

Stronger 421

Chapter 421: Spiritual Crane Fairy, Auction Convention

「In the blink of an eye, three days had passed.」

Southwest of the Immortal City, at the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect auction house.

Lin Xuankong stood at the entrance of the auction house, a touch of sentiment on his face as he looked inside.

He recalled participating in an auction once before, back in Prison Dragon City of Great Marsh Prefecture, within the Great Xia Dynasty.

At that time, he was just a minor figure in the early stage of the third layer of the Transcendence Realm. When he saw the grand auction venue of Prison Dragon City and the powerful Transcendence Realm cultivators from various parts of Great Marsh Prefecture, he felt incredibly envious. Each of them easily bid thousands, tens of thousands, or even hundreds of thousands of taels of gold!

Three years have passed in a flash, and the world has completely changed.

Now, at this Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect auction, the cultivators with the lowest cultivation levels were, astoundingly, all in the late stage of the Ninth-Layer Realm. Each arrived mounted on magnificent Exotic Beasts or flying avians, looking like true immortal beings!

Any one of these cultivators, if placed in an auction in Prison Dragon City, could likely buy all the auction items without so much as batting an eye!

Cultivators attending the Spiritual Crane Immortal City auction, if placed in a place like Prison Dragon City, probably wouldn't even need to bid...

Which cultivator in Prison Dragon City would dare bid against a Ninth-Layer Transcendence Realm cultivator? Are they tired of living, wanting the grass on their grave to flourish?

Moreover, in this Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect auction, every single item was priced in Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade. The mortal gold and silver used by ordinary people and low-tier Transcendence Realm cultivators were utterly useless here.

If the auction items here were priced in mortal gold and silver, they would likely cost tens of billions, or even hundreds of billions, in gold... What cultivator would use such cheap currency?

Of course, what amazed Lin Xuankong the most was that this auction city of Spiritual Crane Immortal City was actually built on a Flying Spiritual Artifact!

A colossal auction venue, towering twenty stories high and spanning numerous miles, floated ten thousand feet in mid-air. Even the plaza outside the main entrance hovered in the sky. Cultivators incapable of flight lacked even the ability or qualification to reach the auction house plaza!

The floating plaza was wreathed in mist. Various Exotic Beasts and Spirit Birds, ridden by cultivators, wove through the clouds. Their cries echoed—some like dragon roars and tiger howls, others the clear songs of Immortal Birds. This, complemented by the flashing light from the Magical Artifacts many cultivators wore, made the floating plaza truly resemble an immortal realm!

As he was observing his surroundings, a clear voice suddenly called from behind him, "Mu Shiba!"

Lin Xuankong turned to see his Young Lady, Lii Xiaolan, dressed in green with a pretty face, waving at him.

Standing beside her were two other young women about her age. They were also beautiful, though slightly less so than Lii Xiaolan, yet still far more striking than the other female cultivators present, who had arrived on Spiritual Birds and Strange Beasts!

Above the three women's heads floated a Magical Artifact shaped like a Jade Ruyi. Standing on this artifact was a woman with a graceful figure and a clear, beautiful face, clothed in a red gauzy dress. Illusory spiritual cranes flickered continuously around her—clearly manifestations of Immortal Yuan, forming all sorts of wondrous phenomena!

An Earth Immortal powerhouse? The one who came with Young Lady Lii Xiaolan must be an Earth Immortal powerhouse from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!

After a few glances, Lin Xuankong clasped his hands and smiled. "Miss Lii has arrived!"

According to Lii Xiaolan, her master, Qu Wan'Er, was extremely averse to male cultivators. In the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, even Earth Immortal powerhouses would give the eccentric Qu Wan'Er a wide berth, not daring to approach for fear of being scolded!

Therefore, for the time being, before officially joining the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and before she had mastered the Immortal Ascension Treasure Pill alchemy technique, Lii Xiaolan had asked Lin Xuankong to temporarily hide their relationship when among her sect mates. They were to act as friends, with her claiming he was merely an old acquaintance from the Great Xia Dynasty.

The moment Lii Xiaolan, her two companions, and the red-dressed female cultivator with the outstanding figure appeared, they immediately attracted the attention of many cultivators attending the auction.

After all, Lii Xiaolan and the other two young women already possessed exceptional looks and figures. Now, accompanied by a true Female Immortal, who could resist the temptation to steal a few more glances!

Lii Xiaolan, along with her two companions, quickly walked to Lin Xuankong's side. "Mu Shiba," she said, "these are two senior sisters from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect with whom I get along well. This is Qu Qingfeng, and this is Qu Qingling. Both are direct disciples of my martial aunt, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er!"

Lin Xuankong cupped his hands. "Mu Shiba greets the two senior sisters!"

The two white-clothed female cultivators nodded slightly, a trace of pride on their faces.

To them, having joined the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect at a young age, cultivators from a remote place like the Great Xia Dynasty were of vastly inferior status.

Lii Xiaolan was an exception, of course. She was the disciple most valued by their martial aunt, Qu Wan'Er!

"So, you are Mu Shiba?" asked the female cultivator named Qu Qingfeng. "My junior sister Lan mentioned that you have accomplished quite a bit in artifact refining?"

Lin Xuankong humbly replied, "I only have a slight understanding!"

My artifact refining skills, thanks to the various insights from 'Fake Lady' Xiao Xiuyi, have already reached the level where I can refine Immortal Artifacts. It's just that I've been busy with cultivation, and the rest of my time is spent constantly consuming various medicinal herbs to supplement my Qi and Blood, leaving no time for artifact refining!

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Still, why should he tell anyone else about this!

Qu Qingfeng nodded slightly. "My master specializes in Artifact Refining. My junior sister Qu Qingling and I have followed him for many years, delving deep into Artifact Refining, and we're quite interested in this path. I'm curious, Mr. Mu, what Treasures have you refined? Have you personally refined any Magical Artifacts of a certain Grade?"

Next to her, Qu Qingling, as well as Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er floating in mid-air, all fixed their gazes on Lin Xuankong.

Seeing her question, Lin Xuankong couldn't help but show a slight hint of embarrassment. My skill in Artifact Refining is undoubtedly excellent, but personally refining Magical Artifacts? Forget Magical Artifacts, I haven't even refined Battle Armor. My time is usually spent either on Cultivation or eating; where would I find so much time? With Xiao Xiuyi, that 'skilled worker,' around, why would I ever need to lift a finger!

"Oh, I mostly focus on theoretical research. As for actual refining... there hasn't been much!" Lin Xuankong said.

Upon hearing this, Qu Qingfeng's pretty face froze slightly. Then, she shook her head, losing interest in conversing with Lin Xuankong.

Beside her, Qu Qingling, and Qu Qiao'Er flying in mid-air, also showed a change in expression, no longer having any interest in looking at Lin Xuankong.

Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er furrowed her brows slightly and spoke, "Lan, since he is your friend, bring him to our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's private box! Qingfeng, Qingling, stop wasting time chatting idly with him. Let's head into the auction hall. It's probably about to start. This time, Sister Wan'Er wants me to help her auction three kinds of Spirit Grass for Immortal Ascension Treasure Pills. We absolutely cannot miss it!"

Seeing the expressions of the three, Lin Xuankong felt somewhat bitter. These Female Cultivators from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, including that Earth Immortal, Spiritual Crane Fairy, are so pragmatic. They turned cold to this extent the moment they heard I hadn't refined any Magical Artifacts. If I hadn't claimed to be Lii Xiaolan's 'fellow townsman,' they probably would have stormed off on the spot...

Beside him, Lii Xiaolan saw Lin Xuankong being ignored by the three and furrowed her brows slightly. However, as she was accompanied by her martial aunt, who was at the Third-Grade Earth Immortal Realm like Qu Wan'Er, she couldn't act out, though her expression had already turned cold. If it weren't for her usually decent relationship with these two senior sisters and Qu Qiao'Er, knowing her temper of always protecting her husband, she probably would have sent them flying with a slap each by now!

At this moment, a man's voice suddenly sounded from not far away, "Oh, it's Spiritual Crane Fairy. Duan River greets you!"

The group turned to look and saw a white cloud floating towards them, upon which stood two Male Cultivators.

One of them was Chang Li, the Second Prince of the Xianluo Dynasty, whom they had seen outside the Fuyuan Immortal Inn before, a man possessing a unique bloodline. Currently, a small Earth Dragon Demon was coiled around his right wrist.

The petite Earth Dragon, about the thickness of an index finger, continuously emitted powerful waves, forming large amounts of gem-like Immortal Yuan Fluctuations around it and Chang Li. This was clearly the Initial Tier Demon King Realm Terrain Dragon that Second Prince Chang Li had been stepping on previously.

When a Demon enters the Initial Tier Demon King Realm, it becomes akin to an Initial Tier Earth Immortal. Not only can it easily transform to be thousands of zhang in size, but it can also shrink to the size of fine dust with a single thought! Transforming into a creature as thin as a finger was an exceedingly simple matter for it now. If it wished, it could likely turn into a speck of dust at any moment, even drifting into a human's nostrils and lungs to attack them from within...

The Earth Immortal Realm signifies a Human Race member Transcending Mortality and Becoming Immortal; similarly, the Demon King Realm signifies a Demon Transcending Mortality and Becoming Immortal. Their possessed strength and methods of attack become incredibly varied, far beyond what Low-Tier Demons can compare to!

Moreover, unlike human Cultivators, Demon Kings often possess naturally enormous bodies, which become even more terrifying when they enlarge themselves. Some Demons, in their original form, can reach several hundred zhang in length. For example, this type of Earth Dragon, at Tier Nine, already has a body over two hundred zhang long. Upon becoming an Initial Tier Demon King, once it activates its Demon Body, it can directly transform into a ten-thousand-zhang Earth Dragon.

Its destructive power during an attack is terrifying. It's said that when it rolls over, the land can collapse, easily destroying a small country. This can trigger violent tremors across thousands of miles, bringing horrifying disasters. Generally, only the unique rock formations deep within Boundaryless Mountain can withstand the rampage of such a Demon!

At this moment, even though this Initial Tier Demon King Level Earth Dragon had transformed into such a miniature, harmless-looking dragon, the Immortal Yuan Fluctuations it emitted still caused the surrounding Cultivators' expressions to change slightly. They quickly made way, not daring to approach the two men. The various Spiritual Birds and Exotic Beasts ridden by these Cultivators were so intimidated by the Earth Dragon's Immortal Yuan Fluctuations that they tucked their tails and dared not make another sound! Spiritual Birds and Exotic Beasts, unlike human Cultivators, possess a Demon's keen senses, making them more easily suppressed and influenced by the bloodlines and strength of powerful Demons and Cultivators!

Of course, it wasn't just Chang Li's Earth Dragon that made these Cultivators and their spiritual creatures extremely wary!

The tall, dark-skinned Cultivator beside Chang Li also had his body emit powerful Immortal Yuan Fluctuations. These fluctuations continuously formed illusory flame clusters of various shapes and

colors, rapidly rotating around him! This was clearly a Cultivator who practiced Fire Attribute Immortal Techniques.

And, unlike Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er's rather restrained Immortal Yuan Fluctuations, this Cultivator was clearly quite ostentatious. The Immortal Yuan Fluctuations emanating from his body were extremely intense. Even from over a hundred feet away, Lin Xuankong, at the Ninth-Layer Perfection Realm, could still clearly sense the oppressive feeling and threat from those Fire-Attribute phenomena and fluctuations!

He's not an Initial Tier Earth Immortal, and definitely not a Mid-First Grade Earth Immortal like Galo Bodhisattva. He must be at least a Second-Grade Earth Immortal!

Lin Xuankong secretly activated the Eighth Celestial Eye to look, and his expression couldn't help but shift.

[Fire Bloodline Duan River: Remaining Lifespan 1,926 years and 97 days

Earth Immortal Third-Grade Late Stage, Immortal Yuan Amount 2,989/3,000

Path of Fire Comprehension Spirit Level, Cloud Qi Technique Comprehension Spirit Level, Cultivation Comprehension Upper Grade Low

State: Excellent]

This Cultivator practicing Fire Attribute Immortal Techniques was indeed a powerful Earth Immortal of the Third-Grade Late Stage!

Lin Xuankong had slyly checked Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er's information earlier; her attributes were:

[Spiritual Radiance Bloodline Qu Qiao'Er: Remaining Lifespan 2,127 years and 81 days

Earth Immortal Third-Grade Mid-stage, Immortal Yuan Amount 2,699/3,000

Path of Thunder Comprehension Spirit Level, Artifact Refining Technique Comprehension Spirit Level, Cultivation Comprehension Upper Grade Middle

State: Excellent]

Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er herself was an Earth Immortal at the Third-Grade Mid-stage, already ranking as the second most powerful Earth Immortal Lin Xuankong had ever encountered, only two grades weaker than Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia. Yet this Duan River was at the Earth Immortal Third-Grade Late-stage, even stronger than Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er!

Moreover, this Duan River, an Earth Immortal at the Third-Grade Late Stage, arrived with Second Prince Chang Li of the Xianluo Dynasty. Their relationship is clearly good. And that fellow Chang Li has repeatedly harassed my Third Lady Xiaoo Ying'Er...

As Lin Xuankong was thinking this, Chang Li glanced at Lin Xuankong, a trace of coldness in his eyes.

Just days ago, this bastard made me lose significant face in front of tens of thousands of cultivators outside the Fuyuan Immortal Inn! Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er repeatedly rejected me, refusing even to meet me, yet she alone invited this fellow into the Fuyuan Immortal Inn! Who knows how many cultivators are now secretly gossiping that I, Chang Li, am inadequate, far inferior to this Mu Shiba! I was just pondering how to deal with him recently, how to regain my standing before a large crowd of cultivators. And now, what luck, I've run into him at the auction. Perfect... Before I kill him, I'll first find a way to thoroughly humiliate him at this auction and vent this bitter resentment!

While Lin Xuankong and Chang Li were each lost in their own thoughts, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er carefully sensed Duan River's Immortal Yuan Fluctuations. A look of astonishment appeared in her beautiful eyes, followed by a touch of respect on her face.

Chapter 423: The Prestige of Flaming Blade Duan River, Powerful Spirit Talisman

Spiritual Crane Fairy, who continued to emit various small spiritual crane illusions, slightly cupped her hands and said, "I never expected the esteemed Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Sect, Flaming Blade Duan River, to come to our Spiritual Crane Immortal City. As the host of this auction, Qu Qiao'Er was unaware of Brother Duan's visit and did not greet you from afar. I hope Brother Duan does not take offense! I never imagined that in just eighty years, Brother Duan had already advanced to the Late Stage

of Earth Immortal Third Grade. This astonishing Cultivation Speed truly surprises and makes Qu Qiao'Er envious!"

Duan River, surrounded by flames, hid a trace of passion in his eyes. He glanced at the alluring figure of Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er, then revealed a calm expression and cupped his hands, saying, "Fairy Qu is too modest! Duan He only managed to advance from the Mid-Grade to Late Stage of Earth Immortal Third Grade after an eighty-year seclusion. It was merely a stroke of luck! However, Fairy Qu initially took just over six hundred years to cultivate from an Initial Tier Earth Immortal to Third-Grade Earth Immortal. This Cultivation Speed ranks among the top ten in the entire Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, and even the whole Central Divine Dynasty's Western Region!"

Upon hearing this, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er couldn't help but show a smile. If it were an ordinary Cultivator praising her, this fairy who had cultivated for nearly seven or eight hundred years wouldn't be much pleased. But the other party was the Vice Sect Leader of one of the thirty-two Immortal Sects of the Central Divine Dynasty's Western Region, the Fire Spirit Sect. Furthermore, Duan River was a veteran Earth Immortal, already at the Late Stage of Earth Immortal Third Grade. Receiving praise from such a person was naturally a cause for joy!

"I wonder what treasures Brother Duan plans to auction at this event in Spiritual Crane Immortal City?" Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er asked with a smile.

At this moment, the expression of this Third-Grade Earth Immortal Fairy was evidently much friendlier and kinder than the disdainful look she showed toward Lin Xuankong earlier!

Lin Xuankong didn't mind this. In this Cultivation World where martial strength was paramount, the strong were naturally respected by everyone, while the weak were ignored! His current strength, in the eyes of outsiders, was nothing more than that of an unremarkable Ninth-Layer Perfection Cultivator. It was entirely normal for these Earth Immortals to look down on him. It wasn't that Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er was purposely targeting or looking down on him! Hmm, any Earth Immortal Powerhouse would probably act the same in front of any Transcendence Cultivator!

Standing beside Lin Xuankong, Lii Xiaolan couldn't help but furrow her brows slightly. She looked at Lin Xuankong with some guilt, evidently feeling distressed because her husband was being neglected.

Lin Xuankong smiled and shook his head at Lii Xiaolan, indicating for her not to mind.

Seeing Spiritual Crane Fairy so friendly and kind, Duan River couldn't help but laugh. "I'm here mainly to help my junior nephew Chang Li acquire some Demon Pearls. Although he hasn't officially joined my Fire Spirit Sect, he has been cultivating under one of my junior brothers for years and is the most talented disciple under my junior brother, having cultivated from Transcendence First Layer to Ninth-Layer Perfection in just twelve years! This time, Chang Li plans to join Fairy Qu's Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect... But with the intense competition among the disciples of various Immortal Sects, I need to make some preparations for him!"

Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er nodded slightly, looking at Chang Li with admiration, and said, "I have indeed heard of him. It is said that among the forty thousand Tier Nine Cultivators in the initial assessment, he ranked in the top three! Those forty thousand Tier Nine Cultivators are all top geniuses among billions. Ranking in the top three among so many genius Cultivators demonstrates that his Talent is naturally far superior to others. He is a truly unmatched genius among billions! Yes, truly a man worthy of his reputation. Not only is his Talent far superior, but he is also exceptionally handsome!"

"Fairy flatters me," Chang Li smiled and slightly cupped his hands towards Spiritual Crane Fairy. "I often hear my senior uncle mention Fairy. Fairy also took only twelve years to cultivate from Transcendence First Layer to Ninth Layer. Such Talent is far superior to mine!"

Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er's two female disciples, Qu Qingling and Qu Qingfeng, glanced at this refined and graceful Chang Li with admiration in their eyes. As female disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, they were naturally very informed about the initial assessment situation some time ago and had long heard of this unmatched genius among billions! Although their Talents were also quite impressive, they were still far behind Chang Li!

Lii Xiaolan felt a bit suffocated at hearing this. Humph, taking twelve years to cultivate from Transcendence First Layer to Ninth-Layer Perfection... My husband, despite all sorts of medicinal shortages, still took just over three years to cultivate from a near-death state to Transcendence First Layer, then rapidly advanced to Ninth-Layer Perfection! Twelve years compared to three years—that's a huge difference! If my husband weren't so low-key, he would reveal his true talents right now and astonish everyone, including my senior aunt, those two senior sisters, and this Chang Li along with that little Flame fellow, making their jaws drop in amazement! Humph!

However, at this moment, Lii Xiaolan still didn't know that Lin Xuankong's Vigorous in Old Age Life Plate allowed his Cultivation Speed to continuously improve with his increasing age. At sixty, he could increase his speed sixty times! When he reached seventy, eighty, ninety, or even a thousand years old, the Cultivation Speed of so-called unmatched geniuses like Chang Li and Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er wouldn't even come close to Lin Xuankong's!

Spiritual Crane Fairy's female disciple Qu Qingfeng, pretending to be curious at this moment, interjected:

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"Senior Brother Chang Li, we've long heard of your great name! However, we've heard that you have an Initial Tier Demon King as an Exotic Beast, possess an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, and have the Celestial Demon Technique from a Tier Three Celestial Demon Bone. Why would you still need to purchase Demon Pearls? The demons that Demon Pearls can transform into, at most, reach the Ninth-Layer Perfection Realm. They're not very useful in the Earth Immortal Realm!"

This Qu Qingfeng clearly had a favorable impression of Chang Li and used this opportunity to strike up a conversation and get acquainted.

Upon hearing this, Chang Li slightly cupped his hands and said, "This must be Senior Sister Qingfeng. I've heard Elder Duan mention you, praising your great talent. It's truly an honor to meet you here. If I can join the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect in the future, I hope Senior Sister will look out for me! As for why I need to purchase Demon Pearls... Actually, Elder Duan plans to buy a few hundred Demon Pearls and ask the Artifact Refining Master from the Fire Spirit Sect to refine dozens of Tier Nine Magical Artifacts for me. This way, my chances of winning the disciple recruitment ceremony might increase slightly!"

"I see! There are indeed several immortal sects putting up a large number of Demon Pearls for auction, estimated to be around seven or eight hundred. With Elder Duan's renown, no one should compete too fiercely for these Demon Pearls. Senior Brother Chang, you'll surely get what you desire!" Qu Qingfeng said with a smile.

Hearing this, Lin Xuankong couldn't help but frown. His main reason for coming to this auction was to bid on those three types of Spirit Grass. Besides that, he also planned to bid for a hundred Dharma-tier Gui Ling Elixirs and buy three to five hundred Demon Pearls. Over the past three days, Lan had helped him sell quite a few herbs from the Ba Mountain Secret Realm. However, due to the short time, he had only managed to acquire just over five hundred Demon Pearls. Consequently, Miss Xiao had only been able to refine around twenty Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts for him. To form an Immortal Capturing Array capable of resisting Fourth-Grade and even withstanding Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal attacks, he still needed at least four to five hundred more Demon Pearls. And now, this Chang Li had emerged, also intending to purchase a large number of Demon Pearls! He was planning to use these Demon Pearls to find some Artifact Refining Master to refine dozens of Tier Nine Magical Artifacts. What a waste! Using Demon Pearls not to refine Immortal Artifacts but to refine Magical Artifacts instead? TSK TSK! The key issue was that with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's disciple recruitment ceremony imminent, many cultivators would likely be looking to refine a large number of Magical Artifacts in a short time. The

competition this time would be immense! Who knew if the Dharma-tier Gui Ling Elixirs would auction for enough Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade to compete with those cultivators, to compete with this Chang Li and Duan River!

While Lin Xuankong was still hesitant, Spiritual Crane Fairy and the others finished their chat and headed inside the auction hall.

After entering the auction hall, as Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, Spiritual Crane Fairy and her party naturally had the best private box, located in the first row.

Thanks to the young lady, Lii Xiaolan, Lin Xuankong found himself seated in a first-row private box for the first time at an auction attended by thousands of powerful cultivators.

What slightly annoyed him was that Flaming Blade Duan River and that Chang Li, after some feigned politeness, also took seats in the same private box!

After everyone was seated, the auction had yet to officially begin, but the entire venue was abuzz with activity.

The excitement was, of course, because this auction had drawn two Third-Grade Earth Immortals. Even for auctions held by the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, attendees were usually limited to Immortal Sect disciples, various dynasty princes, and emperors; Earth Immortal Realm powerhouses attended such auctions rather infrequently. Earth Immortals of Third Grade or higher usually required extremely rare Thousand-Year Spirit Grass and Ten-Thousand-Year Spirit Medicine. Such treasures were exceedingly rare even at Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect auctions and were typically traded in small, internal gatherings among Earth Immortals rather than in large, public auctions. Moreover, Mid-to-High-grade Earth Immortals usually spent their time cultivating, in seclusion, or enjoying their Immortal Cave Mansions, and rarely participated in auctions with juniors and minor figures.

Therefore, the presence of two Third-Grade Earth Immortals at this auction in Spiritual Crane Immortal City immediately drew the attention of numerous Tier Nine cultivators, as well as Initial Tier and First-Grade Earth Immortals. All those Tier Nine cultivators and Initial and First-Grade Earth Immortals who could leverage any connection rushed to the private box of Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er to greet her, and especially Vice Sect Leader Duan River, who was already late-stage Third-Grade.

Among them, over a dozen Initial Tier Earth Immortals, upon learning that Duan River was there to buy Demon Pearls for Chang Li, generously gifted Chang Li dozens of Demon Pearls as a token of goodwill. While Demon Pearls are still considered precious by cultivators of the Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Layers, they are trivially easy for Initial Tier Earth Immortals to acquire. After all, all Initial Tier Earth Immortals have obtained Celestial Demon Bones. Even those who didn't acquire any before becoming Immortals could easily get them afterward. Furthermore, these Initial Tier Earth Immortals typically possess Tier Two or Tier Three Celestial Demon Bones. In their Celestial Demon Bone Secret Realms, raising hundreds of thousands or even millions of Low-Tier Demons for harvesting was not difficult, making dozens or hundreds of Demon Pearls easily obtainable.

Consequently, before the auction even started, Chang Li had already received a whopping two hundred Demon Pearls!

This sight from the corner of the private box made Lin Xuankong sigh inwardly. Becoming an Immortal, especially a High-grade Immortal, truly made obtaining resources quite easy! Before the auction had even started, many cultivators had already gifted a large number of Demon Pearls! Moreover, this Duan River was merely a late-stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal, not even comparable to a late-stage Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal like Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia. One wondered what would happen if one cultivated to the late-stage Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal realm. What would be the effect? Would casually opening one's mouth result in thousands or tens of thousands of Demon Pearls being gifted? The benefits of great strength were indeed numerous!

This thought made Lin Xuankong even more eager to acquire enough Demon Pearls and the three types of Spirit Grass at this auction.

Next to Lin Xuankong, Lii Xiaolan pouted, feeling frustrated. She wasn't jealous of Chang Li acquiring two hundred Demon Pearls so effortlessly. With the Buddhist Spiritual Liquid from the Plant Spirit Bottle supporting her, she could easily refine hundreds or even thousands more Dharma-tier Gui Ling Elixirs. With progress in her Alchemy Technique, she could even refine Immortal-Grade Gui Ling Elixirs! With such resources, obtaining a few hundred Demon Pearls would be very easy for her. Her frustration stemmed from seeing her proudest and most admired husband ignored and sidelined, not even receiving a direct glance! Moreover, Senior Sister Qu Qingfeng and Senior Sister Qu Qingling, with whom she had a good relationship, were now all gathered around Chang Li, ignoring not only her husband but her, their junior sister, as well!

Just then, Qu Qingfeng, sitting beside Chang Li, suddenly said sweetly, "Senior Brother Chang, look! The auction is about to begin!"

Upon hearing this, Lin Xuankong looked towards the central stage. He saw an Initial Tier Female Earth Immortal from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, dressed in splendid attire, walk onto it. As she swept her gaze over the hall, the previously chaotic venue fell silent instantly.

The Female Earth Immortal smiled and spoke, "Everyone, the first auction item comes from a Talisman Master of the Seven Profound Immortal Sect. These are Immortal Tier, late-stage First-Grade Spirit Talismans. There are a total of thirty-six of them.

Each of these Spirit Talismans is inscribed with the Immortal Technique of a First-Grade Earth Immortal. When activated with Immortal Yuan, the resulting power is equivalent to a full-powered strike from a late-stage First-Grade Earth Immortal. If a First-Grade Earth Immortal is hit, they must exert their full effort to avoid injury. If an Initial Tier Earth Immortal is hit, they would suffer serious harm!

The best part is that these Immortal Tier, late-stage First-Grade Spirit Talismans can be activated with True Qi, meaning that cultivators at the Seventh, Eighth, and even Ninth Layers of the Transcendence Realm can all use them!

Owning such Spirit Talismans is like having a late-stage First-Grade Earth Immortal by your side at all times! Bringing such Spirit Talismans to our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's disciple recruitment ceremony would easily allow the user to defeat their opponents!"

Having spoken, she confidently looked at each private box in the large hall with a smile on her face.

Indeed, just as she expected, once she explained the uses of these Spirit Talismans, the entire hall's atmosphere was immediately stirred up. Immortal Tier, late-stage First-Grade Spirit Talismans, and a full thirty-six of them! Such treasures were incredibly desirable for cultivators who had not yet reached the Earth Immortal Realm.

Chapter 425: Extremely Low Celestial Vein Probability, Mysterious Bidder

At this moment, inside the private room of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, everyone fell silent. Both the Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal Flaming Blade Duan River and Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er stared intently at the thirty-six Spirit Talismans on the auction platform.

For Third-Grade Earth Immortals like them, Spirit Talismans like these, capable of unleashing the attack power of a Late-Stage First-Grade Earth Immortal, weren't particularly essential treasures. After all, a casual strike from either Flaming Blade Duan River or Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er was far more

devastating than the power these Spirit Talismans held! However, while these talismans were not crucial for them, they were extremely important for their disciples!

Flaming Blade Duan River looked at Second Prince Chang Li beside him and said, "Late-Grade One Spirit Talismans, and a full thirty-six of them! It's almost equivalent to a First-Grade Earth Immortal providing their full support, fighting alongside you! If you obtain these thirty-six Spirit Talismans, then during the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's disciple recruitment ceremony, even if you face those genius disciples from other Immortal Sects, you'll stand a great chance of getting into the top twenty-one!"

Chang Li, who had previously maintained a refined and courteous demeanor, now had a look of excitement on his face as he stared straight at those thirty-six Spirit Talismans. "My Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, combined with the full-force strike of this Initial Tier Demon King in my possession, is nowhere near the attack power of a First-Grade Earth Immortal! Even obtaining a single one of these Spirit Talismans could be a decisive weapon in a closely-matched battle! These Spirit Talismans are extremely precious. Only the Immortal Talisman Masters of the Divine Talisman Immortal Sect in the central region of the Central Divine Dynasty are likely capable of refining them, and the price will probably be exorbitant!"

Flaming Blade Duan River smiled confidently. "With your Senior Uncle here, why worry about the price? When the bidding starts, give it your all!" Saying this, he glanced at other positions in the auction hall. "If someone bids aggressively, I'll personally bid for you. As long as it's not those disciples from the strongest Immortal Sects, no one should dare to disrespect me, Flame Saber!"

A touched expression appeared on Chang Li's face. He bowed respectfully and said, "Senior Uncle, with such help, if I, Chang Li, can truly rely on these Spirit Talismans to defeat the disciples from other Immortal Sects, obtain a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, and achieve future success, I will surely dedicate myself to serving you faithfully!"

Hearing this, Qu Qingfeng and Qu Qingling, who were nearby, both looked towards Chang Li, their eyes glinting. A pang of envy rose in both their hearts. Although they were both disciples of Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er and even hailed from the same Cultivation Clan as her, under normal circumstances, the ever-proud Spiritual Crane Fairy would never spend such a fortune to bid on such exceedingly powerful and precious Spirit Talismans for them!

Qu Qingfeng couldn't help but speak up, "Senior Brother Chang's talent far surpasses other cultivators. If he obtains these Spirit Talismans, it would be like adding wings to a tiger. He will surely excel in the disciple recruitment ceremony! If that happens, we'll be fellow disciples. Qingfeng congratulates Senior Brother Chang in advance! Moreover, after obtaining a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, there's a

considerable chance to rely on that Sixth Spiritual Object to condense the Sixth Celestial Vein and, in the future, achieve the supreme Immortal Path with a Six Paths Golden Core! I've read in our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's records that around two to three hundred thousand years ago, during the Ancient Times, all those cultivators who achieved the status of Strongest used Six Paths Golden Cores to enter the Celestial Immortal Realm!"

Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er, standing beside them, nodded slightly. "Qingfeng Disciple is right. Although the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has a legacy spanning tens of thousands of years, its earliest inheritance came from a powerful sect called the Pine Immortal Sect, of which our sect is a branch. According to sect records, when the Pine Immortal Sect was at its peak, it had three individuals who entered the Celestial Immortal Realm and achieved immortal and undying status! All three of those Celestial Immortals used Six Paths Golden Cores when they stepped into the Earth Immortal Realm. Therefore, the Six Paths Golden Core is absolutely crucial for achieving the Celestial Immortal Realm; it is the key to reaching that realm!"

Hearing this, Lin Xuankong couldn't help but whisper to Lii Xiaolan, "Is the Six Paths Golden Core really that important? Why don't those Earth Immortals from the Immortal Sects keep them for themselves?"

Before Lii Xiaolan could respond, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er glanced at him and shook her head. "Mr. Mu makes it sound so easy. That is the Celestial Immortal Realm! Not to mention the Celestial Immortal Realm, even reaching the Sixth Grade, Seventh Grade, Eighth Grade, and Ninth Grade among High-Grade Earth Immortals—how many can achieve that? The Sect Leader of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has only cultivated to the Late-Stage Fifth Grade! Additionally, our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has countless talented disciples, but to date, only about thirty senior and junior brothers have entered the Earth Immortal Realm.

"Becoming even an Initial Tier Earth Immortal is already extremely difficult, and the Celestial Tribulations during later advancements are terrifyingly perilous. How many cultivators can continue their cultivation all the way to a High Grade? I have cultivated to become a Third-Grade Earth Immortal, and reaching this stage was already a life-and-death ordeal. Although the Six Paths Golden Core can slightly increase the chances of advancement, it is, after all, just a probability—not a one hundred percent guarantee of helping a cultivator withstand the Celestial Tribulation! How many Earth Immortals who have entered the Third or Fourth Grade Realm are willing to abandon hundreds or even thousands of years of cultivation? In the Immortal Sect, those who forcefully abandon their cultivation, shattering their Golden Cores and willingly falling to the Ninth-Layer Realm, are all junior disciples at the Initial Tier Earth Immortal and First-Grade Earth Immortal stages!"

At this point, she furrowed her brows and said, "Moreover, the success rate for the Condensation of a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object is only one percent! An extremely low probability of just one

percent! This time, although our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect obtained over twenty Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects and plans to recruit twenty-one genius disciples, in the end, it's likely that not even a single one will successfully condense the Sixth Celestial Vein using them!"

Chapter 426: Extremely Low Celestial Vein Probability, Mysterious Bidder_2

Lin Xuankong fell silent upon hearing this. With my Vigorous in Old Age Life Plate, I can amplify the effects of medicines and spiritual objects by sixty times, he thought to himself. Back when I was at the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Layers of Transcendence, I only used a spiritual object with a one percent chance to condense my Spirit Vein! This time, if I can obtain a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, my chances to condense the Sixth Celestial Vein should be extremely high!

Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er had no idea what Lin Xuankong was thinking at the moment. Seeing him remain silent, she shook her head slightly and looked at the auction stage.

Qu Qingfeng and Qu Qingling also shook their heads continuously. Qu Qingfeng leaned close to Lii Xiaolan and whispered, "Junior Sister Lii Xiaolan, your compatriot from the Great Xia Dynasty, his tone is rather bold, wouldn't you say? Does he think ascending to Earth Immortal is easy? Does he think advancing further in the Earth Immortal Realm is so easy, and that the Celestial Tribulation is child's play? What Earth Immortal would give up hundreds of years of cultivation to pursue a one percent chance?! Haha, the funniest part is, he seems to think he'll eventually get a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object. Even Senior Brother Chang has to prepare meticulously for such a thing!"

Lii Xiaolan frowned and was about to speak, but Lin Xuankong shook his head slightly. It's enough that I know my own talent and abilities; why should others know? he thought.

Seeing Lin Xuankong shake his head at her, Lii Xiaolan suppressed her rising temper, gave a light humph, and turned her head away, ignoring Qu Qingfeng.

Qu Qingfeng was a bit surprised by this, his mind puzzled as he glanced at Lii Xiaolan and Lin Xuankong. Hmm? Something seems off... Senior Sister Lii Xiaolan, who's usually so gentle, is actually getting snippy with me just for a compatriot from the Great Xia Dynasty? This isn't right. Their relationship...

Nearby, Chang Li, hearing their conversation, showed a hint of anticipation. He naturally knew that the likelihood of condensing a Sixth Celestial Vein with a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object was extremely low, but what of the one percent chance? It's worth striving for! What if I manage to condense the Celestial Vein? What if I achieve the Six Paths Golden Core?

While everyone's minds were racing, the auction outside had already begun.

Lin Xuankong now possessed over twenty Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, already capable of arranging an Immortal Capturing Array with half its total power. Such an Immortal Capturing Array could unleash a power comparable to a Middle and Late Stage Third Grade Earth Immortal, only slightly inferior to the Cyan Nether Immortal Sword! As for those thirty-six Spirit Talismans of Late-Grade One Earth Immortal power, Lin Xuankong was not particularly interested. Of course, if the auction price wasn't too outrageous, purchasing them as a backup would be good.

Watching the auction commence outside, Lin Xuankong listened carefully.

A chorus of bidding voices echoed in the hall.

"Four hundred eighty pieces of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade!"

"Six hundred pieces of Profound Truth Jade!"

"Six hundred fifty pieces of Profound Truth Jade!"

The voices rose and fell. These powerful Spirit Talismans weren't much to Middle-High Grade Earth Immortals. However, most of the people gathered in the Immortal Sect's auction hall at this time were Ninth-Layer Perfection cultivators from various places, all here for the disciple recruitment ceremony. Additionally, there were some Initial Tier and First Grade Earth Immortals who had come with friends and family. Naturally, they were all desperate to get their hands on these Spirit Talismans immediately!

In the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's private room, Chang Li, after calling the price twice, shook his head slightly. He looked at Flame Saber Duan River. "Uncle Master, with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's disciple recruitment ceremony approaching, these cultivators are determined to get these thirty-six Spirit Talismans! If we continue bidding, the price could reach a thousand pieces of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade. In that case, this nephew won't have enough Profound Truth Jade to buy the Demon Pearl!"

Flame Saber Duan River nodded slightly, his gaze sharpened, and his Immortal Yuan circulated within, causing the illusory flames surrounding him to become more distinct. His voice then resonated from the

private room, reaching every cultivator in the massive auction hall that spanned thousands of feet, "I, Flame Saber Duan River, offer seven hundred twenty pieces of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade! These Spirit Talismans are from the Divine Talisman Immortal Sect, and their value is significant; they should be quite important to all of you as well. If anyone wants them, feel free to bid higher. Don't worry about who I am!"

Lin Xuankong's mouth twitched upon hearing this. This Flame Saber Duan River, how shameless! he cursed inwardly. Claiming others can freely bid but still flaunting his name? Such hypocrisy! The price of these Spirit Talismans has already reached seven hundred twenty pieces of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade, which is too high! For someone like me, who possesses a Third Grade Cyan Nether Immortal Sword and an Immortal Capturing Array formed from over twenty Initial Tier Immortal Swords, it's just not worth it! Besides, after acquiring enough Demon Pearls today, I'll have Miss Xiao refine more Initial Tier Immortal Swords. Then, I can nurture those Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts and send them to the Young Lady, Ying'Er, and Little Hu. With three to five each to form small Immortal Capturing Arrays for self-defense, they'll be much better than these single-use, Late-Grade One Spirit Talismans! Such a high price... not worth considering for now!

While Lin Xuankong pondered, the bidding outside momentarily paused. Many cultivators were whispering, casting respectful glances towards the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's private room.

Chapter 427: Extremely Low Celestial Vein Probability, Mysterious Bidder_3

It was clear that the name of Flaming Blade Duan River was still known by many within the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, where Spiritual Crane Immortal City was located.

However, several breaths later, before the auction host could start the countdown, a gentle female voice rang out, "I offer seven hundred and fifty Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jades!"

Immediately after this voice sounded, the discussions throughout the entire venue became even more pronounced. Cultivators everywhere were asking their companions who exactly was making the bid. The voice originated from a private booth in a secluded corner. Moreover, the booths at the Immortal Sect auction were crafted from special materials, making it impossible for anyone to discern who was inside making the bid.

Inside the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's booth, Qu Qingfeng and Qu Qingling's faces both changed slightly upon hearing the bidding. They immediately called in an Eighth-Layer Immortal Servant from the door.

According to what Lii Xiaolan had told Lin Xuankong, these Eighth-Layer and Ninth-Layer Immortal Servants of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were all relatives and friends of the sect's disciples. Because their talent was not good enough to join the sect, yet they wanted to obtain some special resources from the sect and occasional guidance from the sect's Immortal Masters, they voluntarily became Immortal Servants. They were roughly considered a kind of outer disciple for the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and other Immortal Sects.

When Lin Xuankong first heard this, he had felt quite emotional. Eighth-Layer and Ninth-Layer cultivators, in a place like the Great Xia Dynasty, were at least top figures of the Dynasty, or top figures who founded their own sects. Even if they were in a state, they were powerful cultivators millions of others had to look up to! Yet, to obtain some resources from the Immortal Sect and occasional guidance from its disciples, these slightly less talented cultivators were willing to become others' slaves!

However, how poor in talent could cultivators who managed to reach the Eighth-Layer or Ninth-Layer of the Transcendence Realm truly be? It was just that in a place like Spiritual Crane Immortal City, these individuals—despite being comparable to figures like King Qi, King Yu, the Grand Elders of the Profound Phoenix Celestial Sect, and the Grand Elders of the Holy Dragon Association from the Great Xia Dynasty—were still far less talented than other prodigies.

In fact, the cultivators around him, including Second Lady Zhao Yufei and Li Xiaohu, might have found it difficult to achieve their current accomplishments without him. The difficulty of cultivation, for ordinary cultivators, is truly as hard as ascending to the heavens! For the sake of cultivation, many die competing for resources, many die competing for cultivation techniques, many die competing for Celestial Demon Bones, and many even abandon their dignity. But how many can achieve the status of Earth Immortal and become powerful cultivators with a lifespan of eight thousand years, nearly immortal...

Hmm, if I also took in some Immortal Servants and had them all recognize me as their foster father, I could certainly save many people from their uncertain path of cultivation! At the very least, for these cultivators willing to become slaves to pursue the path of cultivation, becoming my foster sons would genuinely be a great advantage for them!

At this time, Qu Qingfeng called in the Immortal Servant and said in a low voice, "Who exactly is in that booth? She clearly knows someone is bidding from our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's booth, and she clearly knows Flame Saber Sect Leader Duan is bidding, yet she still dares to outbid us?"

Lii Xiaolan also couldn't help but whisper curiously, "Could it be a disciple or a female Earth Immortal from another Immortal Sect?"

Chang Li's face, on the other hand, showed a slight grimness.

Chapter 428: The Dharma Tier Treasure Elixir That Stunned Everyone

For Chang Li, these thirty-six Spirit Talismans were crucial for the success of his disciple recruitment ceremony. These thirty-six Spirit Talismans were even more important than the dozens of Magical Artifacts he originally planned to acquire by Refining Demon Pearls. After all, even a Tier Nine Spiritual Artifact, in terms of power, could not compare to a Late-Grade One Spirit Talisman.

Flaming Blade Duan River's face was even uglier. He had clearly announced his name, yet someone still dared to compete with him. This clearly showed they were disregarding his "threat"!

"Hmph, speak! Which Immortal Sect's Female Earth Immortal or female disciple is this? I want to see who is so arrogant!" Flaming Blade Duan River's face looked grim.

Before the Immortal Servant could speak, he had already quoted another price, "Eight hundred Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade."

The Immortal Servant standing at the door looked towards Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er. The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's auction house always kept the identities of customers in private rooms confidential. This was, on one hand, out of respect for the buyers, and on the other, to ensure the safety of customers purchasing important items.

Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er frowned slightly. "I've never heard this voice before. I'm rather curious!" Her words naturally meant for the Immortal Servant to reveal the identity of the customer in that private room.

At this moment, a rather gentle female voice was heard again from outside, "Eight hundred and fifty Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade!"

Upon hearing this voice, Chang Li's face grew even colder.

Flaming Blade Duan River couldn't help but sneer. He picked up the Cloud Mist Tea on the table, sipped it, and stopped bidding.

The Immortal Servant's heart tightened. He knew that, judging by Flaming Blade Duan River's expression, the Cultivator in the other private room would likely be targeted this time. Normally, he would never disclose a customer's identity. However, since even Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er, a Mid-grade Third Grade Earth Immortal of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, had spoken, how could he dare not tell the truth?

After his face turned ashen, the Immortal Servant cupped his hands and said, "Reporting to the Fairy, the Cultivator bidding from the opposite room is a woman wearing a conical hat and a white dress. She did not register which sect or faction she belongs to, nor did she register her identity!"

Qu Qingfeng frowned. "No registration of sect? Normally, when people from other Immortal Sects come to the auction and book a private room, they would notify us and leave their sect background to avoid conflicts during bidding. Since there is no registration of a sect, it seems she is not a disciple or Earth Immortal of other Immortal Sects! But, if she is not from an Immortal Sect, how dare she compete with Flame Saber Sect Leader Duan in bidding?"

Flaming Blade Duan River sneered, "Bidding is her freedom!" His face grew colder, and a trace of killing intent appeared in his eyes. At the same time, the temperature in the private room gradually rose, and the air distorted from the Immortal Yuan Fluctuation emitted by Flaming Blade Duan River.

Lii Xiaolan couldn't help but frown, and Lin Xuankong also secretly shook his head.

This Flaming Blade Duan River is truly too overbearing! Someone competes with you twice in a bid, and you act like your wife has been snatched away! Perhaps this is the prestige of a Late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal? But other Earth Immortals I've seen, including the Late-stage Fifth Grade Wine Sword Immortal Chi Liuxia and Spiritual Crane Fairy, aren't as overbearing as this guy. Maybe it's because his Cultivation Technique is the Path of Flame, hence he's very domineering? Heh.

Moreover, I do know the woman who just placed the bid... I wonder if this Flaming Blade Duan River will dare to act against her once he knows her identity. If he plans to act, I will definitely help her no matter what!

With that in mind, Lin Xuankong secretly touched the Ghost Frog Pouch hanging on his waist. It contained a total of twenty-four Initial Tier Immortal Swords and a Third Grade Cyan Nether Immortal Sword.

With these Treasures, striking secretly to deal with this Flaming Blade Duan River shouldn't be much of a problem...

"Alright, you may leave!" Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er's face was initially quite calm, but after seeing Flaming Blade Duan River's expression, her frown deepened.

Although she had only met Duan River a few times, she had always understood the temper of this Flame Saber. After all, the Fire Spirit Sect was renowned for its domineering nature throughout the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region. Over the last few hundred years, the Fire Spirit Sect had frequently waged wars against nearby smaller Immortal Sects, plundering resources and Celestial Demon Bones. While they always found some specious reasons, making them seem slightly better than the Profound Yin Demon Sect, their methods were still quite Evil. This was also why she had previously tried to win over Flaming Blade Duan River.

Although the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was powerful, with a deeper foundation and over ten more Earth Immortals than the Fire Spirit Sect, even they were unwilling to offend a sect with such an Evil and domineering style. Normally, Earth Immortals focused on their Cultivation, enjoying the carefree life of the Immortal Family. Who would want to fight with these 'Fire Madmen' day in and day out?

After the Immortal Servant left, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er pondered for a moment, then spoke, "I initially wanted to help Brother Duan ascertain the identity of this Female Cultivator. Unfortunately, she has concealed her identity so well that we cannot forcibly investigate. Doing so would tarnish the reputation of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect."

Flaming Blade Duan River's face turned ashen as he nodded. "I am already very grateful that Fairy Qu had the Immortal Servant report the situation just now. Rest assured, Fairy Qu, whatever I, Flame Saber, intend to do to her, it will not involve the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

Chapter 429: The Dharma Tier Treasure Elixir That Stunned Everyone_2

Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er saw him say this and knew that this matter would probably not be resolved peacefully this time. She sighed quietly and tried to persuade, "Actually, they are just a few pieces of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade, Brother Duan. Why be so angry? If the amount of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade brought this time is not too much..."

Flaming Blade Duan River waved his hand, his expression growing even colder. "Fairy, you are completely wrong! Do you think I, Flaming Blade Duan River, could possibly lack a mere thousand-odd Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade? It's just that the reputation of my Flame Saber is more or less known throughout the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region! This female cultivator bidding for thirty-six Spirit Talismans must have heard of it! Since that's the case, yet she still dares to disrespect me, and in front of thousands of cultivators from various places at that, how could I, Flaming Blade Duan River, possibly swallow this insult!"

After saying that, he chanted spells continuously, and the Immortal Yuan around his body fluctuated endlessly. A few breaths later, the twenty red flame clusters on his right shoulder suddenly blurred. As his chanting continued, those twenty red flames became increasingly illusory and smaller, eventually becoming tens of times smaller than grains of sand, completely invisible to the naked eye! If it weren't for Lin Xuankong possessing the enhanced vision of the Eight Gates Celestial Eye, which could easily magnify things before him, he definitely wouldn't have been able to see those twenty minuscule flames!

In the next moment, Flaming Blade Duan River slightly raised his hand. Immediately, those tiny flames rapidly flew out of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's private box, heading towards the box of the female bidder!

"Twenty Bone-Burning Flames are flying over; at least a few of them will land on her. As long as one flame lands on her, even if she flees hundreds or thousands of miles away, she won't escape my tracking! As soon as she leaves the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's auction hall and reaches a secluded place, it will be the moment of her demise! Hmph, I want to see just how strong this person, who dares to disrespect me, Flaming Blade Duan River, really is, and if her strength matches her courage!"

After Duan River finished speaking, he looked at Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er. "Rest assured, Fairy. When I, Flame Saber, kill, it is always clean and efficient. Even the bones will be melted away instantly, causing no significant disturbance, and it won't trouble your Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

Upon hearing this, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er frowned. Though dissatisfaction showed in her eyes, she merely nodded slightly, sighed, and said, "Brother Duan, just make sure to keep it from becoming widely known. After all, this is the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's auction, and this Spiritual Crane Immortal City is also ours!"

Flaming Blade Duan River nodded slightly, the killing intent in his eyes already chilling to the extreme.

Seeing this, Lin Xuankong squinted his eyes.

Damn it! What kind of person is this! If you don't care about the thousand-odd Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade, then just keep bidding! What kind of skill is it to try and scare others by dropping your name? It's getting more and more shameless! And he speaks so audaciously, clearly thinking he's entirely in the right!

Heh, is Flaming Blade Duan River's reputation so resounding? Anyway, I've been in the Great Xia Dynasty for so many years and have never once heard of him! Besides, this so-called Bone-Burning Flame he mentioned is clearly a tracking method. A grand Third-Grade Earth Immortal's tracking method actually requires releasing twenty little flames? Are Third-Grade Earth Immortals' tracking methods so pathetic? If I were to track someone, a single, imperceptible wisp of red light could easily follow them for thousands, even tens of thousands of miles. And after achieving the Seventh Celestial Eye, I can even track multiple targets simultaneously! Tsk tsk, a Third-Grade Earth Immortal... I just wonder how powerful this fellow's Immortal Techniques are? Of course, being a Late Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal, his Immortal Techniques shouldn't be weak. Additionally, his Golden Core's power should be able to contend with a Third-Grade Cyan Nether Immortal Sword. However, if one adds the Immortal Capturing Array formed by twenty-four Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts...

Lin Xuankong pondered secretly, while Lii Xiaolan next to him frowned deeply. This young lady, who had helped the elderly Lin Xuankong back then, was naturally an extremely kind-hearted woman. Now, seeing this Flaming Blade Duan River harboring murderous intent over a simple bid, she naturally felt extreme revulsion!

Too bad I can't beat him, otherwise, I'd definitely give this guy a good thrashing! What's most irritating is that Chang Li, who is always by Flaming Blade Duan River's side, seems to be frequently harassing Sister Ying'Er at Fuyuan Immortal Inn recently. Luckily, Sister Ying'Er has always been devoted to her husband, otherwise... One takes on the attributes of one's associates. With a martial uncle like that, this outwardly refined and gentle Chang Li is no good either; he's sanctimonious and extremely hypocritical!

At this moment, the auction of the thirty-six Late-Grade One Spirit Talismans on the stage had concluded, and an Immortal Servant of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect delivered them to the private box of the female bidder.

Seeing this, Chang Li and Flaming Blade Duan River's expressions grew even more sinister. Judging by their faces, they seemed to wish they could rush out of the box and snatch those Spirit Talismans immediately!

Qu Qingfeng and Qu Qingling, who had initially been quite close to Chang Li, exchanged a glance upon seeing this. A trace of disappointment surfaced in both their eyes. They admired Chang Li's talent and strength; after all, he was a truly exceptional prodigy among forty thousand talented cultivators! But so what if one was a prodigy? Such petty-mindedness and such a venomous nature made him someone not worth associating with!

Qu Qingfeng thought to herself: Truly, a person's reputation is like a tree's shadow. I had heard that the cultivators of the Fire Spirit Sect were quite domineering and initially thought it was just a rumor. Now it seems the people of the Fire Spirit Sect are more than just domineering; they are domineering, sinister, vicious, and shameless! Luckily, my sister and I haven't gotten too deeply involved with this Chang Li!

After silently sighing, they both moved a bit closer to Lii Xiaolan.

Next, the auction continued.

However, the thirty-six Spirit Talismans, which served as the opening act, were clearly the most attractive treasures in the first half of the auction. Although the following dozen or so auction items were also good—including a set of magical artifacts designed to deal with several Ninth-Layer Perfection cultivators, a Tier One Celestial Demon Bone that auctioned for two thousand Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade, and some medicines claiming to greatly restore True Qi—none matched the initial excitement.

Basically, the various treasures and Spirit Medicines appearing in today's auction were all items that could help cultivators display greater combat strength during the disciple recruitment ceremony!

As the auction gradually entered its second half, some of the truly valuable items began to appear.

"Ladies and gentlemen, next I will introduce to you an extremely magical elixir!"

Standing on the stage, the host from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect suddenly took out an elixir, pulsating with mystical runes, from the Ghost Frog Pouch at her waist.

"As everyone knows, whether it's the Spirit Platform Buddhist Sect or our Central Divine Dynasty, elixirs that can increase lifespan are extremely rare!

"Typically, Spirit Grasses and Spirit Medicines can only increase lifespan by sixty or seventy years at most. Even the Primordial Life Water blessed by the Smiling Bodhisattva of the Spirit Platform Buddhist Sect can only extend lifespan by a maximum of seventy years per Purification Bottle!

"Moreover, these elixirs and Primordial Life Water can only be consumed eleven or twelve times—or eleven or twelve bottles—before their efficacy drastically reduces! This means that normal elixirs can usually only extend a cultivator's lifespan by seven or eight hundred years at most!

"For Transcendence Realm cultivators, an increase of seven or eight hundred years in lifespan is naturally a great boon, but such an increase in lifespan is rather mediocre for Earth Immortals!

"The elixir I've heard of that provides the greatest increase in lifespan is the Longevity Immortal Pill, refined by the Alchemy Master of the Ten Thousand Peaks Immortal Sect, the second largest Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty. It's said that one pill can increase lifespan by five hundred years!

"Unfortunately, that elixir is monopolized by the Ten Thousand Peaks Immortal Sect, and usually, to purchase one pill, it costs at least twenty thousand Profound Truth Jade!

"But now,

"Our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has a mysterious cultivator who has brought one hundred Turtle-Poria Elixirs!

"According to him, he obtained this incredibly magical elixir from an Immortal Ruins. This elixir can extend lifespan by about two hundred years, and it remains effective even after consuming thirty pills!"

As soon as the female cultivator said this, the entire auction hall fell silent.

Every cultivator's gaze fixed on the elixir in her hand.

Chapter 430: Lin Xuankong's Unexpected Gains

An elixir capable of increasing lifespan is extremely important to any cultivator. This is especially true for Tier Nine cultivators in the Transcendence realm. Although their lifespan can reach several hundred years, during that time, they might not necessarily get the chance to advance to an Initial Tier Earth Immortal and possess a lifespan of thousands of years. If their lifespan could be extended by several hundred or even a thousand more years, their chances of advancing to the Initial Tier Earth Immortal would naturally increase significantly.

Moreover, any Tier Nine cultivator, if placed in the outer dynasties, would be considered a top figure. Compared to ordinary people, they possess vast resources, enjoy exceedingly revered status, and experience pleasures entirely beyond the imagination of common folk.

Perhaps for ordinary people, living to seventy or eighty means their eyesight might dim, their hearing might fade, and they can no longer enjoy rich foods or strong drinks. They might even lack the vigor to appreciate a beauty lying beside them. But cultivators are different. Among these Tier Nine cultivators, who possess all this and more, which one would willingly let their lifespan run out and bid farewell to such extravagant enjoyments and supreme reverence?

Of course, this doesn't just apply to Tier Nine cultivators. It also includes some Initial Tier, First-Grade, and Second-Grade Earth Immortals whose lifespans, though long, eventually come to an end. The resources and enjoyments they possess are even more extravagant compared to Tier Nine cultivators, so how could they possibly be willing to give them up?

At this moment, countless cultivators in the entire auction hall were all fixated on the elixir held by the host from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Intense desire and greed flickered in almost every cultivator's eyes.

That wasn't just an elixir; that was life itself!

Soon, an Initial Tier Earth Immortal stood up and clasped his hands towards the host on the stage. "Elixirs that can extend lifespan are extremely precious and incredibly difficult to refine. I've heard that even Fairy Qu Wan'Er of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, whose Alchemy Technique is superb, has never successfully refined a lifespan-extending elixir! Is this Turtle-Poria Elixir truly so effective?"

The remarks of this Initial Tier Earth Immortal evidently put all the cultivators present on alert, and many began to whisper amongst themselves.

Immediately, another First-Grade Earth Immortal stood up, following the Initial Tier Earth Immortal. He also clasped his hands towards the host from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. "I once heard that the Spiritual Peach of the North Sea Immortal Sect can increase lifespan by sixty years, and the Primordial Life Water from Spirit Platform Buddhism, blessed by the Smiling Bodhisattva, can increase lifespan by seventy years! The Longevity Immortal Pill from the Ten Thousand Peaks Immortal Sect, the second largest immortal sect in the Central Divine Dynasty, can extend lifespan by five hundred years per pill! These Spirit Grasses, Spirit Medicines, elixirs, and Spiritual Waters have all been personally verified by countless cultivators to indeed possess lifespan-extending effects! That is why the Spiritual Peach of the North Sea Immortal Sect, the Primordial Life Water, and the Longevity Immortal Pill are all so precious! But what about the effect of this Turtle-Poria Elixir?"

The host from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, standing on the stage, smiled. She raised her hand slightly, signaling for silence, and then said, "Everyone should have heard of Jue Ying Immortal, a Late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, correct?"

The First-Grade Earth Immortal nodded slightly. "Jue Ying Immortal achieved the Earth Immortal realm ten thousand years ago. He specializes in shadow-type Immortal Techniques and once single-handedly defeated two Same-Tier Demon Kings in Boundaryless Mountain. He is renowned among the many Earth Immortals in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region for his potent Attack Techniques. Naturally, everyone has heard of him!

"And I've heard that this auction hall is under the personal supervision of Jue Ying Immortal!"

The host from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect smiled and said, "My grandmaster, Jue Ying Immortal, already has a lifespan of twelve thousand years. The lifespan limit of a Late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal is actually only about ten thousand years.

"To avoid perishing due to lifespan exhaustion, my grandmaster Jue Ying Immortal once journeyed to the Ten Thousand Peaks Immortal Sect. There, he exchanged a Tier Three Celestial Demon Bone for four Longevity Immortal Pills, thereby extending his lifespan to twelve thousand years.

"Recently, my grandmaster repeatedly sensed his lifespan drawing to a close. He attempted to forcibly break through his bottleneck, but regrettably, due to insufficient preparation, he failed to break through to Third-Grade Perfection and believed he might perish. Fortunately, a mysterious cultivator brought a supply of Turtle-Poria Elixirs. My grandmaster personally consumed a few and clearly felt distinct changes in his body, Golden Core, and Divine Soul.

"As for the two hundred years of extended lifespan... Fairy Qu Wan'Er, upon hearing of this, personally took some Turtle-Poria Elixirs to the Ten Thousand Peaks Immortal Sect. The Immortal Masters there tested them and confirmed this.

"Everyone, with the validation from my grandmaster Jue Ying Immortal, Fairy Qu Wan'Er, and the Alchemy Master from the Ten Thousand Peaks Immortal Sect, could this elixir possibly be fake?"

After speaking, she took out a Jade Scroll from her waist. It indeed showed the Seals of Jue Ying Immortal and Fairy Qu Wan'Er, as well as a Seal from the Ten Thousand Peaks Immortal Sect.

The host from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect smiled and said, "With these validations, does anyone still have any doubts? If there are no more questions, then we shall begin. There are a total of one hundred Turtle-Poria Elixirs. Each auction lot will consist of at least ten elixirs, with a starting price of one hundred Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade per elixir!

"The auction for the first ten Turtle-Poria Elixirs now begins!"

In the private box of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, Lin Xuankong watched this scene, a smile involuntarily playing on his lips.

The Dharma-tier Gui Ling Elixir's miraculous effect far exceeds the imagination of ordinary cultivators. The Elixir Formula for this elixir was researched and enhanced by Young Lady Li Xiaolan over several years, under my thirtyfold assistance. After learning of this elixir's miraculous effects, her master, Fairy Qu Wan'Er, immediately decided that Young Lady Li Xiaolan must not reveal the Elixir Formula under any circumstances, nor should she disclose her ability to refine it! She was to say only that it was obtained by a mysterious cultivator from the ruins of an Immortal Family!