

Stronger 531

Chapter 531: So What If It's the Seventy-six Immortal Sects!

Lin Xuankong carefully recalled the conversation between Flaming Blade Duan River and Second Prince Chang Li. He then meticulously remembered the scene when Flaming Blade Duan River used the jade token. After that, he recounted Flaming Blade Duan River's plan and the names of the numerous Immortal Sects he had contacted.

After Lin Xuankong finished speaking, the expressions of Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, who initially wore a cold look, and Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia both changed.

After a moment of silence, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect couldn't help but ask, "Tributor Mu, are you sure that Flaming Blade Duan River contacted so many Immortal Sects when he used the Communication Jade Token?"

Lin Xuankong nodded. He had used the Seventh Celestial Eye technique of the Eight Gates Celestial Eye, meaning whatever Flaming Blade Duan River had seen and heard, he too had seen and heard. How could information obtained this way be wrong?

Seeing Lin Xuankong so certain, Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia couldn't help but frown and said, "Led by the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the Five Elements Immortal Sect, a total of seventy-six Immortal Sects, both large and small! This time, Flaming Blade Duan River is truly planning something earth-shattering!"

Lin Xuankong frowned as well. "Flaming Blade Duan River did indeed send messages to all seventy-six Immortal Sects using the Communication Jade Token. But could these Immortal Sects, large and small, truly be so easily incited by him to jointly confront the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and me?"

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect stared at Lin Xuankong, sighed, and said:

"Tributor Mu, you possess the means to refine Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts and perhaps don't take them too seriously! But do you have any idea how intense the desire for Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts is among the Earth Immortals of the various Immortal Sects in the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty!"

Even an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact can nearly double an Earth Immortal's combat power, almost granting them a second Golden Core and immortal techniques with might far surpassing Earth Immortals of the same tier! This is something High-Tier Spiritual Artifacts can never achieve!

With the allure of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, perhaps not all seventy-six of those Immortal Sects can be incited by Flaming Blade Duan River, but inciting the majority of them shouldn't be a problem! Furthermore, even if some smaller Immortal Sects are unwilling to collude with the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, they would likely be coerced into standing with them due to fear of their tyrannical behavior!"

Upon hearing this, Lin Xuankong fell silent, his frown deepening.

Merely revealing a small 'trump card' in my artifact refining ability has already drawn so much envy and jealousy. If all my many trump cards and unique qualities were revealed one by one, who knows how much envy and hatred it would attract! It seems that, whether one is a mortal or an immortal, it's best to remain low-key! However, things have already escalated to this point, and a solution must be found. At the very least, this time, Flaming Blade Duan River of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect must be dealt with. Otherwise, letting such a treacherous person live will only bring more trouble in the future!

But even Sect Leader Li, a Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal, and Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia say they can only kill Flaming Blade Duan River, who is a Late-Stage Third Grade Earth Immortal. How can I possibly slay this scoundrel? He is a genuine Late-Stage Third Grade Earth Immortal!

Unless... I entrust my set of forty-nine Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, which form the Immortal Capturing Array, to Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect or Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia. In their hands, the power they could unleash would be vastly greater than if I were to use the Immortal Capturing Array myself. Then there would indeed be a chance to slay Flaming Blade Duan River!

Unfortunately, doing so would expose another of my trump cards!

After all, merely revealing the ability to refine dozens of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts is already world-shocking and would immediately draw the covetous gazes of numerous Immortal Sects. If I were to then reveal I can also refine an Immortal Capturing Array... tsk, tsk, who knows what sort of entities that would attract!

Or should I simply hide?

A trace of unwillingness flickered in Lin Xuankong's eyes.

Although the Ba Mountain Secret Realm, nurtured by the Tier Nine Celestial Demon Bone, is vast, it is ultimately a newly formed world. It contains no Immortal Yuan, nor does it have Spirit Mountains or Spirit Peaks... Besides, if I were to hide in the Ba Mountain Secret Realm, how long would I have to stay cooped up in there? When would it ever end?

Or perhaps I should find a way to rapidly increase my strength?

But even with the [Vigorous in Old Age] Life Plate and the formidable [Old and Wise] talent granting me a sixty-fold cultivation speed bonus, it's still impossible to fully nurture the Sixth Celestial Vein in such a short time. Reaching Tenth-Level Perfection would likely take at least several months, possibly even a year!

After much deliberation, he still couldn't conceive of any solution other than hiding in the Celestial Demon Bone Secret Realm.

A chill gradually crept onto Lin Xuankong's face, his disgust for Flaming Blade Duan River and Second Prince Chang Li, who were plotting against him from the shadows, growing ever stronger.

Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia clutched his wine gourd and took several hearty swigs.

"What a grand spectacle! Trying to gather more than seventy Immortal Sects, large and small, to descend upon the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Old Li, Old Li, if the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect doesn't yield this time, I'm afraid you're in for a major disaster!"

Hearing this, a flash of anger appeared on Sect Leader Li's face. "Hmph! So his Fire Spirit Immortal Sect can rally some allies to cause trouble for us at the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect? Does he think my Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has no allies of its own?!"

He glared at Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia. "What's the matter, you old drunkard? Scared now that you hear Flaming Blade Duan River is rallying more than seventy Immortal Sects? If you're afraid, then scurry on back to your Wine Immortal Sect! I won't mock you!"

Chapter 532: How Does the Seventy-six Immortal Sects Matter!_2

The Wine Immortal, Chi Liuxia, scoffed, a warlike intent gradually appearing on his face.

"In the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty, apart from those old fogeys in seclusion, who have I, Chi Liuxia, ever feared? Haha, if Flaming Blade Duan River could entice those top Great Demons from the Profound Yin Demon Sect to come, I, Chi Liuxia, might just make a run for it! Among the Immortal Sects he's gathered, only the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the Five Elements Immortal Sect have a few opponents comparable to me. Why should I fear them? Besides, unless those seventy-six Immortal Sects truly mobilize their entire forces and wage war for Tributor Mu, they won't succeed. Even if one Immortal Sect sends a few Earth Immortals, and we end up facing one or two hundred Second and Third Grade Earth Immortals, they still couldn't harm me!"

Upon hearing this, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect also showed a bold expression. He abruptly stood up and walked outside. "Hmph, so what if all seventy-six Immortal Sects gather at my Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect? Our three Supreme Elders have emerged from seclusion. Along with the Wine Immortal, myself, and the two Vice Sect Leaders, we have seven Earth Immortals at Fifth Grade or higher. I'd like to see just what kind of force the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the Five Elements Immortal Sect can muster!"

Reaching the side hall's door, he turned and cupped his hands toward Lin Xuankong.

"Tributor Mu, please rest assured. Since you have joined our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, even if only for a day, you are an honored Tributor of our sect!

"Moreover, your Artifact Refining Technique is definitely worth our entire sect's effort to protect you. Even without your Artifact Refining Technique, your status as the First Tributor of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect alone means that Earth Immortals from other Immortal Sects cannot easily deal with you!

"I will now arrange for numerous disciples to set up a Linked Array around the Thirty-six Spirit Peaks and the Celebration Hall of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! This time, our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect will ensure that the tyrannical Fire Spirit Immortal Sect suffers greatly!"

After speaking, he nodded to Lin Xuankong and turned to leave.

The Wine Immortal, Chi Liuxia, also stood up. GULP, GULP. He downed a large mouthful of spirit wine and then walked outside as well. "Hahaha, Old Li, wait up! I'll help you with setting up the array. My Wine Immortal Sect's Drunken Soul Array hasn't been seen in ages. Perhaps this time, at Tributor Mu's celebration, it will slay a few Earth Immortals, hahaha!"

Lin Xuankong stood in the side hall, watching the two powerful Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals fly out and away, yet his heart did not relax.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect had just mentioned seven Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals and his intention to set up an array. He appeared full of bold confidence, yet a trace of worry still lingered between his brows. It was obvious. The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect currently had dozens of Earth Immortals, seven of whom were Fifth-Grade, and many Earth Immortals and disciples proficient in setting up arrays. But even so, this Sect Leader of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was still deeply worried! Lin Xuankong knew very well. Although the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect possessed many Earth Immortals, and its strength and foundation placed it among the powerhouses of the numerous Immortal Sects in the Central Divine Dynasty's Western Region—indeed, it was one of the Twelve Great Immortal Sects of the Western Region—the reputation of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect was by no means inferior. In fact, it might even surpass it. After all, the fact that Flaming Blade Duan River dared to act so recklessly within the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's territory already demonstrated that the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's overall strength was definitely not less than that of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! And that was just the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect... The Five Elements Immortal Sect, where Xiaoo Yan and Feng Lingling hailed from, was also one of the Central Divine Dynasty's Twelve Great Immortal Sects. It was even faintly regarded as the foremost among the Twelve Great Immortal Sects of the Central Divine Dynasty's Western Region! Beyond them, there were over seventy other Immortal Sects, large and small. Even if each Immortal Sect sent only one Earth Immortal, that would total more than seventy Earth Immortals—more than double the number in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. What if each Immortal Sect sent two Earth Immortals? Or three...? The situation was far from optimistic! What if the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect couldn't withstand the intimidation from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the numerous other Immortal Sects? Or what if, after putting up a fight, they couldn't hold out against their combined assault? It wasn't impossible that they might just sell me out! After all, even though Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect had said I was part of the sect... I ultimately hadn't been with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect for long, nor had I provided them with any significant benefits. Why would they let dozens of their Earth Immortals risk their lives for me? Wouldn't living a carefree, comfortable life as an Immortal be far more enjoyable for them? Moreover, those Earth Immortals coming after me were all veritable old monsters who had cultivated for thousands of years. The methods they possessed were undoubtedly countless times more numerous and potent than those of even the strongest cultivators in the Great Xia Dynasty! If any of those Earth Immortals had some insidious Immortal Technique and used it against me secretly, it wasn't impossible! Considering all this, I absolutely must make thorough preparations!

Lin Xuankong paced slowly in the side hall, his mind racing.

A moment later, the sound of footsteps came from the back hall. Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, Second Lady Zhao Yufei, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, Xiao Xiuyi, and the Lin Family Seven Tigers all emerged.

Worry was evident on everyone's faces. Clearly, they had all cultivated to the Early Stage of the Tenth Level; their hearing far surpassed that of ordinary people, and they had overheard the conversation between Lin Xuankong, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, and the Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia.

Young Lady Lii Xiaolan walked up to Lin Xuankong, a determined look in her beautiful eyes.

"Husband, why don't I go find Master Qu Wan'Er? She has been refining Spirit Elixirs for over a thousand years and has connections with many Earth Immortals. Indeed, many powerful Earth Immortals owe her favors. If Master Qu Wan'Er steps in, I'm sure she can find many powerful Earth Immortals to help us!"

Chapter 533: What of the Seventy-six Immortal Sects!_3

When the crowd heard Lii Xiaolan say this, a gleam of hope appeared in their eyes.

Lii Xiaolan's master is Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er. As a renowned Medicine Immortal in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, she could contact numerous powerful Earth Immortals, which definitely formed an extremely strong force!

Lin Xuankong, however, slightly shook his head.

"Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect must have already considered Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er's many companions. Moreover, Sect Leader Li will certainly invite some Immortal Sects such as the West Star Immortal Sect, the Western Nether Immortal Sect, and the Beimang Immortal Sect, which have good relations with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! Yet Sect Leader Li still looks worried. This indicates that the combined power of those Seventy-six Immortal Sects I mentioned far exceeds that of the union of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, the Wine Immortal Sect, the Western Nether Immortal Sect, the West Star Immortal Sect, and the Beimang Immortal Sect!"

Young Lady Lii Xiaolan stomped her foot indignantly upon hearing this. "That Flaming Blade Duan River is really a troublemaker! We should find a way to get rid of him soon, and also that damn Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. I've heard from other disciples in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect about some evil deeds committed by the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect! The conduct of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect is almost

indistinguishable from that of a Demon Sect, except that their Cultivation Techniques do not require life sacrifices. But based on the things they've done, even though they are not a Demon Sect, they are definitely despicable enough to deserve death!"

Second Lady Zhao Yufei frowned momentarily, then suddenly walked to Lin Xuankong's side and grabbed his hand.

"Why don't you, husband, come back to the Ba Mountain Secret Realm with us? Now there is Plant Spirit Liquid in the Ba Mountain Secret Realm, which will allow us to cultivate numerous Spirit Herbs and Elixir. Sister Lii will soon master the Refining Method of the Immortal Ascension Treasure Pill. Then, even if we stay in the Ba Mountain Secret Realm, we'll have the chance to undergo the Crossing the Celestial Tribulation and become Immortals. Why battle in this so-called Immortal Realm, full of deceit and competition?"

When Lin Xuankong heard her mention the Plant Spirit Liquid, his eyes suddenly lit up, and a solution to the current dilemma emerged in his mind!

If that method works, forget the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, don't even mention the Seventy-six Immortal Sects. Even if hundreds of Earth Immortals and a horde of Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals came, they still wouldn't be able to do anything to me! If this method works, it won't just solve the current predicament; it will also allow me to intimidate the various Immortal Sects and Earth Immortals in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region. At the very least, it will ensure that nobody dares to challenge me for a while!

Thinking of this, Lin Xuankong's brows relaxed. The frustration in his heart vanished. He couldn't help but pinch Zhao Yufei's delicate face and then burst into laughter.

"You truly are my problem solver, Second Lady. Your reminder is more valuable than a thousand armies, even more so than countless Earth Immortals!"

Zhao Yufei dodged Lin Xuankong's hand, then frowned and looked at him with confusion. "Husband, are you agreeing to come back to the Ba Mountain Secret Realm with us and live in seclusion there from now on?"

Lin Xuankong smiled and shook his head. "Even if faced with a thousand Earth Immortals, your husband doesn't need to hide. You underestimate me too much!"

"What a boast! A thousand Earth Immortals? My master alone would be beyond what you can handle!" Young Lady Lii Xiaolan, dressed in a green robe, pursed her lips, a curious look on her face. "Quickly, tell us what idea you've come up with?"

Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, Xiao Xiuyi, Li Xiaohu, and others also looked at Lin Xuankong with curiosity.

In their opinion, let alone gathering Seventy-six Immortal Sects, even if the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect came out in full force, there would likely be dozens of Earth Immortals, including many Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals or higher. Such a formidable force had left Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and the Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia worried sick. What solution could Lin Xuankong possibly have to counter them?

These were Earth Immortals, not one or two, but possibly one or two hundred. Any one of them alone could suppress hundreds of Tier Nine Cultivators... How could any sudden brilliant idea possibly counter hundreds of such Earth Immortals?

However, seeing Lin Xuankong's relaxed brows and lighthearted smile, it didn't seem like he was talking nonsense or joking!

What could the method be?

The crowd was full of curiosity and stared intently at Lin Xuankong.

Seeing them all staring at him, Lin Xuankong couldn't help but laugh heartily. "Curiosity killed the cat. Just wait and see. Anyway, there's no need to worry about me!"

Seeing him refuse to explain, everyone showed a sign of disappointment. Young Lady Lii Xiaolan frowned and said, "Curiosity killed the cat? What does that mean? How can curiosity kill a cat?"

Looking at the puzzled and curious expression on Young Lady Lii Xiaolan's face, Lin Xuankong laughed again.

Well, it seems Young Lady Lii Xiaolan doesn't understand this popular saying from my previous life on Earth and can't catch the joke!

After laughing for a while, Lin Xuankong seemed to remember something and looked at the puzzled Young Lady Lii Xiaolan.

"By the way, now that I've joined the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, I should be able to start learning some of their Immortal Techniques and Divine Skills, right? Also, Ying'Er and Li Xiaohu have already become disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect; they should be able to start cultivating the sect's exquisite Immortal Techniques, right?"

Young Lady Lii Xiaolan glanced at him.

"After becoming a disciple of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, you must first go to the Steward Hall to receive a token, complete some sect tasks, and earn Sect Contribution Points. Then you can go to the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion to browse the Inheritance Jade Scrolls. Only by paying the corresponding Contribution Points can you access the respective Inheritance Jade Scrolls!"

Chapter 534: How about the Seventy-six Immortal Sects!_4

"If one's Sect Contribution Points are few, the Immortal Sect Cultivation Techniques one can learn wouldn't be much different from the Yin Talisman Sect's exquisite Martial Dao. However, if one has accumulated many Sect Contributions, the Inheritance Jade Scrolls available for perusal would naturally be different. Only when the accumulated Sect Contribution Points exceed ten thousand can one peruse the core Spiritual Crane Immortal Technique of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

"I've been in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect for over a year," Lii Xiaolan explained. "During this time, I've been helping the Medicine Immortal Hall process various medicinal materials daily, and I've only accumulated a little over a thousand Sect Contribution Points in total. With just these thousand-odd Sect Contribution Points, if I were to learn Cultivation Techniques and Immortal Techniques, I could probably only learn exquisite techniques of the Martial Dao, such as the Yin Talisman Thunder Skill and the Primordial Concealment Technique!"

At this, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er couldn't help but frown and said, "Wanting to learn the Immortal Techniques of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect is this difficult? Sister Lan, you've been in the Sect for over a year and have only accumulated over a thousand Sect Contribution Points. If one wants to accumulate ten thousand Sect Contribution Points, wouldn't one have to do tasks for the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect for ten years!"

Lin Xuankong also couldn't help but frown slightly upon hearing this.

Many of my current Cultivation Techniques have already been cultivated to Perfection. If I want to rapidly enhance my strength, the best methods, besides refining more Immortal Artifacts, are to cultivate more powerful Cultivation Techniques! One important reason I wanted to join the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect is its tens of thousands of years of heritage; it must have an innumerable collection of Cultivation Techniques and Immortal Techniques passed down from ancient times, many of them sophisticated and unfathomable! For example, the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, which is on par with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, has disciples who perform the Fire Spirit Divine Technique. This technique is extremely powerful, almost equivalent to activating hundreds of Demon Pearls simultaneously! The key point is that once Demon Pearls reach the Immortal Tier, after their user becomes an Earth Immortal, they can no longer synchronize with the summoner's strength. Even if summoned, they would at most be Tier Nine Transcendence Demons, far from capable of contending with middle-to-high-grade Earth Immortals! However, the Fire Spirit Divine Technique of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect has no such limitations. It's said that if an Earth Immortal performs it, they can summon formidable Demons only one Realm below their own. This means a Third-Grade Earth Immortal could directly summon a terrifying Tier Two Demon King-level Demon! If the Fire Spirit Divine Technique of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect is this powerful, and the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect is not much inferior, then the core Immortal Techniques passed down by the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect should be just as wondrous!

But now, hearing Lii Xiaolan say that to learn the Immortal Techniques of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, one needs Sect Contribution Points—and to learn true Immortal Techniques, one needs a full ten thousand Sect Contribution Points—this was a bit troublesome...

It's just unclear what kind of Sect tasks need to be undertaken to earn Sect Contribution Points. And what kind of tasks need to be completed to quickly gain more Sect Contribution Points!

Thinking of this, Lin Xuankong said, "Since we have nothing better to do, why don't the few of us who are new to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect go directly to the Steward Point? We can see how to earn the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Contribution Points, and how we can more quickly cultivate its core Immortal Techniques!"

Although Third Princess Xiao Ying'Er, Li Xiaohu, and the others were very curious about what method Lin Xuankong would use to resolve the imminent predicament, they could only resignedly give up when they saw Lin Xuankong consistently refuse to reveal anything.

Li Xiaohu sighed, scratched his head, and cupped his hands towards Lii Xiaolan. "Dry Mother Lii, sorry to trouble you. Could you take us to the Steward Hall of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect?"

Being called 'Dry Mother' by Little Hu, Lii Xiaolan was momentarily stunned, then began to chuckle. "Well, since a certain someone isn't prepared to tell us what solution he's thought of, it's useless to worry here! So, let's all go together!"

Chapter 535: The Millennium Crane Ancestor, Tributor Mu Arrives

A moment later, Lin Xuankong, Third Princess Xiao Ying'Er, and the Lin Family Seven Tigers followed Young Lady Lii Xiaolan out of the side hall of the Celebration Hall on the First Spirit Peak, floating towards the Third Spirit Peak.

The group floated in mid-air, surrounded by clouds infused with Immortal Charm drifting by.

Third Princess Xiao Ying'Er gazed at the lush and verdant peak before her, a look of amazement flashing in her bright eyes. "Indeed worthy of being an Immortal Residence! Throughout the entire territory of the Great Xia Dynasty, there isn't a single place that can compare to the beauty of these Spirit Mountains!"

Hu Shuo took a deep breath. Feeling the True Qi ceaselessly fill his body, he couldn't help but exclaim, "This is a Spirit Peak brimming with Immortal Yuan! Even though I haven't advanced to Initial Tier Earth Immortal yet, with every breath, I can feel the True Qi within my body constantly replenishing! In such a spiritually blessed place, even an ordinary person who has never undergone cultivation would likely live to a hundred years old!"

Li Xiaohu chuckled and said, "So what? The thirty-six Spirit Mountains and Spirit Peaks of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect are all residences for Immortals, yet the highest and most spiritually blessed First Spirit Peak is assigned to my godfather! What does this indicate? It shows that even though my godfather is merely a cultivator at the Tenth Layer Initial Tier, in the eyes of the Sect Leader and Elders of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, his status is higher than that of any Earth Immortal!"

Han Lu smacked his lips beside him. "Little Hu, you used to be so straightforward! How come you're now flattering your godfather endlessly!"

Upon hearing this, everyone burst into laughter.

Li Xiaohu shook his head repeatedly. "Han Lu, what nonsense are you talking about? I'm just stating the facts, no exaggeration at all. How can that be considered flattering? At most, it's called speaking well of him, heh heh!"

Lin Xuankong suddenly said seriously, "Saying nice things is fine, but I prefer it when you flatter me sincerely!"

Li Xiaohu:

Everyone laughed again.

Before long, the group had landed on the platform halfway up the Third Spirit Peak.

Everyone looked up. On the platform midway up the mountain stood a towering, nine-story giant tower. Clouds imbued with Immortal Charm drifted past the tower's waist. Several immortal cranes flapped their wings, passing between the clouds and the Exquisite Tower, letting out melodious cries. At the base of the giant tower's platform, two immortal cranes with feathers radiating colorful Spiritual Light lay there. Even though the group was hundreds of yards away, they could still sense the powerful Immortal Yuan Fluctuation emanating from the bodies of these two immortal cranes. These were clearly two Tier Three Demon King Level Exotic Beasts, used by the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to guard the Steward Hall and the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion!

"The foundation of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect is indeed formidable, truly one of the Twelve Immortal Sects in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region!" Lin Xuankong took a closer look at the two immortal cranes and couldn't help but speak up. "Probably, within all the Immortal Sects of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, no sect could raise such Tier Three Demon King Level guardian Exotic Beasts!"

Young Lady Lii Xiaolan took a few Spirit Fruits from her bosom and tossed them towards the two immortal cranes. Before the Spirit Fruits could even land, a special force drew them into the cranes' beaks, and they were devoured. After eating the Spirit Fruits, the cranes nodded slightly at Lii Xiaolan. Then, they each lay down and began to groom the feathers on their backs with their Crane Beaks, ignoring the group completely.

Lii Xiaolan smiled and said, "These two Guardian Immortal Cranes are said to have lifespans of tens of thousands of years, raised by the founding ancestor of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! Although these two Guardian Immortal Cranes aren't as strong in realm as the three Sect Leaders, three Supreme Elders, or some powerful Earth Immortals, their seniority is such that even the Sect Leader of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect would have to respectfully address them as Crane Ancestor!"

After she finished speaking, she cupped her fists towards the two Guardian Immortal Cranes. "Dan Crane Ancestor, Chang Crane Ancestor, Xiaolan is here to take these new Entry Level disciples to the Steward Hall and the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion. Please grant us permission!"

After Lii Xiaolan finished speaking, one of the Guardian Immortal Cranes that had been grooming its feathers suddenly let out a clear cry. Instantly, the air in front of the giant tower shimmered, gradually forming a ripple-like Spirit Vein Transference.

Li Xiaohu was a bit astonished. "It actually requires a Spirit Vein Transference to enter? Does that mean the Steward Hall and the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect are in some Celestial Demon Secret Realm?"

Lii Xiaolan shook her head slightly. "It's not in the Celestial Demon Bone's Secret Realm. The Immortal Sect set up this Array to prevent anyone from sabotaging or stealing important items from the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion. Only by entering through the Life Gate in this Array could one safely access the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion. Within the entire Immortal Sect, only the two Crane Ancestors can open this Life Gate. These Crane Ancestors command such respect among the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's many Earth Immortals not merely due to their seniority; they also hold mastery over the sect's most important Cultivation Technique inheritances!"

After speaking, she led the group to step into the Life Gate of the Array one by one.

After entering the Spirit Vein Transference, Lin Xuankong felt a blur before his eyes and found himself standing in the grand hall on the first floor of the giant tower.

At this moment, many disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were bustling about in the grand hall. Familiar with the place, Lii Xiaolan brought the group straight to the Steward Hall ahead.

When they arrived at the hall, a Disciple Steward of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect glanced at them and frowned. "Senior Sister Lan, the people behind you seem unfamiliar. Are they new Entry Level disciples or newly recruited Immortal Servants?"

Lii Xiaolan smiled. "They are new Entry Level disciples, here to collect their Disciple Tokens!"

Lin Xuankong added from the side, "Additionally, we intend to take on some sect tasks to earn Sect Contribution Points quickly so we can start Cultivation of the Core Technique of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

The Disciple Steward, who had been polite to Lii Xiaolan, frowned even more upon hearing Lin Xuankong speak. "The Core Technique of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect requires a full ten thousand Sect Contribution Points to cultivate. Since you are new Entry Level disciples, learning it would mean completing numerous sect tasks. That could take at least ten, perhaps even twenty to thirty years. Don't aim too high. In Cultivation, it's crucial to avoid haste and impatience!"

Li Xiaohu and the others frowned immediately upon hearing the Disciple Steward speak so discourteously.

Lii Xiaolan furrowed her brows and couldn't help but say, "This junior brother might be busy in the Steward Hall and unaware of recent events within the Sect. These individuals are different from previous new Entry Level disciples. Each of them defeated thousands of opponents in the disciple recruitment competition to join our Immortal Sect. They are cultivators with exceptional talent; surely they won't need that long!"

The Disciple Steward shook his head and laughed. "Every disciple who joins our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect is exceptionally talented, a genius in their own right!"

At this moment, an Earth Immortal walked out from the back of the Steward Hall. This Earth Immortal glanced over here, his expression changing, and he hurried over. "Tributor Mu, why aren't you resting at the First Spirit Peak? How do you have time to come here!"

Chapter 536: The Only Exception, Lin Xuankong

Upon seeing the Earth Immortal, Young Lady Lii Xiaolan immediately cupped her hands in salute, "Master Huang!"

This Earth Immortal, addressed as Master Huang, was none other than the late-stage Second-Grade Earth Immortal Huang Liutao, whom Lin Xuankong had previously encountered at the entrance of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Martial Arts Arena.

Normally, as a disciple of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, it was only proper for Lii Xiaolan to salute an Earth Immortal.

However, when this late-stage Second-Grade Earth Immortal, Huang Liutao, saw Lii Xiaolan saluting him, he immediately returned the gesture with utmost respect. It was as if Lii Xiaolan were not just an ordinary disciple, but a significant figure within the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!

Especially when looking at Lin Xuankong, this late-stage Second-Grade Earth Immortal Huang Liutao's face was full of enthusiasm, even showing a hint of flattery.

Huang Liutao's respect and enthusiasm were not due to Lin Xuankong's strength, but because Lin Xuankong now held the position of the First Tributor of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!

In the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, there were three external Tributors in total, all of whom joined after becoming Fourth-Grade Earth Immortals. In terms of both strength and status, they were far superior to the regular Earth Immortals of the sect.

But Lin Xuankong was no ordinary Tributor; he was the First Tributor of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! According to the sect's rules, the First Tributor could exercise the authority of the Sect Leader, issuing orders to any disciple or Earth Immortal of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. His status was second only to the three Supreme Elders and Sect Leader Li, and even slightly above the two Vice Sect Leaders in rank.

As the Grand Chief Steward of the Steward Hall, how could the late-stage Second-Grade Earth Immortal Huang Liutao not show respect, enthusiasm, and flattery when faced with such a First Tributor?

Most importantly, Huang Liutao had personally witnessed Lin Xuankong wield seven Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. He had also seen the Lin Family Seven Tigers and Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, who were beside Lin Xuankong, activate Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. He greatly envied Lin Xuankong's Artifact Refining techniques!

For Huang Liutao, if he could improve relations with Lin Xuankong and get his help in refining an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, it would undoubtedly be a dream come true.

Lin Xuankong, having a modest personality, naturally wouldn't put on airs just because Huang Liutao was acting so friendly.

He cupped his hands back towards Huang Liutao, repeating what he had previously said to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Disciple Steward.

Grand Chief Steward Huang Liutao laughed immediately after hearing this.

"Tributor Mu, you are not just any ordinary disciple of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. You are our First Tributor, a towering figure second only to Sect Leader Li! Why would you need any Sect Contribution Points to learn our sect's Cultivation Techniques?"

Lin Xuankong was taken aback. "No need for ten thousand Sect Contribution Points?"

Huang Liutao nodded repeatedly. "Not only do you not need ten thousand Sect Contribution Points, Tributor Mu, but you can learn any Cultivation Technique of our sect without needing even one Sect Contribution Point!"

Then, with a trace of anger on his face, he turned to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Disciple Steward beside him and frowned.

"Yi, don't you know this gentleman is our new First Tributor, someone who stands on equal footing with Sect Leader Li? Asking him for Sect Contribution Points is absurd! Believe it or not, I will expel you from the sect immediately, and you'll never be re-employed!"

At this moment, Huang Liutao's scolding wasn't just for Lin Xuankong to see; he was genuinely angry.

The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has dozens of Earth Immortals, he mused. In terms of both seniority and strength, I'm ranked in the middle to lower tier among them! If Tributor Mu were to help refine Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts for the sect's Earth Immortals in sequence, my turn would come after dozens. But eventually, it would be my turn! However, if one of my own disciples offends this Great God Tributor Mu, who has only recently joined, he could easily find any pretext to refuse to help me with Artifact Refining...

Thinking of this, how could Huang Liutao not be furious? How could he possibly endure it?

If this disciple named Yi weren't an official Disciple Steward of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, Huang Liutao might have kicked him out of the Steward Hall in a fit of rage.

The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Disciple Steward had already looked nervous upon seeing Huang Liutao being so respectful to this person. Now, hearing Huang Liutao declare that Lin Xuankong was the First Tributor of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, cold sweat began to bead on his forehead from shock.

For a moment, this Disciple Steward of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect couldn't utter a word. Gone was his earlier arrogance.

Remembering how he had audaciously reprimanded Lin Xuankong, mistaking him for a newly initiated disciple, he felt a chill run through his entire body, and his lips turned pale.

Seeing this, Lin Xuankong smiled and said, "Steward Huang, I am just a newcomer. This Disciple Steward doesn't know me. In that regard, he made no mistake in acting impartially. Besides, for a Disciple Steward to act impartially is actually a good thing for the Sect. Why must you punish him, Steward Huang?"

Grand Chief Steward Huang Liutao listened to Lin Xuankong's words and scrutinized him carefully. Seeing that Lin Xuankong's expression was indeed calm, without any trace of anger, he finally breathed a sigh of relief.

Chapter 537: The Only Exception, Lin Xuankong - Part 2

He snorted coldly at the Disciple Steward, causing the disciple named Yi to shudder, before taking out a Deacon Token from his chest.

"Tributor Mu, with this Grand Steward Token, you can enter the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. You'll have unlimited time to browse all the Cultivation Techniques of our sect, including our Core Technique, the Thousand Cranes Technique!"

After speaking, he walked to Lin Xuankong's side and respectfully handed the token to him.

The Disciple Steward Yi, who was pale-faced, couldn't help but be filled with astonishment when he saw this. As a disciple of the Steward Hall, he naturally knew very well that the Grand Steward Jade Token Huang Liutao had taken out was the only one in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Steward Hall that allowed unrestricted access to the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion! Normally, only the three principal Sect Leaders, Vice Sect Leaders, and the three Supreme Elders of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect have the right to move freely within the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion. However, because the Steward Hall needs to manage and clean the pavilion, such a token exists. If it weren't for this, even Grand Chief Steward Huang Liutao would not be qualified to move freely within the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion, which is supervised by the two Crane Ancestors! However, Grand Chief Steward Huang Liutao actually gave this one and only unrestricted access token to this newly joined Tributor of the Immortal Sect! How could Disciple Steward Yi not be shocked!

Lin Xuankong accepted the token, cupped his hands in thanks, and said, "Then Mu Shiba will not stand on ceremony. However..."

He glanced at Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, Li Xiaohu, and the others beside him.

"These people are Cultivators very close to me. Steward Huang, you should know they have also recently joined our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. If they wish to learn our sect's Immortal Techniques, they would need Sect Contribution Points, right? Please help them get their Disciple Tokens and assign them some tasks to earn Sect Contribution Points!"

Upon hearing this, Huang Liutao looked at Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er and the others, a troubled expression on his face.

"Normally, with Fellow Daoist Xiaoo and these other fellow Daoists being close to Tributor Mu, I should also allow them to enter the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion to learn our Cultivation Techniques. However, I only had one such special access token, and I've given it to Tributor Mu, granting him these special access rights! Alas, the two Crane Ancestors are quite strict when managing the pavilion. I have no other way but to delay these fellow Daoists for a while; they'll need to complete tasks and earn Contribution Points..."

Before Huang Liutao could finish speaking, a voice suddenly came from outside,

"What nonsense are you speaking, Little Tao? It's an immense fortune for our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect that Tributor Mu has joined us. These few fellow Daoists with him—aside from one who is Tributor Mu's confidante, the others seem to be his adopted children. Since their relationship with Tributor Mu is so close, how can our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect be so stingy? Why would we hoard our own Sect's Cultivation Techniques as if they were mere trifles to be selfishly guarded!"

Everyone turned to look and saw Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect walking in from outside.

All the disciples in the Steward Hall, including Late-stage Second-Grade Earth Immortal Huang Liutao, hurriedly cupped their hands in greeting to welcome this Sect Leader of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect nodded slightly to everyone before walking to Lin Xuankong's side and smiling. He said, "Please forgive us, Tributor Mu. These fellows, Little Tao included, still haven't comprehended the significance of your joining our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. They were about to obstruct you and your esteemed companions over the so-called rules of the Ten Thousand Laws Hall!"

Seeing this, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er and Young Lady Lii Xiaolan couldn't help but feel their expressions shift, their eyes filled with pride as they looked at Lin Xuankong.

Especially Young Lady Lii Xiaolan. She had joined the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect over a year ago and had been to the Steward Hall many times. So she was well aware that throughout the entire Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect—with its dozens of Earth Immortals, tens of thousands of disciples, and over a hundred thousand Immortal Servants—everyone had to follow the sect's rules. Disciples had to diligently complete various tasks assigned by the sect to earn Sect Contribution Points. Only then could they exchange them for sect resources and gain the qualification to enter the Ten Thousand Laws

Pavilion to view Cultivation Techniques. Moreover, depending on the amount of Contribution Points, the floor level one could access in the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion and the time one could spend viewing Cultivation Techniques also varied! It could be said that among the over one hundred thousand people in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, only three Supreme Elders, whose strength was incomparably close to the Sixth Grade, and three late Fifth Grade principal Sect Leaders and Vice Sect Leaders, possessed exceptional privileges! However, Lin Xuankong, merely a newly joined, early-stage tenth-layer disciple, held authority and status comparable to the Supreme Sect Leader and the three principal Sect Leaders and Vice Sect Leaders! Not only that, but Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was even willing to break the sect's rules for Lin Xuankong. He would allow Lin Xuankong, Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, and the Lin Family Seven Tigers to directly enter the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion and immediately learn the Core Immortal Techniques of the sect! Such status, such authority, such honor! It could be said that throughout the entire Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, practically no one could compare to Lin Xuankong! How could Young Lady Lii Xiaolan and Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er not be proud of Lin Xuankong!

As for the other Disciple Stewards in the Steward Hall, upon witnessing this and looking at Lin Xuankong again, they were all dumbfounded. Their eyes were filled with incredulity and intense envy.

Chapter 538: The Only Exception Lin Xuankong_3

As disciples of the Steward Hall, they held the power to assign sect tasks. Benefiting from their advantageous position, like a waterside pavilion that catches the moonlight first, their speed in gaining Sect Contribution Points with this authority was much, much faster than that of disciples from other Spirit Peaks in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!

Even so, most Disciple Stewards in the Steward Hall still needed over ten years to accumulate ten thousand Sect Contribution Points to have the chance to learn the core Immortal Techniques of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!

But Lin Xuankong and the Lin Family Seven Tigers before them had just joined the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Furthermore, according to the senses of these Disciple Stewards, Lin Xuankong and the others clearly emitted True Qi fluctuations, not the aura of Immortals. Yet, Lin Xuankong and the Lin Family Seven Tigers were able to receive such unprecedented privileges immediately upon entry. How could they not be astonished? How could they not be envious!

Were it not for the presence of Sect Leader Li and Grand Chief Steward Huang Liutao, these Disciple Stewards would have already started discussing, wanting to know just what kind of sacred beings Lin Xuankong and the Lin Family Seven Tigers were!

Among the many astonished Disciple Stewards, the one named Yi felt particularly chilled to his core. That Grand Chief Steward Huang Liutao treated this person with such respect was one thing, but even the majestic Sect Leader of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was so respectful and courteous to him?

If Lin Xuankong hadn't shown him no ill-will and hadn't seemed to care about Yi's earlier disrespectful attitude, Yi would probably be a quivering mess on the ground by now!

At this moment, Lin Xuankong, seeing how warmly Sect Leader Li was treating him, felt somewhat touched. He cupped his hands in salute. "Sect Leader Li's kindness towards Mu Shiba is something I will surely remember!"

Upon hearing this, Sect Leader Li's face immediately showed some joy. Ever since learning that Lin Xuankong could refine Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, he had put considerable effort into winning Lin Xuankong over from those at the Beimang Immortal Sect, Western Nether Immortal Sect, and West Star Immortal Sect. And for what reason? Of course, it was so that Lin Xuankong would devote himself to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect in the future, refining many Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts to aid the sect's growth!

So now, seeing that Lin Xuankong seemed touched, he was naturally overjoyed!

He waved his hand and laughed heartily. "Tributor Mu, there's no need for such formality! We are all part of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, destined to cultivate together for thousands or even tens of thousands of years. In the future, if you ever need anything, just let me know. As long as the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has it, and as long as I, Old Li, can manage it, there will be absolutely no reason to refuse!"

Witnessing Sect Leader Li's sincere and eager recruitment of Lin Xuankong, Li Xiaohu and the others also felt delighted.

Moreover, thinking that they could join Lin Xuankong in the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion to cultivate the Immortal Techniques of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect without having to complete various sect tasks, Li Xiaohu and the others were pleasantly surprised.

Meanwhile, after laughing heartily for a moment, Sect Leader Li suddenly took Lin Xuankong aside and walked towards a corner of the main hall. Reaching a secluded spot, Sect Leader Li's face gradually turned solemn, and he transmitted his voice to Lin Xuankong:

"Tributor Mu, after hearing the information you provided about the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's Duan River, I immediately consulted with three Supreme Elders and two Vice Sect Leaders."

Lin Xuankong frowned slightly. "Does Sect Leader Li have a plan?"

Sect Leader Li sighed, a hint of melancholy in his voice. "We have already tasked a group with setting up numerous new Arrays. However, according to Elder Sui He's estimates, the forces Flaming Blade Duan River can muster might not be something the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect can withstand on its own!

If the Earth Immortals Flaming Blade Duan River mobilizes are only Second Grade and Third Grade Earth Immortals, our Immortal Sect Array and the newly established numerous Arrays should suffice for a fight!

However, Elder Sui He warned that your Artifact Refining skills, Tributor Mu, might attract Earth Immortals not limited to those from Small Immortal Sects. The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and Five Elements Immortal Sect might mobilize all their forces, possibly even including several Five Elements Great Magical Ships!

Those Five Elements Great Magical Ships, though not Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts and of generally average sturdiness, are unique Magical Artifacts. They are capable of concentrating the attack power of tens of thousands of cultivators into a single strike. Regardless of whether the cultivators practice techniques of metal, wood, water, fire, or earth, their power can be fused. Then, they can unleash a world-ending force comparable to the magical power of a Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal!"

The Five Elements Great Magical Ships... capable of concentrating the attack power of tens of thousands of cultivators into a single strike, comparable to a Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal! Lin Xuankong's expression shifted.

As far as he knew, Sixth-Grade Earth Immortals were as rare as phoenix feathers and unicorn horns in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, easily suppressing Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals!

"Our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Immortal Sect Array can't withstand the attack of such a Five Elements Great Magical Ship?" Lin Xuankong asked with some confusion.

Sect Leader Li shook his head. "Our Immortal Sect Array was established by our founding ancestor with the help of dozens of Immortal friends proficient in Array Formation. It is capable of easily withstanding thousands upon thousands of attacks from Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals. However, when facing the attacks of a Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal, it can only resist six strikes in a short period!"

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However, the Five Elements Immortal Sect possesses a full twelve of those Five Elements Great Magical Ships. It is precisely by relying on these ships that they command a terrifying deterrent force, compelling nearly all Immortal Sects in the Central Divine Dynasty's Western Region to acknowledge them as the First Immortal Sect there!

If they dispatch three to five Five Elements Great Magical Ships, our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Immortal Sect Array can withstand the assault. But if, by some chance, the Five Elements Immortal Sect decides to deploy more than six, our Immortal Sect Array would likely collapse directly under the concentrated fire of those Great Immortal Ships!

At that point, without the protection of the Immortal Sect Array, our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, even relying on our medium and small-scale Arrays and dozens of Earth Immortals, would definitely be at a disadvantage!

These Five Elements Great Magical Ships are so formidable; they sound even more ferocious than the Immortal Capturing Array Miss Xiao helped me refine. Even if these ships aren't sturdy enough to be classified as Immortal Artifacts, their attack power alone is enough to strike fear into anyone!

If the Five Elements Immortal Sect really does send these Five Elements Great Magical Ships this time, I'll get to see for myself if they're as formidable as Sect Leader Li claims!

And if they truly are that powerful, and if I could obtain one of these Immortal Ships, I could give it to Miss Xiao to study and refine. With her talent, she might be able to create even more powerful Immortal Artifacts. At the very least, given her genius in Artifact Refining, crafting Immortal Artifact-Level Five Elements Great Magical Ships shouldn't be a problem for her!

Thinking this, Lin Xuankong felt not a shred of crisis, but rather a flicker of anticipation.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, seeing Lin Xuankong remain silent, assumed Tributor Mu was intimidated by the Five Elements Great Magical Ships of the Five Elements Immortal Sect. He stroked his three strands of long beard and frowned, saying,

"Of course, Tributor Mu, you need not be overly concerned. The Five Elements Great Magical Ships of the Five Elements Immortal Sect are far slower than Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. Therefore, even if the Five Elements Immortal Sect deploys these Great Magical Ships, it would take them at least ten days to reach us. During this period, I will dispatch personnel to monitor them closely. If we confirm they have deployed these Great Magical Ships, our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect will certainly devise a method to destroy them!

"However, the Five Elements Immortal Sect will undoubtedly send Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals to escort these Five Elements Great Magical Ships. Furthermore, as long as they haven't used these ships to attack our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, we lack a justifiable reason to attack their ships preemptively!

"Thus, the exact number of Five Elements Great Magical Ships the Five Elements Immortal Sect will deploy, whether their ships can even reach us, and whether our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect can succeed in destroying them—all these remain unknown variables!

"For this reason, to ensure Tributor Mu's safety, Grand Elder Sui He has proposed that it would be best for Tributor Mu to enter his Celestial Demon Bone Secret Realm. With Grand Elder Sui He personally present within his Secret Realm, he can absolutely guarantee Tributor Mu's safety, making it possible to advance offensively or retreat defensively!"

Enter the Celestial Demon Bone Secret Realm of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Supreme Elder? Lin Xuankong couldn't help but furrow his brows.

Entering someone else's Celestial Demon Bone Secret Realm is tantamount to completely stepping onto their home ground. If that Elder Sui He, whom I've never even met, has any ill intentions toward me, I would have absolutely no way to resist!

Out here, relying on my Third-Grade Immortal Artifact, the Cyan Nether Immortal Sword, and two sets of Immortal Capturing Arrays, I still have a chance to resist attacks from Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals. But stepping into someone else's domain would leave me utterly defenseless!

Although, judging by the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's attitude towards me, the likelihood of such a thing happening is minimal, how could I possibly entrust my life and safety entirely to someone else's territory?!

Chapter 540: The Immortal Artifact Like a Fire Poker

Lin Xuankong decisively shook his head. "Sect Leader Li, Flaming Blade Duan River has gathered the Earth Immortals from the Five Elements Immortal Sect and the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect to cause trouble. I already have some countermeasures in place! As for the Celestial Demon Bone Secret Realm of Elder Sui He, I don't think we need to go!"

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was a bit surprised. He carefully looked at Lin Xuankong. Over seventy Immortal Sects had gathered, including the always ferocious and strong Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, as well as the Five Elements Immortal Sect, the First Immortal Sect of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region. Even the three Supreme Elders were having a hard time dealing with it. Some sects that used to be on friendly terms with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, such as the Beimang Immortal Sect, the Western Nether Immortal Sect, and the West Star Immortal Sect, were now wavering and dared not oppose these seventy-plus sects at this moment! Yet, this Initial Tier cultivator claimed to have a strategy? How could that be possible!

Seeing the doubt and surprise in Sect Leader Li's eyes, Lin Xuankong took out six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts from his pocket and handed them over.

"The many Immortal Techniques of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect have been collected, organized, and deduced by numerous Earth Immortals over countless years. I, Mu Shiba, certainly cannot learn them for free. Since I don't need to perform sect tasks or earn Sect Contribution Points, let these six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts serve as gifts to our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! With these six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, I believe Sect Leader Li and the other Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect can exhibit even greater power when facing the enemy!"

Lin Xuankong was very aware. The entire Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was making efforts to protect him. Now they had also opened the Ten Thousand Laws Pavilion, allowing him, Ying'Er, and Little Hu to freely read many precious Secret Manuals. Much of this was because of his Artifact Refining skills! But regardless of the reasons or intentions, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, as well as Qu Qiao'Er of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, were indeed very kind to him. Even Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er treated Young Lady Li Xiaolan with great respect and importance! Moreover, the Earth Immortals and their Sect Leader, as well as the Supreme Elders of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, did not use their power or Realms to pressure him, nor did they show any intention of forcibly taking his Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. This was entirely different from the ways of sects like the Fire Spirit

Immortal Sect and the Profound Yin Demon Sect! This Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was indeed a place worth staying in! Since that was the case, he should express his gratitude... He had over a hundred Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, with ninety-eight of them needed for two sets of Immortal Capturing Arrays. The remaining dozen or so were not very useful, so he might as well give them to the Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. With these, at least six Earth Immortals from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect could be armed, greatly enhancing their combat power!

"Six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts!"

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect fixed his gaze on the six miniature Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts in Lin Xuankong's hand, unable to look away for a long time. He had personally seen Lin Xuankong wield seven Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, so he knew Lin Xuankong had quite a few. But even if he had seven or eight, or even nine or ten Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, it would not be so extravagant to casually give away six, would it? Those were not ordinary Exorcism Equipment, nor Low-Tier or High-Tier Spiritual Artifacts, but genuine Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts! The entire Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect currently publicly claimed to possess one First-grade Immortal Artifact, held by Grand Elder Sui He. In reality, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect had secretly obtained two Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts... In other words, the entire sect had quite a few High-Tier Spiritual Artifacts, but only three Immortal Artifacts in total! Yet, this Tributor Mu casually handed six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, and he seemed to treat those six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts as if they were six randomly found firewood sticks! This was something even the Sect Leader of the Divine Dynasty Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty could not achieve! Even the Profound Yin Demon Sect, more powerful than the Divine Dynasty Immortal Sect, would find it painful to give away six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, no matter who their Sect Master was! Most importantly, with these six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's six Earth Immortals could definitely double their combat power! When dealing with those seventy-plus sects, they wouldn't be at a complete disadvantage! Tributor Mu indeed possessed extremely strong Artifact Refining skills; otherwise, how could he be so willing!

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect stared at the six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts in Lin Xuankong's hand, breathless with excitement. Feeling as if he were dreaming, he didn't reach out to take them for a long time.

At this moment, it wasn't just Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect who was immensely excited. The entire Steward Hall, whether it was Grand Chief Steward Huang Liutao, Disciple Steward Yi who had previously reprimanded Lin Xuankong, or the other Disciple Stewards, were all stunned in place! As disciples of a prestigious Immortal Sect, they had naturally seen Magical Artifacts, but Immortal Artifacts were rare, let alone six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts placed in a cultivator's hand! Moreover, this cultivator wasn't showing off those six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts but intended to give them away... six genuine Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, given to others! Even seeing it with their own

eyes, the late-stage Second Grade Earth Immortal Huang Liutao and those Disciple Stewards in the Steward Hall were a bit dazed, almost unable to believe this scene was real!

"What? Sect Leader Li thinks six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts are not enough?" Seeing the Sect Leader's silence, Lin Xuankong slightly frowned.

He wasn't reluctant to give Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect more; after all, he had over a dozen Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts he currently didn't need. Moreover, as long as he was willing, he could gather enough materials and easily refine a pile of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. If he gathered dozens of sets of materials, he could quickly obtain dozens of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts! But he knew very well that one should not expose all of one's cards. He had already displayed having seven Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts in front of many Earth Immortals and cultivators, and Little Hu and the others each had two Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. This was already shocking enough, even provoking Flaming Blade Duan River to rally seventy-plus sects! If he further showcased a pile of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts to Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, and the news spread, who knew what kind of mess might ensue... So, the best choice was to give Sect Leader Li no more than six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts!

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, hearing this, immediately paused and repeatedly waved his hands. "No, no, six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts are too many, too valuable! I... I really dare not accept! Moreover, Tributor Mu, you currently carry seven Immortal Artifacts. If you give six to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, wouldn't you only have one left for yourself?"

Lin Xuankong smiled and replied, "It's fine. Anyway, I haven't reached the Earth Immortal Realm yet. If I want to wield a large number of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, it still takes a lot of True Qi. At least, in the short term, these six Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts in the hands of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Earth Immortals can manifest more power than if I wielded them! Moreover, if Sect Leader Li feels embarrassed, you can give me some materials for refining Immortal Artifacts."

Sect Leader Li hesitated for a moment, then extended his trembling hand and took three Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. "I really can't accept so many precious Immortal Artifacts. Three are enough. Also, providing materials for refining Immortal Artifacts is no problem at all! Huang Liutao, listen to my command! Go to the Ten Thousand Spirits Pavilion immediately, bring two hundred sets of materials for refining Immortal Artifacts, and give them all to Tributor Mu as a token of our gratitude!"

After saying this, he looked at Lin Xuankong and remarked somewhat sentimentally, "Two hundred sets of materials for refining Immortal Artifacts certainly cannot compare to three finished Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. I hope Tributor Mu does not mind!"