

Stronger 521

Chapter 521: The First Person of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, All Seventy-Two Immortal Sects Gathered Together

In the eyes of Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, the three Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects treasured within the sect, though incomparably precious, were not worth mentioning when compared to 'Mu Shiba'. Those three Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects only offered a minuscule chance for a Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciple to condense the Sixth Celestial Vein. In contrast, 'Mu Shiba' could ensure the gradual rise of the entire Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, affecting countless disciples and even every Earth Immortal within the sect. How could Sect Leader Li, having lived for thousands, even tens of thousands of years, fail to grasp such a disparity?

However, when Sect Leader Li's decision reached the ears of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples, it also reached the cultivators who had fought ten to twenty battles just for a chance to obtain a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object. This news stirred a profound sense of envy in everyone's eyes once more.

By this point, Lin Xuankong held a total of eleven Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects. Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er had already condensed her Sixth Celestial Vein and no longer needed one. This left the Lin Family Seven Tigers, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Zhao Yufei, and Xiao Xiuyi—ten people in total. If their luck was good, all ten might have the chance to condense their Sixth Celestial Vein.

Thinking of this, a look of anticipation emerged in his eyes.

He felt this confident because Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er had directly condensed her Sixth Celestial Vein after consuming a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object. This event further affirmed his belief that his 'Wives, Children, Elders, and Youngsters' Talent provided a significant boost to those close to him.

With such an enhancement, the Lin Family Seven Tigers, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Zhao Yufei, and the Artifact Refining Genius, Xiao Xiuyi, should all have a chance.

In Lin Xuankong's view, Xiao Xiuyi, the Artifact Refining Genius, was especially crucial. His display of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts had garnered significant attention from Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and the respect of other Earth Immortals. Indeed, Xiao Xiuyi was the most important reason for this.

Moreover, without Xiao Xiuyi, the Artifact Refining Genius, helping him refine a large number of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, the Lin Family Seven Tigers and Third Princess Xiao Ying'Er would not have been able to defeat so many powerful disciples from various Immortal Sects. In that scenario, relying on Lin Xuankong alone, he would have likely obtained only a single Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object.

These Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects should really be given to Miss Xiao to consume first. This time, her help to me and the Lin Family Seven Tigers was truly immense! Lin Xuankong thought to himself.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect certainly placed great importance on Lin Xuankong. After resolving various matters regarding the disciple recruitment grand competition, he immediately instructed many Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples to prepare a grand ceremony specifically to celebrate Lin Xuankong joining the sect.

This grand celebration not only mobilized all the disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, but all Earth Immortals from the thirty-six Spirit Peaks were also invited to the Celebration Hall. Moreover, Sect Leader Li specially invited even the three Supreme Elders, who had not appeared for hundreds or thousands of years.

Furthermore, to demonstrate the high regard in which Lin Xuankong was held, Sect Leader Li even used Communication Jades to contact seventy to eighty Immortal Sects of various sizes in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, inviting them to send representatives to attend.

Celebrations of this scale, even in the tens of thousands of years of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's history, had rarely been held.

The few recorded occasions were all to celebrate an Earth Immortal in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect advancing to the Fifth Grade.

However, since the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's establishment, there have only been six Immortals at Fifth Grade or above, including the three current Supreme Elders. If one includes those who previously reached this level but later perished—either failing to cross a Celestial Tribulation or due to lifespan exhaustion—the total number of such individuals throughout history has only been about fourteen or fifteen.

This means that since the establishment of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, over tens of thousands of years, only fourteen or fifteen such grand celebration ceremonies have ever been held.

The most crucial point was that this time the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's celebration was for a cultivator who was merely at Ninth-Layer Perfection.

Of course, since Lin Xuankong had now condensed his Sixth Celestial Vein, his cultivation should no longer be considered Ninth-Layer Perfection but rather the Initial Tier of the Tenth Layer.

But even at the Initial Tier of the Tenth Layer, he was still a mortal. Normally, compared to even an Initial Tier Earth Immortal, his status and strength would be far lower.

For a cultivator merely at the Transcendence Realm to join the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and be so greatly valued—to the extent that even the three Supreme Elders, who had been in seclusion for a thousand years, would emerge to congratulate him—was an unprecedented spectacle and treatment. It could be said, without exaggeration, that Lin Xuankong was definitely the foremost figure in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's tens of thousands of years of history.

Indeed, for a cultivator at the Transcendence Realm to receive such honor from an Immortal Sect, Lin Xuankong was not just the foremost figure in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's long history. Looking across the entire Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, or even the vast territories of the Central Divine Dynasty with its countless Immortal Sects, Lin Xuankong was likely the only one ever to receive such honor while still in the Transcendence Realm.

The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Celebration Hall was located on the most towering, most spiritually elegant, and Immortal Yuan-rich of its thirty-six Spirit Peaks. At this time, Sect Leader Li, along with the two Late Stage Fifth Grade Vice Sect Leaders, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er, and others, were in the Celebration Hall, busy organizing numerous disciples and some Initial Tier Earth Immortals.

Chapter 522: The Number One Person of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, The Seventy-Two Immortal Sects Gather Together_2

Lin Xuankong, along with the Lin Family Seven Tigers, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Second Lady Zhao Yufei, and Artifact Refining Genius Xiao Xiuyi, were in a spacious side hall of the Celebration Hall.

After dismissing the several Ninth-Layer Immortal Servants arranged by the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to serve them, Lin Xuankong took out a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object and looked at the Artifact Refining Genius Xiao Xiuyi.

He smiled slightly and said,

"For this participation in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Grand Competition, without Miss Xiao's assistance, Little Hu and I would never have obtained so many Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects.

"This time, Miss Xiao has made an outstanding contribution!

"I have eleven more Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects here. Miss Xiao, please use one first.

"If you cannot successfully condense the Sixth Celestial Vein, you can continue to use them until you succeed!"

It was apparent that Xiao Xiuyi had also heard of the great power of the Sixth Celestial Vein. Glancing at the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object in Lin Xuankong's hand, she slightly shook her head and said,

"I have always loved Artifact Refining, and as for the Cultivation Realm, I am not so demanding.

"If in the future I can advance to the Initial Tier Earth Immortal Realm and obtain an eight-thousand-year lifespan, that would be wonderful.

"As for whether I can condense the Six Paths Golden Core, it does not matter! In my opinion, these Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects were earned through the hard battle of Little Hu and the others. It would be better for you to use them first!"

Li Xiaohu shook his head repeatedly, his head shaking like a rattle drum,

"Sister Xiao, please don't decline. Without Miss Xiao and foster father's help, relying on our own strength alone, we would have been beaten up, spitting blood in the second or third round, and defeated on the spot!"

Young Lady Lii Xiaolan smiled and said,

"Sister Xiao, don't be so polite. My husband, whenever he has something good, the first ones he thinks of are me, Sister Yufei, and Sister Ying'Er. This time he gave you the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object first because the help you provided him was too great. The help was so immense that he felt too embarrassed to offer these spiritual objects to us first!

"I think it's better this way: you try one or two first. What if one is enough to directly condense the Sixth Celestial Vein once you consume it!"

Zhao Yufei and Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er stood beside Lii Xiaolan, also advising her.

Seeing this, Xiao Xiuyi stopped declining. She took a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object and said firmly, "Since Brother Lin, Sister Lan, Sister Yufei, and everyone else are so kind, I will not refuse anymore! However, this kind of Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object is extremely precious. I will not take advantage of everyone; I will only take one. Whether I succeed or not depends on luck!"

This Artifact Refining Genius was quite straightforward. Just after finishing her words, she directly put the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object into her mouth!

Immediately, this Artifact Refining Genius's whole body emitted a unique, swirling spiritual light from the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object!

Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, Second Lady Zhao Yufei, and the Lin Family Seven Tigers all quieted down, waiting silently.

Only Li Xiaohu scratched his head and couldn't help but say,

"Foster father, do you think Sister Xiao can condense the Sixth Celestial Vein just with this one Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object?"

Lin Xuankong smiled and replied, "What do you think?"

Li Xiaohu smacked his lips, then hesitated and said,

"According to you, foster father, those Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts were all crafted by Sister Xiao with your help. Of course, I hope Sister Xiao can immediately condense the Sixth Celestial Vein and later advance to the Initial Tier Earth Immortal Realm with the Six Paths Golden Core!

"But... Sister Xiao's Artifact Refining Talent is naturally beyond most people, even surpassing many so-called Immortals.

"However, whether the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object can successfully condense the Sixth Celestial Vein is unrelated to Artifact Refining Talent; it mainly depends on luck!

"Foster father and Third Princess both directly condensed the Sixth Celestial Vein using a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, which was outrageously good luck. So, I think Sister Xiao might not necessarily be able to condense the Sixth Celestial Vein on the spot. After all, good luck can't last forever!"

Beside them, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Second Lady Zhao Yufei, and the Lin Family Seven Tigers all had a touch of worry on their faces.

Clearly, everyone understood how low the success rate of using a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object was for condensing the Sixth Celestial Vein. Hence, they were worried about whether Xiao Xiuyi could succeed!

Lin Xuankong glanced at everyone, then looked at Li Xiaohu, smiling, "In my opinion, Miss Xiao has a high chance of success!"

With the influence of the [Wives, Children, Elders, and Youngsters] Talent, even if the chance of a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object condensing the Sixth Celestial Vein is only two percent, increasing that

chance by thirty times would still raise it to sixty percent. Such a rate surpasses half. As long as Xiao Xiuyi's luck isn't too bad, she will likely succeed! Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er's success in condensing the Sixth Celestial Vein has already proven this, so Lin Xuankong is naturally confident in Xiao Xiuyi's success.

「Meanwhile」

At this moment, in the hall of a hidden mansion at the southeastern corner of the Spiritual Crane Immortal City, Flaming Blade Duan River sat with a dark expression on a Grandmaster's Chair carved from Thousand-Year Spirit Wood.

Beside him, Second Prince Chang Li looked at his martial uncle worriedly, "Elder Duan, are you really determined to deal with that Mu Shiba? In my opinion, we should first focus on that Lii Xiaolan!"

"Right now, in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, everyone's attention is on that Mu Shiba! According to the recent news from our insider in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, their Sect Leader Li has even invited three Supreme Elders, who had been in seclusion for a thousand years, just to celebrate the Sect acquiring an Artifact Refining Master capable of refining Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts!"

Chapter 523: The First Person of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, The Seventy-Two Immortal Sects Gather Together_3

Moreover, it's said that Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has invited all the Immortal Sects in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region to witness the ceremony and celebrate Mu Shiba joining their sect!

If we act now, I fear that even if our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect mobilizes all our sleeper agents and Earth Immortals, we might not be able to capture Mu Shiba. It might even provoke a war between the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!

If we indeed pay such a price... for just one Mu Shiba, is it really worth it?"

Flaming Blade Duan River gazed out of the hall with a gloomy expression. He silently retrieved a black Communication Jade Token from his robes and then said in a deep voice,

"A cultivator who can refine Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts at the Ninth Layer Realm is extremely rare, even within the entire Central Divine Dynasty. In my more than two thousand years of cultivation, I've never heard of such a person!

The value of such an Artifact Refining Master is simply unimaginable. Compared to him, even Xiaoo Ying'Er's Profound Phoenix Strange Vein and Lii Xiaolan's Alchemy Talent pale significantly!

If we could control such an Artifact Refining Master, it would be worth triggering a war between the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. Indeed, even a larger-scale War of Immortal Sects would be absolutely worthwhile—one hundred percent worth it!

Moreover, do you really think that Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect invited those three old relics, the Supreme Elders, at this critical juncture just to celebrate Mu Shiba joining the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect?

Hmph! Those three old relics, the Supreme Elders of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, reached the Fifth Layer Perfection Realm thousands of years ago. Since they haven't perished, they might have already advanced to the Sixth Grade by now. He invited these three ancient figures hardly just to celebrate Mu Shiba joining the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. His most important reason is to intimidate the other major and minor Immortal Sects in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, preventing them from targeting Mu Shiba!"

Second Prince Chang Li frowned upon hearing this. "Master Uncle, are you saying that other Immortal Sects might also have designs on Mu Shiba's artifact refining techniques?"

Flaming Blade Duan River nodded, his expression somber.

"That Mu Shiba dared to display his ability to refine Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts before countless cultivators; it was far too ostentatious! Does he really think the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect alone can protect him?

Hmph, the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region has very few Artifact Refining Masters capable of refining Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. Even the handful that exist have only managed to refine a few dozen such artifacts over thousands of years!

This Mu Shiba, with a cultivation of only Ninth-Layer Perfection and having lived at most a few hundred years, showcased dozens of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts before countless cultivators. This alone proves his artifact refining skills are ten to even dozens of times stronger than those of any Artifact Refining Master in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region!

If such artifact refining techniques were controlled by just one Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, how could other Immortal Sects sit idly by? They would never allow the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to grow stronger and become a terrifying behemoth that could dominate any other Immortal Sect in the Western Region!

The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has good relations with the Western Nether Immortal Sect, West Star Immortal Sect, and Beimang Immortal Sect. However, among the Twelve Great Immortal Sects of the Western Region, the other Immortal Sects—including the Five Elements Immortal Sect and our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect—have never seen eye-to-eye with them. As for the smaller Immortal Sects, they certainly wouldn't just watch and allow the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to become increasingly formidable!

Mu Shiba has just joined the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and hasn't yet refined any Immortal Artifacts for them. This is the perfect time for our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect to unite with other Immortal Sects and challenge the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

Second Prince Chang Li frowned. "Master Uncle, you mean to say we should unite with other Immortal Sects to deal with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, and then find a way to bring this Mu Shiba under our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's control?"

Flaming Blade Duan River shook his head. "This Mu Shiba possesses such terrifying artifact refining skills at only the Ninth Layer; he's an Artifact Refining Genius that even our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect cannot monopolize! However, if our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect contacts other Immortal Sects to form an Immortal Sect Alliance and jointly challenges the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, we can at least coerce them into not monopolizing Mu Shiba. We must ensure that when Mu Shiba refines Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, every Immortal Sect gets a share! This way, we can control the future distribution of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts refined by Mu Shiba, preventing the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect from achieving sole dominance!"

Second Prince Chang Li's eyes lit up, and he nodded repeatedly.

"Master Uncle, this method of yours is indeed ingenious! It absolutely aligns with the interests of the seventy to eighty major and minor Immortal Sects in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region and can rally the collective strength of these dozens of Immortal Sects!

In that case, even if the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect brings out those three Supreme Elders, they would likely be unable to withstand the collective demands of seventy to eighty Immortal Sects! No matter how strong the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect is, can they possibly withstand the combined power of seventy to eighty Immortal Sects?

If they agree, Mu Shiba will become nothing more than an artifact refining machine for numerous sects, forced to frantically refine Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts for our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the others!

If the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect refuses, this alliance of seventy to eighty Immortal Sects could likely flatten their thirty-six Spirit Peaks, and there's even a chance the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect could be annihilated! Hahaha, this strategy is truly brilliant, Master Uncle! Your nephew is thoroughly impressed, utterly impressed!"

Chapter 524: The Number One Person of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, The Seventy-Two Immortal Sects Gather Together_4

The most crucial part of this plan is that it's an open scheme. The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect will be utterly powerless against it, and Mu Shiba will be equally helpless. In the future, they'll have no choice but to be at our command, toiling tirelessly for our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!"

Flaming Blade Duan River, flattered by the Second Prince, visibly relaxed. He took a box of elixirs and a pile of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade from his robes, then looked at Second Prince Chang Li. "These spirit medicines and Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade can aid your future cultivation! Although your cultivation base has been crippled, your talent remains. With their help, I believe you can swiftly elevate your cultivation realm, just like before. In another ten years or so, returning to the Ninth-Layer Perfection realm won't be difficult! Chang Li, you are the most talented and the fastest cultivator within our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the hundreds of dynasties under our command! This blow from Mu Shiba was significant, but don't lose heart over it!"

Second Prince Chang Li accepted the spirit medicines and Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade. A deep hatred flashed in his eyes as he recalled how Lin Xuankong had nearly killed him and crippled his cultivation. "Rest assured, Martial Uncle," he said, "even if only to deal with Mu Shiba and the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect in the future, and to reclaim Xiaoo Ying'Er, I, Chang Li, will cultivate diligently. I will never disappoint you or my Master!"

Flaming Blade Duan River nodded in approval at Second Prince Chang Li's words. "Good. As long as you harbor this desire for revenge, you won't slack off in your cultivation, and I can rest assured. As for Mu Shiba, don't you worry. Once I've contacted the other Immortal Sects, we'll find a way to bring him completely under our control. Besides, as long as we can get our hands on his artifact refining techniques and methods, killing him isn't out of the question!"

Second Prince Chang Li nodded vigorously, hatred flashing in his eyes. He said in a low voice, "Martial Uncle, in the future, after we've pried all of Mu Shiba's artifact refining techniques and his methods from him, when it's time to kill him, you must let me do it myself! Otherwise, this nephew of yours will never be able to vent this simmering fury!"

A glint of hatred also appeared in Flaming Blade Duan River's eyes. "Rest assured. That Mu Shiba caused both you and me to lose all face before more than a hundred thousand cultivators. How could I possibly let him off easily? Once his artifact refining methods are extracted, that's when I'll deal with him. I certainly won't let him die easily. When the time comes, I'll make him wish for death but find no escape, and long for life but be unable to attain it!"

After speaking, the Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect gripped the black Communication Jade in his hand. As his Immortal Yuan circulated, a large amount of text instantly appeared on the jade. Shortly thereafter, the text vanished, clearly indicating that many messages had been sent out.

After sending the messages, a look of anticipation appeared on Flaming Blade Duan River's face. Ever since he had personally witnessed 'Mu Shiba' and his subordinates with their piles of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, an insatiable greed had taken root in his heart. The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect had always acted high-handedly. If this hadn't been during the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's disciple recruitment ceremony, he likely would have been unable to restrain himself long ago and would have seized all the Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts from 'Mu Shiba' and the Lin Family Seven Tigers. He had done such things many times before! However, in the past, this Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect had mostly seized Spirit Herbs and Elixir. At most, he had acquired some Tier Six, Seven, Eight, or Nine Magical Artifacts. When had he ever managed to get his hands on Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts!

After all, Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts were extremely rare, incredibly precious, and vital strategic assets among all Immortal Sects, large or small, in the Central Divine Dynasty's Western Region. They were core resources capable of influencing the rise and fall of an Immortal Sect!

Chapter 525: The Disaster of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Destruction

At this moment, within a side hall of the Celebration Hall of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, the Lin Family Seven Tigers, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Second Lady Zhao Yufei, and Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er were all gathered around Xiao Xiuyi, offering her their congratulations.

Things unfolded just as Lin Xuankong had predicted. Influenced by the 'Wives, Children, Elders, and Youngsters' Talent, Xiao Xiuyi condensed the Sixth Celestial Vein after consuming just one Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, becoming the third Initial Tier cultivator at the tenth level after Lin Xuankong and Xiaoo Ying'Er.

Three tenth-level Initial Tier cultivators gathered in one place—this was an unprecedented scene among the seventy or eighty Immortal Sects in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region. After all, the chance of using a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object to condense the Sixth Celestial Vein was exceedingly low. Furthermore, the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object was extremely rare, appearing only once every nine thousand years, and not every appearance would be discovered.

Nevertheless, Lin Xuankong was clearly not satisfied with this. He decisively handed another Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object to Young Lady Lii Xiaolan.

Even though the Lin Family Seven Tigers and others with Lin Xuankong were his closest companions in this world, if one were to be chosen as the closest, it would undoubtedly be Young Lady Lii Xiaolan.

Particularly, the Lin Family Seven Tigers had each been reincarnated by him more than once. If they were to advance to the Initial Tier Earth Immortal Realm in the future, he could naturally find ways to reincarnate each of them into the Immortal Body of an Initial Tier Earth Immortal. Therefore, there was no hurry for the Lin Family Seven Tigers to condense the Sixth Celestial Vein. As long as Lin Xuankong's strength continued to improve and his realm continued to elevate, the future strength of the Lin Family Seven Tigers would also rise accordingly.

Lii Xiaolan, Zhao Yufei, and Xiaoo Ying'Er, however, were somewhat different. Unless absolutely necessary, Lin Xuankong preferred them to keep their original bodies and appearances. Besides, they each possessed incredibly strong innate talents far exceeding ordinary people. If they were to reincarnate, their physical talents would vanish, which would be an enormous loss for Lin Xuankong.

Considering all these factors, Lin Xuankong was naturally very eager for Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Second Lady Zhao Yufei, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, and Xiao Xiuyi—these four supremely talented individuals—to advance to become Initial Tier Earth Immortals using their own bodies, and continue elevating their realms in the future.

Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, naturally, unlike Xiao Xiuyi, showed no hesitation. Upon receiving the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object handed by Lin Xuankong, she placed it directly into her mouth.

"Hmm, it's sweet and sour, the taste is so amazing! Even the best-tasting elixirs I've had from Master Qu Wan'Er can't compare to this Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object—it's so refreshing and delicious!"

After consuming the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, Lii Xiaolan couldn't help blinking her bright eyes continuously, exclaiming in praise.

Everyone present, including Lin Xuankong, was momentarily stunned upon hearing the young lady's words.

Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er couldn't help but laugh. "Sister Lii is so interesting and meticulous! When I consumed the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, I was so focused on sensing its misty aura and guiding those auras that I didn't pay any attention to its taste at all! Sister Lii is indeed extraordinary!"

Lii Xiaolan shook her little head with a slight sense of pride upon hearing this.

Lin Xuankong, unable to resist, said, "Come on, Ying'Er, she might be your sister, but there's no need to praise her this much! As I see it, our young lady here probably noticed the taste because she's such a foodie!"

Everyone laughed upon hearing this.

Lii Xiaolan couldn't help but glare at Lin Xuankong. "Hmph, it seems like you didn't notice how tasty this Spiritual Object was when you consumed it either! You're blaming me for being a foodie, but you were just swallowing it whole without savoring it!"

Seeing that his young lady was upset, Lin Xuankong couldn't bring himself to argue with her and chuckled, "Alright, alright, I admit I swallowed it whole! Now, quickly concentrate and guide the aura of the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object into your Dantian. If you let even a trace of its aura escape, the first step of condensing the Sixth Celestial Vein will fail!"

Originally intending to retort to Lin Xuankong a few more times, Lii Xiaolan immediately became serious upon hearing this. Although she enjoyed bantering with her husband Lin Xuankong, she was always serious when it came to important matters.

She was fully aware of how precious the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object given by her husband Lin Xuankong was—it was something countless talented cultivators fought desperately to obtain, often at the cost of their lives. How could she bear to waste such a valuable gift from her husband!

Thus, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan immediately focused all her Heart Spirit on guiding the aura of the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object within her body.

Lin Xuankong watched the ethereal Spiritual Light enveloping Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, and a hint of amazement appeared in his eyes. Lii Xiaolan, dressed in green, was already extremely beautiful, no less stunning than Third Princess Xiaoo Ying’Er. When Third Princess Xiaoo Ying’Er had been surrounded by the ethereal Spiritual Light in the past, even Earth Immortals were awestruck. Naturally, Lii Xiaolan’s otherworldly beauty at this moment also left people in awe.

Just then, as if sensing something, Lin Xuankong’s eyes suddenly moved, and he focused his Heart Spirit.

「At this moment, a hundred miles away.」

Flaming Blade Duan River was discussing with Second Prince Chang Li how to deal with ‘Mu Shiba’ and how to contact the other various Immortal Sects, both large and small, to move against the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect.

With the Eighth Celestial Eye of the Eight Gates Celestial Eye, Lin Xuankong naturally heard their so-called ‘open conspiracy’ clearly.

Listening to their plot, Lin Xuankong’s face grew increasingly cold. He had initially spared Second Prince Chang Li’s life, only crippling his cultivation. One reason was that Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao’Er and Flaming Blade Duan River had intervened. Another reason was that Second Prince Chang Li was close to a Late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. Lin Xuankong hadn’t wanted to completely offend the consistently domineering Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect until he could easily kill Flaming Blade Duan River.

However, after hearing their conspiracy, Lin Xuankong suddenly felt that his decision to cripple Second Prince Chang Li's cultivation was absolutely correct. On one hand, this meant the Second Prince would likely suffer extreme pain every day for the next ten-plus years. On the other hand, if Lin Xuankong hadn't spared Chang Li's life, he likely wouldn't have been able to 'witness' Flaming Blade Duan River's plot with his own eyes.

Planning to rally over seventy Immortal Sects in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region to collectively pressure the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect?

Planning to rally over seventy Western Region sects to jointly deal with the three great elders of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and thereby control me?

This Flaming Blade Duan River indeed has some insidious methods... This 'open conspiracy' will indeed be difficult for me and the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to counter!

If not handled properly, Flaming Blade Duan River and his cohorts certainly wouldn't kill me, but my Young Lady Lii Xiaolan and the entire Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect would undoubtedly suffer a catastrophe!

Chapter 526: This is Just a Small Trump Card

As Lin Xuankong was deep in thought, Zhao Yufei and the others around him suddenly cheered.

He turned his head and saw Young Lady Li Xiaolan in a green robe, standing gracefully not far away, smiling sweetly at him.

Lin Xuankong carefully sensed the fluctuations emanating from Young Lady Li Xiaolan and couldn't help but smile.

"Just as I expected, congratulations on advancing to the Early Stage of the Tenth Level of the Transcendence Realm!"

Lii Xiaolan walked gracefully to Lin Xuankong's side. She knew him too well. Although Lin Xuankong had a smile on his face, how could Lii Xiaolan not see the worry in his eyes!

"Is something bothering you? Why do you look like you're forcing a smile?" Lii Xiaolan was clearly a bit surprised.

Lin Xuankong thought, Flaming Blade Duan River has already contacted those various Immortal Sects. It's too late to stop anything now. Moreover, with my current strength, even if I use all my Immortal Artifacts, I might have a chance to battle Flaming Blade Duan River. Because I've advanced to the Early Stage of the Tenth Level of the Transcendence Realm, I might even be able to suppress him, but defeating a late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal is very difficult. This time, facing the conspiracy of Flaming Blade Duan River, relying solely on force will be very challenging! But this matter is too significant; it's not something Lan and the others can handle. Telling them now will only add to their worries! The best way to keep them safe is to have them all enter my Celestial Demon Bone Secret Realm, and then I'll figure things out myself! Of course, even if Flaming Blade Duan River manages to rally numerous Immortal Sects against the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and myself, it's not something that can happen overnight. It would take at least a few days to gather that many Immortal Sects, which gives me some time to prepare!

With this in mind, he looked at Lii Xiaolan and smiled.

"It's nothing. I've just gained some attention recently, and I'm worried about drawing jealousy. They might not dare to confront me openly, but all of you need to be cautious. After the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's celebration in a few days, it would be best for you to stay in my Ba Mountain Secret Realm for a while!"

Lii Xiaolan listened, her bright eyes flickering, a trace of doubt appearing within them.

Since her husband began cultivating the Martial Dao, he had always been confident, rarely showing any concern or worry in front of her. This time, despite securing a position in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect through his Artifact Refining Technique and talent, why did he wear such a worried expression? And what could be the matter that even the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect couldn't resolve?

Li Xiaohu heard their conversation, scratched his head, and frowned.

"Godfather, are you worried about that Flaming Blade Duan River? Now that you are the First Tributor of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, your status isn't much lower than the Sect Leader's, comparable to a Vice Sect Leader. Even the Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect must address you as

Tributor Mu! In the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty, perhaps only that Flaming Blade Duan River could pose a threat to you! But... even if that Flaming Blade Duan River wants to avenge Second Prince Chang Li, could a late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal truly overpower the numerous Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect? I imagine even Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu alone would be difficult for him to handle!"

Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, Xiao Xiuyi, Hu Shuo, and the others also showed some confusion upon hearing this.

Lin Xuankong didn't want to make everyone worried, so he smiled jokingly and said,

"What? Are you unwilling to stay in my Ba Mountain Secret Realm for a while? Hmm, now that you're all about to become early-stage Tenth Level experts, you won't listen to me anymore?"

Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er smiled. "Of course, we'd be willing."

She stood beside Lii Xiaolan, holding her right arm.

"Sister Lii mentioned that the small pavilion she and Sister Yu Fei built in the Ba Mountain Secret Realm is exquisite, and it's filled with all sorts of strange Profound Iron Machines. I've been eager to go see it!"

Zhao Yufei raised an eyebrow and said,

"If my husband hadn't insisted I leave the Secret Realm, I'd still be busy there. In my opinion, this so-called Immortal Residence of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect isn't nearly as comfortable as my little pavilion in the Ba Mountain Secret Realm!"

Li Xiaohu shook his head repeatedly.

"There's no way I wouldn't listen to Godfather! Godfather, never mind just staying in your Ba Mountain Secret Realm; even if you asked me to lie in a cauldron of boiling oil with Han Lu stoking the fire beneath, I wouldn't utter a single complaint!"

Han Lu, hearing this, was momentarily stunned, then laughed. "Then I'll definitely activate my Yin Talisman Technique and make sure that cauldron burns fiercely!"

Everyone burst into laughter at Li Xiaohu and Han Lu's words.

Lin Xuankong, however, thought to himself, As long as everyone enters my Ba Mountain Secret Realm, we have no reason to fear even a large number of Earth Immortals. Thanks to the near-infinite True Qi I've used to nourish it, its area has expanded to almost half the size of the Great Xia Dynasty. An area so vast that even a middle-grade Earth Immortal would require many days to cross it. With such an expanse, even Fourth and Fifth Grade Earth Immortals entering my Ba Mountain Secret Realm would find it impossible to threaten those close to me!

As for the Earth Immortals from those various Immortal Sects,

Chapter 527: This is Just a Small Trump Card_2

If they want to unite against the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and against me, then when the time comes and I have no lingering worries, how could I possibly let them manipulate me!

At this thought, the unease in his heart gradually subsided.

He looked at Zhao Yu Fei, who was standing with Young Lady Lii Xiaolan and Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er.

"Ying'Er, Miss Xiao, and Lan have already taken the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object and condensed the Sixth Celestial Vein. Now it's your turn, Yu Fei!"

After speaking, he handed over a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object.

Zhao Yu Fei took the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object and examined it carefully. Then, she looked up at Lin Xuankong, a touch of happiness in her eyes.

Ever since I followed this husband in the Demon-Suppressing Valley, I thought I would have to wait many years for the chance to see the wider world with him. Now, in just a few years, he has not only become the strongest in the Great Xia Dynasty but has also ventured beyond it to the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region! In this Central Divine Dynasty Western Region—a place teeming with talent,

where geniuses are as numerous as crucian carp crossing a river, and Earth Immortals appear frequently—he made a name for himself in mere dozens of days, becoming the First Tributor of a powerful Immortal Sect! Apart from him, I'm afraid there is no other Ninth-Layer Perfection cultivator in this world who could achieve this! And now, he has even given me this incredibly precious spiritual object to condense the Sixth Celestial Vein...

"Thank you, husband!" Zhao Yu Fei's eyes were full of happiness.

Lin Xuankong smiled and said, "If it weren't for you, Yu Fei, managing the countless people in the Ba Mountain Secret Realm for me, organizing the planting of those Spirit Herbs and Elixir, and creating a huge logistics base, how would I have had the chance to grow so quickly? Why are you thanking me? It should be me thanking you! Quickly consume this Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object. Your Sister Lan and Sister Ying'Er have already reached the Tenth Layer of Transcendence; only you are left!"

Hearing this, Zhao Yu Fei looked at Lii Xiaolan and Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er. She saw both of them nodding vigorously at her, their eyes full of encouragement.

Zhao Yu Fei, who had always been somewhat proud, pursed her lips and brought the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object to her mouth.

Sister Lii, Sister Ying'Er, and Miss Xiao all managed to condense the Sixth Celestial Vein after taking just one Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, she thought silently. I must strive to do well too! Luck, oh luck, please be on my side today. I must succeed with just one!

「A few hours later.」

The celebration ceremony of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect had been well-organized. The disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and some Initial Tier Earth Immortals were naturally much more efficient than ordinary people. Moreover, there were nearly tens of thousands of Immortal Servants at the Eighth and Ninth Layer Realm assisting them.

At this time, the thirty-six Immortal Peaks where the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was located were adorned with blooming flowers and brimming with Spiritual Qi. Numerous colorful ribbons floated at the tops of the many Spirit Peaks. Quite a few of these ribbons, some stretching over a thousand feet long, were inscribed with words! For example, "Welcome Mr. Mu Shiba, First Tributor of the Spiritual Crane

Immortal Sect," and "Welcome all Earth Immortals from various Immortal Sects to attend the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's celebration ceremony," and so on!

In the Celebration Hall of the First Spirit Peak of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, immortal fruits, immortal tea, and spirit wine from various Spirit Mountains and Spirit Peaks were arranged all over. These immortal fruits, mostly grown on Spirit Peaks rich in Immortal Yuan, often took hundreds of years to flower and bear fruit. Each one possessed special immortal power. If ordinary people consumed them, they could become healthy and extend their lifespans. Though not comparable to the legendary Flat Peaches, they were still precious treasures unattainable in the mortal world!

This time, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect had brought out all kinds of immortal fruits and immortal tea from the sect. This evidently showed the great importance they attached to Lin Xuankong joining the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect—an importance that surpassed even that given to someone in the sect achieving the Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal level several times over!

The side hall of the Celebration Hall, designated as Lin Xuankong's resting place, was a sanctuary no one dared to disturb easily. Even when the Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect heard about Lin Xuankong's arrival and wished to meet him, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect kept them all at bay!

This caused the disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and those Initial Tier Earth Immortals to sigh with emotion. The status of this newly joined Tenth Layer Early Stage cultivator in Sect Leader Li's mind is probably higher than that of the two Vice Sect Leaders, almost catching up to the three Supreme Elders of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!

However, how could they know that Lin Xuankong's Artifact Refining Technique was not merely capable of refining Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts? Currently, Xiao Xiuyi could effortlessly refine Immortal Artifacts that could grow to the Third Grade. She had already begun studying the refinement of Fourth-Grade and even Fifth-Grade growth-type Immortal Artifacts!

If they knew this, it wouldn't just be Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect who held Lin Xuankong in such high regard. Lin Xuankong's reputation would probably spread directly to the Central Divine Dynasty, startling even the Sect Leader of the Divine Dynasty Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty...

Moreover, Lin Xuankong possessed the [Vigorous in Old Age] Life Plate, the talents of [Old and Wise] and [Wives, Children, Elders, and Youngsters], and the Great Reincarnation Technique from the Tier Nine Celestial Demon Bone. The methods he possessed extended far beyond mere artifact refining...

If Lin Xuankong didn't currently wish to maintain such a low profile, displaying just a few more of his abilities would likely cause his fame to spread throughout the entire Central Divine Dynasty, probably making even the top Great Demons of the Profound Yin Demon Sect take notice!

Chapter 528: This is Just a Small Trump Card_3

In the side hall of the Celebration Hall of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, Lin Xuankong looked at Liy Ruofeng, who had just consumed the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object.

At this moment, Liy Ruofeng's body was constantly flickering with a misty spiritual light, just like Xiao Xiuyi, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, and Young Lady Lii Xiaolan before him.

Young Lady Lii Xiaolan slightly raised her eyebrows and said with a strange expression, "That's not right. I remember Mentor Qu Wan'Er being very certain when she said that the chance of a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object condensing the Sixth Celestial Vein is at most two percent. But husband, with these ten or so Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects, Ying'Er, Miss Xiao, Yu Fei, Little Hu, Hu Shuo, Yang Mountain, Li Er, Han Lu, and Liy Ruofeng have all advanced to the Initial Tier of the Tenth Layer of Transcendence and condensed the Sixth Celestial Vein! This probability is too strange... How could the chance of the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object condensing the Sixth Celestial Vein be merely two percent? This is clearly one hundred percent!"

Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er also looked puzzled. "Right! I saw with my own eyes in the Martial Arts Hall of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect that after those ten or so cultivators consumed the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, they all failed to condense the Sixth Celestial Vein. This proves that the chance is indeed very low! But why, when husband had us take these Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects, did everyone succeed one after another? It's too strange!"

Artifact Refining Genius Xiao Xiuyi, Li Xiaohu, Hu Shuo, and others were also somewhat puzzled.

Lin Xuankong chuckled and said, "Probabilities are never certain."

Though these people before him were very close to him, the talent from his own Vigorous in Old Age Life Plate was too heaven-defying and astonishing. Naturally, he didn't want to reveal it easily!

He then pointed to Li Xiaohu. "Actually, it wasn't one hundred percent successful! Just now, Little Hu failed once when he consumed the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object and only succeeded in condensing the Sixth Celestial Vein with the second one!"

Just a few hours ago, Second Lady Zhao Yufei had directly succeeded in condensing the Sixth Celestial Vein after consuming a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object. Without hesitation, Lin Xuankong then distributed the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Objects, one each to Little Hu and the others, for them to consume as well.

As a result, after Li Xiaohu and the others each consumed a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object in turn, apart from Li Xiaohu who failed once, everyone else succeeded in one go!

This made Lin Xuankong immensely moved. Even though Yu Fei, Ying'Er, Lan, and Little Hu had their Wives, Children, Elders, and Youngsters Talent bonus, their luck today was indeed very good!

At this moment, upon hearing Lin Xuankong mention his one failure, Li Xiaohu couldn't help but show a bitter face and sighed, "I didn't mean to waste your Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, godfather. I also wanted to succeed in one go, but luck didn't allow it!"

Everyone couldn't help but burst into laughter again seeing his distressed expression.

Of course, they were so happy not just because Little Hu was being funny again, but also because they had all condensed the Sixth Celestial Vein after consuming the Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object, becoming extremely rare Tenth Layer cultivators even in the entire Central Divine Dynasty!

Soon, Liy Ruqing among the crowd suddenly exclaimed, "Brother Feng, you also succeeded in condensing the Sixth Celestial Vein!"

Everyone turned to look and saw that Liy Ruofeng, who had been meditating to channel his True Qi, had already opened his eyes. The fluctuation of True Qi around him was significantly stronger than before!

At this point, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Second Lady Zhao Yufei, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, Artifact Refining Genius Xiao Xiuyi, and the Lin Family Seven Tigers around Lin Xuankong had all condensed the

Sixth Celestial Vein. They had become strong cultivators at the Early Stage of the Tenth Layer and now had a chance to condense the Six Paths Golden Core with the Sixth Celestial Vein in the future.

If Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were here to see this scene, he would probably be so surprised that he would pull out his three strands of long beard.

After all, it was a consensus among all Earth Immortals that the probability of a Sixth Celestial Vein Spiritual Object condensing a Sixth Celestial Vein was very low. Yet, Lin Xuankong's appearance had forcibly broken this probability. He had immediately added nearly ten disciples with the Sixth Celestial Vein to this recruitment drive of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect.

Waiting for everyone to calm down from their joy, Lin Xuankong's face gradually took on a serious look.

He looked at everyone and said, "More than a dozen people have condensed the Sixth Celestial Vein. If I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, I wouldn't believe it either. Moreover, this matter is too shocking. To avoid suspicion from others, aside from Ying'Er, the rest of you should try to avoid showing your Sixth Celestial Vein and strength of the Early Stage of the Tenth Layer to others for the time being!"

Hearing this, everyone fell completely silent. After a moment, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan nodded and said, "Rest assured, we are all cultivators who fought our way out of bloody battles. We all know the saying 'the tree that stands out in the forest will be destroyed by the wind'!"

Zhao Yufei and Xiao Xiuyi exchanged glances, and Zhao Yufei then smiled and said, "Don't worry, Miss Xiao and I won't leave the Ba Mountain Secret Realm anyway!"

Led by Li Xiaohu, the Lin Family Seven Tigers all bowed in unison and said, "We will obey godfather's orders!"

Lin Xuankong then felt relieved and pointed to some Immortal Fruit and Immortal Wine on several tables in the side hall. "You've all been busy for a while. Take a good rest and enjoy some Immortal Fruit and Immortal Wine!"

After everyone sat down at the tables to enjoy the Immortal Fruit and Immortal Wine, Lin Xuankong walked to a window in the side hall, looking at the many Spirit Mountains and Spirit Peaks shrouded in

Immortal Clouds outside, and began to ponder the matters concerning Duan River of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect.

Chapter 529: This is Just a Small Trump Card_4

At this moment, from outside the side hall's main door, the voice of a Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciple was suddenly heard, "Tributor Mu, the Grand Elder of the Wine Immortal Sect, Elder Wine Immortal Chi, has come to visit and wishes to see you."

Lin Xuankong's eyes couldn't help but flicker. Elder Wine Immortal Chi must be the powerful Fifth Grade late-stage Earth Immortal he met before encountering Galin Bodhisattva! This Elder Wine Immortal mentioned that he was invited by a friend to come to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to participate in their disciple recruitment contest. But during the entire recruitment contest at the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, he never saw this Elder Wine Immortal. Now that he had joined the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and the contest was over, this Elder Wine Immortal showed up!

Lin Xuankong glanced at Lii Xiaolan and the others, signaling Lan to take everyone and withdraw for now. He then spoke, "Since Elder Wine Immortal has come to visit, please, invite him in quickly!"

After saying this, he quickly walked towards the side hall's main door. Just then, a rich aroma of wine wafted in, and a somewhat disheveled Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia staggered in.

Lin Xuankong had a good impression of this Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia. After all, during their brief encounter, this Elder Wine Immortal had warned him not to underestimate the Profound Yin Demon Sect. Unlike most Earth Immortals, who display an arrogant attitude in front of Transcendence Realm cultivators, Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia's unpretentious nature also quite suited Lin Xuankong's taste! At the very least, compared to the Second Prince Chang Li, who often put on a kind and courteous facade while secretly plotting and scheming, Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia's sincere and straightforward character was much more likable!

Lin Xuankong cupped his hands and smiled, "Elder Wine Immortal, I didn't expect to meet you again so soon!"

Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia, just as always, held a Wine Gourd, emanating a strong scent of alcohol. He entered the side hall and, upon seeing Lin Xuankong, studied him carefully for a long time. Lin Xuankong began to feel a bit uneasy before Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia finally laughed.

"HAHAHAHA, I never thought that the young fellow I casually met back then would become the most sought-after Artifact Refining Master in the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty.

"I really misjudged, misjudged indeed!

"Mu Shiba, Mu Shiba! When I first met you, I told you that after coming to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, you should mention my name, Chi Liuxia, and it would definitely be useful. Thinking about it now, I'm truly ashamed. With your Artifact Refining skills, where would you even need to rely on me, Chi Liuxia!

"Currently, the entire Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, including those few undying Supreme Elders, are all celebrating your joining the sect with great fanfare. The treatment you receive from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect exceeds by far the treatment I get as a Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal!"

Just then, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect walked in from behind Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia. He first cupped his hands towards Lin Xuankong and then said, "Brother Chi, are you jealous of our Tributor Mu? Don't be like this. Weren't you always fond of drinking? How come you're fond of being jealous now, HAHAHAHA!"

As he spoke, Sect Leader Li's face was full of joy, clearly intending to show off a bit in front of Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia.

Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia saw this and didn't get angry. He grabbed Lin Xuankong's hand, led him over, and they sat down in their respective seats. Then, he raised his eyebrows at Lin Xuankong.

"Fellow Daoist Mu, you met me, Chi Liuxia, first, before meeting this Old Li. How about this: why not join my Wine Immortal Sect? If you agree, I can find you the finest Spirit Wine in the world!"

Lin Xuankong was a bit taken aback, but Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect burst into laughter again, clearly understanding that Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia was just joking with him. Seeing this, Lin Xuankong realized that Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia and Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect must have a very good and familiar relationship; they were likely very close Daoist friends.

Thinking about the matter of Flaming Blade Duan River he had just been pondering, he couldn't help but mutter to himself.

Chapter 530: Encounter the Wine Immortal Again, Astonishing Investigation Methods

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia, both old monsters who have lived for thousands of years, naturally quickly noticed something unusual about Lin Xuankong. Of course, this was an unease Lin Xuankong deliberately displayed.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect stroked his three strands of long beard, looked at Lin Xuankong, and said with some surprise, "Tributor Mu, you seem to have something on your mind?"

"Is there something about the celebratory ceremony I arranged that has dissatisfied you?"

"If you have any opinions, please feel free to mention them directly."

"In the future, you will be the First Tributor of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Your authority will not be much inferior to mine as the Sect Leader, so there's no need to have any misgivings!"

Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia opened his wine pot, gulped down a few mouthfuls, then smiled and looked at Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect.

"Old Li, I told you before we came," he said.

"Those dozens of jars of Spirit Wine that your Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has hidden for six thousand years should be brought out for everyone to taste."

"In my opinion, Fellow Daoist Mu's current unease is definitely because the Spirit Wine you prepared isn't good enough—not rich and mellow enough!"

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect glanced at his friend of several thousand years. "Do you think Tributor Mu is like you, a wine-bibber who obsesses over nothing but wine?"

Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia laughed heartily. "Old Li, Old Li, I think you're just jealous of me!"

"Your Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Spiritual Crane Immortal Technique requires practicing both the Spiritual Crane Immortal Yuan Technique and the Spiritual Crane Qi Absorption Technique. Although it's powerful, it's far too cumbersome!"

"It's nothing like our Wine Immortal Sect's Immortal Technique! One only needs the Wine Dao Special Meridians to continuously improve their Cultivation Realm by drinking fine wine! TSK! TSK! Aren't you envious and jealous?"

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect sneered, "Yet your Cultivation Realm is still no higher than mine, you wine-bibber!"

Lin Xuankong found it somewhat amusing to see these two Earth Immortals bickering.

In his opinion, these high and mighty Earth Immortals should have solemn immortal visages and dignified bearings, sitting upright like the Immortals in the Lingxiao Palace!

But then he thought, perhaps Sect Leader Li and Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia are a bit different from other Earth Immortals! After all, among the Earth Immortals he had seen—whether it was the Third-Grade Earth Immortals of the Beimang Immortal Sect or the Third-Grade Earth Immortals of the Western Nether Immortal Sect and the West Star Immortal Sect—they all maintained that lofty, high-and-mighty demeanor when facing Transcendence Realm Cultivators. Especially the Earth Immortal Flaming Blade Duan River of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, who regarded mortal lives as mere grass!

As Lin Xuankong's thoughts turned, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect became serious.

"Tributor Mu, now that you are the First Tributor of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, if you have any thoughts or needs, please speak freely," Sect Leader Li said.

"Although I dare not claim I can handle everything in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, if I join forces with this wine-bibber, I doubt any sect or Earth Immortal would dare to resist us lightly!"

Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia also nodded slightly, his expression becoming somewhat serious.

Seeing this, Lin Xuankong no longer hesitated. He cupped his hands towards Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia and said, "While cultivating in the Great Xia Dynasty, I obtained a rather effective detection technique. When I activated it just now, I unexpectedly discovered that Flaming Blade Duan River from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect is planning to contact some Immortal Sects in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region. He intends to jointly suppress the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and force Sect Leader Li to hand over me, the Artifact Refiner."

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia's expressions both froze upon hearing this.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect even stood up, looked carefully at Lin Xuankong, and asked, "Tributor Mu, are you certain of this?"

Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia, however, showed a hint of doubt on his face.

"Flaming Blade Duan River is a late-stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal who has cultivated his Fire Spirit Divine Skill for thousands of years. His strength is extraordinary; even other Earth Immortals of the same realm rarely manage to get close to him!

"Fellow Daoist Mu, your Artifact Refining skills are astonishing, and you possess dozens of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. However, are you certain you can use a detection technique to get close to Flaming Blade Duan River and uncover his secret plans without his knowledge?"

Lin Xuankong nodded affirmatively. "If you two are in doubt, you can immediately send someone to observe near the sixth mansion in Jiumin Lane, in the northwest corner of Spiritual Crane Immortal City.

"Flaming Blade Duan River, his dozen or so disciples, and Second Prince Chang Li of the Xianluo Dynasty are all in that mansion.

"The estate has three courtyards, and the main house is a three-story building. Flaming Blade Duan River is currently on the second floor of that small building!"

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia looked astonished upon hearing his detailed account.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect decisively took out a Jade Token from his waist. After secretly sending a message, he put down the Jade Token and looked at Lin Xuankong.

"It's not that I don't trust Tributor Mu's covert detection methods, but Flaming Blade Duan River is extremely powerful. While my strength far exceeds his, and defeating him wouldn't be difficult, tracking him silently is another matter entirely! If Tributor Mu can truly follow Flaming Blade Duan River secretly, such a technique is indeed astonishing!

"I've already sent two late-stage Second-Grade fellow Daoists to the location Tributor Mu mentioned. If Flaming Blade Duan River truly dares to plot against our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, then this time, even if he manages to escape Spiritual Crane Immortal City, he'll pay a heavy price!"

Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia suddenly seemed to recall something and spoke up:

"I've heard that Spirit Platform Buddhism, the world's number one Buddhist Sect, and the Profound Yin Demon Sect, the world's number one Demon Sect, each possess an extremely difficult-to-cultivate tracking technique. One is called the Blood Pupil Demon Technique, and the other is the Celestial Eye Divine Techniques. Some Little Buddha Sects and small Demon Sects under their purview have reportedly been taught incomplete versions of these techniques!

"Seeing Tributor Mu's confidence, could it be that you've also cultivated the Blood Pupil Demon Technique or the Celestial Eye Divine Techniques?"

Lin Xuankong heard this and couldn't help but think to himself: If this were the Great Xia Dynasty, almost no one would know about the techniques I use to secretly investigate others. The Central Divine Dynasty Western Region is indeed different. Old monsters like Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia, who have lived for thousands or even tens of thousands of years, know so much they can reveal my methods with just a few words!

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, seeing Lin Xuankong fall silent, naturally understood.

Just then, the Jade Token at his waist vibrated slightly.

After raising his hand to take the Jade Token and glancing at it, Sect Leader Li's face turned visibly icy. It was clear that the Second-Grade Earth Immortals he had dispatched had already found Flaming Blade Duan River's trail.

Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia, seeing this, also understood that Lin Xuankong indeed possessed an extremely powerful detection technique, and that Flaming Blade Duan River was truly in Jiumin Lane.

A hint of coldness gradually appeared in his eyes. "Tributor Mu, have you detected Flaming Blade Duan River's specific plan? How many Immortal Sects has he contacted? Hmph! Trying to deal with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect? Does the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect really think so little of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and my Wine Immortal Sect?"