

Sect Master 541

Chapter 541: Reinforcements

After Meng Zhang's return, it was under his authority as the Sect Master that the Taiyi Sect began to prepare for battle. Prior to this, both the Flying Swan Sect and the Northern Desert Qi Family had already mobilized their forces.

None of these three factions actually wanted to go to war at this time. It had been less than twenty years since the last major battle, where the Fire Cloud Sect suffered a crushing defeat and the Flying Swan Sect reclaimed the Feihong Mountain. All three factions paid a heavy price in that battle, especially the Flying Swan Sect, which suffered greatly in its efforts to reclaim the mountain.

The short period of time since then was not enough for the three factions to heal their wounds and recover their strength. Among them, the Taiyi Sect was in the best situation, as it was a rising sect. With the establishment of the Hanhai Alliance and the development of the Demon Wind Gobi, they had ample resources to gradually make up for their losses.

After the Flying Swan Sect regained its dominance over the Endless Sea of Sand, they had the support of more than half of its resources, allowing them to recuperate and slowly regain their strength. Only the Northern Desert Qi Family had shallow reserves and insufficient resources. After so many years of cultivation, their strength had not fully recovered.

Even for the Taiyi Sect, which was in the best situation, now was not the ideal time to start a major war. Unfortunately, the will of the Primordial Spirit True Monarch was not something the three factions could defy. Even if they were unwilling, they had to prepare for battle and be ready to attack the Deadly Sea of Sand at any time.

Two months after the Taiyi Sect began its preparations, Jin LiDaoist Master visited once again. Meng Zhang, accompanied by his senior disciple Niu Dawei and Daoist Master Yang Xueyi, received her.

As soon as they met, Jin LiDaoist Master glanced at Meng Zhang with some surprise. "Sect Master Meng, your cultivation base has progressed so quickly. With your age, it seems you have a good chance of becoming a Primordial Spirit in the future."

Meng Zhang quickly humbled himself and praised Jin LiDaoist Master in return. Jin LiDaoist Master had already reached the completion stage of the Gold Core realm, so she should not have paid much attention to a mid-stage Gold Core cultivator like Meng Zhang. However, Meng Zhang

did not conceal his cultivation base and aura. From his pure aura alone, one could tell that his cultivation base was very refined and solid. Considering that Meng Zhang was only a little over a hundred years old, Jin LiDaoist Master couldn't help but regard him highly.

Based on Meng Zhang's progress in cultivation, it was uncertain when he would be able to catch up with Jin LiDaoist Master and stand on equal footing with her.

Originally, Jin LiDaoist Master and Meng Zhang had a close relationship, and now she had even higher expectations for him. She didn't hide some things from him but rather informed him of many inside details.

The battle between True Monarch Tian Zhu and the Fifth Rank great power was nearing its end. If they could clear the Deadly Sea of Sand at this time, the Fifth Rank great power would be completely defeated in the gamble. The power accumulated from multiple victories in the gamble would be enough for True Monarch Tian Zhu to accomplish his plan.

This time, the attack on the Deadly Sea of Sand by the three factions was related to the final gamble between True Monarch Tian Zhu and the Fifth Rank great power. Both sides would spare no effort and would bring out all their trump cards.

In addition to the three factions from the Endless Sea of Sand, True Monarch Tian Zhu's side also had reinforcements from outside.

When Meng Zhang heard about the reinforcements from Jin LiDaoist Master, he finally breathed a sigh of relief. Relying solely on the power of the Taiyi Sect and the other two factions would be too difficult to attack the Deadly Sea of Sand.

When Meng Zhang inquired about the specifics of the reinforcements, Jin LiDaoist Master revealed a mysterious smile. She didn't keep him in suspense for too long and revealed the information he wanted to know.

In addition to the three factions from the Endless Sea of Sand, the Crane Song Sect from the Jiuqu League would also send people to participate in the battle. The Crane Song Sect claimed to be acting in the name of justice, eliminating the ghost cultivators and demonic cultivations within the Deadly Sea of Sand. As a righteous sect, and not conflicting with the members of the alliance, this move was understandable.

Meng Zhang could understand the participation of the Crane Song Sect, but when Jin Li Daoist Master mentioned that the Yellow Lotus Sect's Mountain Branch would also join the battle, Meng Zhang seemed puzzled.

Although the Yellow Lotus Sect had internal conflicts and was in a semi-separatist state, the East River Branch of the Yellow Lotus Sect had a long-standing grudge with the Flying Swan Sect. The Mountain Branch and the East River Branch were at least part of the same sect, so why would the Mountain Branch disregard the feelings of the East River Branch and come to assist the Flying Swan Sect?

Seeing Meng Zhang's puzzled expression, Jin Li Daoist Master slowly explained it to him.

The East River Branch and the Mountain Branch of the Yellow Lotus Sect were the closest to each other geographically, but their relationship was the worst. They had many conflicts and accumulated a lot of grievances over time.

The Mountain Branch had always been weaker than the East River Branch and had been suppressed by them for many years. It wasn't until about three hundred years ago when the Mountain Branch's Elder Yue Feng became a Primordial Spirit True Monarch that the situation completely turned around.

After the disappearance of the Yellow Lotus Sect's Cult Master, only the Main Altar and one Primordial Spirit True Monarch who didn't involve themselves in external affairs remained. Apart from that, True Monarch Mountain Peak became the strongest in the Yellow Lotus Sect.

Even though True Monarch Mountain Peak didn't directly take action, they had many ways to make things difficult for the East River Branch. With the support of a Primordial Spirit True Monarch, the Mountain Branch's strength soared, surpassing the East River Branch and firmly suppressing them.

In the past, the East River Branch invaded the Endless Sea of Sand together with the Fire Cloud Sect and had a brief conflict with the Flying Swan Sect. However, the East River Branch completely gave up on the idea of attacking the Endless Sea of Sand mainly due to the pressure from the Mountain Branch, leaving them no time to spare.

The Mountain Branch had been relentlessly suppressing the East River Branch for many years, and in recent years, they had almost completely subdued them.

True Monarch Mountain Peak cherished their reputation and didn't want to be seen as fighting within the same sect. When suppressing the East River Branch, they paid attention to their methods and rarely engaged in direct confrontation. Instead, they used their influence and external forces.

When Jin LiDaoist Master caused trouble for the East River Branch because of Jin Qiao'er, the entire sect was in chaos, and the Mountain Branch had intentionally allowed it to happen.

Later, Jin LiDaoist Master stopped her actions in a timely manner, mainly because the Mountain Branch felt that she had caused enough trouble and pressured her to stop.

After years of suppression, the East River Branch had no power to resist in front of the Mountain Branch. If it weren't for the Main Altar's attitude, the Mountain Branch might have already completely absorbed the East River Branch with the support of True Monarch Mountain Peak.

In fact, Meng Zhang had already heard about the entanglement between the Yellow Lotus Sect's East River Branch and Mountain Branch from Luo YeDaoist Master. He was just pretending to be ignorant in front of Jin LiDaoist Master, not wanting her to think that he was too well-informed.

However, what Jin LiDaoist Master said next was something that Meng Zhang truly had no knowledge of.

There was a deep connection between True Monarch Mountain Peak and True Monarch Tian Zhu. True Monarch Mountain Peak's successful breakthrough to the Primordial Spirit stage was largely due to the guidance of True Monarch Tian Zhu.

Jin LiDaoist Master had only recently learned about this matter. True Monarch Tian Zhu had never mentioned it to her before.

Chapter 542

Strictly speaking, True Monarch Mountain Peak can be considered as a chess piece set up by True Monarch Tian Zhu in the Jiuqu League. True Monarch Mountain Peak controls the Yellow Lotus Sect Mountain Branch and has blocked many cultivation forces that wanted to intervene in the Endless Sea of Sand. The fact that the Flying Swan Sect can firmly hold the throne as the ruler of the Endless Sea of Sand is largely due to this. The Mountain Branch not only hinders the East River Branch's coveting of the Endless Sea of Sand but also has a significant restraining effect on the Fire Cloud Sect.

The Crane Song Sect has been in a disadvantageous position in its long-standing hostility with the Fire Cloud Sect. Especially after the Fire Cloud Sect received support from True Monarch Profound Wind, the Crane Song Sect almost lost all its resistance. Although constrained by the rules of the Jiuqu League, True Monarch Profound Wind finds it difficult to directly intervene in the conflict between the Fire Cloud Sect and the Crane Song Sect, let alone help the Fire Cloud Sect attack the Crane Song Sect. However, as a Primordial Spirit True Monarch, he has secretly employed some tactics that have made the Crane Song Sect very uncomfortable and almost unable to withstand.

Fortunately, True Monarch Mountain Peak of the Yellow Lotus Sect Mountain Branch, after achieving the status of a Primordial Spirit True Monarch, does not respect True Monarch Profound Wind, but instead conflicts with him in many ways and opposes him at every turn. True Monarch Mountain Peak is ambitious and not only covets the strength of the entire Yellow Lotus Sect but also seeks to win over other forces. The Crane Song Sect seems to have caught the attention of True Monarch Mountain Peak and has become the target of his efforts to win over.

The Crane Song Sect has sought refuge with True Monarch Mountain Peak and relied on his power to resist the Fire Cloud Sect, which is supported by True Monarch Profound Wind. The Crane Song Sect has provided assistance to the Flying Swan Sect several times and even sent a Gold Core Daoist Master to help the Flying Swan Sect resist the army of monsters, all under the guidance of True Monarch Mountain Peak. The Crane Song Sect has dispatched a large army this time to attack the Deadly Sea of Sand, and True Monarch Mountain Peak's will is also involved in it.

True Monarch Tian Zhu has always kept the existence of True Monarch Mountain Peak a strict secret and has never revealed it to the outside world. Jin Li, a Daoist Master, has been loyal to True Monarch Tian Zhu for many years, tirelessly serving him. However, True Monarch Tian Zhu still does not fully trust her and has kept many secret arrangements. This time, due to the final battle with the Fifth Rank great power, True Monarch Tian Zhu wants to achieve great success. Therefore, he has revealed all his cards without any hesitation, exposing the existence of True Monarch Mountain Peak. It is said to be an exposure, but in fact, True Monarch Tian Zhu only told Jin Li, a Daoist Master, about this matter and warned her to keep it confidential and not spread it casually.

Jin Li, a Daoist Master, can understand True Monarch Tian Zhu's actions, but she still has some reservations in her heart. So, despite True Monarch Tian Zhu's warning, she told Meng Zhang all these secrets. On the one hand, she trusts Meng Zhang and does not want him to suffer from unknown conflicts due to a lack of understanding. On the other hand, she also has the intention to vent her emotions. True Monarch Tian Zhu's calculations, as an experienced Primordial Spirit True Monarch, are indeed quite cunning.

Openly, the Flying Swan Sect rules the Endless Sea of Sand with this chess piece, blocking all external invaders. In secret, they have also set up chess pieces in the Jiuqu League as a support. Luo Ye, a Daoist Master, did not tell Meng Zhang about True Monarch Monnow Taiyi Sect is serving

under True Monarch Tian Zhu. The various methods set up by True Monarch Tian Zhu are harmful to Taiyi Sect and offer no benefits.

Initially, Meng Zhang had many concerns about launching an attack on the Deadly Sea of Sand. However, knowing that reinforcements are coming has brought stability to his mind. Not to mention that True Monarch Mountain Peak, as a Primordial Spirit True Monarch, is already a formidable force, and when combined with the strength of the Yellow Lotus Sect Mountain Branch and the Crane Song Sect, it surpasses the Flying Swan Sect in its prime. If these two forces are willing to lend their full support, their power will be more than doubled.

Jin Li, a Daoist Master, took the initiative to visit Meng Zhang and revealed all these secrets. Her main purpose was to put his mind at ease. With such strong reinforcements, Taiyi Sect can confidently launch an attack on the Deadly Sea of Sand without any worries. Jin Li, a Daoist Master, also informed the Northern Desert Qi Family and the Flying Swan Sect about the reinforcements, but she did not go into detail about the relationship between True Monarch Mountain Peak and True Monarch Tian Zhu.

The Flying Swan Sect, having served True Monarch Tian Zhu for many years, knows many secrets. From the situation of the reinforcements, they can probably guess that there is a connection between True Monarch Mountain Peak and True Monarch Tian Zhu. Regardless, the arrival of powerful reinforcements is undoubtedly a good thing. This at least shows that True Monarch Tian Zhu does not want their three forces to die in vain but has arranged sufficient strength to conquer the Deadly Sea of Sand.

As this is the final battle and of great importance, True Monarch Tian Zhu has given all participating forces enough time to make thorough preparations before the battle. True Monarch Tian Zhu appointed Jin Li, a Daoist Master, as the overall commander, with full authority to command the operation. At the same time, Jin Li, a Daoist Master, also has the task of supervising the various participating forces. Any force that dares to hold back their strength, shrink back, or avoid battle will not be spared by True Monarch Tian Zhu afterwards. In fact, even without True Monarch Tian Zhu's intervention, with Jin Li, a Daoist Master's Gold Core completion level of strength, as long as True Monarch Mountain Peak has no objections, she can convince all the participating forces.

After leaving Taiyi Sect, Jin Li, a Daoist Master, has been busy inside and outside the Endless Sea of Sand, contacting the various participating forces and helping them solve various problems. During this process, the Huang Family, a cultivation family in Great Wind City, heard from somewhere that the Flying Swan Sect and other sects were going to launch a full-scale attack on the Deadly Sea of Sand. The Huang Family sent envoys to find a way to meet Jin Li, a Daoist Master, expressing their willingness to join the actions of several sects as a member of the righteous path and to contribute to the eradication of evil and the protection of righteousness.

At first, Jin Li, a Daoist Master, was a little confused by the Huang Family's actions, but after Meng Zhang learned about the past grievances between Ye Feifan and the Huang Family, he told her about it. The Huang Family had learned about Ye Feifan's escape into the Deadly Sea of Sand for some reason and had been determined to capture him. However, the Huang Family did not have the ability to enter the Deadly Sea of Sand and apprehend Ye Feifan, so they had to endure temporarily. Now that several forces have united to attack the Deadly Sea of Sand, it is a rare opportunity for the Huang Family, and they naturally want to seize this opportunity.

Chapter 543: Builds up the team

When Meng Zhang went to Great Wind City, he once extorted Ye Feifan. Ye Feifan, a ruthless person, used the Bloodline Parasitism technique to be reborn in the descendants of his blood relatives and plotted against the Huang Family and many cultivators in Great Wind City. Later, Ye Feifan escaped into the Deadly Sea of Sand and joined forces with the ghost cultivators inside, causing harm to many cultivators who entered the Deadly Sea of Sand. Now, the Huang Family in Great Wind City is using the pretext of exterminating the ghost cultivators to enter the Deadly Sea of Sand and hunt down Ye Feifan. For Meng Zhang, this is not a bad thing.

As a Diviner, Meng Zhang has a strong intuition and senses that he will encounter Ye Feifan again in the future. When Meng Zhang was hostile to Ye Feifan in the past, Meng Zhang was only a Foundation Building stage cultivator and couldn't gain the upper hand. Meng Zhang has now become a Gold Core Daoist Master, but still has deep concerns about Ye Feifan. With the Huang Family leading the way, Meng Zhang is happy to take advantage of the situation.

After Jin Li Daoist Master confirmed that the Huang Family had no malicious intent, she agreed to let the Huang Family join the expeditionary force. The Huang Family, as a Gold Core family with a long heritage, still has some strength. There is no reason to refuse their help, as it can enhance our own power. After obtaining Jin Li Daoist Master's approval, the Huang Family also began mobilizing and actively preparing for the expedition.

Several forces, from the Endless Sea of Sand to the Jiuqu League, have almost simultaneously taken action and are preparing for a major battle. Many nearby forces have been alarmed and are turning their attention to this matter. Jin Li Daoist Master did not strictly keep this operation confidential, and it was impossible to do so. With several cultivation forces mobilizing and a large number of cultivators participating, how could the news not leak out?

Jin Li Daoist Master openly declared that she would unite the cultivators of several forces to completely eradicate the Deadly Sea of Sand, destroy the small demonic dens inside, and eliminate the Demonic Cultivation that harms the world, thus demonstrating the might of the righteous path. For a while, there were indeed many cultivators who were unaware of the truth and applauded this.

Of course, in the eyes of those forces who knew the truth, they regarded it as a joke. If it weren't for True Monarch Tian Zhu's presence in the Deadly Sea of Sand and his conflict with the Fifth Rank great power, many cultivators would not dare to approach, let alone allow the existence of small demonic dens.

To some extent, True Monarch Tian Zhu should bear a great responsibility for the existence of these small demonic dens. This world belongs to the Daoist sects, and the ones who rule the Cultivation World are the so-called righteous sects. Demonic Cultivation is like a rat crossing the street in the Cultivation World and cannot openly gather in large numbers.

The fact that the small demonic dens have existed in the Deadly Sea of Sand for many years without being eradicated is indeed unusual. Regardless, Jin Li Daoist Master organizing the cultivators of several forces to attack the Deadly Sea of Sand is considered a good thing for the righteous sects.

The preparations of several forces have not been hindered, and they have even received some subtle support from the sects. Meng Zhang hopes that the preparation time will be as long as possible, preferably lasting forever.

Even though he knows that with the reinforcements, the chances of winning the battle to invade the Deadly Sea of Sand have greatly increased, Meng Zhang is still not very interested in this battle. Although Taiyi Sect may benefit from this battle, in the end, Taiyi Sect is still a pawn of True Monarch Tian Zhu, manipulated by him to serve his plans. This feeling of being controlled and restricted makes Meng Zhang uncomfortable.

Unfortunately, True Monarch Tian Zhu cannot allow several forces to delay indefinitely. After ordering the preparations, it took just over two years for him to order Jin Li Daoist Master to begin the attack. Jin Li Daoist Master did not dare to delay and immediately gathered the cultivators of several forces to take action.

Originally, Meng Zhang planned to assign Wen Qiansun and Deep Earth Spirit General, two experts in formations, to lead the disciples and deploy formations to deal with the enemy, as he had done in the past. However, Wen Qiansun had reached the Foundation Building stage and sensed an opportunity to break through to the Gold Core stage. Meng Zhang made the decision without hesitation and asked Wen Qiansun to stay in seclusion in the sect.

Deep Earth Spirit General was also in a critical moment of repairing the Third Rank spirit vein. If interrupted at this time, all their previous efforts would be in vain, and the entire sect's sacrifices and hard work of several decades would be wasted. Therefore, Meng Zhang ordered Deep Earth Spirit General to stay and continue repairing the Third Rank spirit vein. To address this matter, Meng Zhang specifically approached Jin Li Daoist Master.

Although True Monarch Tian Zhu's command was for all forces to mobilize and give their full effort, it was Jin Li Daoist Master who was responsible for the specific command. Meng Zhang had a good relationship with Jin Li Daoist Master and asked her for a favor, fabricating a bunch of excuses to convince Taiyi Sect to leave some cultivators behind to guard the Demon Wind Gobi.

Jin Li Daoist Master, wanting to maintain a good relationship with Meng Zhang, turned a blind eye and agreed. As a result, Taiyi Sect left behind a considerable number of cultivators.

Delicate Water Spirit General, who had not yet revealed their Gold Core stage cultivation base, was also left behind by Meng Zhang in the sect as a hidden trump card.

As a Gold Core Daoist Master, Meng Zhang gathered a large army of over two thousand cultivators. This included the elite disciples of Taiyi Sect, as well as the main forces drawn from various factions of the Hanhai Alliance and loose cultivators recruited from nearby areas.

Apart from the well-trained and capable elite disciples of Taiyi Sect who could serve as the main force, most of the other cultivators were of mixed quality and would serve as cannon fodder.

Under Jin Li Daoist Master's close supervision, Flying Swan Sect also assembled a cultivator army of nearly three thousand people. As for the Northern Desert Qi Family, even if Qi Nanfei Daoist Master mobilized the entire family, they could only deploy a little over four hundred cultivators.

Regardless of the relationship between the three forces, they were considered the masters in the eyes of outsiders and were regarded as the natives of the Endless Sea of Sand.

The cultivator armies of the three forces, riding on flying ships, began to gather at the border between the Demon Wind Gobi and the Deadly Sea of Sand.

As the landlord of the Demon Wind Gobi, Taiyi Sect chose Tigerwolf Market, not far from the border, as the gathering point.

During this time, many cultivator teams that had originally come from various places to explore the Deadly Sea of Sand had disbanded. Cultivators from sects like Taiyi Sect and Flying Swan Sect had to quickly return to their respective sects and join the expeditionary forces.

Some cultivator teams believed that the joint forces of several sects launching an attack on the Deadly Sea of Sand was a rare opportunity. They decided to follow behind and take advantage of the situation.

These cultivator teams communicated with sects like Taiyi Sect to avoid being mistakenly attacked after entering the Deadly Sea of Sand. Taiyi Sect and Flying Swan Sect tacitly allowed their presence, as they were free labor.

As the host, Taiyi Sect arrived at Tigerwolf Market first, as their cultivator army was the closest. They didn't have to wait long before the flying ship fleets of Flying Swan Sect and the Northern Desert Qi Family also arrived.

The last to arrive at Tigerwolf Market was a cultivator team led by Huang Tannian, the ancestor of the Huang Family.

Chapter 544: Advances

When Meng Zhang first dealt with Ye Feifan, he mentioned that Huang Tannian, the Gold Core ancestor of the Huang Family, had suffered a setback in his cultivation, leaving half of his body paralyzed and unable to move freely. He could only meditate in seclusion in his cave for long periods of time.

However, now Huang Tannian, the Gold Core ancestor of the Huang Family, appears before Meng Zhang without any signs of discomfort, full of vitality. Huang Tannian did not come alone; he brought an army of over five hundred cultivators, who arrived at Tigerwolf Market on flying boats.

Among the many cultivation families in Great Wind City, Lu Family and Gu Yue Family are the most powerful and prestigious, surpassing other cultivation families in both strength and reputation. Lu Family and Gu Yue Family have multiple Gold Core Daoist Masters, while other families generally only have 1-2 Gold Core Daoist Masters, and their Gold Core Daoist Masters occasionally experience cultivation disruptions.

After learning about the situation in Great Wind City, Meng Zhang had some malicious speculations. Lu Family and Gu Yue Family might have secretly employed some means to suppress other cultivation families, ensuring that their own strength remains within a certain range without affecting the status of Lu Family and Gu Yue Family.

The specific relationships between the cultivation families in Great Wind City are limited to outsiders' knowledge, and Meng Zhang can only make casual guesses.

Huang Tannian, the only Gold Core Daoist Master of the Huang Family, usually stays in seclusion and rarely leaves the family. It is truly unexpected that he personally led the army to the Deadly Sea of Sand to suppress the ghost cultivators.

Even Jin Li, the Daoist Master who knows about the grudges between Ye Feifan and the Huang Family, thinks that Huang Tannian is making a big fuss over nothing. Only Meng Zhang has a faint idea of what is going on, but no one has been informed.

After the Huang Family's troops arrived, as the host, Meng Zhang inevitably had to come forward and greet them. With the four forces gathered in Tigerwolf Market, countless cultivators crowded the place. The Gold Core Daoist Masters of the four forces found a quiet place and gathered together to discuss the upcoming battle.

Jin Li, the commanding Daoist Master, had not appeared, and the expected reinforcements from the Yellow Lotus Sect Mountain Branch and Crane Song Sect had also not arrived. Meng Zhang and others began to suspect that True Monarch Mountain Peak might have deceived them.

Without the appearance of the reinforcements from True Monarch Mountain Peak, there was no guarantee that the joint forces of the four factions could complete the task of sweeping the Deadly Sea of Sand. Just as everyone was suspicious, Jin Li, who had been absent for a long time, finally appeared.

Jin Li, with a grim face, was filled with uncontrollable anger. She told everyone that there was no need to wait for reinforcements anymore because they had already set off.

Several days ago, the army of cultivators led by True Monarch Mountain Peak himself had boldly entered the Deadly Sea of Sand from the border between the Jiuqu League and the Deadly Sea of Sand. After hearing Jin Li's words, everyone's expressions became subtle. They could roughly guess the situation.

Although True Monarch Tian Zhu ordered Jin Li to command and lead the joint forces of several factions, True Monarch Mountain Peak, as a Primordial Spirit True Monarch, would never willingly be commanded by Jin Li.

True Monarch Mountain Peak might not openly defy True Monarch Tian Zhu's intentions, so he simply led his army from a completely different direction and directly entered the Deadly Sea of Sand, avoiding Jin Li.

The Yellow Lotus Sect Mountain Branch and Crane Song Sect, being under the command of True Monarch Mountain Peak, naturally followed his orders and paid no attention to Jin Li. In fact, even True Monarch Tian Zhu could not directly command the Yellow Lotus Sect Mountain Branch faction; he needed to control them through True Monarch Mountain Peak.

Now that True Monarch Mountain Peak did not listen to Jin Li, she had no choice. She would not go to True Monarch Tian Zhu and complain. After all, she was a Gold Core Daoist Master and could not afford to lose face.

Jin Li, who had probably been mistreated by True Monarch Mountain Peak, seemed ready to explode in front of everyone. Including Meng Zhang, everyone knew that they must not provoke Jin Li at this time, so they all behaved obediently and honestly. Jin Li gave orders without any politeness and began to march and deploy the troops.

Huang Tannian, as a guest, should not have been under Jin Li's command. However, facing an angry Gold Core completion expert, Huang Tannian, who was only at the early stage of Gold Core cultivation, could not summon the courage to oppose her. After explaining her battle plan and specific arrangements, Jin Li did not waste any more words and left in anger.

The Gold Core Daoist Masters exchanged glances and left without saying much, returning to their respective teams to make arrangements.

Shortly after Meng Zhang and Yang Xueyi returned to the Taiyi Sect's team, Jin Li, the Daoist Master, came to visit them. Jin Li did not treat Meng Zhang as an outsider and, in front of Meng Zhang, no longer suppressed her temper and began to angrily criticize True Monarch Mountain Peak.

Speaking of age, True Monarch Mountain Peak is not necessarily much older than Jin Li. They can be considered cultivators of the same generation.

However, True Monarch Mountain Peak took a step ahead on the path of cultivation and became a Primordial Spirit True Monarch, naturally able to easily suppress Jin Li. Jin Li did not hide anything from Meng Zhang and poured out her grievances.

After accepting True Monarch Tian Zhu's command, she had been running around, focusing on preparing for the sweep of the Deadly Sea of Sand. She had visited the Jiuqu League several times to pay a visit to True Monarch Mountain Peak, but had never seen the other party.

Every time, she was received by the younger cultivators of the Mountain Branch, and their attitude was neither warm nor cold, far from respectful.

Jin Li had always endured it, as long as she could complete the task entrusted by True Monarch Tian Zhu, these were all trivial matters. But this time, True Monarch Mountain Peak's actions were truly excessive.

He actually treated Jin Li as if she were nothing and acted on his own. Jin Li not only lost face but also lost the opportunity to command the reinforcements. The army under her command was limited in strength, and they would definitely face many difficulties once they entered the Deadly Sea of Sand. Jin Li complained, but she also had some admiration for True Monarch Mountain Peak's methods.

This time, not only did the Yellow Lotus Sect Mountain Branch and Crane Song Sect join forces, but even the East River Branch, which had been subdued by the Mountain Branch, had to send an army of cultivators under the strong orders of True Monarch Mountain Peak to join the expedition.

True Monarch Mountain Peak's army, not to mention True Monarch Mountain Peak himself as a Primordial Spirit True Monarch, far surpassed the army under Jin Li's command in strength.

Facing a somewhat frustrated Jin Li, Meng Zhang comforted her and spoke many kind words. Regardless of True Monarch Mountain Peak's attitude, he was still an ally now. His army of cultivators was also working hard to sweep the Deadly Sea of Sand.

Moreover, that army had taken the lead, with great momentum, and would likely attract the main attention of the sand monsters in the Deadly Sea of Sand. The armies of Taiyi Sect and other factions could take advantage of this and save a lot of effort.

Chapter 545: Advancing in Unison

Meng Zhang spent a lot of effort and said many kind words before calming down Jin Li, the Daoist Master. Jin Li is not an unreasonable person, but she was just too angry and vented in front of her acquaintance, Meng Zhang. Yue Feng, as the Primordial Spirit True Monarch, controls powerful forces such as the Yellow Lotus Sect Mountain Branch, which is far beyond what a mere Jin Li Daoist Master can compare to. Of course, Jin Li is not a magnanimous person either. She secretly kept this matter in mind, waiting for an opportunity to retaliate in the future. After calming down her anger, Jin Li discussed important matters with Meng Zhang before leaving.

Before Jin Li arrived, most of the cultivators from the four forces that had arrived here had already entered the Tigerwolf Market. The large number of cultivators from the four forces crowded the small place of Tigerwolf Market, making it extremely crowded. Considering the upcoming battle, several Gold Core Daoist Masters did not restrain their cultivators too much and allowed them to relax outside. For many cultivators in the group, this might be their last time to relax in their lives. Thousands of cultivators squeezed into Tigerwolf Market, making it chaotic and full of disputes.

The members of the Hanhai Daoist Alliance, led by the Taiyi Sect, usually consider themselves righteous sects and do not engage in businesses like brothels. They missed out on a great opportunity to make a fortune. According to Meng Zhang's estimation, there would definitely be heavy casualties in the upcoming attack on the Deadly Sea of Sand. Meng Zhang is very generous towards those who are about to die. He specifically ordered the law enforcement cultivators of the Taiyi Sect in Tigerwolf Market not to interfere too much with the foreign guests as long as they didn't engage in looting, killing, or arson.

When Jin Li arrived at Tigerwolf Market, she was very dissatisfied with the chaotic scene. She wanted a group of powerful and elite cultivators, not a mob. Jin Li got angry, and the Gold Core Daoist Masters quickly gathered their disciples and assembled the troops, ready to set off at any time. After all, cultivators are not ordinary people. Even if they scatter and become chaotic, after the Gold Core Daoist Masters issued the call, they quickly returned to the team and completed the assembly in the shortest possible time. In just half a day, Tigerwolf Market was empty, and outside the market, four well-organized armies of cultivators appeared.

Jin Li's expression improved slightly. With one command from her, the armies of cultivators from the four forces boarded the flying boats and aggressively rushed into the Deadly Sea of Sand. Although the reinforcements had not arrived yet, it was still a good thing for everyone that True Monarch Mountain Peak had led the army of cultivators into the Deadly Sea of Sand ahead of time. As Meng Zhang comforted Jin Li, with True Monarch Mountain Peak leading the way, everyone would have a much easier time.

True Monarch Mountain Peak, as the vanguard, would definitely attract the main attention of the sand monsters. Many people secretly hoped that True Monarch Mountain Peak would be even more powerful and clear the Deadly Sea of Sand as soon as possible, saving everyone some effort. Unfortunately, such a good thing would never happen.

Shortly after the coalition army composed of the four forces entered the Deadly Sea of Sand, they encountered many roaming sand monster groups. The teams of sand monsters were as numerous as ants, densely packed on the ground. Although the Taiyi Sect, Flying Swan Sect, and Northern Desert Qi Family had experience in joint operations, they still lacked trust in each other and only had some tacit understanding. Now, with the addition of the Huang Family's cultivator team, cooperation became even more difficult.

The Deadly Sea of Sand is vast, and the sand monster nests are buried deep underground. It is not an easy task to eliminate all the sand monsters and destroy every discovered nest. Not to mention the battle with the sand monsters, just finding the buried sand monster nests is not an easy task.

Before entering the Deadly Sea of Sand, Jin Li made a simple deployment. The army of cultivators from the four forces was divided into four routes, advancing together like a wall towards the Deadly Sea of Sand, sweeping along the way. The main armies maintained contact with each other for timely reinforcement. Jin Li commanded from the center and could support any army at any time.

Everyone had no objections to Jin Li's deployment. By keeping their distance from each other to avoid interference, and with the guidance of Jin Li, a powerful expert, they were not afraid of any accidents. The sand monsters encountered by the four armies were numerous, but their levels were not high, mainly consisting of First Rank and Second Rank sand monsters that couldn't compare to the Third Rank sand monsters that Gold Core Daoist Masters could handle.

The main task of the four armies was to eliminate all the sand monsters that appeared in front of them and destroy every discovered sand monster nest. It's strange to say that the Deadly Sea of Sand, which is usually shrouded in black mist throughout the year, with little sunlight. Inside the Deadly Sea of Sand, there are often fierce winds and sandstorms. However, after the four armies entered the Deadly Sea of Sand, most of the black mist above their heads dissipated, and although there were still occasional gusts of wind and sand, it became noticeably calmer.

At first, Meng Zhang thought that the group was lucky to encounter good weather in the Deadly Sea of Sand. But as time passed and they ventured deeper into the area, the previously violent weather gradually disappeared. Meng Zhang suspected that there was more to it, and it was during a routine contact with Jin Li that she revealed the truth.

The abnormal weather in the Deadly Sea of Sand was primarily caused by the influence of a Fifth Rank great power that leaked its power. However, as the crucial battle between that great power and True Monarch Tian Zhu approached, it had to retract its power and focus on dealing with True Monarch Tian Zhu. Without the influence of the Fifth Rank great power's power, the Deadly Sea of Sand naturally returned to its normal weather.

Although the environment in the Deadly Sea of Sand is even more harsh than the Endless Sea of Sand, without external influences, it is just an ordinary desert. Meng Zhang, as a Gold Core Daoist Master, didn't dare to hope for the power of a Primordial Spirit True Monarch, let alone imagine the might of a Fifth Rank great power. The fact that the weather in the Deadly Sea of Sand, which covers such a vast area, could be influenced by a single individual was truly admirable and awe-inspiring.

Facing such an opponent, even if True Monarch Tian Zhu had the upper hand in their previous battles and held the initiative, Meng Zhang couldn't help but worry. If True Monarch Tian Zhu were to fail, things would truly be in dire straits. With the power of sects like the Taiyi Sect, they couldn't even withstand a Primordial Spirit True Monarch, let alone a Fifth Rank great power.

With this thought in mind, Meng Zhang felt a heavy shadow weighing on his heart.

Chapter 546: 1 group of thorough

Meng Zhang had hidden worries in his heart, but he was helpless. The battle between Primordial Spirit True Monarch and Fifth Rank great power was at a level that was too high for him to intervene. He could only wait for the outcome.

Experiencing this sense of powerlessness once again made Meng Zhang feel frustrated, and it took a long time for him to calm down. He really wanted to lead the team and leave immediately, away from this conflict. However, if he were to do so, not only would he not pass True Monarch Tian Zhu's test, but even Jin Li Daoist Master, who was supervising the battle from behind, would not allow it.

Meng Zhang could only be more cautious and specifically instructed a few trusted individuals in the team. If the situation was not favorable, everyone should retreat immediately.

The situation encountered after entering the Deadly Sea of Sand seemed to be a bit exaggerated in Meng Zhang's mind. Along the way, the four armies encountered many sand monsters, but their levels were not high, and they could be easily eliminated.

Without the influence of the Fifth Rank Earth Spirit in the Deadly Sea of Sand, many spells and divine abilities could be freely used without obstruction. Although the nests of the sand monsters were buried deep underground, the Gold Core Daoist Masters had various means to slowly locate them. Especially Meng Zhang, who secretly used the Grand Evolving Fortune, could easily deduce the whereabouts of these sand monster nests.

As a master of divination, although he did not have the ability to deduce the battle between the Fifth Rank great power and True Monarch Tian Zhu, it was relatively easy for him to deduce the locations of these low-level sand monster nests.

These sand monster nests were not of high level and could only breed First Rank and Second Rank sand monsters. After completely destroying them, they could still harvest some spirit source beads.

Unconsciously, the cultivator team from Taiyi Sect had actually destroyed the most sand monster nests and achieved the most glorious results.

Speaking of divine abilities, Meng Zhang's other divine ability, Mind Reading, also advanced after he reached the Gold Core stage, but he used it less frequently. After entering the Gold Core stage, cultivators developed Divine Sense, which naturally restrained their thoughts and made it difficult to probe. Moreover, many Gold Core Daoist Masters had their own methods of concealing their thoughts.

Even though Meng Zhang, as a mid-stage Gold Core cultivator, would normally find it difficult to read the thoughts of early-stage Gold Core cultivators, the Mind Reading divine ability still had its uses. It allowed Meng Zhang to roughly sense whether others had goodwill or ill intentions towards him.

Meng Zhang had not tried it in front of Primordial Spirit True Monarch, but he could clearly feel that Jin Li Daoist Master had no ill intentions towards him, which was why he had always been sincere in his friendship with Jin Li Daoist Master.

For the other Gold Core Daoist Masters who joined this expedition, when Meng Zhang interacted with them, he used Mind Reading to sense their thoughts. Although he was not able to successfully read their thoughts, Meng Zhang could clearly sense that Fei Shi Daoist Master and Wu Mingwei Daoist Master from Flying Swan Sect had ill intentions towards him. Qi Nanfei from the Northern Desert Qi Family seemed to be deliberately friendly on the surface, but he also had no goodwill towards Meng Zhang. Only Huang Tannian from the Huang Family had no ulterior motives and was completely unrelated.

Meng Zhang could roughly guess the thoughts of these temporary allies. Flying Swan Sect's attitude towards Taiyi Sect was not a secret. The Northern Desert Qi Family also did not treat Taiyi Sect as a friend.

The Mind Reading divine ability made Meng Zhang more certain of his situation and made him more vigilant. Meng Zhang's divine ability, Deception Breaking Eye, combined with the divination technique Grand Evolving Fortune, allowed him to find and completely destroy many sand monster nests.

When Deep Earth Spirit General was repairing the Third Rank spirit vein, it was the time when spirit source beads were needed. Meng Zhang did not deliberately hide his abilities. In addition to spirit source beads, the Taiyi Sect cultivators would also gain some other resources.

However, due to the responsibility of clearing the Deadly Sea of Sand, the Taiyi Sect cultivators did not have time to plunder resources. Instead, it was the small teams that followed the army that benefited.

After the four armies entered the Deadly Sea of Sand, their journey was quite smooth. They encountered many sand monsters along the way, but they were not strong and could be easily eliminated. They found and destroyed many sand monster nests along the way, gaining some rewards.

Jin Li Daoist Master had previously mentioned that the Fifth Rank great power had many Third Rank sand monsters as guards. With the invasion of the Deadly Sea of Sand, those Third Rank sand monsters would definitely join the battle. However, after the four armies had been in the Deadly Sea of Sand for so long, they had not encountered any Third Rank sandmonsters, let alone the ghost cultivators and demonic cultivators lurking in the Deadly Sea of Sand.

Everyone's spirits were high, thinking that the main force of the sand monsters in the Deadly Sea of Sand had likely been drawn away by the army from True Monarch Mountain Peak.

The battles along the way were easy, and everyone did not feel burdened by the task.

If the expedition to the Deadly Sea of Sand could continue like this, it would be great. However, because they had not encountered a large army of powerful sand monsters, the four armies had divided into several small teams to search for the sand monster nests and destroy them, in order to increase efficiency.

Although Meng Zhang was not as optimistic as the others, he still dispatched several small teams to search for the sand monster nests and guided them on how to find and destroy them. The progress was slow, and it took the four armies more than a month to advance thousands of miles into the Deadly Sea of Sand.

It was at this time that an anomaly occurred. First, a small team sent by Flying Swan Sect to search for sand monster nests did not return to the main army for a long time. Then, teams from all four armies exceeded the agreed-upon time and did not come back.

The Gold Core Daoist Masters who were in charge of each army gradually felt that something was wrong. After receiving reports, Meng Zhang used the Grand Evolving Fortune to deduce the situation. After obtaining the results, he immediately ordered the use of communication talismans to recall all the Taiyi Sect cultivator teams that were outside.

Then, he instructed Yang Xueyi to continue leading the main army while he hurriedly flew out. Meng Zhang encountered two demonic cultivators attacking a team of Taiyi Sect cultivators about 600 miles north of the main army. The two demonic cultivators were only at the Foundation Building stage and were easily eliminated by Meng Zhang, who then rescued the attacked Taiyi Sect cultivators.

After giving them a brief instruction to quickly return and join the main army, Meng Zhang flew away again. This time, about 500 miles south of the main army of Taiyi Sect cultivators, he encountered a Third Rank sand monster.

When he arrived, the Third Rank sand monster was creating a sandstorm, trapping a team of Taiyi Sect cultivators. It seemed like they were about to be overwhelmed.

Chapter 547: Repelling

Meng Zhang and the Third Ranksand monster exchanged a few moves, and the monster, knowing it was no match, took the initiative to retreat. Meng Zhang, eager to save people, did not continue the pursuit and let it escape. He gave a few instructions to the rescued disciples and flew off again, heading towards the next location.

Using his Grand Evolving Fortune technique, Meng Zhang calculated the positions where the disciples were in danger. He swiftly traveled, engaging in battles and successfully rescuing most of the disciples. Meng Zhang killed several Demonic Cultivators and repelled the Third Ranksand monster, but he felt no sense of pride.

The sand monster was created as a puppet and only followed pre-set instructions. When an ordinary sand monster encounters a human, it immediately engages in a relentless fight. The Third Ranksand monster knows when to advance and retreat, demonstrating flexibility. However, it still harbors extreme hostility towards humans and will attack them on sight.

Most of these Demonic Cultivators are humans who can collaborate with the sand monster. It seems that the Fifth Rank great power has influenced them. It must have influenced the sand monster to cooperate with humans.

Thanks to Meng Zhang's presence, most of the cultivator teams sent out by the Taiyi Sect were saved, and the losses were relatively small. However, the other three forces were not able to respond in time and suffered heavy casualties as multiple teams were ambushed.

By the time the Gold Core Daoist Masters realized what was happening and began to regroup their teams, the cultivators who were sent out were almost completely wiped out.

To make matters worse, the Third Ranksand monster, along with the Demonic Cultivators, harassed the four armies of cultivators, quickly assessing their strengths and weaknesses. The Taiyi Sect and Flying Swan Sect, with their large numbers of cultivators and two Gold Core Daoist Masters each, proved to be formidable opponents.

The Northern Desert Qi Family's team had the worst luck and became the target of two Third Ranksand monsters and a group of Demonic Cultivators. The combined strength of the two Third Ranksand monsters easily overwhelmed Qi Nanfei, the Daoist Master of the Qi Family.

Although the group of Demonic Cultivators were only at the Foundation Building stage, they possessed various cunning and treacherous demonic techniques, often catching their opponents off guard.

Less than ten Demonic Cultivators managed to suppress hundreds of Qi Family cultivators, putting them at a significant disadvantage. Fortunately, the well-trained Qi Family members quickly formed a defensive formation and managed to withstand the relentless attacks of the Demonic Cultivators.

The four armies of cultivators, from left to right, were the Taiyi Sect, Huang Family, Flying Swan Sect, and Northern Desert Qi Family. The distance between the four armies was only a few dozen miles, and even the farthest distance between the Taiyi Sect and the Northern Desert Qi Family was less than two hundred miles.

With the speed of the Second Rank flying boats, which were the most numerous in the armies, they could cross this distance in less than the time it takes for an incense stick to burn. If the Gold Core Daoist Masters personally took action, it would take even less time.

When the Northern Desert Qi Family was under attack, they immediately sent out distress signals to the other teams. The Flying Swan Sect, being the closest, could have provided reinforcements almost instantly if they were willing. However, neither Fei Shi Daoist Master nor Wu Mingwei showed any intention of intervening. Instead, they gathered their cultivators, set up defensive formations, and adopted a strictly defensive posture.

The Huang Family, with their weak strength and inability to protect themselves, naturally did not want to get involved. The Taiyi Sect, being the farthest away, also had sand monsters and Demonic Cultivators constantly appearing near their team, making it impossible for them to act recklessly.

Coincidentally, Jin Li Daoist Master, who was supposed to oversee the overall situation and coordinate the operations, had not encountered the main force of the sand monsters during this time, which left her somewhat puzzled.

When everyone was under attack, she was flying ahead, intending to personally investigate the movements of the sand monsters. By the time she received the news of the attack from the rear and rushed back, the battle had already been going on for a long time.

Jin Li Daoist Master was about to chase after the retreating enemies in anger when a Demonic Cultivator threw out a pitch-black token. The token turned into black smoke in the air, enveloping both the sand monsters and the Demonic Cultivators. By the time Jin Li Daoist Master dispersed the black smoke, the sand monsters and Demonic Cultivators had already disappeared without a trace. The mysterious techniques of the Demonic Cultivators were indeed formidable, even catching Jin Li Daoist Master off guard.

Frustrated, she was about to continue the pursuit, but then she realized that she didn't know the situation of the other teams. She suppressed her anger and first contacted the Flying Swan Sect and other teams to ensure their safety. Only after confirming that everyone was unharmed did Jin Li Daoist Master finally calm down.

She wasn't truly concerned about the well-being of the Flying Swan Sect and the others, but as the appointed commander by True Monarch Tian Zhu, she felt responsible for the significant losses suffered by her army of cultivators. She didn't want to face True Monarch Tian Zhu with a guilty conscience.

Next, due to the fear of being divided and conquered, the four armies quickly regrouped and appeared within each other's line of sight. Jin Li Daoist Master gathered several Gold Core Daoist Masters to discuss countermeasures.

Considering the intelligence of the sand monsters, even the Third Rank sand monster shouldn't be this cunning and opportunistic. It was clear that the Demonic Cultivators played a strategic role after joining forces with the sand monsters.

These enemies knew that they couldn't match the combined strength of the four armies head-on, so they resorted to guerrilla warfare. The sand monster nests were scattered throughout the Deadly Sea of Sand. To completely destroy the sand monster nests, the teams had to split up to avoid missing any. However, this made them vulnerable to ambushes. Moreover, the enemy was powerful. The revealed enemies alone were not easily defeated by any of the four armies.

After the four armies converged, the enemy immediately disappeared without a trace, leaving them unsure of their whereabouts. Meng Zhang could use his Grand Evolving Fortune technique to calculate the enemy's location with great certainty, but he couldn't reveal his identity as a diviner in this situation.

Ultimately, this was True Monarch Tian Zhu's war, and the Taiyi Sect was forced onto the battlefield. At this moment, Jin Li Daoist Master demonstrated her experience as a seasoned Gold Core Daoist Master.

She took out an ancient mirror and flew into the sky, using a secret technique to scan the surroundings chaotically. After a while, she landed on the ground and pointed to several black dots on the mirror, indicating the hiding places of the Demonic Cultivators.

Dealing with these slippery enemies was not easy with a large army. Jin Li Daoist Master directly gathered the other six Gold Core Daoist Masters and personally led them to sweep through the sand monster and Demonic Cultivator hideouts.

Chapter 548: Black Wind Grave

These Demonic Cultivation and sand monsters did not gather together but split into several different teams. Each team consists of several demonic cultivators, and among the three most powerful teams, there is a Third Rank sand monster in each. The Demonic Cultivation is responsible for command and flanking, while the Third Rank sand monster is responsible for frontal assaults. With their cooperation, they complement each other and can fully display their abilities.

These teams move mysteriously, constantly roaming nearby. Once they spot a lone team, they will immediately launch a frenzied attack. Jin Li, the Daoist Master, is a decisive person. As soon as she discovers the enemy's whereabouts, she leads his team to attack.

These Demonic Cultivation think they are hiding well and believe that the enemy will never find them. In the Cultivation World, Demonic Cultivation has been rampant for many years. Many sects and cultivators have devoted themselves to studying spells and magic tools to deal with Demonic Cultivation. Due to Jin Li's past experiences, she has had significant entanglements with Demonic Cultivation and naturally possesses many means to deal with them. The other Gold Core Daoist Masters also have some understanding of Demonic Cultivation. With prior preparation, they have an advantage in dealing with Demonic Cultivation.

When Jin Li and his team attacked, those Demonic Cultivation and sand monsters immediately fell into a siege. Despite the formidable methods of Demonic Cultivation, they are ultimately just a group of Foundation Building stage cultivators. The number of Third Rank sand monsters is too small to withstand the siege of so many Gold Core Daoist Masters. Moreover, to facilitate

ambushes, the enemy has divided into several teams scattered in different locations, giving Jin Li the opportunity to defeat them one by one. After a series of efforts, none of these teams escaped and were all completely wiped out.

Eliminating the hidden enemies finally removed a major threat. The seven Gold Core Daoist Masters returned and once again led their respective teams to continue clearing out the sand monster nests hidden underground. This time, with the lessons learned from the previous encounter, the four armies of cultivators proceeded with greater caution. With Jin Li's strict orders, they increased their mutual support, whether they liked it or not. Jin Li himself personally patrolled the surroundings to prevent another surprise attack.

After experiencing this, it seems that the sand monsters and Demonic Cultivation have run out of tricks and no longer take any action. The four armies of cultivators advanced together, continuing to sweep through the Deadly Sea of Sand. Their progress was smooth, and they no longer encountered strong obstacles. The teams composed of low-level sand monsters were no match for the cultivator army. Even without the intervention of the Gold Core Daoist Masters, their disciples alone could kill these sand monsters on the spot.

The army advanced, gradually delving deeper into the Deadly Sea of Sand and getting closer step by step to the core area. It didn't take long for the four armies to arrive near Black Wind Grave. This place used to be the stronghold of ghost cultivators, and the ghost cultivators of the Deadly Sea of Sand mainly gathered here. However, despite the cultivator army's journey, they hardly encountered any ghost cultivators along the way. Even when they arrived at the ghost cultivators' stronghold, they still didn't find any traces of them.

After Demonic Cultivation broke through Black Wind Grave, almost all the ghost cultivators were captured and this place was completely abandoned. Meng Zhang had only learned about what happened here from the captured ghost cultivators, so this was his first time coming to this place. Black Wind Grave is well-known in the Deadly Sea of Sand, and many cultivators have heard of it. Although ghost cultivators have a bad reputation in the Cultivation World, they can produce many valuable items. Jade Soul Fluid, which can repair Soul defects and enhance Soul power, is mostly made by ghost cultivators.

After arriving near Black Wind Grave, even though the place was completely abandoned, everyone conducted a careful search of the area inside and out. Since they encountered little resistance along the way and no enemies appeared in the vicinity, the Gold Core Daoist Masters allowed their cultivators to stay here and search slowly. Huang Family's cultivators were particularly meticulous in their search, almost turning every inch of land upside down. In their eagerness to claim certain areas, Huang Family's cultivators even clashed with cultivators from other factions.

Fortunately, Jin Li's authority prevented the conflict from escalating into a fight. Although Huang Family's strength is not particularly strong, as the main cultivation family of Great Wind City, they don't regard the "sand bumpkins" of the Endless Sea of Sand with much respect. If it weren't for the insistence of the Huang Family Patriarch, Huang Tannian, the Huang Family would never have traveled such a long distance to participate in the extermination of the Deadly Sea of Sand. For Huang Family, clearing the Deadly Sea of Sand is a thankless task.

However, as the only Gold Core Patriarch of the Huang Family, Huang Tannian's will cannot be disobeyed by anyone in the family. Since he insisted on coming to fight under the banner of righteousness and exterminate the ghost cultivators, no one in the family could oppose him.

The actions of Huang Family's cultivators were not well-received by the cultivators of the other factions. Even the cultivator families from Jiuqu League, who came from afar, found Huang Family's behavior distasteful. They didn't let go of even the slightest advantage.

Only Meng Zhang knew that Huang Family's cultivators were so interested in Black Wind Grave not because they sought the benefits left behind by the ghost cultivators, but because they were searching for clues related to Ye Feifan. Ye Feifan had colluded with the ghost cultivators and harmed the cultivators who entered the Deadly Sea of Sand. This was not a secret and had long been spread.

Therefore, Huang Family's cultivators hoped to find clues related to Ye Feifan in Black Wind Grave. Meng Zhang, who observed from the sidelines, did not remind Huang Family of this. Huang Family, as a cultivation family, was no different from others.

Huang Family's cultivators spent a lot of effort but did not find any valuable clues in Black Wind Grave. The army could not stay here indefinitely. After spending some time in Black Wind Grave, the four armies continued to advance.

The Deadly Sea of Sand is vast, and completely eradicating it is not an overnight task. The march and battles in the Deadly Sea of Sand have been quite costly. With so many cultivators, they require a huge amount of spiritual stones and pills every day, which is a burden for each faction.

Unfortunately, the battles in the Deadly Sea of Sand do not yield many spoils. Even if they discover precious mineral resources along the way, there is no time to mine them. As time goes on, frustration grows, and many cultivators harbor grievances and criticize True Monarch Tian Zhu.

However, faced with the lofty Primordial Spirit True Monarch, everyone dares not voice their anger. The cultivators from the four factions have become somewhat lax and lethargic, lacking motivation and energy.

Chapter 549: Trace of the Demonic

Numerous cultivators began to grow lax, and their willingness to fight was naturally affected.

The other three forces were slightly better off. However, not long after the cultivator army from the Huang Family left Black Wind Grave, there were evident signs of battle-weariness among them.

Although they didn't openly oppose the Huang Family patriarch, Huang Tannian, there were many instances of passive resistance and lack of effort, which left Huang Tannian rather helpless.

Thus, Huang Tannian paid a visit to Daoist Master Jin Li, stating that the Huang Family's cultivators needed to stay behind. They required some reorganization before they could rejoin the battlefield.

Since their entry into the Deadly Sea of Sand, among the four cultivator armies, Taiyi Sect and Flying Swan Sect had relatively fewer casualties. In contrast, the Northern Desert Qi Family suffered the most due to a surprise attack. Now that the Huang Family's cultivators wanted to break away, Daoist Master Jin Li was somewhat reluctant.

However, the Huang Family's cultivators had brought their provisions to the battle and weren't her subordinates. Her command, under True Monarch Tian Zhu's orders, was only over forces like the Taiyi Sect.

Not wanting to pressurize the Huang Family unduly, Daoist Master Jin Li agreed to Huang Tannian's request.

Thus, the cultivator armies of Taiyi Sect, Flying Swan Sect, and Northern Desert Qi Family pressed on, while the Huang Family's cultivators stayed behind, under the reorganization of Huang Tannian.

The armies of the four forces had been fighting in the Deadly Sea of Sand for quite some time now. Each force made efforts to maintain contact with their rear lines to receive updated intelligence.

Although Taiyi Sect's Secret Hall was relatively new, Meng Zhang was willing to invest resources, and An Moran genuinely had a knack for this field. In terms of intelligence capabilities, the Secret Hall was now on par with the seasoned Flying Swan Sect.

Especially with the Jiuqu League, Taiyi Sect currently had a good relationship with the Gu Yue Family, enabling them to constantly receive information about Great Wind City through them.

Though the intelligence was general and was first screened by the Gu Yue Family, it expanded Taiyi Sect's horizons.

Because of Daoist Master Luo Ye, Taiyi Sect had several collaborations with Jiuqu League's black market. Paying a high price could fetch valuable information.

Recently, a crucial piece of intelligence reached Taiyi Sect's Secret Hall. Shortly after True Monarch Mountain Peak led his cultivator army into the Deadly Sea of Sand, they were intercepted by a vast army of sand monsters.

These sand monsters, led by Third Rank sand monsters and aided by Demonic Cultivators – including some at the Gold Core stage – were relentless. And True Monarch Mountain Peak was notably absent, causing the cultivator armies of Yellow Lotus Sect's Mountain Branch, East River Branch, and Crane Song Sect to engage in intense battles.

By the time Meng Zhang received this information, the fierce battle was still raging, causing heavy casualties.

To acquire this intelligence from the black market, Taiyi Sect had paid a hefty price. The information was of great significance to Meng Zhang.

Indeed, the enemy was formidable. Had it not been for True Monarch Mountain Peak drawing most of the enemy's attention first, Taiyi Sect and the others would have been the ones mired in the grueling battle.

Meng Zhang grew particularly wary with the emergence of the Gold Core stage Demonic Cultivators.

After some contemplation, Meng Zhang shared this intelligence with Daoist Master Jin Li instead of keeping it to himself.

Upon hearing this, Daoist Master Jin Li's reaction mirrored Meng Zhang's. She too was wary of the Gold Core stage Demonic Cultivators.

According to her, the previous Fifth Order Great Power had allowed Demonic Cultivators and ghost cultivators in the Deadly Sea of Sand's An Family, probably as a backup strategy. Out of caution

and respect for True Monarch Tian Zhu's potential reaction, these cultivators were suppressed, ensuring none reached the Gold Core stage.

Now, it seemed they couldn't withstand True Monarch Tian Zhu's pressure any longer. The Fifth Order Great Power had made a choice to fully ally with the Demonic Cultivators.

Allowing Demonic Cultivators to assimilate the ghost cultivators and break through to the Gold Core stage was all in a bid to swiftly bolster their strength.

Before this incident, True Monarch Tian Zhu, as the Primordial Spirit True Monarch, never paid attention to a group of Foundation Building cultivators. He tolerated the existence of Demonic Cultivation and ghost cultivators.

But now, the emergence of a Gold Core-stage Demonic Cultivator was his oversight, unexpectedly creating a formidable adversary for his subordinates.

Meng Zhang understood that the Fifth Order Great Power hailed from extraterrestrial Fifth Rank Earth Spirits. Moreover, the heritage of Demonic Cultivation wasn't birthed in this world, but also originated from beyond the stars.

Meng Zhang was unclear on how the Demonic Path took root and flourished in this realm, let alone the nature of those otherworldly dimensions.

Nevertheless, he speculated that there must be hidden secrets behind the collaboration between the Fifth Rank Earth Spirits and Demonic Cultivation.

After discussing with Jin Li Daoist Master for a while, the two went their separate ways.

Upon rejoining the main force, Meng Zhang settled his mind and began his divination using the Grand Evolving Fortune technique.

He wasn't trying to decipher the dealings between Demonic Cultivation and Fifth Rank Earth Spirits. He wasn't foolish enough to seek trouble for himself. Instead, he focused on the situation of Huang Tannian.

Using the Heavenly Calculations method, it was challenging to obtain clear insights for higher-level divinations. Given that Huang Tannian was also a Gold Core-stage cultivator like Meng Zhang, it took considerable effort to derive a general conclusion.

After some contemplation, Meng Zhang summoned Yang Xueyi and instructed her to lead the troops onward, while he would secretly depart for a while.

With the enemy's main forces absent, and the actions of the various factions being merely time-consuming distractions, there was no need for a Gold Core Daoist Master to constantly monitor the situation.

With Yang Xueyi, a Gold Core Daoist Master, in command, they were more than equipped to handle unexpected developments.

Having made his arrangements, Meng Zhang stealthily left the Taiyi Sect's army and hurried alone towards the location where the Huang Family cultivators were stationed.

Meanwhile, at the Huang Family's side, following Huang Tannian's orders to rest, the flying ships of the Huang Family descended onto an open field. They quickly set up a temporary camp, setting up various protective barriers around.

On Huang Tannian's command, most of the family cultivators remained within the makeshift camp, forbidden from leaving casually.

Huang Tannian's leniency in recent times was largely intentional. His orders were absolute, and no member of the family dared to defy them.

After waiting for several days, presuming that the cultivators from the other three families had already distanced themselves, Huang Tannian led a group of family cultivators under the cover of night, heading north.

After flying about three hundred miles, they landed.

Huang Tannian emerged from the crowd, stepping forward onto an empty plot of land. He took out half a stick of signaling incense from his bosom, lit it, and planted it into the ground.

Without uttering a word, Huang Tannian patiently waited.

The half-sized incense, surprisingly long-lasting, burned slowly. As time passed, after more than three hours, accompanied by the sound of wind, a dark silhouette quickly approached from a distance.

With the wind, the shadow landed, revealing the figure of Ye Feifan.

"So it is you. I can't believe you're still alive," said Huang Tannian, his expression complex and his tone somber.

"Years ago, I thought you had fled early. Unexpectedly, you dared to take the greatest risk in the world, using the Blood Parasite Technique to reincarnate in your descendants."

"You should be grateful. Out of old affections, I didn't exterminate your Ye family, cutting off your bloodline."

Ye Feifan, after hearing Huang Tannian's words, displayed a disdainful expression.

"You old ghost. It wasn't out of sentiment, but because you were uncertain of my fate. You kept my Ye family alive hoping I would reveal myself."

Huang Tannian did not continue on that topic, but directly addressed the main issue at hand.

"Let's not bring up the past. Since you've answered my summons, I presume you still wish to communicate with me."

"How about this? As long as you hand over the item, I can swear an oath to the spirits, settling our scores and debts, and I will no longer pursue you."

Ye Feifan couldn't help but burst into hearty laughter. Huang Tannian's seemingly magnanimous words were just nonsense to him.

"It's amusing how you, this old ghost, have held onto the incense we used to contact each other back in the day."

"Huang, old ghost, did you think that just because I sensed the incense and came immediately, I intended to make some deal with you?"

"You old fool, I'm after your life."

This time, it was Huang Tannian's turn to laugh heartily.

"You reckless fool, thinking that just because you've sided with the ghost cultivators and learned some inferior Ghost Path techniques, you can challenge me."

After Ye Feifan escaped from the Great Wind City, Huang Tannian had thoroughly investigated. A cultivator initially at the beginning stages of Refining Qi showing combat capabilities to kill a Foundation Building cultivator was not simply due to some fortuitous event or a case of playing dumb to outsmart the tiger.

The cultivation process has its course, and even the most unorthodox methods can't be achieved in one go, especially not advancing one's Cultivation Base so rapidly.

After news spread that Ye Feifan had fled to the Deadly Sea of Sand and joined forces with the ghost cultivators, Huang Tannian pieced together various pieces of information and deduced that he most likely used a bloodline parasitism technique.

Almost two hundred years ago, when Huang Tannian had yet to form his core and was still a Foundation Building cultivator, the Ye Family was a vassal clan to the Huang Family, and the ancestor of the Ye Family was one of his most capable cultivators.

However, the two fell out over an elder's cave dwelling. The Ye Family ancestor fled with severe injuries, but he took the key to the cave dwelling with him.

Huang Tannian used various means to cause the decline of the Ye Family. He closely monitored the Ye family members, hoping that the fleeing ancestor would contact them.

What he never expected was that the Ye Family ancestor would be so ruthless as to use the bloodline parasitism technique to reincarnate in his descendants.

Although he knew Ye Feifan was hiding in the Deadly Sea of Sand, Huang Tannian dared not enter. Only when Jin Li Daoist Master rallied several powers to launch a major attack on the Deadly Sea of Sand did Huang Tannian, against his clan's wishes, forcefully take command and lead the Huang Family cultivators into battle.

Unable to find any traces of Ye Feifan in the Black Wind Grave, he resorted to the incense they once used to contact each other, hoping to reach out.

To his surprise, Ye Feifan appeared before him without much effort.

Huang Tannian was unaware that Ye Feifan had later fallen into the Demonic Path, colluding with Demonic Cultivation, betraying the ghost cultivators.

In Huang Tannian's eyes, even if Ye Feifan had learned some techniques from the Ghost Path, it didn't matter. As long as Ye Feifan didn't break through to the Gold Core stage, he would never be a match for him.

Given the conditions of the Deadly Sea of Sand, it was rare for a ghost cultivator to reach the Gold Core stage.

Huang Tannian couldn't be bothered to waste words on Ye Feifan, who seemed to have a death wish, and directly gave the order.

"Seize him, but spare his life."

As soon as the order was given, seven cultivators from the Huang Family, positioned behind Huang Tannian, stepped forward. They arranged themselves according to the seven-star formation.

The Huang Family, having a long lineage in Great Wind City, undoubtedly possessed a profound heritage.

The seven Foundation Building stage cultivators formed the Seven-Star Soul Locking Formation. This formation could fully amplify the strength of the cultivators within it. Moreover, this formation was especially designed to restrain ghost cultivators. Even when up against a Gold Core stage ghost cultivator, they could still hold their ground without being at a disadvantage.

Huang Tannian watched intently from the side, ready to intervene at any moment.

In his view, even if Ye Feifan was incredibly lucky, he was at best a pseudo-core realm ghost cultivator. Huang Tannian didn't need to act himself; his subordinates alone would overwhelm Ye Feifan.

Despite being outnumbered, Ye Feifan didn't show the slightest fear. Instead, he shot Huang Tannian a sly smile.

Then, the unexpected happened. The seven Huang Family cultivators, who had set up the Seven-Star Soul Locking Formation, suddenly began to quarrel among themselves.

Two of the Huang Family cultivators suddenly ambushed their companions.

When the seven cultivators set up the formation, they were united in purpose, and being close kin, they were very familiar with and close to each other. They never imagined they would face betrayal and ambush from their own.

Caught off guard, five of the cultivators were knocked to the ground, too injured to get up.

Huang Tannian, who was initially at ease, couldn't help but drastically change his expression. Pointing at Ye Feifan, he demanded, "What are you up to? What have you done?"

In a mix of shock and fury, he refrained from attacking immediately.

Ye Feifan paid no attention to Huang Tannian. With a casual flick of his hand, a dark mist swept over the five cultivators of the Huang Family lying on the ground.

These five cultivators weren't heavily injured, not because their assailant showed mercy, but because Ye Feifan had other plans for them.

At this moment, realization struck Huang Tannian.

"Demonic energy? You practice Demonic Cultivation?"

In the Cultivation World, most cultivators harbor an inexplicable dread, if not outright fear, of Demonic Cultivation. Huang Tannian, being a Gold Core Daoist Master, was no exception.

Seeing Huang Tannian showing signs of hesitation, Ye Feifan seized the opportunity and lunged at him.

Dark energy surged all over him, turning into countless tentacles in the air, constantly writhing and surging toward Huang Tannian.

However, Huang Tannian was a Gold Core Daoist Master after all. His initial panic quickly subsided, and he reacted, launching an attack.

But as they engaged, he realized how formidable Ye Feifan was.

The opponent was clearly a Gold Core phase cultivator, but with profound techniques and mysterious skills. The spells cast by Huang Tannian seemed to have little effect on him.

In a short span of their skirmish, Huang Tannian was already at a disadvantage.

As a seasoned Gold Core cultivator, he had never been in such a precarious situation.

As Ye Feifan pinned Huang Tannian down, two members of the Huang Family under his control began to incessantly strike the other five Huang Family cultivators on the ground.

In just a moment, dark energy emerged from the faces of these five Huang Family cultivators, their eyes turning blood-red.

Huang Tannian, catching a glimpse of this, grew even more enraged.

"You audacious fiend! How dare you turn my Huang Family members into demons!"

Chapter 550: Executes the demon

"Even if you haven't eaten pork, you've seen pigs run." Huang Tannian, as a Gold Core Daoist Master with a family heritage, had decent insight and perception. At a glance, he saw through Ye Feifan's actions.

Demonic Cultivation is the most terrifying and detestable aspect, especially due to its unique ability to demonize.

Once a living being is completely demonized by Demonic Cultivation, they will turn into demons. Even if the demon dies, their soul cannot return to the underworld.

For cultivators, especially those at the Foundation Building stage or above, even if they die, their souls still have a place to go. If they are lucky, they may even have the opportunity to possess another body and be reborn.

However, once a cultivator is demonized, they are essentially denied the chance of reincarnation.

In the Cultivation World, Demonic Cultivation is like a plague. It constantly demonizes living beings, and its influence spreads to larger areas.

Therefore, whenever Demonic Cultivation appears in the Cultivation World, it often faces attacks from nearby cultivation forces.

Unless under special circumstances, places like the Deadly Sea of Sand would not have small demon caves.

Huang Tannian appeared furious on the surface, as if he was ready to fight Ye Feifan to the death. However, in reality, he was already looking for an escape route.

Facing a Gold Core stage Demonic Cultivator, he was already feeling apprehensive. After their confrontation, he lost all confidence and completely abandoned the idea of dealing with Ye Feifan.

Demonic Cultivation is skilled at manipulating people's hearts and naturally adept at understanding others' thoughts.

Ye Feifan, who had long seen through Huang Tannian's tough exterior, became even more audacious in his actions.

He firmly entangled Huang Tannian, not giving him a chance to escape. Once the five Huang Family cultivators on the ground were completely demonized, it would be Huang Tannian's doomsday.

The thought of being able to demonize a Gold Core stage cultivator like Huang Tannian made Ye Feifan uncontrollably excited.

Before falling into the demonic path and transforming into Demonic Cultivation, Ye Feifan had a certain aversion towards it. Although he had dealings with Demonic Cultivation, he never let his guard down.

After being manipulated by Meng Zhang, he had no choice but to submit to Demonic Cultivation in exchange for their help in killing the ghost cultivator in front of him.

Afterward, under the coercion of Demonic Cultivation, he reluctantly transformed into a Demonic Cultivator.

Once he truly became a Demonic Cultivator, Ye Feifan felt like a fish in water, enjoying himself to the fullest.

Just as the senior Demonic Cultivators had said, Ye Feifan was indeed naturally suited for Demonic Cultivation. The demonic path was the most suitable Grand Dao for him.

The cultivation of the demonic path is fundamentally different from the righteous path, with many alternative methods to rapidly enhance one's cultivation base.

The most commonly used method in Demonic Cultivation is to use secret techniques to communicate with the great demons of the demon realm. Then, through various means, they please the great demons and obtain their rewards.

The most effective way to please the great demons is to demonize various living beings. The more and stronger the demonized beings, the more rewards they can obtain from the great demons.

Shortly after Ye Feifan transformed into Demonic Cultivation, he successfully established a connection with a great demon from the demon realm and gained their favor.

After breaking through the Black Wind Grave, all the captured ghost cultivators were demonized and transformed into various demons.

Ghost cultivators have low resistance to demonic energy and are easily transformed. Many Demonic Cultivators have demons created from transformed ghost cultivators to serve them.

Therefore, ghost cultivators view Demonic Cultivation as their natural enemy, fearing and avoiding them at all costs.

Demonizing so many ghost cultivators at once greatly benefited the cultivation base of many Demonic Cultivators. With Ye Feifan's exceptional talent, he directly broke through to the Gold Core stage.

In reality, although the Demonic Cultivators in the small demon cave were mainly at the Foundation Building stage, they were at most Gold Core cultivators. However, after colluding with the Fifth Rank Earth Spirit, they received covert assistance from the Fifth Rank Earth Spirit and focused on cultivating demons.

Through this group of Demonic Cultivators, the Fifth Rank Earth Spirit established contact with the great demons of the demon realm.

The great demon bestowed resources, almost allowing this group of Demonic Cultivators to cultivate demons that could rival a Primordial Spirit True Monarch.

Fortunately, True Monarch Tian Zhu discovered this early and used thunderous means to annihilate them, averting a catastrophe.

Although the demons were destroyed, most of the Demonic Cultivators had already fled before the situation was exposed.

During the process of cultivating demons, many Demonic Cultivators greatly benefited and made significant progress in their cultivation base.

The army led by True Monarch Mountain Peak, which entered the Deadly Sea of Sand, faced a fierce battle largely due to the obstruction of powerful Demonic Cultivators.

If Ye Feifan could demonize Huang Tannian, the patriarch of the Huang Family, he could even use this opportunity to demonize the entire Huang Family cultivator army.

Such a great achievement would bring endless joy to Ye Feifan.

With such a strong motivation, Ye Feifan would never easily let Huang Tannian go.

Huang Tannian had long intended to retreat, but Ye Feifan had him tightly entangled, leaving him no chance to escape.

When Ye Feifan took advantage of Huang Tannian and his subordinates' unpreparedness, he secretly used the Path of Heart Demons, silently demonizing two Huang Family cultivators. Then, he controlled them to launch a sudden attack, eliminating many Huang Family cultivators and removing Huang Tannian's right-hand support.

Taking advantage of the opportunity while Ye Feifan was entangling Huang Tannian, these Huang Family cultivators completed their final demonization, becoming puppets under Ye Feifan's control.

Huang Tannian struggled greatly against Ye Feifan, and with the addition of the seven demonized puppets joining the battle, it became even more difficult for him to withstand.

After being demonized, the seven Foundation Building cultivators turned into pure puppets. They had no emotions, no joy or anger, and cared nothing for life or death. They only followed their master's commands.

Their combat power greatly increased, allowing them to bridge the huge gap between the Foundation Building and Gold Core stages, posing a significant threat to Huang Tannian.

Knowing that the seven junior members of the clan were beyond saving, Huang Tannian forcefully suppressed any remaining compassion and began to kill them.

The seven puppets appeared no different from living beings, but after being demonized, they became a different kind of creature.

Ye Feifan didn't care much about the life or death of these demonized puppets. His main goal was still Huang Tannian, the Gold Core Daoist Master.

After fighting for a while, three of the demonized puppets were crushed by Huang Tannian's attacks. However, Huang Tannian also received several wounds from Ye Feifan.

The wounds seemed shallow, but they were entwined with demonic energy and constantly invaded Huang Tannian's physical body.

Huang Tannian tried every means to dispel the demonic energy but failed. Instead, due to being distracted during the battle, he acquired several more wounds.

At this moment, Huang Tannian knew that he most likely couldn't escape.

He was well aware that once he was defeated, he would undoubtedly be demonized, which was even more terrifying than death itself.

As a cultivator of the Dao, he would rather die than be demonized.

Once he made up his mind, Huang Tannian became calm.

He began to activate his True Essence, mobilize his core, and prepare to self-detonate his Gold Core.

Self-detonating the Gold Core required a long preparation time and made a significant commotion. Ye Feifan had more than enough time to dodge. Huang Tannian's main purpose in self-destructing the Gold Core was not to deal with Ye Feifan, but to end her own life and avoid falling into Ye Feifan's hands, where he would demonize him.

Since Ye Feifan wanted to demonize a Gold Core Daoist Master, he must have been well-prepared. He had already made his move silently and effortlessly.

Just as Huang Tannian's Gold Core was about to erupt, his consciousness became hazy, and his movements slowed down. Ye Feifan noticed this and knew that Huang Tannian's consciousness had been affected. He continued to exert his power, intending to completely confuse him.

If it weren't for the extensive preparations beforehand, Ye Feifan wouldn't have been able to succeed so easily. He didn't dare to be careless and continued his spellcasting.

At that moment, a brilliant light descended from the sky. When Huang Tannian was illuminated by this light, his confused consciousness suddenly recovered. Without much thought about what had happened, he continued to activate his Dan Yuan and desperately ignite his Gold Core.

Seeing someone intervening, Ye Feifan knew that the situation was not favorable and that he might be harmed by the self-destruction of the Gold Core. He had to retreat with his puppet.

The light in the sky intensified and shone directly on Ye Feifan and the demonized puppet. Ye Feifan was trapped in the blinding light, as if sinking into a quagmire, causing his movements to slow down significantly.

The black aura on the demonized puppets kept evaporating, and their bodies seemed to be melting. After a deafening explosion, Huang Tannian's body was shattered by the self-destruction of the Gold Core. The remaining demonized puppets also disappeared completely, turning into dust and bones.

Ye Feifan's body was blown away, and blood sprayed from his mouth. At this moment, Meng Zhang emerged from the darkness, with the Sun Moon Divine Pearl shining brightly, casting an immense light.

The Sun and Moon Divine Light, formed by the fusion of the Solar True Flame and Lunar True Water, combined the power of water and fire, possessing the ability to break demons and expel evil.

With the blessing of the Sun Moon Divine Pearl, Meng Zhang's Divine Ability, Sun and Moon Divine Light, became even more powerful, posing a deadly threat to Ye Feifan.

When Meng Zhang was still in the Taiyi Sect army, he used the Grand Evolving Fortune technique to calculate the opportunity to kill Ye Feifan, which fell on Huang Tannian. He secretly arrived near the Huang Family camp and hid in the shadows.

He observed everything that happened between Huang Tannian, Ye Feifan, and the others, but he did not intervene. Only when Huang Tannian was at a disadvantage and in danger of defeat did he finally make a move.

Although he was confident that his Cultivation Base was far superior to Ye Feifan's, Demonic Cultivation techniques were unpredictable. Meng Zhang was willing to exert more effort and take more trouble to weaken Ye Feifan as much as possible, ensuring that he could kill him when the time came.

Since Huang Tannian had no relation to him, he naturally didn't care about his life.

When Meng Zhang was in Great Wind City, he had already come into contact with these cultivation families. Most of these seemingly righteous families were actually up to no good behind the scenes.

Regarding the grudges between the Ye Family and the Huang Family, it was difficult to determine who was right and who was wrong. As a qualified cultivator, Meng Zhang's actions were naturally based on his own interests, seeking to maximize his benefits.

He waited until the last moment to help Huang Tannian self-destruct the Gold Core, delivering the greatest blow to Ye Feifan.

As soon as Meng Zhang made a move, Ye Feifan, affected by the self-destruction of the Gold Core, immediately fell into a disadvantageous position.

Ye Feifan indeed lived up to Meng Zhang's calculations. It turned out that Meng Zhang's determination to kill him was not in vain.

After a brief exchange, Ye Feifan gradually adjusted and began to turn the tide.

In terms of Cultivation Base, Ye Feifan was at best equivalent to a cultivator in the early stage of Gold Core. However, the combat power of Demonic Cultivation cannot be solely measured by Cultivation Base.

Ye Feifan unleashed his strange and ever-changing demonic techniques, which surprisingly had a significant impact.

Although Meng Zhang had a high Cultivation Base and rich combat experience, he had never fought against a Gold Core stage Demonic Cultivator before. At first, he felt a bit passive when facing the mysterious demonic techniques.

It's no wonder most cultivators fear Demonic Cultivation. When cultivators and Demonic Cultivators are at similar levels, if the cultivator doesn't have special means, they will likely end up at a disadvantage.

Meng Zhang, with his extraordinary talent and solid foundation, gradually suppressed Ye Feifan after overcoming the initial discomfort. He became more and more proficient in the battle.

The powerful anti-demonic force of the Sun and Moon Divine Light suppressed many of Ye Feifan's techniques and continuously depleted his demonic energy.

With the Twin Forms Towards Heaven Sword technique, sword qi swept through, invincible and capable of overcoming anything. The power of yin and yang washed back and forth, completely dissolving the demonic energy.

Ye Feifan, who could only defend himself but not counterattack, began to plead with Meng Zhang, continuously speaking flattering words.

Meng Zhang remained unmoved and continued to attack.

Although Ye Feifan was completely suppressed, his silver tongue never stopped.

"Do you know why that old ghost from the Huang Family is so obsessed with capturing me?" he said.

"I have a token left by the Blade Chime Sect Sect Master. With this token, one can enter the Blade Chime Sect's secret treasury and obtain the legacy and treasures left behind by the sect."

"If you spare me today, I will give you the token and reveal the location of the Blade Chime Sect's secret treasury."

"The Blade Chime Sect was once a prominent cultivation sect with many Gold Core Daoist Masters. They used to dominate the region. The secrets left behind in their secret treasury are invaluable."

Meng Zhang had indeed heard of the Blade Chime Sect. It was a cultivation sect that was originally located in the area where the Deadly Sea of Sand now existed.

When the Fifth Rank Earth Spirit descended from the sky, it casually wiped out the Blade Chime Sect, leading to the emergence of the Deadly Sea of Sand.

Sects like the Blade Chime Sect often have secret treasuries to allow future generations to rise and revive the sect in case of unexpected events.

Meng Zhang was indeed tempted by the Blade Chime Sect's secret treasury, but he was unwilling to spare Ye Feifan because of it.

In his mind, no matter the cost, he had to kill Ye Feifan today.

While Ye Feifan tried to tempt Meng Zhang with his words, he secretly used a bewitching technique to influence Meng Zhang's consciousness. However, Meng Zhang remained resolute, and his determination to kill Ye Feifan was unwavering.

Ye Feifan exhausted all his methods but couldn't shake Meng Zhang's intent to kill him.

The battle continued, and Meng Zhang's advantage grew stronger while Ye Feifan suffered deeper injuries.

Meng Zhang used all his Divine Ability techniques, rendering Ye Feifan defenseless, unable to escape, and heavily wounded.

Finally, realizing that escape was hopeless, Ye Feifan attempted to communicate with a great demon from the demonic realm, hoping to obtain demonic power to help him kill his opponent.

Seizing the opportunity when Ye Feifan tried to contact the great demon, Meng Zhang struck him with the Spirit Snake Spear, followed by using the Sun and Moon Divine Light to refine him alive.