, there are nine sacred mountains. Could this be the true blessed land?”

Toady was taken aback. He quickly scanned the surroundings and realized that they had arrived at a mysterious area where nine giant mountains towered in the distance, giving off a boundless and sacred aura.

Upon closer inspection, they saw that there were palaces atop each of the nine peaks. The palaces were barely discernible through the mists, making them appear rather mysterious.

“This is?”

Toady’s attention had been successfully shifted. With an excited expression, he began to carefully study their surroundings.

This made Lin Xun breathe a sigh of relief. Toady was just too greedy, and his resentful appearance when he couldn't obtain a treasure could honestly be described as horrifying.

"Look over there. There are fifty-four altars that seem to be the same as the ones we saw on the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain."

Astonished, Zhao Jingxuan pointed at a spot in the distance.

"This king understands. This is still the world derived from the lotus flower!"

Toady slapped his thigh in excitement as he continued, "These fifty-four altars are probably paired with the fifty-four altars on Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain. The cultivators that entered from the altars outside were likely teleported to the corresponding altar here."

Lin Xun was taken aback. "Doesn't that mean that this is also a land of opportunity?"

"Precisely!"

Toady grew increasingly happy. "Do you still recall what that voice said? A single grain of sand can contain a thousand worlds, all arts originate from the same source, and ten thousand reincarnations pass in an instant. This opportunity will only be bestowed to the destined person! That Buddhist verse implies that this is the place where the true blessing is hidden!"

"Then what was that temple we were in earlier?"

Lin Xun was somewhat confused. "Could there be not one but two blessings in the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain?"

"You might be right. This king is only certain that the blessing here is left for a single individual!"

Toady seemed to realize something as his eyes flickered with a golden light. "The person behind this is not only adept in Buddhist dao, but also possesses a dao inheritance of supreme power! Only someone like that could have set up such an unimaginable ploy in this Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain."

"Think about it. When we arrived at the mountain, everything we saw seemed to be related to Buddhist cultivators from the ancient era. The lotus flower, the Buddhist verse, and the Mahayana secret script on the altars all seem to be indicating that the blessing in Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain was left by a saint Buddhist cultivator."

"But everything was different in the mysterious temple. It was divided into thirty-three levels, each level connected by nine steps, while a prayer mat lay at the end that ultimately transformed into a three-foot-wide platform..."

Toady rapidly speculated, "All of this seems to be linked to a dao clan from the ancient era!"

At this point, he looked at Lin Xun and said, "The crux is the Buddhist verse you obtained! It is different from regular Buddhist verses and is likely the secret language of a dao clan!"

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were unable to stay calm as they listened. As they recalled everything that had transpired, they realized that it was exactly as Toady had speculated.

“When we combine everything, we can roughly infer that the Violet Cloud Sacred Mountain was set up through Buddhist cultivator power and is the exterior side of the mountain that anyone can see. However, there is another hidden blessing within belonging to the dao clan. That is the concealed blessing that only we have managed to discover.”

Toady’s expression was filled with amazement. “Buddhist exterior with a dao interior. Together, they form one body of Buddhist dao. The mastermind behind this must have been a true hegemon even in the ancient era!”

“It is indeed inconceivable. I dare not imagine which great power from the ancient era had set this up.”

Lin Xun’s heart shuddered as respect rose within him. It was a feeling of admiration and longing.

“In other words, this location also contains a blessing?”

Zhao Jingxuan looked at the nine mighty mountains in the distance with unconcealed shock on her face.

There were too many secrets and unimaginable wonders here. Such godlike methods were something they could only look up to in awe.

“Correct!”

Toady’s eyes glowed as he rubbed his fists. “This is called there’s always a light at the end of the tunnel. This king might not have gotten anything previously, but I will win big this time!”

### [The Prodigies War](#)

#### **Chapter 600: Intimidation Tactics**

Nine mighty mountains stood together in a magnificent formation.

Each had an ancient palace on its peak that had appeared mysteriously amidst the mist.

There was no doubt that this was also a secret area where a great blessing was hidden!

Lin Xun had been feeling somewhat regretful because he had only obtained a secret Buddhist scripture and nothing else in the mysterious temple.

However, all of his negative feelings were swept away and he was reinvigorated upon finding out that another chance had appeared.

“Right! We’ll win big this time!”

Lin Xun was also itching to get started.

While they were deliberating which mountain to start with, a nearby altar suddenly released several undulations.

Soon after, a group of figures scrambled out as if they were fleeing for their lives.

“Abominable! What kind of godforsaken place is this? There’s fatal danger around every corner and a single misstep is equivalent to death. Too many of my clan’s elite cultivators have been lost to its clutches!”

“There are indeed no good people among the bald donkeys of the Buddhist Sect. How ruthless of them to leave so many deathtraps.”

The Herculean Demon Bull Clan experts!

However, they were currently in a very sorry state. Their clothes were in tatters and they were clearly worse for wear. Moreover, several members were bruised and bloodied and had evidently sustained substantial injuries.

They immediately let out a tirade of curses the moment they appeared. Their traumatized and angry appearances would make anyone wonder what kind of trials and dangers they had encountered that had left them in such a state.

Only a single person was completely unscathed among them: their leader, Little Bull Demon King Niu Tuntian.

His majestic figure resembled an unshakable metal tower while looking heroic and filled with vigor. His eyes shone brightly, filled with a look of disdain as if everything else was beneath him.

At this moment, however, his expression was also ugly and gloomy like the others.

However, Niu Tuntian immediately fixed his expression the moment he sensed Lin Xun and the others. A puzzled look flashed in his eyes as if not expecting that someone else would arrive before him.

“What? The human cultivators have come to our altar?”

The experts around Niu Tuntian also discovered Lin Xun’s group, causing their gazes to turn vigilant and prepared to kill if necessary.

The atmosphere became somewhat tense.

“The situation doesn’t look good. We should hurry up and move.”

Toady frowned. Who could have expected that a group of experts would appear while they were making their plans?

However, what happened next caught Lin Xun and gang by surprise. Several other altars nearby also began to resonate!

“Damn his mother! Don’t let me see any of those bald donkeys from the Buddhist Sect or I swear I’ll kill each one I encounter!”

“What kind of ghastly place was that? Why was it dangerous? Half my clan’s experts died inside!”

With each string of curses, a group of experts would appear at one of the altars. There was the Golden Luan Clan led by Meng Lianqing, the Cloud Hou Clan led by Kong Xiu, the Mysterious Ao Clan led by Xuan Luozi...

Batch after batch of traumatized experts appeared in bloodstained clothes. Like the Herculean Demon Bull Clan, their first act was to swear repeatedly when they emerged.

“It seems that the paths from the fifty-four altars were filled with all kinds of dangers. That’s why these guys are so mad. They must have lost quite a number inside.”

Toady began to gloat.

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan had also arrived at the same conclusion, but found themselves unable to smile like Toady.

It was obvious to everyone that the blessing was more than likely hidden in one of the nine mountains. With the arrival of the experts from the various clans, it was easy to imagine the bloodbath that would soon follow.

“Junior Sister Zhao, you managed to arrive here in advance?”

A gasp of surprise suddenly sounded in the distance as Xiao Ran, Yu Xiang, and the others walked out from one of the altars.

The speaker was Su Xingfeng.

The entire group was somewhat surprised that Lin Xun, Zhao Jingxuan, and Toady seemed to be unscathed and had arrived before them.

“Junior Sister Zhao, come over to our side.”

Xiao Ran spoke in a gentle voice, still exuding the same air of superiority.

Zhao Jingxuan hesitantly looked at Lin Xun.

Lin Xun’s expression remained unchanged as he transmitted, “It’s about time to settle things with the mysterious assassin. Let’s go.”

Zhao Jingxuan immediately cast aside her hesitation. She had always been a strong-willed individual, but was more than happy to respect Lin Xun’s decisions and feelings.

As Toady observed the exchange, he could not help but sigh inside.

What an intelligent woman. If she fancies the kid, he will never be able to escape her grasp...

When Lin Xun and the others approached, Su Xingfeng could not help but ask, “Junior Sister Zhao, how did you guys get here?”

“We took another path.”

Zhao Jingxuan’s reply was rather blunt.

The answer obviously did not satisfy Su Xingfeng. He frowned as he looked at Zhao Jingxuan, then Lin Xun, then Toady, but ultimately did not say anything else.

“I am at ease to know that you guys have arrived safely.”

“The road here was filled with danger and we nearly succumbed to it. We were honestly very lucky to arrive unharmed.”

“That’s more than very lucky. You guys didn’t lose a single member, unlike the other groups.”

Toady's words were filled with undertones. Likely because of his relationship with Lin Xun, he clearly disliked the Spirit Treasure Holy Land successors.

"You wish we had suffered losses?"

Wen Yang glared at Toady.

"This king is only saying that you guys are very lucky. Since when did you hear this king curse you? Little boy, don't twist my words."

Toady matched the glare, refusing to back down.

Unable to tolerate such rudeness, Yun Xiang interjected, "Who says we suffered no losses? If not for the Golden Cicada Talisman, we..."

Before he could finish, Su Xingfeng scolded, "Junior Brother Yun Xiang, watch your words!"

Yun Xiang immediately realized that he had said too much. His expression changed slightly as he quickly shut his mouth.

Despite this, Lin Xun, who had been observing everything, began to have a faint idea of what had transpired.

Xiao Ran and the others had only managed to arrive unscathed through the power of the Golden Cicada Talismans!

If that were true, then it would mean that at least one person in their group had already used the Golden Cicada Talisman!

But who?

Lin Xun could not tell for the time being. However, this was definitely valuable information. If they clashed, he might be able to kill one of them for real!

"Everyone, there's a total of nine mountains. My Herculean Demon Bull Clan will be occupying the first mountain. Does anyone have anything to say about it?"

A thunderous shout suddenly boomed across the area. Niu Tuntian's sharp eyes swept across the area as black light intimidatingly flowed along his body. He was clearly threatening everyone.

By this juncture, all of the clans had arrived and were observing the nine mountains with thoughtful eyes.

Numerous experts' expressions sank upon hearing Niu Tuntian's words. Wasn't this no different than forcefully seizing the blessing?

"Hmph, isn't your Herculean Demon Bull Clan being too domineering? There are so many fellow experts here. Why should you guys occupy one of the mountains?"

A shrill voice sounded from some unknown location.

"Why should we?"

Niu Tuntian's laughter boomed across the area.

He suddenly reached out and made a grabbing motion. The air seemed to explode as a figure was wrenched out from among the nearby Fire Crow experts.

Boom!

Niu Tuntian made a knife-hand and viciously swung at the figure, chopping him into half. Blood fell like a waterfall and splattered on the ground.

He had killed someone without hesitation in front of all the experts present. Such a tyrannical action caused everyone's expressions to change.

"Someone with such pathetic abilities dares to ask me why?"

Niu Tuntian was filled with disdain. "Is there anyone else who doesn't agree? Feel free to step forward, I'll happily convince you one by one!"

The place was completely silent for a time. Numerous experts were angered, but did not dare to speak. After all, they knew how strong and domineering Niu Tuntian was. He was like a demon king among the bulls that they were unable to fight against.

"Dao Friend, the blessing is still ownerless and we should contest it based on our abilities. I believe no one present would agree to you occupying an entire mountain based on your words alone."

Unexpectedly, it was the usually aloof Xiao Ran who spoke up. His voice was gentle yet indifferent as it echoed across every corner of the area.

This surprised Lin Xun. Even until now, he was still rather wary of Xiao Ran and was unable to figure him out.

"And who are you?"

Niu Tuntian's expression darkened as his piercing eyes scanned the crowd.

"Spirit Treasure Holy Land, Xiao Ran."

Xiao Ran answered with a faint smile. Dao chimed around his body, displaying an aura that did not yield to Niu Tuntian's.

Many experts raised their eyebrows in surprise.

"So you're a human expert. I've heard of Spirit Treasure Holy Land, but I've never heard of Xiao Ran."

Niu Tuntian's voice was ice-cold as his aura grew increasingly powerful like dark clouds looming upon the city.

"How shameful, I am just an unknown individual who can only be considered average in Spirit Treasure Holy Land. I apologize if my inadequacy has made this Dao Friend laugh."

Xiao Ran's voice remained gentle, but his aura grew increasingly superior, and did not back down the slightest against Niu Tuntian's.

This made the many experts present grow increasingly alarmed as they saw how frightening Xiao Ran was. Several factions secretly conversed among themselves and made sure to take extra notice of him.

I see. Xiao Ran is using this as an opportunity to display his might and intimidate the other experts. Now, some of the competitors who know they aren't his match will not dare to attack him...

Lin Xun's heart shivered in awe. Niu Tuntian killed to intimidate while Xiao Ran borrowed Niu Tuntian's already reputable presence to establish his own!

Since Xiao Ran dared to do this, didn't this mean he was confident in facing Niu Tuntian?

Suddenly, Niu Tuntian laughed and withdrew his pressure and killing intent. "You are a very smart human. Unfortunately, I do not have time to talk nonsense with you. Since no one wishes to give up on the blessing, let our abilities do the talking!"

"That will be best."

Xiao Ran smiled faintly. His nonchalance and superior air made him impossible to ignore.

He's no simple individual.

Toady transmitted with a sigh.

Lin Xun deeply agreed. Xiao Ran was undoubtedly the most unreadable among the Spirit Treasure Holy Land successors.