

Stronger 291

Chapter 291: The Agreement on the Eighth Day of September, Tens of Thousands of Martial Cultivators Gather!_3

"I-I-I-I-I, why can't I refine a Celestial Demon Bone!"

"Th-th-th-then, this Secret Realm of yours... it c-c-c-couldn't be the Ba Mountain Secret Realm, could it?!"

"It i-i-i-is the Ba Mountain Secret Realm!"

"So an-an-annoying! Stop stuttering! Oh my god! In the future, will this place be all yours?"

"Hmm, it's also your territory!"

「...」

On a small hill in the Secret Realm, the two of them leaned against a huge rock, looking at the scenery in the Secret Realm for a while.

Lii Xiaolan held her chest, taking a long time to calm down. She looked at Lin Xuankong, joy all over her face. "You've already reached the Sixth Layer, gained three Late Stage Seventh Rank puppets, and refined the Ba Mountain Secret Realm! It's super big and will grow even larger in the future!"

Seeing the Young Lady so happy, Lin Xuankong's heart was also filled with joy.

The joy of life is not just about gaining and growing. Having someone truly happy for your gains and growth seems even more important!

Lii Xiaolan suddenly punched him lightly, her eyes rolling. "Right, for such a joyous occasion, we should call Yu Fei over to have a drink and celebrate! But we definitely can't tell her about the Secret Realm!"

Lin Xuankong was stunned. "Drink and celebrate? Yu Fei?"

His heart skipped a beat. This situation is quite strange! When did the Young Lady and Yu Fei get so close that they're calling each other sisters?

Lin Xuankong coughed awkwardly. "Yu Fei told you all of this? Also, why does she call you sister?"

Lii Xiaolan was a bit surprised. "Told me what?"

She continued, "Isn't Yu Fei's brother going to marry Sister Ni Chang? So I've met Zhao Yufei many times lately. I found out she's really nice!

"Especially since we have similar tastes in food. She loves the snacks I love, like candied fruits, and even brings them for me every day. She's closer to me than Sister Ni Chang!

"Besides, even though she's older than me, she insisted on calling me sister because my cultivation is higher. I had no choice but to go along with it!"

Lin Xuankong was somewhat surprised.

Lady Yu Fei is quite something! She's managed to get this 'sister' so close to her?

At this moment, Lii Xiaolan suddenly remembered something. "Oh no, there's something else! Today is September sixth, and September eighth is coming soon!"

Lin Xuankong was stunned. "September eighth?"

Lii Xiaolan looked at Lin Xuankong. "You didn't forget, did you?

"You had an appointment to battle the Hill City Hall Master of the Black Tiger Gang using your Conical Hat Guest identity. I was hoping you'd stay in the Secret Realm searching for a Heavy Water Spiritual

Object and not come back. That way, you'd avoid being surrounded by the Black Tiger Gang, the Feng Family, and the Guo Family!

"I heard that Hill City has gathered nearly ten thousand Martial Cultivators from the Black Tiger Gang, Feng Family, and Guo Family. All of them are at least Late Stage First Layer! Moreover, tens of thousands of Martial Cultivators from various prefectures and cities have come to watch the battle. Almost half of the Martial Cultivators from the hundred cities of the Great Marsh Prefecture have come!

"But in my opinion, since you already have such a large Secret Realm, you won't lack resources in the future. Why fight against tens of thousands of Martial Cultivators from the Black Tiger Gang, Feng Family, and Guo Family?

"In a few years, when you reach the Seventh or Eighth Layer, you could easily crush the Black Tiger Gang into the Silly Tiger Gang with just one slap!"

After hearing this, Lin Xuankong frowned slightly.

The September eighth appointment! Will Liy Ruoqing and Liy Ruo Ying go? Will the Third Princess go? Will the old leader of the Black Tiger Gang, the one with the Celestial Demon Bone, go? The Demon Technique granted by the Celestial Demon Bone is very powerful. If the old leader of the Black Tiger Gang does go, I'll need to be cautious. After all, I still don't know what kind of Golden Dragon Demon Technique he has obtained!

Chapter 292: Enhancement of the Twenty-Eight Constellations Celestial Demon Technique and the Great Reincarnation Technique

Thinking of this, Lin Xuankong mused to himself. With my current strength, I can easily defeat even Prefect Liy of the Great Marsh Prefecture and Hua Yanluo, its foremost figure! As for their vast numbers and incessant attacks? Those ten thousand so-called late-stage Tier One Cultivators probably couldn't even withstand a single late-stage Tier Seven Corpse Scorpion! If I decide to honor the appointment on the eighth day of September, the only thing in the Great Marsh Prefecture to be cautious about is the Celestial Demon Technique of Liy Hongtian, the old gang leader of the Black Tiger Gang! To ensure nothing goes wrong, it's best to conduct some investigations!

With this thought, he set his concerns aside and accompanied Lii Xiaolan for a stroll in the Secret Realm before emerging from it and standing in the tunnel.

Gazing at the shimmering Spirit Vein Transference, Lin Xuankong's eyes glinted with ambition. As long as I continue nurturing the Celestial Demon Bone, the world beyond this Spirit Vein Transference will become ever vaster. Someday, it might be even larger than the tens of thousands of miles of the Great Xia Dynasty, larger than the vast Rakshasa Kingdom, and even more extensive than the so-called Central Divine Dynasty! However, until my strength is truly unrivaled, the existence of the Tier Nine Celestial Demon Bone must be kept a secret! Otherwise, the Tier Nine Celestial Demon Bone would make even the Buddha Lord and Demon Venerable of the Rakshasa Kingdom lose their composure. Perhaps even the Immortals of the Central Divine Dynasty would be unsettled! This Spirit Vein Transference should be placed in a hidden spot within this tunnel and not easily relocated to avoid detection.

「Returning to the rear courtyard, the sky had already darkened.」

Lii Xiaolan cheerfully headed to the front yard, calling the cook to prepare dishes for Lin Xuankong.

Meanwhile, Lin Xuankong's Double Pupils flashed as he looked toward the Black Tiger Gang in the Great Marsh Prefecture. The countless wooden houses and stone buildings obstructing his line of sight turned ethereal, and in an instant, his vision landed in the hall of the Black Tiger Gang Great Marsh Hall.

At this moment, in the hall of the Black Tiger Great Marsh Hall, Liy Ruoqing and Liy Ruo Ying were sitting on either side of a sandalwood table. Liy Ruoqing picked up a cup of clear tea and, frowning, said, "Ruo Ying, regarding the Hill City engagement, Hall Master Zhao is determined to unite the Fifth Layer experts of the Guo Family and Feng Family against the Conical Hat Guest. What is your plan?"

Liy Ruo Ying's expression flickered. "Hall Master Zhao's strength is comparable to ours, and he has always been unyielding. Since his son died at the hands of the Conical Hat Guest, there's no way we can dissuade him. However, in my opinion, since we've both agreed with Mr. Mu to change the atmosphere of the Black Tiger Gang, let's start with this matter! If Zhao Renxiong wants to deal with the Conical Hat Guest, and the Guo and Feng Families want to deal with the Conical Hat Guest, then let them. We'll stay out of it. We just need to ensure the Stewards and Gang Members of the Great Marsh Hall and Law Enforcement Hall are well-restrained!"

Liy Ruoqing frowned. "Our second uncle has already ordered us to assist Hall Master Zhao. Are we really not going to help him?"

Liy Ruo Ying sighed. "It's not just Second Uncle; even First Uncle is preparing to go to Hill City! But so what? Over the years, we've both nurtured confidants in the Great Marsh Hall and Law Enforcement Hall. Are we really afraid of them? Not unless our uncles truly turn against us and cause widespread

family infighting! As long as Second Uncle still needs us to prepare Demon Flesh for him, we don't need to worry about being called to account... The one we should truly revere is Mr. Mu!"

Dozens of miles away, Lin Xuankong observed the Lip Reading of the two for a while, a faint red light flickering in his eyes. A streak of red light from his Demon Reflected Pupils then emerged, crossing dozens of miles in an instant to fall upon Liy Ruoping.

Just as he was about to drink his tea, Liy Ruoping couldn't help but let out a soft "HMM?" A peculiar expression appeared on his face.

The next moment, a voice suddenly echoed in his mind, 'Liy Ruoping, I ask you: since your old gang leader obtained a Tier One Celestial Demon Bone, what Abnormal Technique did he gain from it?'

The sudden voice in his mind caused Liy Ruoping's expression to change dramatically. He stood up abruptly, looking around in confusion. The hall of the Great Marsh Hall was empty except for him and Liy Ruo Ying; it was silent and devoid of anyone else!

He cast a strange gaze around, then his expression changed again as the voice in his mind spoke once more, 'Stop searching. I am Mu Shiba. Just answer my question; I am not here.'

Liy Ruoping's expression shifted indeterminately. "Mr. Mu? What kind of method is this, Mr. Mu, that you can directly transmit sound into my mind! Are you planning something by asking about my second uncle's Celestial Demon Technique?"

Beside him, Liy Ruo Ying stood up in surprise and looked at his brother. "Mr. Mu?"

Liy Ruoping shook his head slightly at his younger brother. After a moment's thought, a trace of determination flashed across his face. He bowed to the surrounding void and said, "Mr. Mu, your methods are indeed astonishing! This Sound Transmission Skill is unheard of by Liy Ruoping; I am in awe! As for my second uncle's Celestial Demon Technique... that Demon Technique is called the Twenty-Eight Constellations. It enables my second uncle to summon twenty-eight Tiger Demons, similar to Demon Pearls, all of the Same Tier as him. It's akin to simultaneously activating twenty-eight Demon Pearls—extremely formidable!"

As soon as Liy Ruoqing finished speaking, Mu Shiba's voice rang out again in his mind, 'Got it. You and Liy Ruo Ying haven't disappointed me. In the coming days, since you don't plan to assist Zhao Renxiong against that Conical Hat Guest, secretly send people to various prefectures and localities to collect Demon Flesh. As for the required funds... I will deliver thirty Heavy Water Spiritual Objects to you soon.'

Chapter 293: Twenty-Eight Constellations Celestial Demon Technique, Great Reincarnation Technique Upgrade_2

Upon hearing this, a hint of joy appeared in Liy Ruoqing's eyes. He clasped his hands repeatedly and said, "Mr. Mu, rest assured. Ruo Ying and I have been collecting flesh and blood for Second Uncle for years, and we are already well-experienced in this! It is an honor for Ruo Ying and me to collect Demon Flesh for Mr. Mu; we will surely give it our all!"

'Ten days from now, I'll come to Great Marsh Hall to retrieve the Demon Flesh!' Mu Shiba's voice sounded once more and then fell silent. Liy Ruoqing nodded repeatedly.

After a moment, the Hall Master of the Black Tiger Gang's Great Marsh Hall, his face alight with joy, looked at his brother Liy Ruo Ying. "Mr. Mu wants us to secretly collect Demon Flesh for him. Additionally, he's granted us thirty Heavy Water Spiritual Objects as funds!"

"Thirty Heavy Water Spiritual Objects!" Liy Ruo Ying's expression changed. "That many Heavy Water Spiritual Objects are nearly worth ten sets of Exorcism Armor, easily tradable for hundreds of thousands of pounds of Demon Flesh!"

Liy Ruoqing laughed. "Mr. Mu's generosity is indeed different; he's far more lavish than our Second Uncle!"

A gleam of excitement flashed across Liy Ruo Ying's face. "Big brother, Mr. Mu entrusting us with such a task shows he has some trust in us. This is a rare opportunity! Even if we didn't have those thirty Heavy Water Spiritual Objects, we must exhaust our resources to do this for Mr. Mu!"

Liy Ruoqing's eyes also showed a trace of excitement. "Mr. Mu's various methods are beyond imagination, and his future achievements are limitless. If we can serve him well and become his right-hand men, the Liy Family's prosperity is assured!"

Retracting his gaze, Lin Xuankong quietly listened to their discussion, a smile curling his lips.

These Secret Techniques, like the Eight Gates Celestial Eye and Demon Reflected Pupils, are truly magical. They can transmit information across any distance!

Also, Liy Ruoqing and Liy Ruo Ying genuinely seem to have repented. If the atmosphere in the Black Tiger Gang Great Marsh Hall changes little by little, it would certainly be a good thing for the Great Marsh Prefecture. Of course, if the two of them can indeed complete the task of secretly collecting Demon Flesh, they could be rewarded as well.

As for the old leader of the Black Tiger Gang's Celestial Demon Technique... The Twenty-Eight Constellations? Able to summon twenty-eight Same Tier Tiger Demons? Truly powerful! The power of this Celestial Demon Bone surpasses ordinary treasures by countless times. Even the reputed battle artifact Demon Pearl pales in comparison to this Celestial Demon Technique! Moreover, this is just a Demon Technique carried by a Tier One Celestial Demon Bone!

It seems any Cultivator who integrates a Celestial Demon Bone cannot be underestimated. The Great Xia Dynasty has many strong figures who have fused Tier One Celestial Demon Bones, and those princes in various regions, who dominate countless Cultivators, have even fused Tier Two Celestial Demon Bones! These individuals not only have Realms far surpassing mine but also possess their own impressive Celestial Demon Demonic Techniques!

Although I possess a Tier Nine Celestial Demon Bone, I have only just started nurturing it and haven't yet mastered the Divine Techniques of the Great Reincarnation Technique. I must proceed with caution, never underestimating anyone or making the slightest mistake.

I only wonder, after nurturing the Tier Nine Celestial Demon Bone further, what miraculous effects, aside from Soul Capture and Transfer, will the Great Reincarnation Technique reveal?

Thinking of this, Lin Xuankong felt an even stronger desire to collect more Demon Flesh.

With the Blood Eating Technique enhancing my digestion ability, the speed at which I convert True Qi exceeds others by many times! As long as there is enough Demon Flesh, the speed at which I nurture the Celestial Demon Bone will be unmatched!

However, to ensure my safety, the collection of Demon Flesh must be conducted in utmost secrecy. No one must know that it is Lin Xuankong from the Yin Talisman Sect collecting Demon Flesh!

Just as he was thinking this, a clear voice suddenly came from outside, "Master Lin is out of seclusion, right? Perfect timing, I have urgent matters to discuss with him!"

Soon after, the sound of footsteps was heard as Lii Xiaolan and Zhao Yufei entered the hall together.

Lin Xuankong looked up and saw the two: one in a green dress, charming and cute, and the other tall and voluptuous, with a cold and stunning face.

His eyes softened. "Steward Zhao is here? Please, have a seat!"

Zhao Yufei, a trace of urgency on her face, glanced at him sideways when she heard him formally address her as 'Steward Zhao'.

Lii Xiaolan raised her eyebrows and said, "My sister Yu Fei is now at the fourth cultivation level and has long been promoted to Grand Chief Steward of the Yin Talisman Sect. You, a mere Silver Jade Steward, should quickly stand up to greet her!"

Lin Xuankong could not help but laugh at her words.

Zhao Yufei looked at Lin Xuankong, her eyes full of tender emotion. They had been apart for so long. This man, who claimed to be in seclusion, had returned and hadn't even come to see her! If she hadn't run into Sister Lan today, she still wouldn't know he was back!

"By the way, what urgent matter does Steward Zhao have?" Lin Xuankong sneakily gestured to Zhao Yufei with his eyes.

When he asked, Zhao Yufei remembered her purpose for coming, and urgency returned to her face. "Steward Lin, you took leave from Steward Ma to break through to the third tier in seclusion! During this period, Steward Han Lu took your men to guard the First Warehouse! Ever since Steward Xu Bei perished in the Demon Slaying Valley, theft incidents have been frequent in the warehouses. The First Warehouse, overseen by Steward Han Lu and Steward Ma Jiang, has remained without issues. Consequently, a large batch of herbs brought from Four-direction City was stored there a few days ago!"

Chapter 294: Twenty-Eight Constellations Celestial Demon Technique, Great Reincarnation Technique Upgrade_3

Lin Xuankong's face showed a hint of nervousness as he heard this. "Did something happen to Steward Ma and Steward Han Lu?"

Zhao Yufei frowned deeply. "Steward Ma is fine, but Steward Han Lu, Yang Mountain, Deputy Steward Li Er, and some of your subordinates who were on duty at Warehouse One tonight were attacked. There are many dead. Steward Han, Deputy Steward Yang, Deputy Steward Li... they've all met with disaster!"

Lin Xuankong's heart tightened with anxiety. "Something happened to Han Lu, Yang Mountain, and Li Er? What about Li Xiaohu and the others?"

Zhao Yufei looked a bit surprised. "Li Xiaohu?"

Lin Xuankong quickly walked outside. "When did this happen?"

Although I haven't spent much time with Yang Mountain, Li Er, Han Lu, and the others, we fought side by side, and they were all sincere men! Especially Li Xiaohu. If it wasn't for Little Hu back then, I might have been dead and buried a long time ago, never living to see this day!

Zhao Yufei swiftly followed him.

"Just now!" she said. "I came to you first after receiving the news. There should be a lot of people gathered at Warehouse One by now!"

Upon hearing this, Lin Xuankong dared not delay any longer. He leaped into the air, flying from rooftop to rooftop towards Warehouse One.

If it just happened... I hope I'm not too late!

My current Great Reincarnation Technique can retrieve the Divine Souls of those who died within one hundred breaths. If they haven't been dead longer than that, there's still a chance... If it's past that time, these people will have lost their chance at reincarnation!

Anxious, Lin Xuankong crossed several miles in just a few breaths and arrived at Warehouse One.

When the Yin Talisman Sect members guarding the entrance to Warehouse One saw Lin Xuankong arrive and land behind the courtyard gate, they all bowed. Among them, the talkative Steward Lin Jiao approached him. "Steward Lin, you've come out of seclusion?"

Lin Xuankong nodded slightly but didn't speak, rushing directly into the warehouse.

The scene before him made his expression change. Near the main entrance of Warehouse One, more than twenty Yin Talisman Sect members lay sprawled on the ground. Steward Han Lu, Yang Mountain, Li Er, and Li Xiaohu were among them, all decapitated. Blood was everywhere, and they were utterly devoid of life.

"Xuankong, you're here!" Ma Jiang, standing beside the numerous corpses, said, his face extremely grim.

Grand Chief Stewards Gao Yunchao and Wu Liangye, along with Chief Steward Jiang Yuran, also wore dark expressions.

Lin Xuankong nodded but didn't speak. He immediately activated the Great Reincarnation Technique, directing it towards the corpses on the ground.

Unfortunately, what made his expression darken further was that as the Great Reincarnation Technique influenced one corpse after another, no Divine Souls appeared!

Ma Jiang, beside him, said, "The attacker was extremely ruthless. Not a single guard survived. Finding the culprit will be exceedingly difficult!"

Jiang Yuran, dressed in a moon-white long robe, had an icy expression.

"Nearly ten thousand portions of the Nine Revolutions Qi Replenishing Soup ingredients stored in Warehouse One were all stolen," she stated. "The culprits definitely have a Ghost Toad Pouch to store

the supplies! To possess such a treasure and exhibit such formidable strength... in Great Marsh Prefecture City, only the Black Tiger Gang, the Guo Family, the Feng Family, or the Spirit Snake Gang could accomplish this and dare to challenge our Yin Talisman Sect.

Especially the Black Tiger Gang, the Guo Family, and the Feng Family. Their medicinal ingredients were stolen by a Conical Hat Guest last time, and they suffered greatly, still reeling from the loss. It seems highly probable they're targeting our ingredients now!"

Ma Jiang clenched his fists and suddenly looked at Lin Xuankong.

"Xuankong, you previously caught the Flying Thief who stole from Warehouse Three. Do you have any confidence in finding the culprits this time? And more importantly, the evidence!"

Lin Xuankong nodded. "I'll think of a way."

At that moment, his attention was already on the Celestial Demon Bone in his abdomen. In the next instant, a substantial amount of True Qi surged wildly into the Celestial Demon Bone.

[313,268/1,500,000]

[250,000/1,500,000]

In the blink of an eye, the True Qi in his Life Plate was reduced to only 3,268 points!

The Celestial Demon Bone within him flashed with a faint light.

[Tier Nine True Spirit Bone: Mastery Level: 32/10,000,000,000]

[Great Reincarnation Technique: Mastery Level: 32/10,000,000,000]

The Nurturing Level of the True Spirit Bone and the proficiency of the Great Reincarnation Technique had both increased by thirty-one points!

In Lin Xuankong's perception, the diameter of the Ba Mountain Secret Realm had also expanded from 3,200 miles to 3,232 miles. Much of the fog had cleared, significantly increasing its area!

However, Lin Xuankong's expression changed slightly. The Nurturing Level of the Celestial Demon Bone and the proficiency of the Great Reincarnation Technique increased, but each point consumed ten thousand points of True Qi!

No wonder the Liy Family spent over two centuries and countless resources nurturing that Tier One Celestial Demon Bone... It's nearly impossible for ordinary Cultivators to convert and amass hundreds of thousands, even millions, of True Qi points!

Luckily, my Blood Eating Technique can convert Demon Flesh at a terrifying speed, and my Life Plate Talent allows me to store massive amounts of True Qi. As long as I have enough resources, I can progress thousands, even tens of thousands of times faster than other Cultivators. Otherwise, nurturing this Tier Nine Celestial Demon Bone to completion would take an unknown amount of time!

After this realization, Lin Xuankong felt a flicker of hesitant hope. The time limit for his Great Reincarnation Technique had extended to one hundred thirty-one breaths. Can it save Han Lu, Yang Mountain, Li Er, and Li Xiaohu?

Chapter 295: I Possess a Technique that Can Reverse Fate, Change Destiny, and Control Life and Death!

With an icy expression, Lin Xuankong's gaze fell upon Li Xiaohu's corpse, a trace of hope in his heart. He possessed the Manluo Demon Grass and Demon Pearl; naturally, he could use the residual aura at the scene to trace the killer! But right now, what Lin Xuankong wanted most was to save his former friends and several of his most trusted subordinates.

With the consumption of a hundred points of True Qi, a seemingly real yet illusory Divine Soul suddenly appeared above Li Xiaohu's corpse. This Divine Soul looked exactly like Li Xiaohu.

At this moment, the seemingly real yet illusory Li Xiaohu had a confused expression. He lowered his head to look at his own corpse, then glanced at his Divine Soul body. Soon, the confusion on his face turned to utter shock!

Li Xiaohu looked around at everyone. Then, his Divine Soul's eyes fell upon Lin Xuankong. After drifting unsteadily towards him, he waved at Lin Xuankong and seemed to say something. However, as only his Divine Soul remained, he couldn't make any sound. Only because Lin Xuankong knew Lip Reading could he understand what Little Hu was asking: "Elder Lin, can you see me?"

Lin Xuankong felt a sudden surge of relief. He then continued to perform the Great Reincarnation Technique, looking towards the other corpses.

Soon, the Divine Souls of Han Lu, Yang Shan, and Li Er all floated out from their corpses. Han Lu, whose right leg hadn't fully recovered before death, still limped habitually as a Divine Soul.

After his initial shock, he drifted to Ma Jiang's side, constantly waving at his master and trying to speak.

Unfortunately, aside from Lin Xuankong, no one else present—neither Ma Jiang nor Gao Yunchao, neither Zhao Yufei nor Jiang Yuran—could see the Divine Souls of these four, nor sense their existence.

No matter how loudly Han Lu, Yang Shan, and Li Er shouted or how vigorously they gestured, they remained completely undetected. Even when Han Lu passed directly through Ma Jiang's body, Ma Jiang had no reaction at all.

Lin Xuankong ceased the Great Reincarnation Technique and gently shook his head as he looked at the dozen or so remaining corpses of the Yin Talisman Sect members.

Li Xiaohu's body lay in the innermost part of the warehouse. This young man, whom Lin Xuankong had always cared for, had died behind Han Lu. Clearly, Li Xiaohu was also valued by this Steward. Thus, when they encountered the enemy, he had been protected in the innermost area and was the last to die.

Han Lu, Yang Shan, and Li Er had died later because their strength was relatively better. However, the corpses of the other disciples had long exceeded the one-hundred-and-thirty-two-breath limit of the Great Reincarnation Technique.

Of course, seeing that the Divine Souls of the four people he cared most about had been extracted, Lin Xuankong had calmed down by now. Even if I could save these sect members now, I might not act.

The Great Reincarnation Technique is so terrifying and Extremely Divine and Mysterious; it's a Demon Technique that would make anyone panic. The fewer people who know about it, the better!

Han Lu, Yang Shan, Li Er, and Little Hu are people I have an excellent relationship with in the Yin Talisman Sect; of course, I'll save them. But the others... if I save too many, information about the technique might leak!

Seeing that the Divine Souls of the four were now safe, Lin Xuankong breathed a sigh of relief. He looked at Ma Jiang and Jiang Yuran and said, "Chief Steward Jiang, Boss, I have to leave for some urgent matters. But don't worry, I will definitely find a way to catch the perpetrator!"

Having said that, Lin Xuankong turned and walked out.

The Divine Souls of Han Lu, Yang Shan, Bald Li Er, and Li Xiaohu then involuntarily floated away, following Lin Xuankong.

Bald Li Er's Divine Soul drifted closer to Yang Shan's, muttering something, while Han Lu and Li Xiaohu constantly interjected from the side.

"Are we dead?" Li Er rubbed his bald head.

Yang Shan frowned. "We probably aren't completely dead yet!"

Han Lu raised an eyebrow. "Half-dead?"

Li Xiaohu shook his head. "Stewards," he said, "we should be completely dead and have turned into ghosts. It feels so strange to become a ghost! When I used to hear scary ghost stories from my dad, I was terrified. But now that I've become a ghost, it doesn't feel so bad... Just now, Steward Han threw a few slaps at Steward Ma but couldn't make contact. It seems that as ghosts, we don't have any attack power!"

Han Lu's eyes widened. "Which eye of yours saw me slapping my master? I was just trying to see if I could touch him! Let me tell you, I, Han Lu, am one hundred percent filial to my master. Even in death, even as a ghost, it's impossible for me to hit my master!"

Bald Li Er laughed. "Slapping with both left and right, Steward Han! Truly a paragon of filial piety!"

Han Lu was speechless.

The group chatted for a while, then, filled with curiosity, they floated around constantly. Occasionally, they encountered passersby. Bald Li Er would even stick his bald head into their stomachs or chests, looking around from the inside.

None of the passersby—man or woman, old or young—could sense a bald head phasing in and out of their bodies.

Han Lu laughed. "Vice Steward Li," he said, "that was a pregnant woman just now. Aren't you afraid of being reincarnated as her son if you keep phasing in and out like that?"

Bald Li Er was stunned. "Is that possible?"

The usually calm Yang Shan looked questioningly at Lin Xuankong, who was continuously leaping ahead. "Why do I feel something's off?" he asked. "Why do the four of us keep drifting towards Steward Lin, seemingly unable to move away from him? Could our appearance as ghosts be related to Steward Lin?"

Chapter 296: I Have a Technique That Can Reverse Heaven's Will, Change Fate, and Control Life and Death!_2

"Indeed, it is related!" Lin Xuankong's voice suddenly interjected.

Han Lu, Li Er, Yang Shan, and Li Xiaohu all paused in surprise. Li Xiaohu asked in astonishment, "Elder Lin, can you see the four of us ghosts? Can you hear the conversations among us four ghosts?"

Lin Xuankong was already standing in his garden, beneath the Old Willow Tree, frowning at the four.

He pondered for a while. Then, his frown relaxed, and he spoke, "I recently acquired a Secret Technique that can defy fate, change destiny, and reverse life and death. You four have arrived just in time!"

Defy fate, change destiny, reverse life and death?

Han Lu, Li Er, Yang Shan, and Li Xiaohu were all stunned.

The four were obviously skeptical, but considering their current ghastly appearance and Lin Xuankong's words, they could not help but look utterly confused.

As the branches of the Old Willow Tree swayed, Lin Xuankong's expression became serious.

"However, this Secret Technique of mine is too shocking, too world-altering! Once I find suitable bodies for you four and you are reborn, you must promise me one thing. You must absolutely never reveal this matter to anyone!"

The four were startled by his words.

Yang Shan wore an expression of disbelief. "Steward Lin, do you mean... we can be reincarnated and continue to live?"

Bald Li Er rubbed his head vigorously, his face full of astonishment. "There's actually... actually such a Secret Technique!"

"Oh my heavens! Isn't this like the legendary Immortals! Is it real?" Young Li Xiaohu's eyes widened.

Han Lu limped over to Lin Xuankong, his face filled with shock. "Steward Lin, are you serious? If you can really bring us back to life, not only will I help you keep this secret, but I'd even be willing to acknowledge you as my grandmaster!"

How could these four not be astonished? To die and be revived, to have one's fate altered—such miraculous abilities! They had never even heard of such things before. This was far beyond what any

Martial Cultivator could achieve! Moreover, having died once, the chance to regain life was now before them. How could they not be exhilarated?

Lin Xuankong nodded slightly. "However, who exactly killed you four? Did you see the murderers' faces?"

Han Lu leaned against the Old Willow Tree and accidentally phased into its trunk. After pulling himself free, he said:

"The five who raided the first warehouse tonight all wore black clothing, Ghost Face Masks, and conical hats, clearly impersonating the Conical Hat Guest! However, when those five spoke, I could recognize the accents of two of them. One of them should be a steward from the Feng Family, named Feng Ercai!

"Furthermore, the sword technique Feng Ercai used was clearly that of the Feng Family.

"The other 'Conical Hat Guest,' though not using a saber, wielded a Profound Iron Rod. However, his attack patterns were completely consistent with the Guo Family's saber technique. He was most likely an expert from the Guo Family!

"These five were all at the Third or Fourth Layer of Cultivation. Even though only two of them attacked, we fought with all our might but still couldn't resist for long before we were all killed!"

Hearing this, Lin Xuankong's brow furrowed tightly.

"So, Chief Steward Jiang's suspicion was correct! The Feng Family, the Guo Family, and members of the Black Tiger Gang are getting desperate because of the medicinal materials!"

Yang Shan frowned and said, "Perhaps it was to shift the blame, especially since they all came dressed as the Conical Hat Guest!"

Impersonating the Conical Hat Guest!

A cold glint flashed in Lin Xuankong's eyes. "In that case, I have a solution for new bodies for you four!"

「Feng Family Mansion, East Courtyard Inner Hall.」

Patriarch Feng Mengshan and Second-in-Command Feng Menghu each sat in a Grandmaster's Chair.

Feng Mengshan looked at the two swordsmen in black before him and smiled faintly. "Feng Ercai, Feng Sancai, you two did well this time. Ten thousand portions of medicinal materials aren't enough to critically wound the Yin Talisman Sect, but obtaining four thousand portions will help alleviate our Feng Family's urgent needs! You didn't leave any traces this time, did you?"

Feng Ercai, one of the swordsmen in black, cupped his hands and said,

"Rest assured, Patriarch, no traces were left!

"Even if Han Lu and the others recognized me, it's useless. Not a single one of those twenty-odd Yin Talisman Sect Members survived!

"Moreover, I deliberately wore black clothes, a Ghost Face Mask, and a conical hat, and made sure several locals on Cow and Horse Street saw me!

"As long as the Yin Talisman Sect investigates thoroughly tomorrow, they'll definitely hear the news: the Conical Hat Guest not only provoked the Black Tiger Gang, the Guo Family, and the Feng Family, but also brazenly plundered the Yin Talisman Sect!"

Feng Mengshan laughed. "Good! This time, we've decided to join forces with the Guo Family and the Black Tiger Gang to deal with the Conical Hat Guest. As long as the Yin Talisman Sect doesn't interfere, that Conical Hat Guest is doomed!

"Now that this has happened, even if Jiang Yuran and Li Zhenhuan aren't certain the Conical Hat Guest was responsible, they will undoubtedly harbor suspicions. During the battle at Hill City the day after tomorrow, they will absolutely not help the Conical Hat Guest!"

Feng Menghu laughed heartily.

"Patriarch, this move kills three birds with one stone. Truly a brilliant strategy!

"It allows us to deal with the Yin Talisman Sect, obtain medicinal materials, and make the Yin Talisman Sect suspicious of the Conical Hat Guest!"

His words had barely faded when a large amount of Demon Qi suddenly surged within the room.

From beneath Feng Mengshan's and Feng Menghu's feet, thick vines erupted, tightly binding their legs.

Immediately after, Lin Xuankong, wearing a conical hat and a Ghost Face Mask, burst through the window. He raised his hands, each cupping an incredibly bright Thunderball!

Lin Xuankong had already reached the Sixth Layer. Combined with his Shadow Concealment Primordial Technique, his speed was terrifyingly fast. His stealthy attack far surpassed Feng Mengshan's and Feng Menghu's ability to react; the two swordsmen in black had no time to react at all.

In the next instant, two Thunderballs, formed by the Yin Talisman Sect's strongest Thunder Technique—the Soul-Extinction Celestial Thunder Divine Technique—struck Patriarch Feng Mengshan and Second-in-Command Feng Menghu respectively!

Feng Mengshan and Feng Menghu, their faces still frozen in smug satisfaction, suddenly went limp. Their Divine Souls were extinguished, and they collapsed to the ground.

Immediately after, more than ten long, thick, bright red tongues shot out and wrapped around the two men in black.

"Who are you? How dare you attack our Feng Family's Patriarch!"

"No, he's the damn Conical Hat Guest!"

Feng Ercai and Feng Sancai exclaimed.

However, no sooner had the words left their mouths than their lips were sealed by the Ghost Frog King's tongues.

After that, they could only manage muffled whimpers, forced to watch as the 'Conical Hat Guest' approached their Patriarch.

Lin Xuankong's gaze fell upon Feng Mengshan and Feng Menghu, a hint of anticipation in his eyes. This was his first time using the Great Reincarnation Technique to transfer a Divine Soul of the Human Race into another human body. Naturally, he felt a certain sense of novelty and curiosity.

He turned and spoke to the empty air beside him, "Which of you four wants to be the Feng Family's Patriarch?"

Feng Ercai and Feng Sancai, upon hearing this, looked terrified and utterly bewildered. What the hell? What is the Conical Hat Guest saying? Become the Feng Family's Patriarch? The Feng Family has thousands of Martial Cultivators. How could they let just anyone become Patriarch? Is he dreaming? Besides, who is this Conical Hat Guest talking to? There's no one beside him at all!

Chapter 297: Lin Xuankong's Undying Battle Group! This is Just the Beginning!

Hearing Lin Xuankong ask who wanted to become the Patriarch of the Feng Family, not only did the controlled Feng Ercai and Feng Sancai look alarmed and confused, but even Han Lu, Yang Mountain, Li Er, and Little Hu, who were drifting behind Lin Xuankong, appeared puzzled.

Seeing their bewildered faces, Lin Xuankong smiled slightly. "The Feng Family has thousands of Martial Cultivators under its command, extensive properties throughout the Great Marsh Prefecture, and more than thirty beautiful wives, yet none of you four are interested?"

Little Hu scratched his head. "We're all ghosts, how can we become Patriarchs?"

Lin Xuankong turned to him. "Since you spoke first, you will become the Patriarch of the Feng Family, Little Hu!"

With that, he waved his right hand, and Little Hu's Divine Soul disappeared immediately.

The body of Feng Mengshan, the Patriarch of the Feng Family, which had been lying limp on the ground, shook a few times and then opened its eyes with a bewildered look.

Scratching his head, he showed an expression of confusion. "Am I reincarnated? Elder Lin, you actually made it possible for me to reincarnate and occupy someone else's body?"

Lin Xuankong nodded slightly.

Li Xiaohu swallowed and touched his face. Looking down at the luxurious clothes he was wearing and the Ghost Frog Pouch hanging from his waist, he felt like he was dreaming.

My talent isn't great, only Two Seals. According to my own assessment, even if I joined the Yin Talisman Sect, I'd at best cultivate to the Third Layer and become a Steward. That would be the peak of my life!

Who knew that in one night, there would be such a drastic change? First, I was killed, then turned into a ghost by Elder Lin, and now I can occupy the body of a formidable Martial Cultivator at the Late Stage of the Fifth Layer! The Patriarch of the Feng Family, who stands on equal footing with the Yin Talisman Sect Leader in the Great Marsh Prefecture, commanding thousands of Martial Cultivators, could shake the entire Great Marsh Prefecture for three days with one stomp! I never even dreamed of becoming such a powerful figure. Just speaking to such a top-tier person seemed impossible in my lifetime...

Excited, Little Hu pushed himself up from the ground, but because he hadn't yet adjusted to the terrifying Power of this body, he lightly pushed and ended up sticking to the ceiling. After landing, Little Hu became much more cautious, carefully exerting slight pressure, trying to adapt to this new body.

Seeing this, Han Lu, Yang Mountain, and Li Er couldn't help but twitch their mouths.

The always lively Li Er boldly walked up, trying to dive into Feng Menghu's body to occupy it. But he just felt like drilling through the air, unable to merge with the body at all!

Feng Ercai and Feng Sancai, controlled by the Ghost Frog King's tongue, saw that Patriarch Feng Mengshan had 'come back to life' but was acting differently. They widened their eyes until they nearly bulged out of their sockets.

In my terror, I suddenly recalled Patriarch Feng Mengshan mentioning the Demon Sects of the Rakshasa Kingdom. I remember distinctly that the Patriarch said the Rakshasa Kingdom had a Yin Demon Sect, whose power rivaled the Profound Sect and Celestial Sect of the Great Xia Dynasty. It was said that the Yin Demon Sect Master had become a Demon Venerable and was proficient in the Possession Technique... But even the Yin Demon Sect Master supposedly needed to arrange Grand Arrays and meticulously select geniuses from hundreds of millions of people to find a suitable body for possession; otherwise, reckless possession could result in soul damage or even complete obliteration! Looking at the current scene, it seems the Patriarch has been possessed! But how can possession be so easy? Wasn't it supposed to happen only after becoming a Demon Venerable, with careful selection and Grand Arrays? Was the Patriarch lying to me earlier?

Feng Ercai, having heard of the Possession Technique, was naturally puzzled. Feng Sancai, however, who hadn't heard of it, looked at their seemingly enchanted Patriarch with sheer terror!

Lin Xuankong shook his head slightly at the sight of Li Er diving in and out of Feng Menghu's body.

"Since you like this body, Li Er, you are now the Second-in-Command of the Feng Family. Although Feng Menghu's Cultivation is lower than the Patriarch's, anyone who could cultivate to the Fifth Layer must have exceptional Talent, not worse than your original body!"

As soon as Lin Xuankong finished speaking, Li Er's Divine Soul vanished. The next moment, the limp body of Feng Menghu opened its eyes.

'Feng Menghu' touched his head, realizing that his bald head had turned into a full head of 'flowing hair.'

After sensing carefully, he was stunned, his face showing amazement. "This body is so strong! Is that the Sunflower Water Meridian rotating in my Dantian?"

Then, his face lit up with joy. He drew the Longsword at his waist, and with a flourish, a cyan Sword Aura emerged, revolving around him. "Is this... is this the True Qi attack that only a Fifth Layer expert can possess? Is this the Feng Family's Cyan Sword Qi?"

Someone from the Second Layer suddenly becoming a Late Stage Fifth Layer expert—how could Li Er not be ecstatic?

He played with the Sword Qi joyfully, as excited and happy as a child with a new toy.

Seeing this, Han Lu and Yang Mountain couldn't help but show expressions of astonishment and envy.

After a while, Li Xiaohu was adapting to the body while Li Er played with the Sword Qi. Suddenly, they both realized something. Their faces turned serious as they looked at Lin Xuankong.

Li Xiaohu, with a hint of excitement in his eyes, knelt on one knee. "Elder Lin, your kindness in giving me a new life is beyond repayment. From now on, my life is yours!"

Li Er followed, kneeling on one knee as well. "Steward Lin, no words can express my gratitude. From now on, I will follow you, facing any danger without hesitation!"

Chapter 298: Lin Xuankong's Undying Battle Group! This is Just the Beginning! _2

Han Lu sneered, "That fellow Li Er, he thinks Steward Lin can bring him back to life anytime, so he's not afraid to die ten thousand times."

Hearing this, Yang Mountain's eyes lit up, and he looked at Lin Xuankong with excitement. Ever since he had been working under Lin Xuankong, he had always looked up to him, admiring the white-haired elder's heroic spirit. Now, seeing Lin Xuankong possess such a power to reverse life and death, he was naturally thrilled! Even a casual thought made him realize—Lin Xuankong's future formidable subordinates would all be fearless of death, each one capable of resurrection. How strong would the cohesion among Lin Xuankong's followers be? How fierce would his team's fighting power be? Never mind that no one in the Great Marsh Prefecture could make their subordinates fearless of death; even in the Great Xia Dynasty, the Profound Phoenix Celestial Sect, or the Holy Dragon Association, none could make every member unafraid of death! Yet Lin Xuankong could raise an Undying Battle Group where no one feared death and no one would truly die—how terrifying was that?!

At this moment, Lin Xuankong looked at Li Xiaohu and Li Er.

"Saving you two isn't for you to keep dying and coming back!

"Making you both the Feng Family Patriarch and Second-in-Command Feng serves two purposes. First, to save your lives, and second, to have you do some things for me in the future!

"From now on, you two need to use the thousands of people from the Feng Family to secretly collect Demon Flesh for me from various places!

"The body of a Tier Five Powerhouse, and that of a Patriarch from a top-tier family—such bodies are rare. You must cherish them and not die so easily!"

Li Xiaohu and Li Er exchanged glances and then looked at Lin Xuankong, nodding vigorously. "Little Hu has noted this!" "Li Er will definitely handle this matter well!"

Lin Xuankong nodded slightly, then looked at Feng Ercai and Feng Sancai.

"You two, tell them about some habits, hobbies, and the ways of speaking and doing things of the Feng Family Patriarch and Second-in-Command Feng."

Upon hearing this, both Feng Ercai and Feng Sancai showed a hint of ruthlessness in their eyes. Both were born and raised in the Feng Family and naturally had deep feelings for it. They certainly feared death. But to watch others usurp their positions and, worse, to become accomplices in it—they would rather die than agree!

Seeing the hatred in their determined eyes, Lin Xuankong shook his head slightly and continued,

"You two must have family members—Wives, Children, Elders, and Youngsters—and you must be quite loyal to the Feng Family.

"So you should want your entire Feng Family and your families to live peacefully, right?"

"Moreover, you've already witnessed this scene. Since I can allow others to reincarnate into your Patriarch's body, I can naturally reincarnate Feng Family members into pigs, dogs, flies, and maggots!"

At these words, Feng Ercai and Feng Sancai's faces changed dramatically.

Reincarnate into pigs, dogs, flies, and maggots?

They looked at Lin Xuankong with eyes filled with extreme terror, as if they were looking at a horrifying demon! They couldn't help but swallow hard, cold sweat drenching their bodies. The Conical Hat Guest before them, who could instantly kill the Feng Family Patriarch and Second-in-Command Feng, could undoubtedly destroy the Feng Family without much difficulty. He wasn't exaggerating! As for his remark about reincarnating Feng Family members and their relatives into mosquitoes, insects, flies, and maggots... How could they not be terrified!

Seeing the determination in their eyes gradually disappear, replaced by a complete lack of resistance, Lin Xuankong raised his hand slightly. The tongue of the Ghost Frog King immediately released them.

Feng Ercai's body went limp, collapsing to the ground. Feng Sancai trembled and looked at Lin Xuankong, almost breaking down as he stammered, "I'll talk! I'll tell you everything! Just please spare the elderly, women, and children of the Feng Family!"

Lin Xuankong nodded slightly. "As long as you tell me everything you know, without reservation, I can naturally spare the members of the Feng Family!"

「After more than half an hour,」

Li Xiaohu, Li Er, Han Lu, and Yang Mountain followed Lin Xuankong toward the south of the city, in the direction of the Guo Family's mansion. According to Feng Ercai and Feng Sancai, three experts from the Guo Family were also involved in the plot against the Yin Talisman Sect. Lin Xuankong certainly wouldn't let go of the murderers who had slaughtered his friends.

「Moments later,」

In the small pavilion in the backyard of the Guo Family's mansion, the Guo Family Patriarch Guo Yunjiang had become Yang Mountain, and the Guo Family Second-in-Command Guo Yunhe had become Han Lu.

Both knelt on one knee. "Steward, we can never repay your great kindness in saving our lives! From now on, Yang Mountain is willing to go through fire and water for you, Steward!"

"Lord Lin, you and Master Ma Jiang will henceforth be the two people Han Lu respects most! Especially you, Lord Lin! No matter when or what, just say the word, and Han Lu will do it without hesitation! If I dare to disobey, may you reincarnate me as a dung beetle!"

Lin Xuankong walked over and helped them up.

"You two are no different. I don't need you to go through fire and water; just live well.

"Besides, the thousands of Martial Cultivators and over ten territories in the Outer City under the Guo Family also need your control!

"The Guo Family and the Feng Family previously colluded, wreaking havoc across the hundred cities of the Great Marsh Prefecture and committing countless evil deeds. From now on, I don't expect you to turn the Guo Family into a charity hall. However, at the very least, like the Yin Talisman Sect, you must ensure the common people in your territories don't live in constant fear!"

Yang Mountain immediately clasped his hands. "Rest assured, Steward! I myself come from poverty and grew up among the poor. Even now, as the Guo Family Patriarch, I will never forget my past experiences. Besides, even if I had ten thousand guts, I wouldn't dare to disobey your orders!"

Han Lu's face, however, showed a hint of excitement. "Lord Lin, I never expected you to be the Conical Hat Guest... The Black Tiger Gang tried to capture you many times. Now that Brother Yang controls the Guo Family and Little Hu controls the Feng Family, shouldn't we wait a few days and then take down the Black Tiger Gang Great Marsh Hall and Law Enforcement Hall together?"

Take down the Black Tiger Gang Great Marsh Hall and Law Enforcement Hall? But those are my territories too! Lin Xuankong thought.

Li Er shook his head beside them. "With Lord Lin's divine abilities, why bother killing them? We could replace the Divine Souls of Liy Ruoqing from the Great Marsh Hall and Liy Ruo Ying from the Law Enforcement Hall with our own people. Then, we could make the Black Tiger Gang work for our benefactor. Wouldn't that be better?"

Lin Xuankong shook his head. "I have other plans for the Black Tiger Gang; they are no longer a concern!"

"The most important thing now is for you to consolidate your control over the Guo and Feng Families. Once everything is stable, secretly send people to various places to collect Demon Flesh. Remember, ensure no one discovers any discrepancies!"

The four of them clasped their hands in acknowledgment.

Yang Mountain said, "Controlling the Guo and Feng Families will not be a problem! Who could have imagined that these four bodies now house different Divine Souls!"

"Moreover, the bodies we now inhabit are those of the strongest cultivators in the Guo and Feng Families, and each carries their respective family's Demon Pearl. Others cannot match our Cultivation Realms, nor do they possess Demon Pearls... Even if they suspect something, we can just eliminate them secretly!"

Li Er remarked with emotion,

"If one hadn't experienced it personally, who could have imagined Lord Lin possesses such god-like abilities!"

"The top-tier Guo and Feng Families in the Great Marsh Prefecture, with nearly fifteen thousand elite Martial Cultivators, are now under Lord Lin's command!"

"Even the number of Martial Cultivators in the Great Marsh Prefecture's Holy Dragon Association cannot compare to the combined forces of these two families!"

"After tonight, Lord Lin, you are the true ruler of the Guo and Feng Families!"

Sitting in the pavilion, Lin Xuankong looked at the four individuals before him, a hint of expectation in his eyes.

With the Great Reincarnation Technique in hand, I can instantly transform any weakling into a powerhouse, a level they could likely never achieve in their entire lifetime. And because it's a complete Divine Soul transfer, it won't hinder their future cultivation progress in the slightest! This miraculous method is far superior to the so-called Immortal's Possession technique. Possession usually has limitations on the number of times it can be performed and requires various complex methods. In contrast, I only need a single Heart Thought! Currently, restricted by my cultivation, I can only transfer the Divine Souls of Little Hu and the others into the bodies of cultivators at the Sixth Layer or below. Furthermore, this is only possible for those who have been dead for no more than one hundred and thirty-one breaths. If I manage to upgrade my cultivation to the Seventh, Eighth, or Ninth Layer, and further refine the Great Reincarnation Technique... wouldn't I then be able to let them occupy the bodies of Tier Nine Powerhouses with a mere wave of my hand! Additionally, if Little Hu and the others are interested, I could even turn them into Ninth Layer Great Demons! With such a Great Reincarnation Technique in hand, controlling the Guo and Feng Families is nothing. This is just the beginning!

Thinking of this, Lin Xuankong became even more eager to quickly collect large amounts of Demon Flesh and enhance the Great Reincarnation Technique.

As his thoughts turned, he suddenly remembered the battle scheduled for September 8th, set to begin in just two days, and his brow furrowed slightly.

Chapter 299: Great Marsh Prefecture's Earth-Shaking Changes and the Astonishing Situation of the September Duel

Zhao Renxiong would never have imagined it. Of all the helpers he might summon from the Black Tiger Gang, the Guo Family, and the Feng Family, almost none would be able to assist him now, would they? Liy Ruoqing and Liy Ruo Ying, after so many incidents, had already become completely devoted to him. The four strongest Cultivators from the Feng and Guo Families had become his subordinates! If, come the eighth day of September, Zhao Renxiong were to call for aid and no one stepped forward, he would surely find himself in an awkward position! However, he no longer needed to pay much attention to Cultivators at the late stage of the Fifth Layer. This duel on the eighth day of September, fighting back and forth with Fifth-Layer Cultivators, didn't hold much interest for him...

Lin Xuankong's gaze flickered slightly. Then, a thought struck him, and he looked in the direction of the Yin Talisman Sect.

"The four of you, manage the affairs of the Guo and Feng Families well these next two days. I have other matters to attend to!"

With that, Lin Xuankong leaped away.

Han Lu, Li Xiaohu, Li Er, and Yang Shan cupped their fists and bowed deeply. Only after Lin Xuankong's figure disappeared did the four of them straighten up.

Having personally experienced a reversal of life and death, becoming Patriarchs and Second-in-Commands of top families in the blink of an eye, the four were filled with emotion, feeling that knowing Lin Xuankong was truly the greatest fortune of their lives!

A short while later, Lin Xuankong had already landed in the courtyard of Steward Hu Shuo of the Yin Talisman Sect.

At that moment, light flickered in the courtyard.

Elder Steward Hu Shuo, a man in his forties, was practicing the Divine Thunder Illusion Technique in the courtyard.

Hearing footsteps, he withdrew the thunder and lightning and turned to look. Upon seeing it was Lin Xuankong, a trace of surprise appeared on his face. He immediately bowed with cupped fists and said, "Steward Lin, to what do I owe the honor of your visit?"

Since the trip to the Demon-Suppressing Valley, Hu Shuo had known that the Lin Xuankong before him was the Yin Talisman Sect's hidden Nine-Seal Genius. He possessed terrifyingly powerful strength and was the only hope for the sect's rise! Moreover, Lin Xuankong had saved his life. How could Hu Shuo not be respectful upon seeing him!

Looking at the red-faced Elder Steward, Lin Xuankong thought to himself:

Besides Steward Ma Jiang, the only person in the Yin Talisman Sect who would absolutely never betray me, for now, is this Steward Hu Shuo! Back then, even knowing the Demon Slaying Conference was fraught with extreme danger, Hu Shuo had willingly brought along his most cherished disciple, Lin Jiao. This demonstrated his profound affection for the Yin Talisman Sect. Moreover, after returning to the Yin Talisman Sect, he, Lin Jiao, and Nalan Yunzhu had never revealed my true identity. This shows how highly he regards me, this so-called genius of the Yin Talisman Sect, and that he would absolutely obey my words.

Thinking of this, Lin Xuankong said, "Steward Hu, I came to find you because I have a matter I wish to discuss."

Hu Shuo immediately cupped his fists and said, "Steward Lin, if there's anything you need me to do, just say the word. After all, you saved this Old Hu's life."

Lin Xuankong said, "Steward Hu, at your current age and cultivation, do you still have hope of breaking through to the Fourth Layer?"

Hu Shuo looked a little surprised, then sighed and shook his head.

"My talent is average; I'm only Two Seals. To have advanced to the mid-grade of the Third Layer before the age of forty was already a stroke of immense luck. Now, I am already forty-six, and my Qi Blood has long since begun to decline. Maintaining my current realm is already extremely difficult, let alone reaching the Fourth Layer. Even the late stage of the Third Layer is hopeless for me in this lifetime!"

Lin Xuankong nodded slightly. "If I were to give you an opportunity to become a late-stage Fifth-Layer Cultivator, but it would require you to be temporarily separated from your family and keep the matter absolutely secret, would you be willing?"

Hu Shuo was stunned, then laughed.

"Steward Lin, are you joking? The gap between a genius like you and someone like me is as vast as that between heaven and earth. How could I possibly have a chance to reach the Fifth Layer in this lifetime? Of course, if I could indeed advance to the late stage of the Fifth Layer, being separated from my family for a few years—even eight or ten years—would be nothing! My wife and sons all cultivate Martial Dao.

Both of my sons are already at the late stage of the First Layer and are Deputy Stewards in our Yin Talisman Sect. They no longer need me to worry about them!"

Hearing this, Lin Xuankong nodded slightly. "Then, Steward Hu, please come with me to Hill City!"

"To Hill City? Steward Lin, aren't you investigating the culprit behind the First Warehouse incident?" Hu Shuo showed a puzzled expression.

"Follow me!" Lin Xuankong leaped into the air.

Hu Shuo was filled with puzzlement, but he dared not show any disrespect to this peerless genius, his lifesaver. He immediately leaped up and followed Lin Xuankong, heading out of the city under the cover of night.

「Three hours later.」

At the back hall of the Black Tiger Gang's Hill City Branch, Hu Shuo stared at his new body in astonishment. Then, trembling slightly, he looked at Lin Xuankong.

"Steward Lin, this technique of yours? This... To think that such a powerful and terrifying Secret Technique exists in this world, one that can transfer a person's Divine Soul into another's body?"

Lin Xuankong's face turned serious.

"Steward Hu, your original body is not yet completely dead. I merely knocked your original body unconscious, forcibly extracted your Divine Soul, and transferred it into Zhao Renxiong's body. If you regret this in the future, you can still transfer back!"

Hu Shuo shook his head repeatedly.

"Steward Lin, I, Hu Shuo, had originally given up all hope of reaching the late stage of the Third Layer in this lifetime, thinking I would inevitably waste my life away. Now, I've become a late-stage Fifth-Layer

Cultivator! I might even reach the Sixth Layer in many years, a realm that can extend one's lifespan significantly. Such an astonishing, incredible opportunity—how could I possibly regret it! Steward Lin, you truly are the once-in-a-millennium prodigy of our Yin Talisman Sect! To possess such a technique! A technique that even the founder of our Yin Talisman Sect never possessed... This... this is simply more powerful than the fabled methods of Immortals!"

Chapter 300: Great Marsh Prefecture's Earth-Shaking Changes and the Astonishing Situation of the September Duel_2

Speaking of this, he sensed the Black Tiger True Qi within him, and a few tears of excitement flashed in his eyes. This Elder Steward never would have thought that overnight, he would become a late-stage Fifth Layer powerhouse, reaching a realm he could only have dreamed of his entire life!

Lin Xuankong spoke, "I know you have deep feelings for the Yin Talisman Sect. In the future, here at the Black Tiger Gang's Hill City Branch, you will oversee thousands of martial cultivators, providing plenty of chances to secretly support the Yin Talisman Sect!"

Upon hearing this, Hu Shuo immediately showed a delighted expression. "Steward Lin, with the current strength of this body, comparable to the Sect Leader of our Yin Talisman Sect, handling certain matters will naturally be very easy! However, Steward Lin, you have given me such an amazing opportunity. Is there something you intend for me to do? Just say the word, and Hu Shuo will certainly go all out!"

Lin Xuankong nodded slightly. "First, I need you to swear an oath that even upon death, you will never leak this matter. Second, as the Hill City Hall Master of the Black Tiger Gang, you can secretly assist the Yin Talisman Sect. I support you in this, but you must also do some things for me. Third, the duel between Zhao Renxiong and the Conical Hat Guest is set for the eighth of September. Make the necessary preparations and ensure everything is handled in advance!"

Although Hu Shuo found it strange, he dared not voice any objections and immediately cupped his hands in agreement.

Lin Xuankong nodded slightly. He turned to look at Hill City, shrouded by the starry sky. The Guo Family, the Feng Family, and the Black Tiger Gang—the three top forces of the Great Marsh Prefecture—were now all in his hands. Overnight, the Great Marsh Prefecture had undergone a complete transformation! The Great Reincarnation Technique... it truly is worthy of being the strongest demon technique from the Tier Nine Celestial Demon Bone. And this is merely one of its initial tier divine techniques!

「The next day.」

「Hill City, Myriad Tastes Tavern, Second Layer.」

Xu Kai and the disguised Han Feiyan, Han Xiu, and others were sitting around a wine table.

Han Feiyan, dressed in male attire, sighed, "In the blink of an eye, the day of the duel between Conical Hat Guest and Zhao Renxiong has arrived. It's a pity Brother Lin isn't here today; otherwise, we could have watched this grand event together, one that has attracted countless cultivators from the Great Marsh Prefecture!"

Xu Kai shook his fan and laughed, "What kind of person is Brother Lin? I bet Brother Lin doesn't even care for duels between Fifth Layer martial cultivators!"

"What I'm currently interested in is that the Spirit Vein Transference of the Ba Mountain Secret Realm disappeared recently. I wonder who was so lucky to claim the Celestial Demon Bone from the Ba Mountain Secret Realm."

Han Feiyan frowned and said, "I have a feeling that the Celestial Demon Bone from the Ba Mountain Secret Realm might have been claimed by Brother Lin!"

Xu Kai was taken aback and shook his head, "Impossible! Claiming the Celestial Demon Bone isn't something that can be done by just fighting or killing someone!"

Han Feiyan glared at him. "What do you know? Brother Lin's methods are incredibly powerful; fighting and killing aren't all he's capable of!"

Xu Kai didn't want to argue with this tomboy. He looked outside and frowned. "I wonder if Conical Hat Guest will come. Zhao Renxiong has probably invited numerous experts, including Liy Ruoqing, Liy Ruo Ying, and many from the Guo and Feng families. If Conical Hat Guest arrives, he might have to face over ten late-stage Fifth Layer opponents at once!"

Han Feiyan frowned upon hearing this.

Just then, a martial cultivator hurriedly rushed to the second layer of the tavern, cupping his hands at Xu Kai. "Something has happened, Boss!"

Xu Kai's expression froze, becoming somewhat tense. "What is it?"

The martial cultivator, panting heavily, said, "On the Hill City Branch's plaza, Zhao Renxiong personally led people to dismantle the duel stage! He publicly announced that he is no match for Conical Hat Guest and that the Black Tiger Gang's Hill City Branch will never oppose Conical Hat Guest again! He has even sent over a thousand gang members from the Hill City Branch to various places to announce the news!"

Xu Kai was stunned. "What? Zhao Renxiong, whose son was killed, publicly admits defeat and vows never to oppose Conical Hat Guest again? And he even sent people to announce the news everywhere, afraid someone wouldn't know?"

Han Feiyan was also full of astonishment. "Impossible, this can't be true!"

「Opposite the Black Tiger Gang's Hill City Branch.」

In a very elegantly decorated private room within the Hill City Inn, Celestial Sect Elder Hua Yanluo personally poured a cup of tea for Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er.

The maid Qing beside her said, "Third Princess, do you think Conical Hat Guest will come? If he does, will he be a match for Zhao Renxiong?"

Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er frowned. "Judging by the traces seen that day at Fuhu Slope, Conical Hat Guest should be at most Fifth Layer in cultivation and probably not a match for Zhao Renxiong. However, Conical Hat Guest's battle armor is extremely powerful. With that Exorcism Armor, even if Zhao Renxiong's realm is more profound, he shouldn't be his opponent! Hopefully, he will come. Though Mr. Mu has already agreed to help me with the refining of the Demon Prison Cage, if I could obtain the method to refine that battle armor from Conical Hat Guest...."

She suddenly paused, a look of confusion appearing on her pretty face as she glanced outside at the plaza of the Black Tiger Gang's Hill City Branch.

"What is Zhao Renxiong up to, publicly canceling the duel and admitting defeat in front of thousands of martial cultivators from various places!"

Everyone in the private room looked outside and was stunned.

Celestial Sect Elder Hua Yanluo looked at Zhao Renxiong in the crowd with a puzzled expression. "Zhao Renxiong is admitting defeat to his son's murderer and vows never to oppose him again? Is there really someone in this world with such a broad mind? This...this is too strange!"

Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er waved her hand. "Send someone immediately to bring Zhao Renxiong here. I want to ask him personally."

「Throughout the Great Marsh Prefecture, hundreds of cities were in an uproar.」