

# Struggling to Survive with Regression Power in the Primordial Saint Sect

[ 1,377 words ]

## Chapter 351: Do Not Bully the Poor Youth!

Northern Frontier, Yan City, Yan Family.

"Thirty years east of the river, thirty years west of the river. Do not bully the poor youth!"

In the spacious hall, an eight-year-old boy stood tall with his chest out, speaking each word with strength and determination. His face was filled with defiance, and his eyes seemed to harbor the spirit of a lion.

However, what responded to him was a disdainful sneer.

Despite such an attitude, the members of the Yan Family dared not show any dissatisfaction, for the visitor's background was simply too formidable—he hailed from the sole overlord of the Northern Frontier.

Northern Frontier, Divine Martial Sect!

"Enough with this useless talk, Yan Xiao. Your parents are now deceased, and our young lady is about to be accepted into the Divine Martial Sect, destined for a far greater future."

"Do you intend to hold her back?"

"The young lady is grateful for the resources you've provided over the years, but you two no longer belong to the same world. It's best to part ways amicably."

"Now, quickly annul the engagement!"

Upon hearing this, the boy immediately looked at the middle-aged man who had spoken. Beside him stood a girl who had once been charming and beautiful, but now looked back at him with a cold expression.

Once, they were seen as a golden couple by others. However, as she gained the favor of the Divine Martial Sect, everything changed. Compared to her, the boy—now an orphan with no support and only barely acceptable talent—was like an ant on the ground looking up at the stars in the sky.

The former could only look up to the latter.

Thinking this, the girl simply withdrew her gaze, no longer looking at the boy. The middle-aged man beside her impatiently said:

"Enough, just sign it quickly."

As he spoke, he took out a contract from his bosom and threw it in front of the boy: "The young lady is waiting to cultivate in the Divine Martial Sect; there's no time to waste!"

Despite wanting to throw the contract back at the man's face, the boy ultimately swallowed his sorrow, trembling as he picked up the contract.

Circumstances were stronger than people.

'Today's humiliation will be repaid a hundredfold!'

The boy vowed in his heart, signed his name, and then looked at the other party with tears in his eyes, striving to maintain his last shred of dignity.

"Bang!"

At that moment, the Yan Family's main door was suddenly pushed open, and a figure stepped inside. His aura was calm, appearing at first glance like an ordinary person.

"Who are you!"

Instantly, everyone present shouted angrily, except for the middle-aged man who had forced the boy to sign the contract. His expression changed drastically, revealing a look of fear.

He had been using his spiritual sense to monitor the entire Yan Family. With his cultivation at the peak of Qi Refining, who could enter the Yan Family unnoticed? Thinking of this, the middle-aged man dared not hesitate and immediately knelt on one knee, respectfully saying: "This humble one greets the True Person!"

However, the Daoist Dangmo ignored him.

He merely calculated with his fingers, then looked at the boy with tear-filled eyes and an unyielding spirit, his gaze softening before he smiled:

"Fellow Daoist Lü, it's been a long time."

Upon hearing this, the boy was stunned: "You are...?"

"My name is Ye Guangji."

As he spoke, the Daoist Dangmo reached into his robe and took out a token: "Fellow Daoist and I were fated in a previous life, so in this life, I have come to guide you."

He then placed the token into the boy's hand:

"From today onwards, you are my sole disciple, the leader of the righteous path, a true disciple of the Jiangnan Sword Pavilion. Come, return to Jiangnan with me to uphold the righteous path."

As his words fell, silence enveloped the room, followed by an even more intense uproar.

"Jiangnan Sword Pavilion!?"

"That's on par with the Demon Sect—how is this possible! Why him?"

"Could he be the reincarnation of a Foundation Establishment True Person!?"

The middle-aged man's expression froze completely. He wasn't ignorant; he immediately turned to look at the boy, only to see his mouth twitching.

Just a moment ago, the boy was still in the east of the river.

Unexpectedly, in the next moment, he was in the west.

"Poof"

Life's ups and downs came too quickly, and happiness arrived too suddenly. The boy's tears hadn't even been retracted, yet his smile couldn't be suppressed.

At the same time, as if a certain shackle had been broken.

"Boom!"

In an instant, a surge of fortune, visible only to the Daoist Dangmo, erupted from the boy's impoverished body, causing him to nod slightly:

'Fellow Daoist Lü indeed has remarkable means.'

"It truly succeeded!"

Through the [Puppet Strings], Lü Yang witnessed the entire process and said with satisfaction: "This [Fallen Genius] fate has now been perfected!"

Everything was, of course, his arrangement.

To be precise, eight years ago, he had foretold the fate of his avatar, setting the fortune and destiny of "fallen genius, accumulating strength for a breakthrough."

To maintain this fate, he had to [abstain from luxury], meaning he had to live in poverty, be humiliated, and struggle in vain until an external force broke this stalemate, allowing him to be reborn and repay the suffering a hundredfold.

"After being a waste for eight years, his fortune has been dormant for eight years."

"Now, with a sudden awakening, his fortune soars, perfect for using [Fortune Divination]. No matter what, the chance of drawing [Great Luck] is extremely high!"

Thinking of this, Lü Yang felt quite pleased.

After all, this was a fate he had painstakingly crafted. Although it required enduring long-term hardship, that's what avatars are for—to suffer for the main body!

If it doesn't suffer, how can I enjoy blessings?

Now that the avatar's suffering has ended, isn't it time for the main body to reap the rewards?

"However, this method isn't particularly advanced. The Daoist Dangmo probably noticed... but he likely thinks it's a contingency I left before reincarnation."

"In any case, with the fortune explosion after perfecting this fate and the avatar's previous life's background, the Sword Pavilion should value him."

Without hesitation, the avatar followed the Daoist Dangmo and left.

However, upon departure, the Daoist Dangmo sighed and sent a secret technique into the avatar's sea of consciousness, causing Lü Yang to narrow his eyes:

"It's a method to erase memories of the previous life..."

This wasn't surprising. After all, the avatar was an outsider, not a direct descendant of the Sword Pavilion. Without abandoning his past life, he couldn't receive the true teachings of the Sword Pavilion.

Only by doing so could he gain the Sword Pavilion's trust.

"...Forget it. With the [Puppet Strings], no matter how they erase his past life, the avatar remains under my control and poses no threat to me."

Lü Yang quickly regained his composure.

Through the [Puppet Strings], he watched as the Daoist Dangmo merged with sword light, taking the avatar through the void, soon arriving in the Jiangnan region.

Then Lü Yang saw the [Sword Pavilion].

Although he had been in Jiangnan for quite some time, to be cautious, he had never approached the Jade Pivot Sword Pavilion's mountain gate, fearing exposure.

This was his first time.

What he saw was a towering, perilous peak reaching into the clouds, resembling a divine sword rising from the ground, its blade pointing to the heavens, majestic and beyond full view.

Whether or not the Sword Pavilion consisted entirely of sword cultivators,

At least from the mountain gate's appearance, it was very much in line with sword cultivation.

The Daoist Dangmo rode the sword light, flying into the Sword Pavilion, then ascending through the clouds until he reached a palace on the cliff's edge before descending.

"Greetings, Daoist Dangmo!"

In front of the palace, two young disciples hurriedly stepped forward to salute. The Daoist Dangmo nodded in response, then led Lü Yang into the palace.

"This place is called the Reception Hall."

The Daoist Dangmo explained: "Every new disciple must have their background examined here. Only those with profound backgrounds can receive our sect's true teachings."

After speaking, the Daoist Dangmo gently pushed Lü Yang forward.

Inside the Reception Hall was a somewhat narrow corridor, resembling an ancestral hall, with a shrine at the head, upon which sat a sword and an incense burner.

The Daoist Dangmo then handed three lit incense sticks to Lü Yang, saying solemnly: "Go, offer incense to the ancestor."

"From now on, you are a true disciple of our Sword Pavilion."

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[ 1,361 words ]

## Chapter 352: First-Grade True Cultivation Method!?

Jade Pivot Sword Pavilion, Hall of Reception.

Lü Yang held three long sticks of incense in his hand, with wisps of green smoke curling around him. In an instant, it felt as if he heard the thunderous voices of ten thousand people questioning him in unison:

"Have you ever colluded with the Demonic Path?"

"Do you harbor any malicious intent?"

"Have you awakened memories of a past life?"

Three incense sticks, three questions. With the green smoke swirling around him, this clone of Lü Yang had no room to lie. Unconsciously, he opened his mouth and replied:

"None at all!"

His voice was righteous and confident.

After all, as a clone, he was pure and innocent. He harbored no ill intentions, nor had he awakened memories of a past life. As for colluding with the Demonic Path, that was something the main body did.

What did that have to do with the clone?

The next moment, the clone snapped back to awareness and realized that everything just now had been an illusion. Only the three burning incense sticks remained steadily in his hand.

However, Lü Yang could sense that these incense sticks were by no means ordinary. The only reason he could hold them steadily was that he had just passed the test of the three questions. Had he failed, the incense would have ignited his body and soul, reducing him to a pile of ashes.

With that thought, Lü Yang immediately stepped into the Hall of Reception.

Although he had feigned ignorance in front of the Daoist Dangmo earlier, through the Yun family ancestor, he had already thoroughly investigated the Sword Pavilion inside and out.

‘The Hall of Reception is especially crucial!’

It wasn’t just a place to verify one’s origins—it also determined what kind of inheritance one would receive. The better one performed here, the stronger the inheritance one would obtain!

‘As expected of the Sword Pavilion, truly on par with the Saint Sect.’

In the Saint Sect, profound cultivation methods had to be exchanged for contribution points, which meant becoming someone’s servant—either you rose to power or became a mere tool.

The Sword Pavilion wasn’t much better.

The Hall of Reception only assessed one’s background. The upside was that you didn’t have to be someone’s lackey. The downside was that if your background was lacking, your fate was sealed. Forget about rising up.

One path of cattle, one path of swords.

Each region had its merits—it wasn’t without reason.

Upon entering the Hall of Reception, Lü Yang was surprised to see several other boys and girls. They appeared young, like his clone, but seemed somewhat translucent.

‘There’s more than one Hall of Reception.’

Lü Yang instantly understood that these youths were likely in other halls undergoing their own assessments. Their images had merely been synchronized across the halls.

As expected, some of the youths noticed him as well.

But they merely glanced at Lü Yang before indifferently looking away, continuing to hold their incense and grit their teeth as they walked toward the inner hall.

"I will definitely make it in!"

One of the youths, ordinary in appearance, had a determined expression and blazing eyes. He murmured under his breath: "Within a hundred steps of the divine altar, you’re an outer disciple. Within thirty steps, an inner disciple. Within ten steps, a true disciple. If you can offer incense at the altar, you’re a born Sword Seed!"

With those words, he took a step forward.

"Thud!"

Though there was no visible change, the youth suddenly began to tremble. Every step forward became immensely difficult, and he finally stopped at the eightieth step.

"Not even eighty steps!?"

The youth clenched his jaw. Eighty steps only qualified him as an outer disciple, cultivating methods of seventh grade or lower. His entire life would be limited to the Qi Refining stage—how could he accept that?

"I'll risk it!"

In the next moment, he steeled his heart and took another step forward. But with that step, countless fissures burst across his body.

In the blink of an eye, he became a man of blood.

"Thump!"

He collapsed to the ground and lost consciousness.

Such a bloody scene shocked the other youths, who dared not act recklessly again. If they couldn't proceed, they gave up without hesitation.

From that moment, their destinies were sealed.

'It's not easy cultivating in the Sword Pavilion either...' Lü Yang thought to himself.

Good thing he had his cheat.

'【Fate-Divining Draw Stick】 , draw for me!'

The fate accumulated by this clone over the past eight years of hardship now erupted all at once, finally transforming into a radiant golden divination stick that floated forth.

**【Event: Enter the Hall of Reception and offer incense to the ancestor】**

**【Lesser Fortune: Your background is decent. You approach within nine steps of the altar and become a true disciple.】**

**【Minor Misfortune: Though your background is decent, as a split soul, your foundation is shallow. Only through unwavering determination can you reach within three steps of the altar.】**

**【Great Fortune: Your fate erupts, and with a profound background, this trifling Hall of Reception becomes a breeze. You offer incense at the altar without obstruction.】**

‘It has to be 【Great Fortune】 !’

In the next second, Lü Yang felt a mysterious force of destiny surge through him, as though the heavens themselves lent their strength. He then steadily stepped forward toward the divine altar.

One hundred steps, thirty steps, ten steps... three steps!

“Boom!”

At that moment, light burst from every Hall of Reception in the Sword Pavilion, startling Daoist Dangmo outside the hall, who showed a look of surprise in his eyes.

From his perspective, since Lü Yang’s past life was that of a Foundation Establishment cultivator—one who had even slain the master of Mending Heaven Peak—reaching within ten steps of the altar and becoming a true disciple was expected. But to step within three steps... that was extraordinary, implying deep understanding of the Sword Pavilion’s path!

‘Could it be... another Sword Seed?’

Daoist Dangmo raised his brows with a delighted look. Now that eight years had passed since the True Sovereigns of the world went into seclusion, the ensuing chaos had gradually subsided.

‘The Northern Demon Sect produced two cultivators of complete Foundation Establishment and stabilized the region.’

‘The Pure Land in Jiangxi remains as calm as ever—rumor has it a Buddha Child has descended.’

‘But the greatest impact was in the Eastern Dao Court—where the Son of Heaven, Grand Preceptor, Grand Tutor, and Grand Protector all went into hiding. The Crown Prince barely stabilized the court after assuming regency...’

It was clear—the era of great conflict was fast approaching!

‘In the future, I too will have to contend for supremacy. If I can cultivate a junior to manage the Sword Pavilion before that, it wouldn’t be a bad thing at all.’

Daoist Dangmo’s thoughts churned.

Meanwhile, inside the Hall of Reception, Lü Yang had already reached the divine altar and carefully placed the three sticks of burning incense into it.

In the next instant, the green smoke surged!

Lü Yang suddenly felt darkness before his eyes. As the smoke entered his nose and mouth, countless words emerged in his mind, finally coalescing into a single cultivation method:

《Sword Lord's Mystical Gold-Wielding Secret Chapter》!

‘This is...’

Once he fully digested the information in his mind, Lü Yang’s main body, located in the Hidden Sword Manor, suddenly widened his eyes:

‘This thing... is a first-grade true cultivation method!?’

Before he could even react, an unexpected change occurred.

“Damn it!”

Through the 【Puppet Strings】 technique, Lü Yang glared at his clone. To his shock, the fate he had painstakingly accumulated over eight years—living cautiously and obeying all rules—was entirely siphoned away by the smoke from the altar. It circled once within the altar before slowly returning to him...

Only it wasn’t his fate anymore.

It had become 【Sword Pavilion Fate】!

‘In other words, my hard-earned fate is now under their ownership? I only have the right to use it? They can take it back anytime?’

How was this any different from selling himself!?

What’s worse...

‘This doesn’t even feel like my fate anymore!’

It was someone else’s fate! It had merely been absorbed into the category of 【Sword Pavilion Fate】!

In a daze, Lü Yang seemed to see countless causes and effects, endless sins and karmic debts—all imposed onto him along with the fate!

Then what happened to his pure fate?

Could it have been handed over to some Sword Pavilion true cultivator!?

At that thought, Lü Yang trembled with rage.

No wonder the Sword Pavilion preferred disciples with a deep background—perfect scapegoats, who wouldn't love that?

'Damn sword freaks!!!'

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

## **Chapter 353 : The Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold**

[ 1,427 words ]

Chapter 353: The Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold

When Lü Yang walked out of the Reception Hall, what greeted him was Daoist Dangmo's somewhat helpless gaze: "I didn't expect you would actually pay respects to the Ancestor."

"Come with me."

Daoist Dangmo sighed and didn't say more. He then led Lü Yang, riding a stream of escape light, and before long, they reached the summit of the Sword Pavilion Mountain Gate.

This place towered above all peaks, offering a view of all the surrounding mountains. A palace stood proudly here, and at this moment, light projections had already manifested—at a glance, they were all Foundation Establishment Real Persons. After bringing Lü Yang here, Daoist Dangmo wasted no time. He directly stretched out his hand and produced a thick Dao book.

"Today, disciple Yan Xiao entered the Reception Hall to offer incense to the Ancestor."

Holding the Dao book reverently, Daoist Dangmo declared solemnly, "By the Ancestor's decree, you are now designated as a Sword Seed of the sect. You shall exhaust your form and lifespan, cultivate diligently, and uphold the righteous path to guide the world."

With that, he inscribed the name of Lü Yang's incarnation in this lifetime into the Dao book.

“You are my first disciple under this seat. By generation, you belong to the ‘Ming’ character generation. Today I bestow upon you a Daoist name—【Ming He】. May you take encouragement from it.”

“Disciple greets Master.”

Lü Yang bowed respectfully and received the token symbolizing the identity of a 【Sword Seed】 from Daoist Dangmo’s hands. He then voluntarily withdrew.

“The position of a Sword Seed is comparable to that of Foundation Establishment.”

“Holding this token, you may choose a cave dwelling within the Extreme Heaven Cliff. Your foundation in your past life was profound—be diligent in your cultivation and quickly return to your former Real Person position.”

As Lü Yang departed, Daoist Dangmo’s gaze suddenly turned somber.

Almost at the same time, a Foundation Establishment Real Person approached with a smile and said, “Congratulations, Real Person. You’ve gained another cherished disciple. The day of dissolving all karma is not far.”

This man was named Ye Cheng.

As a member of the Ye family, he wore a delighted smile: “I’ve heard about it—this man harmed Xingfeng, and now he shall repay the evil of his past!”

Hearing this, Daoist Dangmo’s face grew even uglier.

For cultivators from outside who entered the Sword Pavilion, the Sword Pavilion had a complete and concise cleansing process. The Reception Hall was the most critical part.

“All outsiders who enter the Sword Pavilion must first have their past-life memories eliminated. Then they go to the Reception Hall to offer incense, drawing out their fortune and reshaping it into the Sword Pavilion’s fortune. I had thought Fellow Daoist Lü lacked the aptitude to learn the 『Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold』, so there was still room to turn back. I didn’t expect it would be beyond saving.”

Thinking of this, Daoist Dangmo sighed once more.

“...Heaven’s will.”

The 『Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold』 was a well-known first-grade true cultivation method in the Sword Pavilion, yet throughout the Pavilion and beyond, very few actually practiced it.

Among the true bloodlines of the Sword Pavilion, even fewer cultivated it.

If one were to take a closer count, they would find that only disciples who had been Real Persons in past lives and joined the Sword Pavilion after reincarnation practiced this method!

Within the quiet chamber of a cave dwelling on Extreme Heaven Cliff.

“『Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold』 ...”

This cultivation method was vast and profound, with over ten thousand words. It encompassed all aspects of cultivation—and more importantly, it overturned all existing systems of cultivation!

What was a sword cultivator?

Generally, anyone who used a sword was considered a sword cultivator. However, this was not the case in the 『Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold』, where such were labeled as heterodox.

A true sword cultivator was one who cultivated the sword itself!

Focused on one path, abandoning all else, accompanied solely by a single sword, resonating day and night, sincerely communicating with the divine—only by making the sword their Dao could they be deemed a true sword cultivator!

Lü Yang frowned upon reading this. Up to this point, he had seen many cultivators of the Sword Pavilion, but by the standards of the 『Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold』, perhaps only Daoist Dangmo Ye Guangji could truly be called a “sword cultivator.”

‘Something’s not right.’

Years of study in the Primordial Saint Sect told Lü Yang there was something fishy here. After all, this was a first-grade true cultivation method—why would it be shown so casually?

‘...Unless it’s a trap!’

And a deadly trap at that!

Realizing this, Lü Yang became more vigilant and continued reading the 『Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold』. Soon, his expression changed.

Moments later, he closed his eyes.

‘I knew the Sword Pavilion wouldn’t be so kind... A first-grade true cultivation method, and it’s actually a eunuch text! The cultivation portion only went up to Foundation Establishment perfection—nothing more!’

Indeed, 『Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold』 was a first-grade true method because it was the only method Lü Yang had ever seen that truly aimed to “attain a fruit position from emptiness”—and the person who created it clearly intended to manifest a 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 from nothing. The ambition was astounding.

After all, even 【Wuyoutian】 was not truly void-attained.

‘【Wuyoutian】 is not so much void-attained as it is the transformation of a fruit position prototype through one’s own Dao into a desired form.’

By now, Lü Yang knew what the Myriad Spirits Banner was hiding.

That inexplicable power that once allowed him to temporarily hold the position of a Great Real Person was actually a prototype of a fruit position—sealed by an Innate Real Person after obtaining it!

So strictly speaking, 【Wuyoutian】 still had a foundation.

However, the 『Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold』 aimed to attain a 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 from true void—something entirely different!

The ambition was great—but what of the cost?

‘The cost was borne by us!’

‘Regardless of whether one was Foundation Establishment in life, no matter their divine abilities—as long as one practiced this method, they would be turned into a 【Changheng Observant Golden Sword Foundation】.’

‘Even innate divine abilities would be transformed!’

This approach was eerily similar to 【Wuyoutian】—dragging down other fruit positions’ Dao foundations to fill the pit of the 【Sword Dao】!

‘The 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 is hard to attain, so they need people like us to practice this first-grade true method, using our lifelong talent and enlightenment to fill it bit by bit. If the fruit position were a painting, we’d be the brush and ink to create it.’

‘This method... is probably made specifically for outsiders!’

Lü Yang realized that outside Real Persons had various Dao foundations. Even if their past-life memories were erased, their souls weren’t reincarnated cleanly, and their Dao foundations remained unchanged.

This method was perfect to cleanse them again.

First erase the memory, then wash away the fortune, and finally wash the Dao foundation—during which the Sword Pavilion absorbed the fortune and filled the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】. They profited immensely!

And I still owe them karma?!

‘Sword Seed... No wonder it’s called Sword Seed!’

‘Without people like us sacrificing our entire cultivation to fill it in, how could the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 ever sprout and grow into a towering tree?’

Yet at that moment, Lü Yang suddenly paused:

“No... There were people among the Sword Pavilion bloodline who practiced this first-grade method—Daoist Dangmo! He seems like a pure sword cultivator!”

Lü Yang had seen Daoist Dangmo in action. When faced with an assault by Heavenly and Earthly Immortals of the 【Mystic Spirit Realm】, that Foundation Establishment perfection Great Real Person hadn’t used any divine abilities—he merely drew his sword, and that so-called 【Non-Killing Sword Intent】 seemed to mark him as a true sword cultivator!

‘But why would he practice such a pitfall?’

‘Could he, like me, be a reincarnated external Real Person? No, impossible. He’s a direct bloodline of the Ye family, a trueborn Sword Pavilion member.’

“... 【True Lord of Upholding Heaven’s Virtue】?”

Suddenly, inside the Myriad Spirits Banner, Ancestor Ting You—who was also reading the 『Sword Lord Speaks on the Profound and Upholds the Secret Chapter of Gold』 with Lü Yang—spoke, his expression a bit strange:

“What has been will be again.”

Ancestor Ting You sighed and then said in a deep voice, “Daoist Dangmo Ye Guangji—didn’t he formerly practice 【Wall Soil】?”

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[ 1,446 words ]

Chapter 354: The Sword Pavilion is Truly Sinister!

"If that's the case, then it all makes sense!"

With the cautionary tale of Ancestor Ting You as a precedent, the Ye Clan's 【True Lord of Inherited Heaven and Upright Virtue】 would certainly take extreme precautions against anything that might threaten his Foundation Establishment.

Even those of his direct lineage would be no exception.

'Daoist Dangmo might have been one of them. Though he had achieved mastery in cultivating 【Wall Earth】 , he still wasn't accepted by the True Lord and was thus forced to switch to a first-class cultivation method.'

He might not even have realized it himself.

After all, the Sword Pavilion possessed secret arts capable of erasing past lives. If a True Lord personally made a move, subtly tampering with you during reincarnation, you might even end up thanking him!

' 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 . What a massive trap!'

Lü Yang came to a conclusion: 'As of now, this cultivation method is already extremely refined at the Foundation Establishment level, which is why the Sword Pavilion's disciples are so powerful during this stage.'

Otherwise, they wouldn't dare claim to be number one in the world in combat arts.

But what about at the True Lord level?

'At least judging from the previous life of the 【True Lord of Inherited Heaven and Upright Virtue】 , the Sword Pavilion's combat power at the True Lord level clearly isn't as high as expected.'

'This might be because the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 has not yet been established and therefore cannot augment True Lord-level power. So even if Sword Pavilion cultivators are dazzling at Foundation Establishment, they would regress to normal

standards upon reaching True Lord level. But once the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 is validated, everything would change.'

At that time, the power of the sword path would undoubtedly soar, possibly even amplifying True Lord-level strength.

'However, this also means that the True Lords of the Sword Pavilion would absolutely never allow the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 to be monopolized by a single person.'

Just like the Netherworld back in the day.

Reincarnation was far too important to be monopolized by one party. So the only fate for the person who validated it was to be besieged and killed, leaving only the fruit position behind.

'In other words, no matter who it is, as long as they cultivate the 『Profound Discourse of the Sword Sovereign's Golden Edict』, there are only two possible outcomes. Either become a disposable offering to fill the fruit position, or be incredibly talented and help the True Lords establish the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】—then fall, just like the Lord of the Netherworld did.'

‘. It’s truly sinister!’

Lü Yang was truly astonished by the Sword Pavilion’s tactics, and to make matters worse, they made everything look legitimate on the surface. A first-class cultivation technique! Free upon sign-up!

Did the Jiangbei Demon Sect offer such benefits?

This was what they called righteousness!

As for the cultivation method’s pitfalls, if you couldn’t reach the Golden Core, sometimes you had to blame yourself. Did you have enough talent? Did you put in the effort?

‘You’re practically sold off and still end up counting money for the Sword Pavilion!’

But most people wouldn’t even reach the level to pursue Golden Core in their entire lives, and without reaching that stage, they’d never discover the problem.

‘I can see it only because I have enough talent and effort.’

Without Ancestor Ting You’s help analyzing it, Lü Yang probably wouldn’t have noticed the insidiousness hidden within this so-called first-class cultivation method. He would have thought he got lucky!

‘Good thing my main body didn’t cultivate this method. Sending a clone into the Sword Pavilion was indeed the right decision. Although the 『Profound Discourse of the Sword Sovereign’s Golden Edict』 is a trap, I never planned for the clone to pursue Golden Core. So cultivating it is fine—as long as my main body avoids it, there’s no real danger.’

Moreover, times have changed.

Back then, no matter how strong a Sword Cultivator was, they were still in Foundation Establishment, easily crushed by a True Lord with a single palm strike. Even reaching perfected Foundation Establishment couldn’t spare them from death.

But now, the True Lords have gone into seclusion!

‘Under such circumstances, the effects of this first-class cultivation method are instead magnified. After all, it does provide immense combat power at the Foundation Establishment stage.’

With that in mind, Lü Yang felt relieved.

‘Though it’s a big trap, this technique is indeed top-tier at the Foundation Establishment level. It has already developed into a complete cultivation system.’

Ordinary cultivators used the three realms: Qi Refining, Foundation Establishment, and Golden Core.

Sword Cultivators were the same, except they called it the 【Three Realms of the Sword Dao】 : 【Sword Qi Thunder Sound】 , 【Clear Sword Heart】 , and 【Sword Intent Refines Spirit】 !

‘Sword Qi, Sword Heart, Sword Intent!’

‘Among them, Sword Intent clearly aimed to rival Golden Core True Lords. However, since the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 hasn’t been validated, Sword Intent also falls short of reaching True Lord level.’

‘At best, it just greatly enhances combat power, like with Daoist Dangmo.’

Daoist Dangmo’s power was the strongest Lü Yang had ever seen among perfected Foundation Establishment cultivators. Even Uncle-Master Chong Guang in his prime was slightly inferior.

‘But Uncle-Master Chong Guang pursued the Dao itself.’

Overemphasizing combat strength is like mistaking the means for the end. No matter how powerful you are at the same realm, if your cultivation falls behind, it's still nothing but an illusion.

“Hm? What's this?”

Suddenly, Lü Yang's eyes flickered as they fell upon a page in the Dao Book:

“A Sword Cultivator's cultivation technique—the Sword Box Secret Art?”

Everyone knew that Foundation Establishment was a step-by-step process, collecting the Heavenly Gang and Earth Fiend energies in order. This was universal cultivation theory.

But Sword Cultivators were completely different.

According to the 『Profound Discourse of the Sword Sovereign's Golden Edict』, once a Sword Cultivator reached Foundation Establishment, the first thing they needed to do was collect various external medicinal ingredients to forge a Sword Box.

The so-called Sword Box was, in essence, a secret treasure. The cultivator carried it at all times and, through duels with others, gathered the qi of slaughter and weapon clash within the box, refining it over time. Eventually, this would form a 【Sword Divine Power】. Once merged, the cultivator could immediately break through to the next realm!

A look of amazement spread across Lü Yang's face: ‘Incredible!’

‘This isn't a breakthrough technique—it's clearly an attempt to replace the uniqueness of the Heavenly Gang and Earth Fiend energies, and it's probably part of the 【Kong Zheng】 process!’

After all, if the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 were truly validated, it would certainly exist outside the natural order.

In that case, how could it possibly still rely on “Heavenly Gang and Earth Fiend” for breakthroughs? This was already evident from the Netherworld and No-Such-Heaven systems.

However, this method had significant drawbacks.

‘Battling others to determine victory or death—how could that be without risks? You either kill or get killed. It doesn't suit my style at all.’

But as the saying goes, every perilous checkpoint has a shortcut.

There was another secret technique recorded in the 『Profound Discourse of the Sword Sovereign's Golden Edict』 —using the Sword Box to convert inherited divine powers from past lives.

After all, innate divine powers were once proven and always proven. When the Dao Foundation of a past life was transformed, the remaining divine powers became incompatible and also needed conversion.

‘As long as I send the inherited divine powers from a past life into the Sword Box, aided by external medicine, I can still condense a Sword Divine Power without life-and-death duels.’

‘This method suits me!’

Of course, Lü Yang would never use the divine powers of his immortal main body for conversion.

What he wanted to convert were the two Taixu Divine Powers: 【Essence of All Fragrances】 and 【Sea of Pouring Sorrow】. Since they were obtained by his clone, he wouldn't feel bad sacrificing them.

Moreover, unlike the Taixu Divine Powers, Sword Divine Powers had status!

‘Innate divine power from the Dao Foundation, two Sword Divine Powers, and combined with the mysterious 【Law Holding】 technique, I can still have the clone pose as a Great True Person!’

And without any hidden risks!

‘Using Taixu Divine Powers to link with the Myriad Spirits Banner would not only result in backlash, but also be unsustainable. Switching to Sword Divine Powers is actually more beneficial for me!’

Jiangnan, Hidden Sword Manor.

Lü Yang's main body opened his eyes. His Dharma body then stepped out, stretching under the sunlight, while beginning to lay out his next plan.

‘The clone has already gotten on track.’

‘But the clone is only eight years old this year. Whether it's forging the Sword Box, converting Sword Divine Powers, or re-entering Foundation Establishment, it'll all take time—no need to rush.’

“By my calculations, it should be about time.”

Lü Yang calculated with his fingers and soon smiled.

Skeleton Mountain!

Based on past life experience, around this time, Ancestor Ting You—who in this life was still struggling for survival in the Witch Ghost Secret Realm—should be about to escape!

“It’s time to pave the way for my talent!”

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## **Chapter 355 : Which Fellow of the Saint Sect Is This?**

[ 1,398 words ]

Chapter 355: Which Fellow of the Saint Sect Is This?

Jiangbei, Skull Mountain Market.

Lü Yang was still using his Dharma body to travel, yet remained cautious, fully restraining all his aura. At a glance, one would only think he was a down-and-out rogue cultivator.

‘Better safe than sorry.’

‘If I remember correctly, at this point in time, Skull Mountain was being watched by many True Persons of the Saint Sect—it wasn’t just that True Person of Yinshan!’

This was because the Divine Martial Sect of the Northern Frontier had a cultivator in the late Foundation Establishment Realm.

If it weren’t for a True Person seated in their sect, the Divine Martial Sect couldn’t have become the sole hegemon of the Northern Frontier, let alone covet the Witch Ghost Secret Realm within Skull Mountain.

However, during the battle at Skull Mountain, the True Person of Yinshan lured out the Witch Ghost Secret Realm, and at the same time, baited out several True Persons of the Divine Martial Sect. As a result, the Sect Master of the Divine Martial Sect—their only True Person—was besieged and killed by various True Persons of the Saint Sect. Only a few early Foundation Establishment cultivators escaped in disgrace, setting the countdown to their sect’s annihilation.

‘In other words, there must be a True Person watching this place!’

Strictly speaking, Lü Yang's true body was actually weaker than his avatar. Even with 【Holder of Dharma】 , he was only at the peak of the mid Foundation Establishment stage—not a match for a True Person.

So he harbored no arrogance at all.

“Senior Brother Zhao.”

Upon entering the market, Lü Yang swept his divine sense and indeed spotted a familiar figure—Zhao Xuhe, who owed him a huge amount of contribution points in several past lifetimes.

‘Sure enough, he has practiced the 『Nine Transforming Dragon Art』 .’

Lü Yang’s gaze flickered slightly. At this moment, Zhao Xuhe's cultivation had already reached the peak of Qi Refining. If nothing went wrong, he should be aiming for Foundation Establishment in the next few years.

‘That means Arhat Fulong is about to appear too?’

Lü Yang grinned.

The next second, as if suddenly recalling something, he channeled his divine sense into the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner and found the Peak Master of Mending Heaven Peak, who he had previously refined into a banner spirit.

“I ask you, are you already preparing for the breakthrough to the late stage?”

“Replying to Master, yes.”

Upon hearing this, Lü Yang’s eyes lit up and he whispered, “Since that's the case, you should've already secretly obtained a strand of 【Xin Metal】 , right?”

He had previously overlooked this matter. After all, in the previous timeline, the Peak Master of Mending Heaven Peak didn’t attempt a breakthrough until a century later. But upon seeing Zhao Xuhe, Lü Yang suddenly realized—the Peak Master might have long had the resources to reach the late stage!

The reason he hadn't attempted the breakthrough likely stemmed from pure fear of the Heavenly Tribulation!

Otherwise, why would he have the leisure to groom Zhao Xuhe? Finding the Heavenly Stars and Earth Fiends should be the priority—without them, everything was just empty talk.

Of course, this was merely Lü Yang's speculation.

Thus, he still needed confirmation from the Peak Master.

...

Moments later, Lü Yang withdrew his divine sense from the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, his expression shifting between gloom and brightness.

The good news was that the Peak Master indeed had a lead on a strand of 【Xin Metal】. The bad news—it wasn't in his possession.

"... Suheng Palace?"

Lü Yang's brows gradually furrowed.

This was a marvel located in Jiangbei, much like the 【Kingdom of Qing】, but it hadn't been conquered by the Dao Court—instead, it had been seized by Pure Land.

And according to the Peak Master, the 【Xin Metal】 was inside this marvel.

Due to its ties to Pure Land, the Peak Master had gotten close to Arhat Fulong. Judging from the outcome in the previous life, he had indeed succeeded.

This suggested that obtaining the 【Xin Metal】 from Suheng Palace depended heavily on Arhat Fulong.

'But... Pure Land, huh.'

Lü Yang felt a headache coming on. Ever since that near-death scare at sea by the World-Honored One, his attitude toward Pure Land Buddhist cultivators could be summed up in one line:

'They can be killed, they can be mocked, but never messed with in complicated ways!'

So even with the 【Puppet Strings】 in this life, Lü Yang had never considered sending a clone into Pure Land to uncover its secrets.

After all, no one could predict what might happen once a clone joined Pure Land and became a Buddhist cultivator. While 【Puppet Strings】 could deceive Golden Core cultivators, could it really fool a Dao Lord? If the World-Honored One descended and discovered someone pulling strings behind his host...

Wouldn't that be the end?

Although this was merely Lü Yang's worry, and it was also possible that his talent could hide everything even from the World-Honored One, in the end—it was a gamble.

And the thing Lü Yang hated most was gambling!

'As long as I don't gamble, I won't lose!'

'Ultimately, the **【Puppet Strings】** is merely a talent computed from Suo Huan's Metal attribute. Betting that it could handle the World-Honored One across two realms? That's too optimistic.'

The same logic applied to Arhat Fulong—he was no easy mark either.

So how could Lü Yang extract intel on **【Xin Metal】** from him?

'Kill him and refine him into the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner? Impossible—that's an Arhat. If the World-Honored One senses something amiss and descends to inspect, that's still game over!'

After all, once the World-Honored One descended, he would surely detect the embryonic Fruit of Position within the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner. Wouldn't he laugh in glee?

Those were actual Fruits of Position in there!

Although Lü Yang had refined some Buddhist cultivators into the banner before, they were all in the Qi Refining stage—not even considered full-fledged people—so it hadn't alarmed the World-Honored One.

But Foundation Establishment? That was already a True Person.

Especially in these times when True Sovereigns were hiding, the World-Honored One was very likely to focus his attention on Foundation Establishment cultivators!

As for sending the Peak Master and Chen Xin'an to work together using soul-extracting techniques? That was even more unreliable. What if halfway through, they triggered the World-Honored One?

"Ugh..."

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At this thought, Lü Yang couldn't help but slap his head and curse inwardly: 'The World-Honored One really has no shame. A Nascent Soul Dao Lord actually sets up a fishing pond scheme!'

But after much thought, he still made a decision:

‘No matter what, capture him first!’

‘Worst case, suppress him and slowly break him down. As long as I avoid alarming the World-Honored One, I refuse to believe that bald donkey is that tough!’

With that resolution, Lü Yang sprang into action.

He first found Zhao Xuhe and handed him the Foundation Establishment spirit items prepared by the Peak Master, then used 【Puppet Strings】 to control him into charging at the Foundation Establishment bottleneck.

“Rumble—!”

In an instant, half the Skull Mountain Market was shaken.

Lü Yang had pulled this trick in his past two lifetimes and was familiar with the process. With his higher cultivation now, it was even more seamless.

Soon, the sound of melodious Buddhist chanting echoed within Skull Mountain:

“Amitabha!”

A flash of Buddha-light parted the void, and Arhat Fulong stepped out of it with a compassionate smile: “Benefactor, you and this humble monk are destined to meet.”

Almost simultaneously, several gazes fell from the void.

As Lü Yang had expected, many True Persons of the Saint Sect had gathered here, all waiting for the Divine Martial Sect’s Foundation Establishment disciple to take the bait so they could pounce.

“A bald monk from Pure Land?”

“What’s he doing here?”

A Saint Sect True Person made a quick calculation and suddenly understood: “It’s the 『Nine Transforming Dragon Art』. It was admitted to the Sea of Clouds with Mending Heaven’s approval.”

“Should we stop it?”

“Forget it. If we interfere and startle the Divine Martial Sect, we might lose our prey. It’s just a Qi Refining disciple anyway...”

However, at that moment—

“Shwaa—!”

Suddenly, a brilliant ray of light swept out and struck Arhat Fulong. The latter let out a cry and was instantly captured without resistance.

In an instant, silence fell across the land.

The gathered Saint Sect True Persons were all seasoned veterans and immediately realized: someone had laid a trap specifically to capture Arhat Fulong!

And judging from the ease of the capture, the assailant’s cultivation was at least peak mid Foundation Establishment!

To use a Qi Refining disciple as bait, launch a surprise attack on a mid-stage Foundation Establishment, and capture an Arhat so cleanly—clearly this wasn’t a first-time operation.

Realizing this, the True Persons all shared a knowing smile:

‘Which fellow of the Saint Sect is this?’

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[ 1,503 words ]

Chapter 356: Guang Ming, the Buddha's Disciple!?

Above the firmament, the sea of clouds churned.

Though it was a land untouched by the four seasons, an eerie frost and snow now drifted down. The entire scene appeared dim and obscure, even the sound of the wind had ceased.

A profound silence.

At the center of the sea of clouds, a youth in ornate robes sat cross-legged, forming hand seals. He held a luminous full moon in his hands, emitting strands of cold light.

This full moon was the epicenter of the world's frost and chill. The cold light swirled around him, resembling illusory mist. As it drifted, it manifested images of moon laurels, jade disks, ice toads, and other visions, all of which vanished in a flash, ultimately

converging back into the full moon, making it shine even brighter and illuminating a silent face.

‘【Solemn Profound Frost】!’

This divine ability was Lü Yang's third, following 【Master of Arms】 and 【Stubborn Metal Duke】. It belonged to the category of 【Xin Metal】 and was a manifestation of 【Law Holding】.

At this moment, it rested in Lü Yang's palm.

Without any deliberate action, streams of moonlight flowed out, sensing the world and pressing steadily upon a young monk in robes below.

"Where did this fellow from the Saint Sect come from!?"

The Fulong Arhat raised his head and let out a sharp roar, completely unprepared for the fact that while he was setting a trap for a Qi Refining cultivator, he had been ensnared himself!

The opponent's cultivation was clearly superior to his.

Yet, they still set a trap and launched a sneak attack. Moreover, this was in Jiangbei. Without a doubt, the Fulong Arhat knew this had to be the work of a Saint Sect True Person!

What was even more fatal was that this person's divine ability was extremely effective against him!

‘Xin Metal as frost, the world turns bleak, vegetation withers and falls. Fortunately, my 【Fiery Dragon】 is of Jia Wood; otherwise, I might have perished already!’

Thinking this, the Fulong Arhat dared not be negligent. He continuously spat out blazing fire, transforming into a dragon to resist the descending curtain of profound frost. However, this bit of firelight was like a bonfire in the severe winter, warm but destined to extinguish eventually.

"Fellow Daoist! Senior! Do we have any enmity?"

"If this is the Saint Sect's routine extortion, just say so. Why resort to violence?"

The Fulong Arhat cried out more miserably, his pleas tinged with grievance. After all, he had always been kind to others and truly had no enemies.

Where did this person come from?

However, Lü Yang completely ignored his words, merely observing him quietly for a moment. Then, a few stern smiles appeared in his eyes.

In the past, his cultivation was shallow, and he hadn't noticed the clues.

Now, upon closer inspection, he saw that beneath the seemingly glorious appearance of the Fulong Arhat, he was actually outwardly strong but inwardly weak, lacking confidence.

The reason was simple.

"Your first innate divine ability is actually 【Jia Wood】 !"

The Fulong Arhat cultivated the 『Nine Transforming Dragon Art』 , with a Dao foundation pointing directly to 【City Wall Earth】 . The first innate divine ability should have been 【Wu Earth】 to align with the imagery.

Why was it 【Jia Wood】 ?

Lü Yang's thoughts turned, and he immediately understood the cause and effect: "As expected of a rogue cultivator, greedy for immediate progress, swallowing hastily, ultimately severing the path!"

If Lü Yang's guess was correct, the Fulong Arhat likely stumbled upon a 【Jia Wood】 while still a rogue cultivator and swallowed it without hesitation. He was lucky that 【Jia Wood】 and 【Yin Wood】 were similar in nature, and his Dao foundation could accommodate it, avoiding immediate death by explosion.

However, surviving by luck also severed his path.

'No wonder when I killed him in my previous life, the Pure Land had no reaction. Clearly, the Fulong Arhat was a Buddhist cultivator, yet the Pure Land cared more about me.'

The Fulong Arhat had been a discarded piece from the beginning!

If not, since the Pure Land aimed to prove 【City Wall Earth】 , how could they ignore the Fulong Arhat, allowing his cultivation to stagnate at the mid-Foundation Establishment stage?

Understanding everything, Lü Yang immediately smiled:

"Fellow Daoist Fulong, it seems that today, no one will come to save you. Some might even hope for your death to support others in rising!"

As his words fell, profound frost spread throughout the world, a scene of desolation. Wherever it passed, it locked the void, depleted spiritual energy, and withered all laws, truly a vision of the end of Dharma. The Fulong Arhat several times mustered his power to break through this layer of profound frost, only to crash into it, bloodied and bruised.

"What exactly do you want, Senior!"

At this point, the Fulong Arhat abandoned any hope, saying straightforwardly: "As long as this humble monk can do it, I am willing to comply, just spare my life!"

"Heh heh."

Upon hearing this, Lü Yang lowered his eyelids, a faint voice emerging: "I heard that the Jiangbei wonder 【Su Heng Palace】 contains a 【Xin Metal】. Is that true?"

"Yes, yes, yes!"

The Fulong Arhat didn't hesitate, quickly saying: "That is a wonder established by the 【Treasure Vase Water Moon Bodhisattva】 , and it indeed contains a 【Xin Metal】 !"

After speaking, he glanced at Lü Yang, a trace of doubt flashing in his heart. To him, Lü Yang's 【Solemn Profound Frost】 was clearly already a 【Xin Metal】 divine ability. If so, why seek another 【Xin Metal】 ? Could it be to refine a spiritual treasure that harmonizes with the divine ability?

Lü Yang naturally revealed nothing, his expression calm: "Can you retrieve it for me?"

"Yes, yes, yes!"

The Fulong Arhat dared not hesitate, for the surrounding profound frost had completely extinguished the flames around him, slicing his Dharma body like knives.

However, he had another plan in mind.

'Let me get through this crisis first. Once I escape, I can hide in the Pure Land. No matter how fierce this person is, what can he do to me?'

Though he thought this, Lü Yang had already guessed his thoughts: "Fellow Daoist's words alone are hard to trust."

"This humble monk can establish a Dharma contract!" the Fulong Arhat quickly said.

Lü Yang shook his head: "Everyone knows that your Pure Land loves to bully the weak and fears not these restrictive methods."

"Now it's clearly you bullying the weak."

The Fulong Arhat's mouth twitched. This person clearly had higher cultivation yet set ambushes and launched sneak attacks, and still had the audacity to speak of bullying the weak?

"How is that the same!?"

Lü Yang decisively shook his head upon hearing this, righteously saying: "You and I are both mid-Foundation Establishment stage, strictly speaking, the same realm."

"It's just that I have one more divine ability than you. How can that be considered bullying the weak?"

Upon hearing this, the Fulong Arhat's expression immediately became strange.

This feeling, something was off.

After a moment of silence, he tentatively looked at Lü Yang and softly said: ".Sword Pavilion?"

Lü Yang: "."

"Enough nonsense!"

Lü Yang no longer delayed, straightforwardly saying: "It seems you haven't thought it through. In that case, you're of no use to me. Better to send you to reincarnation."

"I have a way! I have a way!"

The Fulong Arhat quickly said: "This humble monk has a disciple, clever and quick-witted. I can have him retrieve the 【Xin Metal】 and then hand it over to you, Senior!"

".Disciple?" Lü Yang was taken aback upon hearing this.

The Fulong Arhat, thinking he was not believed, hurriedly explained: "His Dharma name is Guang Ming. Fellow Daoist must have heard of him. He is the newly born Buddha's disciple of our Pure Land! I was his master before; he listens to me the most. With his status, obtaining a 【Xin Metal】 is effortless."

Listening to the Fulong Arhat's description, Lü Yang gradually frowned.

‘.Guang Ming.’

Lü Yang certainly wouldn't forget this name. In his previous life, this person had a significant connection with him, a Buddhist cultivator with cunning, talent, and some fortune.

But the problem was, Buddha's disciple?

Due to psychological shadows from the Pure Land, Lü Yang's mind suddenly filled with countless conspiracies, even directly suspecting the Pure Land's World Honored One.

However, the next moment, he restrained his expression.

"Boom!"

Without any hesitation, Lü Yang directly withdrew the 【Solemn Profound Frost】 , completely suppressing the Fulong Arhat, then stored him in his sleeve and turned to look beside him.

There, a figure appeared out of thin air.

It was a middle-aged man with a face like it was carved by a knife, a serious expression, and eyes like lamps, staring intently at Lü Yang.

Hong Ju.

Seeing this, Lü Yang was not surprised. At this moment, he had already donned the golden shell of Hong Yun. When Hong Ju approached him, he sensed the anomaly.

The next moment, Lü Yang smiled slightly: "What, don't recognize me?"

Before his words fell, he released the aura of Hong Yun's gold nature. Sensing this aura, Hong Ju immediately relaxed his brows, then bowed:

"Hong Ju greets the Lord!"

However, seeing this, Lü Yang's smile gradually faded.

‘.Something's wrong.’

Although Hong Ju's words and actions were very respectful, Lü Yang, relying on his sense of Hong Yun's gold nature, keenly noticed some anomalies.

‘Doubt arises in his heart, thoughts unsettled... he's suspicious of me?’

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[ 1,412 words ]

## Chapter 357: Lord Hongyun's Far-Reaching Strategy!

'That's right, he should be suspicious of me.'

With a single thought, Lü Yang instantly understood the source of Hong Ju's suspicion—he had most likely sensed something unusual when Lü Yang subdued the Fulong Arhat's divine ability just now.

'Hongyun cultivates the 【Overturning Lamp Flame】.'

'Whereas I cultivate the 【Pomegranate Wood】.'

'And there is no 【Xin Metal】 divine ability in 【Overturning Lamp Flame】. Our cultivation paths differ, which is nearly ironclad evidence. It's only natural for him to have doubts.'

Though he thought this, Lü Yang remained completely unflustered.

After all, Hongyun's Metal nature was in his hands, effectively putting Hong Ju's life under his control. He could have Hong Ju drop dead at any time if he wished.

Otherwise, he wouldn't have dared to appear in person before someone at the peak of the Foundation Establishment Realm.

With that in mind, a composed smile appeared on Lü Yang's face. He looked at Hong Ju and said softly, "What's wrong? If you have doubts, just speak up."

"Hong Ju obeys your commands, my lord. I have no doubts whatsoever!"

In an instant, Lü Yang sensed a shift in Hong Ju's emotions—all suspicion had turned into panic, though he forcibly maintained a façade of calm on the surface.

But Lü Yang had no intention of letting it slide. Since he wanted Hong Ju to work for him, he had to win over his heart and mind. Otherwise, even if the man couldn't refuse, he might obey in appearance but defy in secret, creating unnecessary troubles. So, after a brief moment of thought, Lü Yang decisively said:

"No need for that."

Recalling how Hongyun had treated Hong Ju in the past, Lü Yang smiled and said, "Hong Ju, you are a clever man. I've hidden this matter long enough. It's time I told you."

"Take a look at this body of mine."

As he spoke, Lü Yang deliberately revealed a portion of his true nature. Hong Ju took one look and froze on the spot: ‘An Immortal Spirit... this man actually possesses an Immortal Spirit body!’

Wait, no, that’s not right!

With Hong Ju’s discerning eye, he could tell that Lü Yang had not yet been born in this life—in other words, this Immortal Spirit body had not yet reached its limits!

On the other side, Lü Yang didn’t mind exposing his identity. Now that True Sovereigns had gone into seclusion and Hong Ju was under the control of the Metal nature of Hongyun, it was no big deal for a few origins to be known. With his thoughts racing, he chuckled and said, “Did you really think I’ve done nothing these past five thousand years?”

Upon hearing this, Hong Ju was utterly shaken.

‘Wasn’t that the case?’

From what he knew, Hongyun had simply been repeatedly seeking the 【Overturning Lamp Flame】 , only to die abruptly each time—always the same pattern.

“Hmph, you’ve underestimated me.”

Lü Yang sneered, “After five thousand years of failing to acquire the 【Overturning Lamp Flame】 , even a fool would know something was wrong. Why would I keep butting my head against that wall?”

As he spoke, Lü Yang suddenly released his aura.

【Commander of Arms】 , 【Stubborn Metal Duke】 , and 【Solemn Dark Frost】 — three innate divine abilities radiantly manifested before Hong Ju, making his pupils shrink instantly:

“These three divine abilities... the mysterious cultivator from overseas back then was you, my lord!?”

Lü Yang readily admitted it: “If not for my strategic planning overseas that led to the emergence of 【Heaven of Nothingness】 , how could there be such a perfect opportunity for all the True Sovereigns to retreat into seclusion?”

Upon hearing this, Hong Ju was dumbfounded.

But then he thought it over carefully and suddenly felt... it actually made sense?

The emergence of 【Heaven of Nothingness】 had indeed involved Lü Yang in many ways—he was the one who first suggested exploring the overseas Biyang Cultivation Realm.

And whose territory was the Biyang Cultivation Realm?

Lord Hongyun's, of course!

In an instant, Hong Ju had an epiphany: It all made sense now! Could it be that 【Heaven of Nothingness】 was Lord Hongyun's true arrangement from back then?

With that thought, Hong Ju felt as if he had been enlightened. No wonder Lord Hongyun had invested so much effort in the Biyang Cultivation Realm—it couldn't have been just for a broken half-true treasure. That would be far too petty. 【Heaven of Nothingness】 was a plan worthy of someone who had once been a Golden Core True Sovereign!

“My lord... your foresight is extraordinary!” Hong Ju bowed deeply again.

Reflecting on Lord Hongyun's constant attempts to attain the 【Overturning Lamp Flame】 over the past five thousand years, what had once seemed like foolish persistence now appeared to be a brilliant disguise!

Openly repairing the plank road while secretly marching through the hidden path.

Enduring hardship in silence, all for this day!

Outwardly presenting himself as a hapless fool to mislead hidden enemies, while in reality laying down layers of strategic traps, ready to turn the tide!

And now... he had succeeded!

With the True Sovereigns in seclusion, no one could stop his quest for the Golden Core... Hmm? But if that were the case, why didn't the lord continue pursuing the 【Overturning Lamp Flame】 ?

As soon as the doubt arose, Hong Ju answered it himself.

After all, trying to claim the 【Overturning Lamp Flame】 again would definitely make an enemy of that cultivator 【Ang Xiao】 —a late-stage Golden Core powerhouse. Why create such a powerful foe?

It was better to choose a different path with broader horizons!

As for how 'Lord Hongyun' had managed to switch paths despite being a True Sovereign—Hong Ju felt that, given the means of a True Sovereign, anything was possible.

With that thought, the bewilderment he had felt due to Hongyun's repeated failures vanished. Even his old prejudices against Hongyun lessened—sure, he seemed different from the Lord Hongyun of the past, but hadn't that been deliberate pretense?

Now, this was the real Lord Hongyun!

"My lord's profound foresight earns my deepest admiration!"

In the next second, Hong Ju bowed once more. This time, his emotions were perfectly calm. All previous doubts and anxieties had completely disappeared.

Seeing this, Lü Yang nodded in satisfaction.

He then chatted with Hong Ju about past events. With the memories he had extracted from Hongyun via the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 , Lü Yang was extremely adept in this area.

Naturally, this only reinforced Hong Ju's convictions.

After all, a True Sovereign could not be soul-searched. The fact that this man could so vividly recall past events meant he had to be Lord Hongyun—and only Lord Hongyun.

"Hong Ju, I have three tasks for you."

Having gone to such lengths to subdue Hong Ju, Lü Yang naturally intended to make full use of him. He immediately said, "First, I want you to go to the Myriad Martial World and collect a batch of Qi for me."

After all, he was no longer part of the Primordial Saint Sect.

Moreover, his clone had already joined the Sword Pavilion and couldn't act freely. If he wanted to return to the Myriad Martial World, it would have to be with his main body—which would be too dangerous.

Having Hong Ju do it would be far simpler.

"I accept the order!"

Hong Ju did not disappoint Lü Yang and readily accepted the task. Seeing this, Lü Yang didn't waste time and revealed the other two tasks:

"Second, do you know where Chong Guang's 【Xin Metal】 body is?"

Although there were some clues about 【Xin Metal】 from the Fulong Arhat side, if he could get it directly from Hong Ju, there would be no need to take any risks.

Unfortunately, Hong Ju shook his head at the question:

“Reporting to my lord, the 【Xin Metal】 in Chong Guang’s possession was transformed from his Immortal Spirit in a past life. There are no clues on our side; he likely took it with him.”

“Then never mind.”

Though Lü Yang was disappointed, he spoke casually, “Lastly, I plan to visit the 【Palace of Su Heng】 . Wait for my orders to make a trip for me.”

A free henchman—how could he not use him?

Now that the True Sovereigns were in hiding, Hong Ju, at the peak of the Foundation Establishment Realm, was undoubtedly one of the top powerhouses. He was the perfect candidate to explore the 【Palace of Su Heng】 .

“Understood!”

Hong Ju withdrew respectfully. Once he returned from collecting Qi in the Myriad Martial World, Lü Yang’s 【Universal Form of All Phenomena under the Dry Heaven】 could make further progress.

Just then—

“Boom!”

A deafening rumble erupted from the direction of Skull Mountain. Lü Yang immediately turned his head and came to a sudden realization: “The Witch Ghost Path secret realm has finally emerged!”

In other words, the ancestor Ting You of this lifetime should have also appeared!

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[ 1,432 words ]

Chapter 358: Do You Truly Wish to Live?

“Rumble!”

Accompanied by a thunderous roar that shook the earth, the massive Witch Ghost Secret Realm manifested within the belly of Skull Mountain, from which surged an endless stream of ominous Yin energy.

The subsequent developments unfolded much as Lü Yang had anticipated.

True Person Yinshan made his move, acquiring the \[Heavenly Corpse Fiend] from the Witch Ghost Path, simultaneously luring the real persons of the Divine Martial Sect. Ultimately, the real persons of the Primordial Saint Sect launched a joint assault.

“Beasts! You are all beasts!”

The heavens echoed with the furious roar of the Divine Martial Sect's sect master. Yet, this late-stage Foundation Establishment real person was now enshrouded in a veil of night.

An even more formidable magical force obscured everything.

A magnificent illusion concealed the sun, moon, and stars. All fell silent in its wake, and the heavenly secrets were hidden. This was unmistakably a divine ability Lü Yang was quite familiar with.

‘\[Star Concealing Radiance]!’

In his previous life, Lü Yang had deduced this divine ability, though he had always employed it as an assassination technique. However, it now appeared that his cultivation at the time had been too shallow. Utilizing this divine ability for assassination was clearly an underutilization; it was evidently a grand method to obscure the heavens and the sun!

In an instant, the world plunged into darkness.

‘It's a perfected Foundation Establishment!’

Lü Yang's gaze flickered. From Hong Ju's words, he had learned that after the true lords went into seclusion, the Primordial Saint Sect, besides him, had another perfected Foundation Establishment overseeing affairs.

This person was named \[Xiang Ye].

Previously, he had remained hidden because his affiliated \[True Lord of Radiant Light] had always been overshadowed by the True Lord of Clear Snow, prompting him to keep a low profile.

However, now that the true lords had gone into seclusion,

Chong Guang had achieved true lord status and ascended beyond the heavens. The great real person under the True Lord of Multicolored Brocade, \[Jun Tong], was only at the late stage of Foundation Establishment. Naturally, this person emerged.

‘This is a military exercise.’

Lü Yang observed from afar, opening his Dharma Eye, and quickly discerned the changing situation.

That perfected Foundation Establishment great real person, Xiang Ye, did not exert his full strength. He merely used a divine ability to lock the heavens and earth, then allowed the other real persons to swarm in.

No wonder the sect master of the Divine Martial Sect felt so aggrieved.

As a great real person, even with a lowly inheritance, he shouldn't have been besieged by a group of mid-stage Foundation Establishment cultivators. It was purely because a perfected Foundation Establishment was suppressing him.

How could he possibly fight back?

‘No salvation, he's doomed.’

Lü Yang withdrew his gaze. The annihilation of the Divine Martial Sect was a foregone conclusion. Moreover, this time was entirely different from his previous life. The Primordial Saint Sect was likely taking it seriously.

‘In my previous life, with true lords overseeing, the Primordial Saint Sect was as stable as Mount Tai. Coupled with Uncle-Master Chong Guang's presence, they deliberately gave me opportunities to earn merit, so they were willing to let a few early-stage Foundation Establishment cultivators return. But now, with the true lords in seclusion, and a great real person from the Divine Martial Sect posing a certain pressure to the Primordial Saint Sect.’

How could they allow others to sleep soundly beside their bed?

It seemed that this time, not a single one from the Divine Martial Sect would escape.

However, Lü Yang naturally wouldn't participate in such a grand battle. He immediately concealed his aura and stealthily entered Skull Mountain, then summoned Su Nu.

“\[Hall of Yama]!”

Connecting to the earth veins, searching the universe, Lü Yang quickly sensed some anomalies within the earth veins of the eight-hundred-li Skull Mountain and instantly flashed his figure.

Almost simultaneously, within Skull Mountain.

“Who!?”

Just as Lü Yang arrived, a figure within the earth veins opened his eyes. Amidst the fluctuation of aura, he was evidently in a pseudo Foundation Establishment state.

In the next second, he attempted to sever the connection.

However, the disparity in cultivation between the two was simply too vast. Lü Yang, at the mid-stage perfected Foundation Establishment, dealing with a pseudo Foundation Establishment, was truly like Mount Tai crushing an egg, leaving no chance at all.

Yet, the figure's reaction speed was commendable. Seeing Lü Yang approaching to seize him, he immediately revealed a ruthless expression. His hand seals changed, and the earth veins of the eight-hundred-li Skull Mountain below suddenly erupted, seemingly about to explode and perish together with Lü Yang.

“Freeze!”

Behind Lü Yang, the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner unfurled, and Ancestor Ting You's figure appeared. He also formed seals, calming the previously turbulent earth veins.

Witnessing this, the figure was momentarily stunned.

“How is it possible that you...”

Lü Yang gave him no chance to speak, directly striking with his palm, reducing the figure to dust, then sending him into the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner for instant refinement.

After all, to him, this was merely a stranger.

The true ‘Ancestor Ting You’ was the one who had followed him into the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner in his previous life, blocking formidable enemies for him, and ultimately falling into a deep sleep due to severe injuries.

Within the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, Ancestor Ting You took a deep breath, absorbing all the innate Qi the figure had transformed into. His eyes, already radiant, became even more luminous, with intricate runes seemingly elucidating the profound principles of the Dao, all converging within his eyes.

After a long while, he exhaled deeply.

“So, I had a split soul that had drifted into the Witch Ghost Secret Realm. Thanks to you, now that it's reclaimed, I feel my condition has improved.”

Lü Yang was not surprised by this.

After all, the \[Book of a Hundred Lifetimes] had corrected all bugs. Any unreasonable aspects would be automatically ignored or mentally supplemented by Ancestor Ting You.

‘This is an opportunity.’

Lü Yang looked at Ancestor Ting You before him. With the supplementation of this life's original body, his condition had significantly improved, no longer as weak as before.

How weak had he been initially?

A dignified perfected Foundation Establishment great real person couldn't even defeat him, a perfected Qi Refining cultivator. Saying he was on the verge of soul dispersion was no exaggeration.

In his previous life, when overseas, he used the \[Hall of Yama] but only dared to pseudo-hold a mid-stage Foundation Establishment position, not a great real person position. It wasn't just because he hadn't gathered mid-stage Foundation Establishment cultivators at the time, but more importantly, Ancestor Ting You's soul couldn't support the status of a great real person.

However, this time was different.

‘If it's now, Ancestor should have the foundation to pseudo-hold a great real person position. After all, strictly speaking, his fifth life has just begun.’

It's time to strive!

After pondering for a moment, Lü Yang suddenly took out a book.

This was a path he had transformed with his divine sense. Its content was the method he used to refine avatars, the "Secret Record of Immortal Embryo Dwelling in the World." This secret method of avatar creation was truly profound.

The avatars created through this could even become entirely new individuals.

Similarly, it had another marvelous use.

'If I use this method to refine an immortal embryo and then let Ancestor take over, strictly speaking... it should allow Ancestor to be resurrected!'

Ancestor Ting You had conditions for resurrection.

Because, like Chen Xin'an, he hadn't entered the banner after death but had voluntarily entered while still alive, retaining a sliver of opportunity for revival.

The question was whether Lü Yang, as the banner master, was willing.

'If it were in my previous life, I would have been absolutely unwilling.'

After all, Ancestor Ting You's talent was simply too high. Once resurrected, he might break free from control, posing a significant risk to Lü Yang, making it uncontrollable.

In contrast, in this life, Lü Yang was much more assured of Ancestor Ting You. After all, the Ancestor from his previous life had already demonstrated his attitude through actions. Of course, more importantly, this life's Ancestor Ting You had already been cleansed by the [Book of a Hundred Lifetimes], making betrayal impossible.

Lü Yang did not deny his own dark thoughts. Without them, he would have died a hundred times over.

However, since he had made a decision, he wouldn't be stingy.

'Ancestor's talent, if used solely on me, would be too wasteful. Transforming it into combat power would accumulate more chips for me in the future!'

With this thought, Lü Yang instantly discarded all hesitation.

"Ancestor."

Lü Yang turned around, looked at Ancestor Ting You, and handed over the "Secret Record of Immortal Embryo Dwelling in the World" in his hand: "Do you truly wish to live?"

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## Chapter 359 : Borrowing a Corpse to Return the Soul

[ 1,520 words ]

## Chapter 359: Borrowing a Corpse to Return the Soul

"Truly alive?"

After hearing Lü Yang's words, Ancestor Tingyou was slightly taken aback. He then accepted the 『Secret Record of the Immortal Fetus Dwelling in the World』 handed over by Lü Yang, and began to peruse it with a slight frown.

After a moment, he exhaled a deep breath.

"It is indeed possible."

However, after speaking, he looked at Lü Yang and said in a low voice, "Why have you suddenly thought of reviving me? That True Lord has not died yet."

"Does Ancestor not wish to take revenge personally?"

Lü Yang said solemnly, "There are still fifty years. If Ancestor can truly be revived and return to the peak of the Foundation Establishment stage, there is still hope to break through to the Golden Core!"

Upon hearing this, Ancestor Tingyou became even more puzzled and frowned, "Break through to the Golden Core... How is there hope? That old ghost from the Ye family is merely in seclusion and has not fallen. The 【Wall Soil】 still has a master. Even if I recover my former peak, it's impossible to seek the Golden Core. I would still be a dried-up corpse in the grave."

"There is hope, Ancestor."

Lü Yang pointed to the All-Spirits Banner behind him, "With Ancestor's talent, if you can assimilate the embryonic fruit position within, wouldn't there be hope?"

Upon hearing this, Ancestor Tingyou was immediately stunned.

He had never considered the embryonic fruit position within the All-Spirits Banner, because in his view, that was undoubtedly Lü Yang's trump card for seeking the Golden Core.

But now, he wanted to give it to himself?

"...No!"

Ancestor Tingyou immediately shook his head, "The Golden Position is hard to obtain. This embryonic fruit position is very important to you. If I use it, it will not benefit your path."

However, Lü Yang waved his hand, "My mind is made up, no need to say more. Ancestor, you also know that it's very difficult for me to reach the step of seeking the Golden Core within fifty years. But you have hope. Once you break through first, you can then support me in seeking the Golden Core. This is the method to maximize benefits."

"After all, we still need to revive the Witch Ghost Path, don't we?"

At this point, Lü Yang showed a bright smile, "Given time, if Ancestor personally slays that old ghost from the Ye family, wouldn't that be delightful?"

"This..."

Upon hearing this, Ancestor Tingyou held his breath. To first support someone in breaking through to the Golden Core, and then have them support oneself—what immense trust this was!

He had never even heard of such a thing!

Even among blood brothers, master and disciple, father and son, with a Golden Core path before them, how could one give it up? Not fighting to the death would already be commendable!

Thinking of this, Ancestor Tingyou was truly moved.

"...Alright." He showed a solemn expression and performed an ancient salute towards Lü Yang, "I promise you, if I achieve the Golden Core, I will do my utmost to assist you in breaking through."

"Ancestor is too courteous."

Lü Yang still maintained the disciple's etiquette, giving full emotional value, "This junior disciple only hopes that Ancestor can achieve success and, in the future, glorify our Witch Ghost Path."

In fact, even if Ancestor Tingyou did not promise, it would be useless.

After all, the banner spirit baptized by the **【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】** was under Lü Yang's absolute control. Even if Ancestor Tingyou succeeded in seeking the Golden Core, he could not escape.

However, there was no need to say this.

It would hurt feelings too much.

'Although I might not be able to seek the Golden Core in this lifetime, if Ancestor succeeds, it's still worthwhile. At that time, with a Golden Core backing me up, wouldn't I be unstoppable?'

Of course, that was still far off.

A thousand years of struggling to survive had caused immense wear and tear on Ancestor Tingyou. Even after absorbing the original body and somewhat recovering, it was still impossible to fill this gap.

'Even if revived, Ancestor cannot ascend to the peak of Foundation Establishment in one step, but must start anew from the early stage of Foundation Establishment, gradually recovering his former talents and divine abilities. However, with Ancestor's aptitude and talent, and with my help, fifty years should still be achievable.'

The immediate priority was to revive him first!

Lü Yang had long planned for this. To condense an immortal fetus, at least one superior spiritual treasure was needed. And currently, wasn't there just such a target?

Above Skull Mountain, myriad illusory colors blended into one.

The blood energy that originally belonged to the Sect Master of the Divine Martial Sect was blazing like the rising sun. Now, only a small flame remained, ready to extinguish at any moment.

It was undeniable that the Divine Martial Sect had some substance.

The Sect Master of the Divine Martial Sect might not have been strong in combat among late-stage Foundation Establishment cultivators, but his blood energy was as vast as the sea, very resilient. He fought for half an hour without dying.

Of course, this was also because 【Xiang Ye】 , who had reached the peak of Foundation Establishment, had not truly made a move. He was more focused on suppressing the Sect Master of the Divine Martial Sect while calming his spiritual energy and dissipating the aftermath of the battle, to avoid damaging the eight hundred miles of Skull Mountain below and triggering a heavenly punishment due to the collapse of the earth veins.

"Boom!"

With a final loud noise, heavy illusory colors covered the sky, pressing down on an old man with bristling beard and hair, who still held a gleaming large halberd in his hand.

This was the Divine Martial Sect's supreme treasure.

【Divine Martial Dragon-Binding Halberd】 !

This superior spiritual treasure specialized in killing. At this moment, it had been pushed to the extreme by the Sect Master of the Divine Martial Sect, and the dragon on the halberd seemed to have become a living creature.

Judging by the momentum, the old man was still imposing.

However, his waist and back gradually hunched, his hair was disheveled, and his eyes were full of despair. He seemed to want to take a step, but suddenly staggered.

The next second, he suddenly let out a blood-crying howl:

"The Divine Martial Sect is destroyed!"

The heart-wrenching sound resounded, the last trace of the Divine Martial Sect in this world, but it was mercilessly buried.

"Hahaha!"

"I should have known this day would come... When the Jade Pivot Sword Pavilion's immortal decree came to establish a sect here, I should have realized that this day would eventually come..."

The Sect Master's voice abruptly stopped.

Before he finished speaking, he had already swung his halberd!

In an instant, there was a dragon's roar and tiger's howl, the halberd splitting the sky, actually cutting open the curtain formed by the 【Star Concealing Radiance】 , flying towards the northern frontier.

"Hmm?"

Seeing this, in the sky, a young man in black suddenly raised his eyebrows, looking down with a hint of doubt:

"...Hong Ju?"

He knew all too well the level of the Divine Martial Sect's Sect Master. It was impossible for him to cut through his divine ability. Did he really think there were miraculous outbursts in this world?

If there were, someone must be manipulating things behind the scenes!

After thinking it over, Xiang Ye felt that only Hong Ju, another peak Foundation Establishment True Person, could have made a move in secret. But what was the reason for doing so?

The Sect Master of the Divine Martial Sect himself did not escape.

The only thing that escaped was the superior spiritual treasure 【Divine Martial Dragon-Binding Halberd】 , and it was still heading towards the Divine Martial Sect's mountain gate, still a trapped beast.

"...Not good!"

The next second, Xiang Ye seemed to realize something, his expression changed drastically, and he immediately used his divine ability, straining his eyes to look towards the Divine Martial Sect.

In the distant northern frontier, within the Divine Martial Sect.

The qi fortune and merit that originally soared into the sky, belonging to the Divine Martial Sect, had been completely plundered. The treasure vault, once filled with spiritual materials, was now so empty that even mice could run through it.

"Beast! How dare you steal my prize!?"

Xiang Ye was furious. He never expected someone would dare to snatch food from the tiger's mouth. While he was dealing with the Divine Martial Sect's True Person, someone else had raided their lair!

Immediately after, a halberd light fell into the Divine Martial Sect.

It was the Divine Martial Sect's superior spiritual treasure, 【Divine Martial Dragon-Binding Halberd】 . Lü Yang reached out and easily collected it, then gave Xiang Ye a slight smile.

"Courting death!"

Xiang Ye was about to make a move when, at that moment, a divine radiance cut off his sight, and Lü Yang's figure took the opportunity to disappear.

"Hong Ju, it really is you!"

Xiang Ye immediately raised his eyebrows, only to see Hong Ju standing with hands folded in the center of the divine radiance, his eyes as bright as lanterns, looking at him with a hint of bitterness.

"Mission accomplished!"

Lü Yang fled all the way, using the 【Tribulation Wave】 to sever karma. As for the aftermath, it was naturally left to Hong Ju, just in time for him to take the blame!

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

## Chapter 360 : The Patriarch's Rebirth, the Clone Establishes Foundation!

[ 1,399 words ]

Chapter 360: The Patriarch's Rebirth, the Clone Establishes Foundation!

In the northern region of Jiangbei, nestled within a secluded mountain forest.

After intercepting at Skeleton Mountain, Lü Yang swiftly fled to this location. Utilizing the 【Tribulation Wave】 , he cleansed karmic ties and established a cave dwelling within the mountains.

Subsequently, he commenced the refinement of an immortal embryo.

Although the quality of the 【Divine Martial Binding Flood Axe】 could not compare to the 【Abi Sword】 , it was still a superior spiritual treasure, more than sufficient to serve as an immortal embryo.

Moreover, Patriarch Ting You had made some improvements to this secret method.

By lowering the refinement requirements and enhancing efficiency, the final formed immortal embryo and Lü Yang's clone were not significantly different.

Soon, another three years passed.

Within the cave dwelling, under the burning of the Six Ding Divine Fire, the immortal embryo belonging to Patriarch Ting You had taken shape, appearing as a valiant and spirited young man.

"Please, Patriarch, enter the shell!"

Lü Yang formed a hand seal, summoning the Myriad Spirits Banner. The light and shadow of Patriarch Ting You manifested within it, his expression complex, evidently not expecting to have such a day.

In the next moment, as innate qi dispersed, Patriarch Ting You's soul emerged, and with a flash, it entered the immortal embryo below. Before long, the immortal embryo opened its eyes, its aura changing, yet only reaching the peak of Qi Refining, clearly requiring time to establish the foundation.

Fortunately, having looted the Divine Martial Sect, he was not lacking in foundation-establishing spiritual items.

'However, this doesn't really count as robbery.'

'After all, the Divine Martial Sect was a righteous sect. Now that it has been annihilated, if its resources were to fall into the hands of the Demon Sect, wouldn't that be equivalent to aiding the enemy?'

'Therefore, taking away all the treasures of the Divine Martial Sect was a necessary move.'

'Only in this way could the Divine Martial Sect preserve its final dignity. I believe the true spirits of the Divine Martial Sect in heaven would surely approve of my actions.'

—He was increasingly embodying the demeanor of the Sword Pavilion.

Lü Yang had always believed in lifelong learning and dedication to one's craft. Now that he had become a disciple of the Sword Pavilion, he naturally needed to integrate wholeheartedly into it.

Otherwise, what if someone noticed a flaw?

Once Patriarch Ting You entered meditation, Lü Yang sealed the cave dwelling. He then took out a mysterious pearl from his bosom, within which was a scene of endless frost and snow.

At the center of the frost and snow, Arhat Fulong sat hugging his knees, his entire body trembling.

"Senior! Senior!"

Before Lü Yang could finish speaking, Arhat Fulong's voice impatiently rang out: "This humble monk has thought it through! I beseech you, senior, to withdraw your divine power!"

'Thought it through? What a pity.'

Lü Yang's expression remained indifferent, ignoring Arhat Fulong's plea. Instead, he crushed the mysterious pearl imprisoning Arhat Fulong with a single hand!

"Crack!"

In an instant, the splendid illusion shattered, and Arhat Fulong's voice was instantly drowned in the severe frost. In the blink of an eye, his dharma body and soul dissipated.

'If possible, it would have been best to follow his path. However, that so-called Buddhist son Guang Ming... just hearing the name sounds ominous! It's best not to get involved; the risk is too great. It's better to have Hong Ju make a trip to the 【Su Heng Palace】 ; there's still hope of obtaining 【Xin Metal】 .' .

Lü Yang remained rational.

To date, among the four major powers, only the Pure Land truly made him wary. Therefore, if he could avoid entanglement, it was best to do so. As long as he didn't act, he wouldn't make mistakes!

"Speaking of which, harvesting the Divine Martial Sect's fortune this time was just right!"

Lü Yang calculated with his fingers, then revealed a look of joy.

" 【Fortune Divination Drawing】 , draw for me!"

A surge of immense fortune emerged, soon transforming into lines of text before Lü Yang:

【Event: Clone breaks through to Foundation Establishment.】

【Minor Auspicious: Foundation Establishment poses no difficulty for you. Although there are some minor setbacks, you still successfully break through.】

【Minor Inauspicious: Someone secretly schemes against you, causing your breakthrough to fail, leading to your demise once more.】

【Slight Auspicious: You fall victim to someone's scheme, but relying on perseverance and a bit of luck, you manage to endure and finally establish your Dao foundation.】

'...Someone scheming?'

Looking at the fortune drawn this time, Lü Yang suddenly frowned: "Strange, I've always been amicable in the Sword Pavilion; why would someone scheme against me?"

Fortunately, the Divine Martial Sect's fortune was abundant, allowing him to draw a 【Minor Auspicious】 .

In the next moment, Lü Yang grasped the 【Minor Auspicious】 fortune in his hand, then activated the 【Puppet Strings】 , gazing remotely in the direction of his clone.

In the southern region of Jiangnan, within the Jade Pivot Sword Pavilion, at the Extreme Heaven Cliff.

"Clang clang!"

With a resounding sword cry echoing through the clouds, many Sword Pavilion True Persons in seclusion were awakened, then looked towards the source of the sword cry.

"Is that... a newly promoted sword seed?"

"Already established the foundation?"

"Such a swift return to Foundation Establishment after incense offerings at the Reception Hall, even if it's a reincarnated Foundation Establishment, indicates a profound past foundation."

Such commotion naturally also alarmed Daoist Dangmo, causing a trace of joy to flash in his eyes, which soon turned into helplessness. The joy was naturally due to Lü Yang's return to Foundation Establishment, while the helplessness stemmed from his cultivation of the 『Sword Sovereign's Profound Gold Secret Chapter』 , rendering his path hopeless.

'Unless... I can achieve...'

At this thought, a hint of struggle appeared in Daoist Dangmo's eyes. He opened his storage bag and looked at the densely packed human heads within.

They were all still alive.

However, the sword is an instrument of killing; to prove the sword path, how could there be no killing?

"..."

Daoist Dangmo lowered his eyelids, his gaze fixed on the countless seemingly living heads within the storage bag, appearing rather eerie and strange for a moment.

Meanwhile, within the cave dwelling.

Lü Yang sat cross-legged, his gaze falling on a piece of jade stone before him, his expression slightly gloomy. This was a foundation-establishing spiritual item provided by Daoist Dangmo.

By resonating with it during Foundation Establishment, it could increase the success rate by ten percent.

However, in reality, this spiritual item not only failed to assist in Foundation Establishment but actually hindered him. Without the fortune's blessing, there might have been a real possibility of failure!

'Who exactly wants to harm me?'

Lü Yang pondered in his heart, simultaneously extending a finger, around which a strand of sword qi coiled. With a flick, it erupted with a thunderous roar.

First realm of the sword path, Sword Qi Thunder Sound!

"This level of sword qi isn't much, at most equivalent to a powerful Foundation Establishment technique. But if I go further, it's a different story..."

Second realm of the sword path, Sword Heart Clarity!

This realm corresponds to Foundation Establishment. Therefore, once Sword Heart Clarity is achieved, compared to other Foundation Establishment True Persons, it's equivalent to having an additional divine ability without a rank!

At this thought, Lü Yang suddenly clapped his hands.

Beside him, a square sword box floated in the air, about half his height, entirely black-gold, appearing simple and steady at first glance.

However, in the next moment.

As Lü Yang channeled his full mana, the sword box opened with a roar, and two brilliant sword lights surged out, instantly merging with him.

'【Sword Divine Ability】!'

As expected, with his achievement of Foundation Establishment, the two Taixu divine abilities previously obtained from 【Wu You Heaven】 were all transformed into sword divine abilities by the sword box.

'It's a pity that after Uncle Master Chong Guang left, 【Wu You Heaven】 was sealed both internally and externally, making it impossible to enter and obtain more Taixu divine abilities.'

That said, this was a regret only Lü Yang had.

After all, others' Taixu divine abilities lacked ranks.

Only he could use the nascent rank within the Myriad Spirits Banner to bestow ranks, thereby transforming them into sword divine abilities; otherwise, it would all be in vain.

'In any case, I've succeeded.'

With a thought, Lü Yang manifested two sword divine abilities one after another, plus the transformed innate divine ability corresponding to the 【Chang Heng Observing World Holding Gold Sword Foundation】 .

'Three divine abilities! Mid-stage Foundation Establishment, complete!'

'If I add 【Holding the Law】 , I would be a bona fide late-stage Foundation Establishment great sword cultivator! Looking at it this way, the clone now even surpasses the main body!'

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