

Struggling to Survive with Regression Power in the Primordial Saint Sect

Chapter 371 : "Have Things Been Going Too Smoothly for Me Lately?"

[1,410 words]

Chapter 371: "Have Things Been Going Too Smoothly for Me Lately?"

‘【Insight】 !’

As the clear radiance of the spell descended upon Lü Yang, his nearly unconscious mind instantly regained clarity.

‘Maintain tranquility to reach the utmost emptiness.’

【Sword Heart Clarity】 !

This was the second realm of swordsmanship, corresponding to the Foundation Establishment True Person. Compared to other cultivators, it equated to possessing an additional innate divine ability, which now played a crucial role.

Of course, this alone was insufficient.

More importantly—

‘Purple Talent: Quite Capable!’

【Quite Capable: No matter how terrifying the attack you face, as long as it's within your capacity, you can handle it with ease—twice.】

Granted by the Book of a Hundred Lifetimes, this talent didn't require active activation. It would automatically trigger when Lü Yang encountered an attack he couldn't normally withstand but could theoretically counter, allowing him to handle it gracefully—twice.

At this moment, it took effect.

Lü Yang had just achieved 【Sword Heart Clarity】 , and perhaps only had a one in ten thousand chance of perceiving the danger in the recent crisis.

However, 【Quite Capable】 made it a certainty!

Seizing this brief respite, Lü Yang reacted swiftly. While under the marvelous influence of 【Insight】 , he quickly activated another divine ability.

‘ 【Entrapment Intent】 ! ’

His consciousness connected with his swordsmanship avatar, and the 【Bright Harmony Eternal World Upright Golden Sword】 in its hand radiated brilliant light, followed by a crisp shattering sound.

In the recent battle with Long Yue, Lü Yang had deployed 【Entrapment Intent】 from the start! At this moment, the entire Sacred Mountain of the Myriad Poison Sect was within its range. Though he hadn't yet retracted it, now, upon Lü Yang's activation, it immediately began to reverse the unfavorable situation, turning adversity into nothingness.

“Crack!”

In the next second, the world before Lü Yang shattered with a roar. However, what caused his expression to change slightly was that he hadn't thereby erased his true body from the reality within the pool.

He remained within the Moon-Worshipping Pool.

He had merely returned to the moment he first entered, with a clear mind and before the strange drowsiness had set in. Yet, the crisis was still unresolved!

In fact, it arrived even faster!

The drowsiness emerged more swiftly than before, and a melodious whisper echoed in his ears, as if expounding the profound principles of the universe.

But this time, Lü Yang was prepared.

With a thought, he sealed his six senses. Under the augmentation of 【Sword Heart Clarity】 , time nearly halted in his perception, allowing him to sit quietly within his mind.

This was another marvelous use of 【Sword Heart Clarity】 : the ability to enter a space where only his consciousness existed. In this space, long periods could pass, while only an instant elapsed in the outside world. In critical moments, he could retreat here to contemplate solutions before returning to face the situation calmly.

‘What exactly is going on?’

Lü Yang's eyes shone brilliantly. Despite being in a crisis, he became even more composed, his divine intent like a sword, cutting down all negative emotions.

'Who is secretly plotting against me, [Ang Xiao]?'

He began to review all his experiences since his rebirth, searching for anomalies.

"Have things been going too smoothly for me lately?"

Indeed, it seemed as if the heavens and earth were aiding him. Everything he did turned danger into safety. After reincarnating into the Sword Pavilion, everything went smoothly, without the slightest difficulty.

As a result, his former caution seemed to have vanished.

Encountering an unknown 【Moon-Worshipping Sacred Pool】 , he hadn't examined it carefully or explored it thoroughly. Instead, he rushed in with his true body without hesitation!

Is this me? This isn't me!

"This place is naturally formed; I am of the Immortal Spirit body."

Naturally, a thought surfaced in Lü Yang's mind: "...Is Heaven and Earth trying to harm me?"

Why? Isn't the Immortal Spirit the most favored child of Heaven?

"Wait... I remember now."

At this moment, when Lü Yang directed his suspicion toward "Heaven and Earth," it was as if he had found the key to a previously locked door.

Had he ever doubted Heaven and Earth?

Yes, he had!

Back then, while searching for 【Shen Jin】 in the mass grave, he discovered that 【Shen Jin】 's opportunity had coincidentally fallen into his hands, which raised his suspicions!

And then?

'Nothing followed—because after the mass grave incident and the subsequent events in the 【Mystic Spirit Realm】 , I naturally overlooked it!'

Were there other instances?

'Yes... Hong Yun!'

Ten years ago, he had defied a Golden Core True Person, refining Hong Yun's golden nature using the Book of a Hundred Lifetimes, thereby obtaining the accumulation of Hong Yun's countless years of cultivation.

What a tremendous fortune!

But in reality?

'I didn't utilize it at all; I merely treated Hong Yun's golden nature as a shell, and hardly reviewed the contents settled by the Book of a Hundred Lifetimes.'

At this thought, Lü Yang felt as if he had fallen into an ice cave, drenched in cold sweat:

'That's it—because Hong Yun, like me now, was also favored by Heaven and Earth. His connection with Heaven and Earth was even closer. Yet, in the end, he chose to abandon this world. In his memories... there are likely parts that Heaven and Earth don't want me to know!'

This is the 【Obstruction of Knowledge】 !

'[Ang Xiao] secretly targeting me? No, that's not right. If it were [Ang Xiao], I wouldn't have been able to kill Hong Yun and obtain the golden nature.'

Then why?

Both events occurred while he was interacting with [Ang Xiao]. This feeling resembled an influence exerted by [Great Forest Tree] itself.

'In that case, if Heaven and Earth so desired, perhaps they could also invoke the power of the fruit position?'

'True Persons aren't the true masters of Heaven and Earth's fruit positions!'

At this realization, Lü Yang instead felt a sense of relief: 'No... Heaven and Earth itself must have limitations and cannot act recklessly against me.'

Perhaps because the Dao Lord still existed, like a tiger or wolf nearby. In any case, even if Heaven and Earth truly intended to deal with him, it would have to painstakingly set up traps.

The bad news was, he had already fallen into one.

'Wait... still not right. Even if they wanted to deal with me, isn't this timing too early? I haven't even cultivated the Immortal Spirit to perfection yet.'

He was still missing the final 【You Metal】 .

Although Lü Yang could use 【Holding the Law】 to preemptively evolve the 【You Metal】 divine ability, a counterfeit remained a counterfeit; he hadn't truly obtained 【You Metal】 .

Therefore, his Immortal Spirit body was not yet complete.

'Even if Heaven and Earth truly harbored ill intentions toward me, they should have been more patient, waiting until I obtained 【You Metal】 and completed the great work before taking action.'

At this point, Lü Yang already understood Heaven and Earth's intentions.

Simply put, Lü Yang had been playing a full development game, finally reaching max level with full equipment, ready to enjoy himself. Then Heaven and Earth told him, "You can hand over the mouse now."

'Bastards!'

This was clearly an attempt to seize his hard-earned fruits of victory!

But still, it was too early. He hadn't obtained 【You Metal】 yet. Or was there some reason compelling Heaven and Earth to act prematurely?

At that moment—

"Boom!"

A sudden loud noise interrupted Lü Yang's thoughts, forcing him out of the 【Sword Heart Clarity】 state, and time resumed its flow.

The intense drowsiness struck once more.

However, this time, Lü Yang still managed to handle Heaven and Earth's mental intrusion with ease, using 【Tribulation Wave】 and 【Sword Heart Clarity】 .

【Quite Capable】 !

One instance just now, another now.

In the next second, Lü Yang reactivated the divine ability 【Entrapment Intent】 . With the transformation between reality and illusion, he erased the unfavorable conditions, restoring his state to clarity.

This time, the whispering in his ears finally changed.

Moreover, it wasn't just whispers; several images accompanied them. In the images, Buddhist light filled the sky, reflecting a compassionate golden Buddha statue.

He rode a six-tusked white elephant, with a white lotus in its mouth. Seated in meditation, he formed the Demon-Subduing Seal, and the light of prajna could eliminate all worldly greed and desires. Like a bright sun hanging in the clear sky, it was perfect and flawless, radiating boundless light, nearly blinding Lü Yang.

However, in the next second, all these visions dissolved.

The golden body vanished, the Buddha statue disappeared.

What met his eyes was merely a young monk with hands clasped together and a compassionate smile. The familiar face brought sudden realization to Lü Yang's eyes.

'Guang Ming.'

Why was Heaven and Earth acting so hastily?

Because Guang Ming had arrived! More precisely, the 【Buddha Child】 had arrived. But what else could the Buddha Child of the Pure Land be? Frankly, he was the representative of the World Honored One!

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[1,412 words]

Chapter 372: A Sudden Predicament

Guang Ming's appearance unraveled the doubts lingering in Lü Yang's heart.

Why did Heaven and Earth act so hastily?

Because the World Honored One had set his sights on him!

In an instant, Lü Yang was nearly scared out of his wits. After all, the World Honored One was the most absurd and shameless person he had encountered in his ten lifetimes of cultivation.

A Nascent Soul Dao Master attacking a Foundation Establishment cultivator?

"But the question is, what virtues or abilities do I possess to warrant the attention of the World Honored One?"

This was utterly unreasonable!

Of course, for a moment, Lü Yang also suspected whether it might be due to a previous lifetime where the World Honored One nearly captured him to restart, leaving behind hidden dangers.

However, he quickly dismissed this notion.

Absolutely impossible!

"After all, that was several lifetimes ago. If that were the case, I should have been captured and refined by the World Honored One in my previous life."

Feeling the urgency transmitted by Heaven and Earth, Lü Yang's eyes suddenly lit up as he came to a realization: "I was wrong. I got the cause and effect reversed! It's not because the World Honored One targeted me that Heaven and Earth acted hastily, but because Heaven and Earth have been supporting me, which is why the World Honored One targeted me!"

In simple terms, it's because of his identity as an Immortal Spirit!

"I had previously suspected the significance of the Immortal Spirit's existence. In my view, it seemed as if Heaven and Earth had nurtured it specifically to occupy a certain position."

Now it seemed, that was spot on!

"If my guess is correct, the four Dao Masters are likely contending with Heaven and Earth. Heaven and Earth want to support the Immortal Spirit, while the Dao Masters aim to suppress it!"

This speculation also resolved another doubt he had earlier.

Why did the Immortal Spirit also need to undergo tribulations?

As Heaven's favored child, his cultivation should have been smooth sailing, without bottlenecks, and without additional requirements for Dao attainment.

But what was the result?

Not only did he have to undergo the [Heavenly Thunder Tribulation] of the late Foundation Establishment stage, but also the [Five Decays of Heaven and Man] at the completion of Foundation Establishment. None of the challenges were spared.

"Now it seems... these might not have been imposed by Heaven and Earth!"

"But rather by the Dao Masters!"

No wonder, after so many years, no Immortal Spirit had grown up. Probably ninety-nine percent of them were privately interrupted by the Dao Masters, or even recruited.

The Primordial Saint Sect had a typical example: Chong Guang!

"What innate Immortal Spirit? It's a huge pit!"

"The result is that the Immortal Spirits painstakingly cultivated by Heaven and Earth all ended up serving the Dao Masters, ultimately becoming talents under the four Dao Masters."

Boom!

The murmuring in his ears grew louder. In the vision, Guang Ming was evidently flying towards the direction of the Myriad Poison Sect, with little time remaining.

Lü Yang was struck with sudden inspiration, understanding that this was Heaven and Earth urging him, reminding him. In human terms, it was saying: "Don't worry, you are Daddy's favorite child. Everything just now was a misunderstanding. Daddy just wants to save you. Quickly open your mind and heart, so Daddy can help you ascend to the heavens in one step."

"I trust you, ghost!"

Lü Yang remained unwavering, still holding onto a sliver of clarity. Treat me well? Want to save me? If that were true, you wouldn't have made me inexplicably drowsy just now!

Ultimately, it's still about harming me!

That said, Lü Yang couldn't help but feel a bit helpless. With Heaven and Earth in front and the World Honored One behind, it left no room for maneuver.

"Forget it... self-detonate then!"

Admit your prowess, this time it's yours.

Lü Yang made a decision.

However, in the next second, his expression slightly stiffened, because his Immortal Spirit body was now firmly restrained by the [Sacred Pool of Moon Worship].

Unable to commit suicide!

This time, Lü Yang's expression truly changed.

If it were just a general inability to commit suicide, Lü Yang wouldn't mind. As long as he maintained his mental clarity, he would eventually find an opportunity. But the World Honored One was outside!

If he really came knocking, and he couldn't even commit suicide.

Then it would be over!

Not to mention, the World Honored One's goal this time was probably him, wanting to snatch the meat from Heaven and Earth's mouth, almost certainly coming to convert him!

—A desperate situation!

Without any reason, without giving Lü Yang any psychological preparation, one moment he was favored by Heaven and Earth, the next he was a hero trapped by fate.

Yet, even so, his thoughts remained calm.

The murmuring of Heaven and Earth in his ears intensified, telling him of the crisis, advising him to consider the bigger picture, trying to make him involuntarily feel fear.

"If the World Honored One comes, then let him come!"

As soon as Lü Yang had this thought, the murmuring in his ears instantly turned into a roar, but he remained unmoved. Instead, the corners of his mouth curled up, revealing a cold smile:

"Stir it up, stir it up, just stir it up!"

"Stir it up so that the World Honored One comes to turn me into a Buddhist cultivator, stir it up so that the Dao Masters personally come and destroy the Immortal Spirit body. I might as well play along with you to the end!"

Was Lü Yang afraid of death?

Of course he was, but after ten lifetimes of cultivation, he knew that the more afraid of death he was, the more he had to act unafraid! In this damn place, one couldn't survive without going mad!

In an instant, all was silent.

All the murmuring ceased. Lü Yang sat quietly, his thoughts becoming increasingly clear. The consciousness contamination from Heaven and Earth was both a crisis and the best whetstone, honing his newly achieved [Sword Heart] to become sharper, like a cold, unsheathed blade.

Immediately after, the roaring sound surged like a tide!

However, this time, Lü Yang smiled, because he could feel that the drowsiness arising from this was much weaker than before!

Heaven and Earth compromised?

Of course not. It's just that Heaven and Earth had more important matters to attend to, so they were forced to withdraw the power originally focused on him.

"This is enough... this is enough!"

When two tigers fight, one is bound to get hurt!

His chance of survival lay here!

In the next second, Lü Yang felt a tremor beneath his feet.

"Amitabha!"

A grand Buddhist chant resounded in the distant sky. Guang Ming had arrived! He was already standing in front of the Myriad Poison Sect's mountain gate, with a compassionate smile on his face.

"Swish swish!"

Almost simultaneously, Lü Yang saw the three divine abilities he had painstakingly cultivated, [Master of Arms], [Stubborn Gold Duke], and [Solemn Mysterious Frost], all flying out from his body.

However, [Tribulation Wave] did not move.

This treasure brought by the [Book of a Hundred Lifetimes] severed cause and effect, and only Lü Yang could activate it. Even Heaven and Earth couldn't influence it in the slightest.

But soon, Lü Yang witnessed a scene that left him dumbfounded.

Only to see a bell toll between Heaven and Earth, and a celestial phenomenon suddenly converged before him without any reason, finally transforming into a white mist that gently descended.

[You Metal]!

The celestial phenomenon formed!

Right before his eyes!

"This is truly Heaven and Earth's child... If Heaven and Earth fully supported me, why would I need to waste time searching for celestial phenomena?"

Lü Yang gritted his teeth, staring at the [You Metal] before him.

At the same time, he also understood Heaven and Earth's intentions. Why scheme against him? Because he was uncontrollable! Heaven and Earth needed a controllable Immortal Spirit!

"Heaven and Earth must have suffered enough from Hong Yun. After painstakingly elevating Hong Yun to the position of True Lord, Hong Yun turned around and sold it out, not sharing any benefits. No wonder Heaven and Earth don't trust me... actually comparing me to Hong Yun. Don't they know I'm a good person?"

In the next second, [You Metal] merged with Lü Yang's body.

The fourth innate divine ability emerged.

[Heavenly Bell]!

In an instant, there was no divine brilliance, only a melodious bell ringing, as the four innate divine abilities gathered together, finally outlining a figure.

Immediately after, that figure rushed out of the Myriad Poison Sect's mountain gate.

Seeing this scene, Guang Ming, who was about to break through the Myriad Poison Sect's grand formation, was momentarily stunned, then nodded in great satisfaction, smiling:

"Benefactor, you and I are destined to be master and disciple."

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[1,385 words]

Chapter 373: A Glimmer of Hope

Outside the mountain gate of the Myriad Venoms Sect, two figures stood solemnly.

One of them was entirely composed of divine abilities: 【Stubborn Gold Duke】 outlined the body, 【Master of Arms】 transformed into weapons, 【Solemn Black Frost】 and 【Resounding Heaven Bell】 provided augmentation.

Looking upon this figure, no discernible features could be seen.

Only a powerful aura, favored by heaven and earth, lingered around it. Merely standing there, it seemed to gather all the brilliance of the world.

‘What a celestial spirit!’

Guang Ming nodded slightly. He did not actually recognize the figure, but the 【Manifestation of Victory and Clarity Dharmadhatu】 behind him informed him that this was his destined connection.

“Would you be willing to become my disciple?”

Guang Ming pressed his palms together, his dharma eyes sharp as torches: ‘Although you appear complete at this moment, you are still lacking; to this day, you have yet to awaken your innate divine ability.’

After speaking, he reached into his sleeve and retrieved a golden hoop, engraved with intricate patterns that reflected myriad illusory lights, seemingly containing the truths of the great Dao. Merely by observing it closely, solemn Buddhist chants naturally echoed in one's ears.

“If you take refuge, you shall be my foremost disciple.”

“This 【Heart-Binding Hoop】 is the object of our destined connection. If you wear it, within thirty years, you will surely refine your innate ability and attain true fruition.”

KDIGO

“Boom!”

In response to Guang Ming's invitation, the figure composed of divine abilities merely raised a hand, and in an instant, frost spread across the sky, a terrifying aura of solemn killing intent filling the heavens and earth.

【Solemn Black Frost】 !

This divine ability could not only alter the environment but also possessed the profound power to annihilate magic. Each flake of frost and snow was like a blade forged a hundred times.

Now, as the figure unleashed this divine ability, it drew upon the power of heaven and earth. Wherever the divine ability passed, snow fell heavily, enveloping Guang Ming's figure, frantically tearing at his dharma body. At this moment, as it pressed down, countless clear white marks were immediately left on Guang Ming's flawless golden body.

However, Guang Ming remained unmoved.

At this moment, his cultivation and the divine ability figure were actually quite similar, both at the late stage of Foundation Establishment, not yet perfected. However, the strength they displayed was entirely different.

“Amitabha.”

Guang Ming pressed his palms together, without employing any divine abilities, relying on his golden body to withstand the divine ability. At the same time, he opened his mouth and recited a scripture.

“Om mani padme hum.”

As the scripture was recited, the golden hoop in his hand flew up in response.

The golden hoop seemed to possess a spirit, directly aiming to encircle the head of the divine ability figure. Seeing this, the divine ability figure immediately changed the hand seal it was forming.

“Dang!”

In an instant, a melodious bell sound rang out again, formless and intangible, without any divine brilliance, yet it resonated throughout the universe, blocking the golden hoop that had appeared out of thin air.

【Resounding Heaven Bell】 !

The golden hoop was obstructed, but Guang Ming was not alarmed; instead, he clapped his hands and laughed:

“The bell corresponds to the You position; **【You Metal】** also resides in the western Dui position. Since you have refined this innate divine ability, it is evident that you are indeed connected to our western path!”

The divine ability figure remained silent.

Meanwhile, within the mountain gate of the Myriad Venoms Sect, Lü Yang was still struggling to resist the invasion of consciousness from heaven and earth. The opponent had clearly changed tactics.

'Are they trying to wear me down?'

'Using a divine ability incarnation to stall Guang Ming, diverting his attention, to buy time to completely refine me... But that doesn't make sense. Why would they want to refine me?'

If they only wanted a controllable celestial spirit,

Wouldn't it be simpler to discard his soul and seize his body?

But judging from the attitude of heaven and earth so far, it was clear they wanted to simultaneously occupy both his body and soul, not just a celestial spirit body.

Could it be...

In an instant, a shadow crossed Lü Yang's eyes: 'Has the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 been exposed?'

'No, I'm just scaring myself.'

'The memories of a Foundation Establishment cultivator are very difficult to read. Only the Mending Heaven Scripture can perform soul-searching on a Foundation Establishment cultivator, but that's all.'

Lü Yang was not afraid of dual cultivation!

So even if someone used the Mending Heaven Scripture against him, he could easily counter it.

Therefore, he absolutely did not believe that heaven and earth could read his memories through the celestial spirit body, thereby discovering the existence of the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 . It simply didn't make sense.

'More importantly, if heaven and earth truly knew about the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 , why would they be so sneaky, wasting time to plot against me? Wouldn't it be simpler to refine me instantly? Given the value of the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 , it would be worth making a grand move. Clearly, heaven and earth know nothing about it!'

At most, they just found it strange.

After all, he, a celestial spirit, appeared out of nowhere, without needing heaven and earth to nurture him, able to seek out the Heavenly Gang and Earth Fiends on his own. It was obviously very peculiar.

‘Rather, the attempt to refine me is because they want to know my secret!’

“Boom!”

Another loud noise, Lü Yang was once again forced to the brink, having to once again use 【Entrapment Intent】 to reverse the decline, pulling everything back to the beginning.

However, this was also reaching the limit.

‘【Entrapment Intent】 consumes too much magic power. Using it three times has almost exhausted my magic power... I'm afraid this time is the last!’

The situation remained desperate.

Past experiences began to flash through Lü Yang's mind like a revolving lantern. There had to be a way to break through this desperate situation.

‘Body, soul, consciousness?’

Suddenly, Lü Yang's heart trembled violently.

‘Consciousness!’

Innate True Person Mu Changsheng!

‘That's right, consciousness! Body and soul are essentially creations of heaven and earth; only consciousness truly belongs to me!’

In the past, Innate True Person Mu Changsheng had once separated his consciousness, leaving it in 【Wu You Heaven】 , and then reincarnated his soul—a feat that was, in a way, a form of living on. If he could replicate Mu Changsheng's past actions, perhaps he could find a way out of this desperate situation!

‘After all, the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 follows my consciousness!’

Lü Yang was absolutely certain of this.

Because he had tried, when he transferred his consciousness to a clone through 【Puppet Strings】 , he could access the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 interface through the clone.

The problem now was that his consciousness was still based on his original soul.

Once the soul was controlled, the consciousness would also be hard to escape.

'Unless I can completely separate my consciousness from the original soul, and then transfer it to the clone's split soul, only then would I have a chance to escape!'

The clone had undergone reincarnation, and its split soul was already independent.

Coupled with the fact that 【Puppet Strings】 could not be detected.

Except for the heaven and earth that had been watching him from the beginning, no one else would find any connection between Lü Yang's original body and the clone.

There wasn't even any causality between the two.

Lü Yang's ability to control the clone as if it were his own limb was entirely due to the existence of 【Puppet Strings】. Without it, the clone would immediately rebel.

'So as long as I can separate my consciousness, I might as well abandon the celestial spirit body!'

'The current strong suppression from heaven and earth is entirely because I walked into the trap myself, coupled with the celestial spirit body, but the clone is different.'

'As long as I can let my consciousness escape to the clone.'

"At worst, I can just self-destruct and start over!"

But how to do it?

Mu Changsheng never passed down the method to separate consciousness and soul; Lü Yang had only met him once, and a single meeting revealed nothing.

Then, looking at the world, was there anyone who could replicate another's divine abilities and Dao techniques just by looking at them?

"..."

The next second, Lü Yang mustered all his energy, communicated with his dharma body, operated the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, and directly contacted Ancestor Ting You, who was still in seclusion.

'Ancestor! Save me!'

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[1,334 words]

Chapter 374: "Do You Know That Celestial Spirit?"

In a secluded chamber within a remote mountain forest in Jiangbei.

Upon hearing Lü Yang's summons, the meditating Ancestor Ting You was abruptly awakened. His figure instantly traversed thousands of mountains and rivers, arriving gracefully.

Though he had revived, he remained a Banner Spirit.

As a Banner Spirit, Lü Yang, being the Banner Master, could summon him at will. With a brief exchange of divine thoughts, Ancestor Ting You immediately grasped the dire situation.

"Consciousness separation."

With a deep sigh, Ancestor Ting You furrowed his brows and uttered words that filled Lü Yang with immense joy: "I should be able to attempt it."

Undeniably, separating consciousness posed certain challenges. However, Ancestor Ting You was no longer the same as before. After consuming the **【Integration Immortal Pill】** from the **【Mystic Spirit Realm】** to nourish his comprehension and merging with his original body of this lifetime, his current level of insight even surpassed his previous self!

"If it must be done, it can be done."

"However..." Before Lü Yang could speak, Ancestor Ting You hesitated and said, "The success rate of such a task is limited. I cannot guarantee success."

Lü Yang remained unfazed upon hearing this. Not a hundred percent success?

With a thought, his Sword Dao avatar immediately began casting a spell to extract fortune. After killing Long Yue, the myriad of fortune and merit from the Myriad Poison Sect had become ownerless!

After absorbing this fortune, Lü Yang did not hesitate and used it all:

‘ **【Divination of Fortune】** !’

【Event: Have Ancestor Ting You separate your consciousness.】

【Great Misfortune: You failed. Your consciousness could not detach from your soul and was refined by heaven and earth, plunging into ignorance.】

【Minor Misfortune: You did not transfer in time. Guang Ming broke in and converted you.】

【Slight Fortune: You completed the consciousness transfer just in time. However, can you truly rest easy? Blessings and misfortunes are intertwined; everything remains uncertain.】

Without hesitation, Lü Yang seized the 【Slight Fortune】 .

“Ancestor, proceed.”

In the next moment, he looked at Ancestor Ting You and smiled lightly, “Don't worry. The successful future is already in my grasp!”

“...Alright.”

Ancestor Ting You was also a decisive person. Since Lü Yang said so, he didn't delay. His eyes gleamed with brilliance, and his fingertips suddenly radiated with the light of Dao techniques. Pointing at Lü Yang's soul, in an instant, Lü Yang felt his consciousness begin to drift upwards.

This sensation was extremely peculiar.

His first-person perspective shifted to a third-person view, detaching from his physical body and soul. He could even see himself lying in the pool.

Under Ancestor Ting You's manipulation and the fortune boost from the 【Divination of Fortune】 , Lü Yang's consciousness quickly entered the avatar. Although the avatar's sub-soul tried to resist, under the strong control of the 【Puppet Strings】 , Lü Yang swiftly took control of the avatar, resolving the hidden threat of the sub-soul.

Then, a slightly unsettling scene unfolded for Lü Yang.

His 'soul' opened its eyes.

“...”

Those eyes were peculiar, indifferent and calm, yet carrying a clarity akin to that of a newborn, staring intently at Lü Yang.

Lü Yang met its gaze.

In an instant, a strong emotion surged through the other's gaze, flooding Lü Yang's heart: 'Want! Desire! Especially desire!'

Lü Yang was momentarily stunned: 'Desire who?'

'Desire you!'

The intense emotion assaulted Lü Yang's consciousness again. However, this time, its impact was negligible, like a gentle breeze.

'As expected... it can no longer affect me!'

Lü Yang sighed in relief, simultaneously gaining insight: all things and phenomena are rooted in heaven and earth; the soul and body are among them.

Especially the soul of a Celestial Spirit!

'...Rather, only the soul of a Celestial Spirit can be significantly influenced by heaven and earth, whereas the souls of ordinary True Persons are not much under its control.'

Where does this authority lie?

According to Lü Yang's speculation, it's likely in the 【Netherworld】 !

Because the soul of a Celestial Spirit is granted by heaven and earth, while the souls of other beings must pass through the 【Netherworld】 , which might be the key!

The same applies to avatars.

'Souls that have passed through the 【Netherworld】 are not controlled by heaven and earth!'

Thinking of this, Lü Yang relaxed and voluntarily stepped back, maintaining a safe distance from his former 'self', now the 'Celestial Spirit'.

The Celestial Spirit was powerless to stop this.

However, to be fair, its primary goal was achieved: reclaiming an important 'tool'. As for minor flaws, there would be opportunities to act again.

"Boom!"

Meanwhile, the battle outside the Myriad Poison Sect's mountain gate reached its conclusion. The four figures formed by innate divine abilities quietly shattered like dream bubbles.

However, Guang Ming frowned.

“The master-disciple bond... has been severed?”

Guang Ming looked at the golden hoop in his hand, where the once dazzling Buddha light suddenly dimmed. This change made him instinctively look behind.

Behind him, the manifestation of the 【Victorious Intent Born Bright Dharmaraja】 , seated on a six-tusked white elephant with a white lotus in its mouth and forming the Demon Subjugation Seal, remained silent. Only a serene face and a compassionate smile, as if it had always been an inanimate object.

“Amitabha.”

With a wave of his sleeve, Guang Ming directly broke through the Myriad Poison Sect's protective formation and immediately saw the Celestial Spirit residing in the 【Moon Worship Sacred Pool】 .

“...What a pity.”

Seeing this, Guang Ming was suddenly enlightened.

‘So that's it. The 【Heavenly Lord】 acted first. If the benefactor had brought the 【Heart Binding Hoop】 earlier, perhaps this calamity could have been avoided.’

“Absurd.”

The Celestial Spirit sneered. The previously clear eyes turned completely indifferent, and the once hesitant speech became fluent:

“...I was born of heaven and earth. How can I be controlled by others?”

“You rats, selfish and self-serving, bring no benefit to heaven and earth. Now that heaven favors me, it wants me to uphold the heavenly way!”

“From today on, I am named 【Shang Zhang】 !”

Shang Zhang, another name for 【Geng Metal】 .

Upon hearing this, Guang Ming couldn't help but shake his head: “Stubborn and ignorant, another Mu Changsheng.”

Before his words fell, he put away the 【Heart Binding Hoop】 . Behind him, the 【Victorious Intent Born Bright Dharmaraja】 responded, slowly raising its Buddha palm.

“Boom!”

In the next second, the Buddha palm descended!

Five-colored light bloomed between the fingers, like an ancient divine mountain crashing down. The vast mountain gate of the Myriad Poison Sect seemed to turn into dust under his palm!

The brilliance flashed and disappeared.

In the next moment, the mountain gate of the Myriad Poison Sect and the 【Moon Worship Sacred Pool】 were shattered by a single palm from the 【Victorious Intent Born Bright Dharmaraja】 behind Guang Ming.

However, before that, the figure of 【Shang Zhang】 had already vanished.

On the other side, Lü Yang fled in a sorry state on his sword light.

From beginning to end, his performance was no different from a cultivator accidentally caught up in the events. Seeing the Celestial Spirit 【Shang Zhang】's actions, he breathed a sigh of relief:

‘As expected, heaven and earth did not expose me...’

Now that Guang Ming was a Buddha's son, with the World Honored One upon him, if heaven and earth revealed even a hint of Lü Yang's involvement, it would surely attract the World Honored One's attention.

Then Lü Yang would have to self-destruct immediately.

‘However, heaven and earth, or rather that 【Shang Zhang】 , clearly covet my secrets, so it didn't expose me. It's probably planning to act slowly.’

The bad news was that he was now targeted by a Celestial Spirit who might achieve Foundation Establishment perfection in the future.

The good news was that he survived this time.

Moreover, all karma was intercepted by heaven and earth, so Lü Yang didn't have to worry about being discovered by the Dao Lords. Correspondingly, heaven and earth would likely keep a close watch on him from now on.

‘Forget it, better than being targeted by the Dao Lords.’

At least for now, heaven and earth seemed to be suppressed by the four Dao Lords, making it difficult to take action. However, the Dao Lords were different.

Even the World Honored One could intervene directly!

“Benefactor.”

A gentle voice interrupted Lü Yang's thoughts. Looking up, he saw Guang Ming, who had just destroyed the entire sacred mountain of the Myriad Poison Sect, smiling at him:

“Do you know that Celestial Spirit, benefactor?”

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

- Chapter 375 : A False Alarm

[1,435 words]

Chapter 375: A False Alarm

"Of course, I recognize it."

Facing Guang Ming's inquiry, Lü Yang did not hesitate. He frowned and said, "That immortal spirit owes a karmic debt to our Sword Pavilion. After reincarnation, it should be a disciple of our Sword Pavilion."

"I'm planning to kill it to grant it this opportunity."

Upon hearing this, the amiable smile on Guang Ming's face froze.

‘A sword seed of the Sword Pavilion.’

Thinking of this, Guang Ming scrutinized Lü Yang carefully. Lü Yang, relying on his experience from multiple encounters with 【Ang Xiao】 , managed to maintain a composed expression.

He was not joking; he was not afraid at all.

Because he discovered that the Guang Ming before him was far less terrifying than he had imagined.

After all, Lü Yang had witnessed the personal descent of the World Honored One.

That kind of despairing and terrifying pressure, even through the Book of a Hundred Lifetimes, was unforgettable.

Compared to that, Guang Ming was far inferior.

'The Buddha Child... and the World Honored One don't seem to be the same entity?'

Although equally powerful and capable of crushing him, they couldn't prevent his suicide!

'Although the true body of the World Honored One might descend, just like that time overseas, the descent requires time. Even if it's just a moment, by the time the descent is complete, I would have already restarted!'

Previously, he couldn't commit suicide purely because his immortal spirit body had fallen into a worldly trap, heavily influenced. Now, with the sword path avatar, he felt unrestrained.

As long as it wasn't a true Dao Master face-to-face, Lü Yang feared nothing!

Therefore, he was full of confidence at this moment, meeting Guang Ming's gaze without any guilt.

Suddenly, Guang Ming slightly tilted his ear, looking at the 【Victory Manifestation of the Dharmadhātu of the Victorious Intention】 behind him, showing a listening expression. Lü Yang raised his eyebrows upon seeing this, because in his divine sense, there was no communication between the two, as if Guang Ming was performing a monologue.

". This humble monk understands."

Immediately after, Guang Ming nodded and then looked at Lü Yang, smiling as he took out the 【Heart-Binding Hoop】 again.

"Would the benefactor be willing to become this humble monk's disciple?"

"Master, please seek someone more capable!"

Lü Yang's heart trembled upon hearing this, but he maintained a fearless demeanor, sneering, "I am a true disciple of the Sword Pavilion, a leader of the righteous path. How could I become your disciple?"

Guang Ming was not angered by this, as he didn't genuinely intend for Lü Yang to become his disciple. According to the revelation from the 【Victory Manifestation of the

Dharmadhātu of the Victorious Intention】 , his disciple should be the immortal spirit just now. Wanting Lü Yang to be his disciple was merely a substitute strategy.

‘Now, the karmic connection between me and that immortal spirit is severed.’

‘To reshape the karmic connection, I must perform a substitution of truth and falsehood, using the false immortal spirit to slay the true immortal spirit, thereby replacing its destiny. The strength of a true disciple of the Sword Pavilion has always been formidable.’

Slaying an immortal spirit should not be a problem?

This was Guang Ming's thought. Additionally, there was an unspoken intuition that something was amiss. Lü Yang's appearance here was too coincidental.

Although he hadn't discovered any issues, based on caution, it was always right to eliminate potential threats.

"The benefactor is merely unwilling now; soon, you will be willing."

At this point, Guang Ming began chanting scriptures, and the 【Heart-Binding Hoop】 in his hand once again radiated brilliant light, showing a tendency to fall upon Lü Yang.

"Clang clang!"

Faced with this scene, Lü Yang remained unafraid. He directly drew his sword, and under the blessing of 【Clarity of the Sword Heart】 , majestic sword energy soared into the sky.

"Hmm? This is..."

Guang Ming's expression suddenly stiffened upon seeing this: "A sword cultivator?"

The 【Heart-Binding Hoop】 that was about to ensnare Lü Yang abruptly halted its descent. Guang Ming furrowed his brows, showing a hint of difficulty.

Within the Sword Pavilion, sword cultivators were the most special.

Because theoretically, every sword cultivator was a talent used by the Sword Pavilion to fill the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 . As talents, they were obviously already claimed.

This was one of Lü Yang's sources of confidence.

‘I have backing!’

If his relationship with the immortal spirit was confirmed, there would be nothing to say. Guang Ming would undoubtedly act without scruples, directly suppressing Lü Yang.

However, now, as a pure sword cultivator, he was essentially a talent personally appointed by the Dao Master of the Sword Pavilion, the kind who had offered incense to the ancestors in the Reception Hall. In this case, Guang Ming, and even the World Honored One behind him, had to reconsider whether to continue targeting him.

Because that would essentially be snatching someone from the Dao Master of the Sword Pavilion.

". Amitabha."

After a moment of silence, Guang Ming ceased his spellcasting, recited a Buddhist chant, and then withdrew the 【Heart-Binding Hoop】. It wasn't out of fear, but rather unnecessary.

Seeing this, Lü Yang secretly breathed a sigh of relief.

At the same time, he had a rough estimate of Guang Ming's state. In his view, Guang Ming's strength was probably at the level of Foundation Establishment perfection.

Moreover, it mainly relied on the 【Victory Manifestation of the Dharmadhātu of the Victorious Intention】 behind him.

Guang Ming's own cultivation and life seemed entirely dependent on this manifestation, the two inseparable. This was also the key to his current strength.

If not for this, even with the great power of the World Honored One, personally cultivating, it would be impossible to elevate Guang Ming, a mere Qi Refining novice monk, to such heights in just ten years. His rise to the status of Buddha Child could only be attributed to the excessive reliance of the Pure Land Buddhist cultivation.

Thinking of this, Lü Yang's heart suddenly tightened again.

‘. Something's not right.’

Lü Yang looked around and saw Guang Ming with a contemplative expression, the 【Victory Manifestation of the Dharmadhātu of the Victorious Intention】 behind him showing no sign of being retracted.

What did he intend to do?

The next moment, Guang Ming shook his head, put his palms together, his face still bearing a compassionate smile, but a cold killing intent flickered in his eyes.

He had made up his mind: better to kill mistakenly than to let go!

This was the style of the World Honored One, and also Guang Ming's character. Although it was inconvenient to convert, since there was suspicion, it was better to simply kill!

Seeing this, Lü Yang had no choice but to hold his sword in front of his chest.

The next moment, a visible sharp sword energy emanated from his body, and all his fate, merits, and cultivation converged on his sword at this moment.

This was another source of Lü Yang's confidence.

‘【Desperate Strike】!’

The fourth profound mystery of the sword path avatar's innate divine ability!

This was the sword of mutual destruction, sacrificing life solely to unleash a single strike. It first killed the user, then the enemy. Essentially, it was a sacrificial method to the Sword Dao Fruit Position.

When a sword cultivator executed this strike, they offered all their life and cultivation to the Sword Dao Fruit Position in exchange for an unparalleled powerful strike. This was why sword cultivators of the Sword Pavilion always instilled fear. With this strike, even if they couldn't win, they could achieve mutual destruction.

Highlighting a shameless tactic!

However, for Lü Yang, the key was not the power of this strike, but its effect of sacrificing life, a suicide move deemed certain death!

Below the True Lord level, no one could stop it.

And above the True Lord level... this strike, in terms of background, was an offering to the Dao Master of the Sword Pavilion.

Who would dare to stop it?

Moreover, the timing of Lü Yang's execution of this strike was perfect. It was Guang Ming who first attempted to kill him, prompting him to fight desperately. No matter how one looked at it, it was reasonable.

‘Hundred Lifetimes...’

Lü Yang's mind moved slightly, about to unleash this 【Desperate Strike】 .

However, at this moment.

"Zheng——!"

A crisp sword cry suddenly rang out between heaven and earth, accompanied by an urgent shout reaching Lü Yang's ears: "Stop! Don't be hasty to use it!"

Lü Yang paused upon hearing this, recognizing the voice.

The 【Desperate Strike】 that was about to be unleashed also slightly halted, suspended in place.

However, since this strike had already been condensed, unless he actively dispersed it, no one could stop his suicide, so he wasn't worried.

'Is there still a turning point?'

The next moment, a figure broke through the air, directly intervening between Guang Ming and Lü Yang, his broad back firmly shielding him.

Upon seeing the person, Lü Yang was truly stunned.

". Master?"

It was none other than Daoist Dangmo!

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

[1,284 words]

Chapter 376: I Will Remember This Grudge!

The appearance of Daoist Dangmo instantly changed everything.

As soon as he appeared, his hand rested on the 【Sword of Non-Killing】 at his waist. In that instant, all sword cultivators across Jiangnan felt a resonance and looked up.

"Clang! Clang!"

From True Persons down to Qi Refining cultivators, spiritual treasures, magical tools, and even ordinary mortal weapons, all began to emit clear and resonant sword hums.

In that moment, Guang Ming, who had previously maintained a composed demeanor, finally changed his expression. He instinctively took a step back, and the aggressive Buddhist light he had directed at Lü Yang earlier immediately retracted. Even his supposedly indestructible golden body now felt a distinct stinging sensation at the neck.

'Daoist Dangmo, Ye Guangji'

The number one sword cultivator in the world!

If not for his aversion to combat and his rare personal involvement in the disputes between the Sword Pavilion and the Primordial Saint Sect, the Primordial Saint Sect might have been repeatedly defeated by the Sword Pavilion!

And Guang Ming feared this person more than anyone else.

Because the event that established Daoist Dangmo's reputation and led to his universal recognition as the foremost Foundation Establishment cultivator was closely related to him.

After all, it wasn't the first time the World-Honored One had descended to "fish."

Unlike his 【Victory-Born Brightness Dharmadhatu Manifestation】 , the previous descent of the World-Honored One was the 【Great Compassion Dharmadhatu Avalokiteshvara Manifestation】 .

At that time, the chosen one was a nun from the Pure Land, a highly accomplished cultivator who had already reached the peak of Foundation Establishment. With the blessing of the manifestation, she became unprecedentedly powerful, leading the Pure Land to sweep through all directions and proclaiming the establishment of a 【Buddhist Kingdom on Earth】 , inviting True Persons from across the world to join.

Until that Buddhist nun arrived in Jiangnan.

Everyone was aware of the Pure Land's malevolence. One by one, the people of Jiangnan were converted. Originally, the True Persons of the Sword Pavilion had reached an agreement with the Pure Land, tacitly allowing this to happen.

But Daoist Dangmo became enraged.

Then came the battle that shook the world, drawing the attention and amazement of even the True Persons: Daoist Dangmo beheaded the Buddhist nun of the Pure Land with three sword strikes.

The 【Great Compassion Dharmadhatu Avalokiteshvara Manifestation】 was brutally slain!

It's important to note that with the blessing of the manifestation, Buddhist cultivators could awaken their "past life memories," realizing they were incarnations of the World-Honored One, and their strength would surge dramatically.

Although it wasn't the World-Honored One himself, theoretically, at the Foundation Establishment realm, they should have been invincible.

Even if, hypothetically, a Foundation Establishment True Person could contend with them, who would dare to win? Wouldn't that risk provoking the World-Honored One?

Everyone knew the World-Honored One was shameless.

Only Daoist Dangmo was different because he was the only sword cultivator in the Sword Pavilion in many years with the hope of attaining the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 .

Therefore, he had significant backing.

For the sake of the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 , the Sword Pavilion naturally wouldn't allow the Pure Land to bully the weak.

Thus, both sides engaged in a fair duel.

And that Buddhist nun, instead of "fishing," ended up being "fished."

After Guang Ming awakened his "past life memories," he could still recall the sword strike Daoist Dangmo had unleashed back then, which immediately made him feel like retreating.

"Benefactor, you've misunderstood. This humble monk was just joking."

The next second, Guang Ming's face displayed a sincere smile: "This humble monk merely wished to invite this benefactor to visit the Pure Land."

"No need."

Daoist Dangmo's expression remained indifferent. The 【Sword of Non-Killing】 was unsheathed by half an inch, emitting a cold gleam. Instantly, all the Buddhist chants and sounds ceased, and the world fell into silence.

Guang Ming pressed his palms together, seemingly wanting to take one last look at Lü Yang. However, Lü Yang's figure was firmly shielded behind Daoist Dangmo. Almost simultaneously, Daoist Dangmo's sword intent surged, causing Guang Ming's eyes to sting, and he couldn't help but shed tears.

"Farewell!"

Seeing this, Guang Ming dared not linger. He immediately performed an escape technique, and with a step, his figure shattered like an illusion, disappearing from the spot.

‘Saved?’

Witnessing this scene, Lü Yang was still somewhat in shock, clearly not expecting the Buddha's son, Guang Ming, to retreat so decisively.

The next moment, a concerned voice reached him:

“Are you alright?”

Lü Yang looked up to see Daoist Dangmo had already sheathed the 【Sword of Non-Killing】 and was gazing at him with concern: “Do you still have the strength to retract that sword?”

Lü Yang shook his head upon hearing this.

The 【Desperate】 sword was a death sentence with no return. In fact, from the moment he condensed it, Lü Yang was already dead. The only difference was when he would unleash it. Theoretically, it was impossible to retract. Even if he could, in this situation, he had no intention of doing so.

‘One must always have a means to restart.’

Although Daoist Dangmo had just saved him, in such a treacherous place, it was hard for Lü Yang to believe there were no ulterior motives behind such concern.

What if he retracted the 【Desperate】 sword, and Daoist Dangmo acted immediately afterward?

At this point, Lü Yang trusted no one.

He could only trust himself!

Therefore, after a brief silence, Lü Yang sighed and said: “I can't retract it for now. I can only barely control it from being unleashed. That's already my limit.”

Daoist Dangmo smiled upon hearing this:

“It's good that you can control it. No rush. As long as you can comprehend the 【Sword Intent】 in the future, the mere 【Desperate】 sword will be easily resolved.”

After speaking, he gave Lü Yang a deep look.

“ 【Sword Heart Clarity】 ?”

Lü Yang nodded and cupped his hands: “This disciple gained some insight after destroying the Myriad Poison Sect.”

“Not bad!”

Daoist Dangmo smiled in satisfaction upon hearing this: “You've suffered significant injuries this time. Come back to the Sword Pavilion with me and tell me what exactly happened with the Myriad Poison Sect.”

“This disciple obeys.”

Lü Yang erased the details about his main body and avatar, selectively recounting the events. He wasn't worried about Daoist Dangmo tracing the past, as the entire Myriad Poison Sect had already been interfered with by the heavens, erasing all karma. Even a Da Luo Immortal couldn't trace back the scenes of that time.

Sword Pavilion, Extreme Heaven Cliff.

Daoist Dangmo brought Lü Yang here directly and, without delay, took out a healing pill for Lü Yang to consume.

“Thank you, Master.”

This expression of gratitude from Lü Yang carried some genuine emotion. After all, without Daoist Dangmo, he would have had to self-destruct and restart, losing everything.

Now, his Immortal Spirit Body had been taken. If he restarted, the best he could do was choose the Sword Dao avatar's cultivation. But the Sword Dao was problematic—how could he carry it over? The result would be choosing the Dharma Body again, rendering this life's efforts futile. How could he accept that?

The only good news was that, despite his miserable state, he still had Ancestor Ting You.

So even if he had to restart, he would at least wait until Ancestor Ting You had developed. Otherwise, he would truly gain nothing.

Thinking of this, Lü Yang gritted his teeth again.

Fortunately, key items like the 【Heavenly Sovereign All-Encompassing Dharma Body】 were bound to the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 and had transferred with his consciousness to the avatar.

Otherwise, he wouldn't just have gained nothing; he would have lost everything!

Ten lifetimes of cultivation—such a significant loss had only occurred in his earliest lifetimes when he was young and inexperienced.

‘Guang Ming, Heaven and Earth’

I will remember this grudge.

Just then, a Qi Refining disciple's voice came from outside the door: “Acting Sect Master, the family head has arrived with Elder Ye Cheng, requesting an audience outside Extreme Heaven Cliff.”

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

Chapter 377 : Can't Handle the World Honored One, But Can't Handle You?

[1,411 words]

Chapter 377: Can't Handle the World Honored One, But Can't Handle You?

Jade Pivot Sword Pavilion, Ye Family Residence.

Clouds and mist curled around the surroundings, and the halls shone brightly. The Ye Family now stood as the foremost clan in the Jade Pivot Sword Pavilion, not only due to a True Lord among them, but even more because of Daoist Dangmo.

After all, with most True Lords living in seclusion, those who had perfected Foundation Establishment stood at the pinnacle of strength.

And among them, Daoist Dangmo was head and shoulders above the rest. The Ye Family, borrowing his prestige, had already reaped many benefits in the Sword Pavilion over the past decade.

At that moment, a flying communication spirit scroll arrived.

Inside the great hall, a handsome young man with a regal crown on his head extended his hand to catch the scroll. Sweeping his divine sense across it, a smile soon spread across his face:

"Patriarch, the Myriad Venom Cult has been annihilated!"

The Ye Family Patriarch, Ye Shaoying, who had been meditating in the seat of honor, instantly opened his eyes. A look of satisfaction flashed within them.

"Is this true, Cheng'er?"

"Absolutely certain!"

Ye Cheng responded confidently, "This operation was arranged personally by your nephew. This letter was delivered by a close friend of mine in the Southern Frontier. There's no falsehood to it!"

"Good!"

Only then did Ye Shaoying nod, exclaiming with delight, "Daoist Dangmo went to the Southern Frontier in person, and now the Myriad Venom Cult is destroyed. That Lü Yang must already be dead!"

Ye Cheng nodded with a smile. "The Patriarch is wise. By cleverly using the Myriad Venom Cult's spies planted within the Qi Refining ranks, we wove an inescapable net. Lü Yang was just a rogue cultivator—how could he possibly escape? Ultimately, he owed our Ye Family a karmic debt, and now that he's dead, it was simply fate."

"Well said, Cheng'er."

Ye Shaoying nodded in approval. His daughter, Ye Guyue, had died mysteriously within the \[Southern Heaven Gate], and he had brooded over it for many years.

Thus, he had long harbored resentment toward Lü Yang.

The reason was simple: my daughter is dead—why are you still alive?

Was it your fault she died?

Not to mention, his original plan had been for Ye Guyue to inherit Daoist Dangmo's legacy and learn his \[Sword Intent]. But now, that plan had failed.

And to make matters worse, Lü Yang had been taken in as Daoist Dangmo's disciple.

If, by some chance, the two had developed feelings and Daoist Dangmo passed his \[Sword Intent] to Lü Yang, what would become of the Ye Family? This was something Ye Shaoying could not tolerate.

To him, Daoist Dangmo was a member of the Ye Family.

So Daoist Dangmo's [Sword Intent] should naturally belong to the Ye Family too!

How could an outsider touch it?

Therefore, both publicly and privately, he had no desire to see Lü Yang survive. And if he did, it should be as someone forever unable to establish his foundation.

"Let's go."

With that, Ye Shaoying rose to his feet and gave Ye Cheng a slight smile: "Cheng'er, come with me. Let us visit Daoist Dangmo, and offer him some consolation."

He then patted Ye Cheng on the shoulder and said earnestly, "You are now the most outstanding youth of the Ye Family. I shall recommend you to become Daoist Dangmo's disciple. Train diligently. With Guyue gone, the position of Patriarch remains undecided—you must strive toward it."

"I understand!"

Ye Cheng immediately showed an excited expression. If he could obtain the Patriarch's position, advancing to the late Foundation Establishment realm would be all but guaranteed!

Soon, two streaks of light left the Ye Family.

They quickly arrived at Jitian Cliff.

Just as they approached, Ye Shaoying composed his expression and began solemnly, "Guangji, I know the pain of losing a beloved disciple, but you must still..."

His words stopped abruptly.

Before he could finish the phrase "accept my condolences," he saw Lü Yang standing calmly beside Daoist Dangmo, turning toward him at the sound.

He's not dead!?

Ye Shaoying quickly turned to look at Ye Cheng, only to find the latter equally stunned, clearly not understanding why Lü Yang was still alive.

'Could it be that Daoist Dangmo sensed something wrong and arrived in time?'

'Otherwise, the Myriad Venom Cult Leader Long Yue, a late Foundation Establishment True Person, should never have failed against a newly established Foundation cultivator.'

Ye Shaoying was still deep in thought.

The next second, he suddenly shivered—his [Sword Heart] issued a warning. Instinctively looking up, his gaze met Lü Yang's.

"Clang clang!"

In a daze, a clear and resonant sword cry echoed in Ye Shaoying's ears. Lü Yang before him suddenly lost all human semblance and transformed into an overwhelming, blazing sword Qi too majestic to look at directly! At that moment, he seemed no weaker than a True Person!

"My apologies."

Lü Yang smiled apologetically. "My current state is somewhat unusual—my sword Qi is hard to restrain. I hope the two of you won't take offense."

Although he said this, the sword Qi around Lü Yang only grew more intense.

Damn it. Can't handle the World Honored One, but can't handle you?

Among everyone present, Ye Cheng's cultivation was the weakest—only at mid Foundation Establishment. Under the pressure of Lü Yang's sword Qi, he instantly coughed blood and staggered back a step.

'Impossible...'

This time, Ye Shaoying's expression truly changed. The composure and sophistication of a family head crumbled in an instant as he looked at Lü Yang in disbelief.

'Late Foundation Establishment!? A True Person!?'

What a joke!

'This person's background is that profound? After merely a decade since returning from reincarnation, he's already reached late Foundation Establishment?'

Had it been someone else, Ye Shaoying would have immediately suspected Lü Yang of being a spy from another sect. But Lü Yang's case was different—he had lit incense at the Hall of Reception, which guaranteed a thorough cleansing of past-life memories. Even if he had once been a spy, he couldn't be anymore.

Nonetheless, Ye Shaoying was still the Patriarch of the Ye Family.

"...No matter."

In a flash, he composed himself and said, “I came this time to bring a family disgrace here and seek your forgiveness, Daoist friend.”

Ye Cheng: “???”

Before Ye Cheng could even react, Ye Shaoying clapped his hand, sealing Ye Cheng’s divine sense, and pushed him forward.

“This is the one who secretly colluded with the Myriad Venom Cult and betrayed the interests of our Sword Pavilion.”

“There is conclusive evidence. If you still doubt it, you may soul-search the Qi Refining disciples he contacted—those spies from the Myriad Venom Cult—to confirm it.”

Ye Shaoying’s tone was righteous and full of integrity.

Lü Yang was quite impressed.

‘Truly a rare sword-bearer...’

Why had Daoist Dangmo suddenly rushed to the Southern Frontier? Because he had discovered Ye Cheng’s covert actions. But who would’ve thought Ye Shaoying would now sacrifice the pawn to save the chariot.

Yet Ye Shaoying didn’t feel he had done anything wrong.

Compared to before, his entire perspective had changed. A True Person was on a completely different level from ordinary Foundation Establishment cultivators.

If, before, he had been focused on eliminating Lü Yang...

Then now, his thinking had shifted: ‘If we could marry into his family and draw a True Person into our Ye Family, it would be a great gain...’

As this thought arose, Ye Shaoying was just about to speak—

When suddenly.

“That’s enough.”

Daoist Dangmo cut him off with a stern voice. “You haven’t embarrassed yourself enough? Go home. Take Ye Cheng with you.”

“Put him into seclusion. Let him meditate for a hundred years.”

“...Very well.”

Ye Shaoying quickly nodded, realizing this was not the time to push things further. He immediately dragged Ye Cheng away from Jitian Cliff in haste.

Daoist Dangmo sighed helplessly as he watched, then turned to Lü Yang:

“For my sake, don’t trouble them further.”

Lü Yang bowed deeply. “Disciple would not dare.”

Hearing this, Daoist Dangmo finally nodded. Then he unexpectedly removed the \[No-Kill Sword] from his waist and handed it to Lü Yang:

“Consider this my way of apologizing on their behalf.”

“You’ve now reached the point of comprehending \[Sword Intent]. Borrow this sword for your study. It may aid your current cultivation.”

“Many thanks, Master!”

Lü Yang bowed once more, not declining. He accepted the \[No-Kill Sword], instantly feeling a chilling cold and a mountain-like weight through his hands.

Truthfully, even if Daoist Dangmo hadn’t said anything, he had no time to pursue vengeance against the Ye Family for now—he would simply keep it in mind.

Because he had something far more important to do.

‘Daoist Hong Yun’s memories!’

Earlier, Heaven and Earth had meddled in secret, preventing him from delving deeper. That meant there were secrets related to Heaven and Earth hidden within—he had to find out what they were!

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

[1,423 words]

Chapter 378: Escaping Is Shameful, But Useful

In the secluded chamber on the Ultimate Heaven Cliff.

Lü Yang sat cross-legged on a meditation cushion, with the 【Non-Killing Sword】 of Daoist Dangmo placed in front of him, his mind fully immersed in the depths of his Sea of Consciousness.

There, within his Sea of Consciousness, a beam of golden light shimmered brilliantly.

The Golden Fortune Nature!

This Golden Nature had its essence drained by the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 , leaving only an outer shell. Yet, even in such a state, it still imposed considerable pressure on Lü Yang.

In the next moment, Lü Yang opened the panel.

This time, with no interference from the heavens and earth, he earnestly and thoroughly reviewed the life of fortune derived from the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 .

Only after a long time did he open his eyes.

"...Damn!"

He couldn't help but curse.

Only now did Lü Yang realize just how ignorant he had been, sitting on a treasure mountain without knowing it, using the Golden Fortune Nature merely to disguise his identity.

As someone blessed by the heavens with immense fortune, Fortune's lifetime was filled with countless opportunities and explored numerous secret realms and dangerous lands. That alone, the experience of discerning and locating treasures in these secret realms and determining whether they had owners, was incredibly valuable.

And this was just a peripheral benefit.

Lü Yang spent a full three days using his divine sense to sort through and archive Fortune's memories, finally categorizing them into three major sections.

'First is cultivation and knowledge!'

'As a True Person of 【Overturning Lamp Flame】 , Fortune had thorough mastery over the corresponding Heavenly Stems and Earthly Fiends. His cultivation was truly at the peak.'

【Jia Wood】 , 【Yi Wood】 .

【Chen Earth】 , 【Si Fire】 .

The four Heavenly Stems and Earthly Fiends, their yin-yang attributes, internal transformations, and combinations—all this was recorded in Fortune's memory, a veritable sea of knowledge!

'If I patiently integrate and thoroughly comprehend this over hundreds of years, I might even seek out 【Overturning Lamp Flame】 using this knowledge. Even if I can't, pursuing other positions linked to these four attributes will surely be twice the result for half the effort!'

Such wealth would make every Foundation Establishment cultivator green with envy.

Not to mention, it included those two secret techniques he previously encountered, 『True Explanation of Observing Heaven and Earth Within the Void』 and 『Upper Hao Golden Lamp and Jade Light』 —both complete and intact!

The latter's sensing of 【Overturning Lamp Flame】 was secondary.

What truly mattered to Lü Yang was the former. It was a method to create a blessed cave paradise, highly useful for Foundation Establishment cultivators!

'Didn't expect that the secret techniques I once traded away would come back into my hands...'

That's fate at work!

Moreover, the versions traded away were flawed copies laced with hidden dangers by Fortune, while what he now possessed were flawless, danger-free versions.

"Hmm? What's this?"

Suddenly, Lü Yang's heart stirred as he looked at a page in the 『True Explanation of Observing Heaven and Earth Within the Void』 . On it was recorded a secret art deduced by Fortune.

" 【Minor Paradise】 ?"

Lü Yang carefully studied it, his eyes growing brighter and brighter.

As the name implied, a 【Minor Paradise】 was a prototype of a true blessed land. Not only could it be nurtured into one, but more importantly, its requirements were extremely low.

It didn't require peak Foundation Establishment cultivation.

Even late-stage Foundation Establishment cultivators could forge it!

‘Though it can’t enhance cultivation like a true blessed land, it can serve to avoid disasters. Once hidden within, even immortals would struggle to find me!’

This was crucial.

‘As long as I can refine a 【Minor Paradise】 , I can hide inside to escape the detection of heaven and earth, without fearing being hunted down again!’

‘Additionally, the 【Minor Paradise】 can be used to avoid the 【Five Decays of Heaven and Man】 , greatly increasing the chance of achieving peak Foundation Establishment—what a marvelous technique!’

Its only flaw was the need for a large number of spiritual materials.

‘But I just obtained the Myriad Tribulations Indestructible Gilded Silkworm from the Myriad Poisons Sect—it’s perfect as a core material and can significantly cut down on the rest of the cost.’

With this in mind, Lü Yang immediately prioritized refining the 【Minor Paradise】 .

Only then did he continue delving into Fortune’s memories.

‘Besides cultivation and knowledge, the next is the secrets of heaven and earth!’

Seeing this, Lü Yang grit his teeth again: ‘No wonder Fortune eventually chose to betray heaven and earth—he got benefits during the millennium tribulation but didn’t share them back.’

Heaven and earth never support you for free!

It’s like an investment—after raising you with great effort, they naturally expect a hefty return to recoup the cost. Otherwise, it’s a wasted investment.

‘The reason heaven and earth supported Fortune to become a True Person was purely for the sake of 【Overturning Lamp Flame】 . As their chosen one, the longer Fortune held the position, the more subtly influenced 【Overturning Lamp Flame】 became, gradually falling under the control of heaven and earth.’

‘But doing so crossed the taboo of the Dao Masters!’

‘Fortune realized this and chose betrayal. With four Dao Masters suppressing heaven and earth, following them led nowhere.’

True Persons of the Saint Sect had always been clear in matters of right and wrong.

They only followed the victors.

‘Moreover, after Fortune became a True Person, heaven and earth stopped supporting him. With his millennium lifespan nearing its end, that’s when he decided to betray them.’

Mid-stage Golden Core, undying cave-heaven.

To reach that stage, one must continually strengthen their cave-heaven and plunder external resources—something that directly opposed the original intent of heaven and earth.

If they had continued supporting him and allowed a glimpse of a higher realm, instead of forcing a restart after a thousand years, maybe Fortune wouldn’t have betrayed them. But if you treat someone like a dog and cut their wages, who the hell would want to keep working for you?

Lü Yang found this pattern of heaven and earth all too familiar.

‘Isn’t this just throwing money to capture the market and flipping the table once monopolized...?’

If he had seen this earlier, he would have been wary of heaven and earth and wouldn’t have realized too late that the World Honored One had his eyes on him...

But the past couldn’t be changed.

Lü Yang steadied his mind and looked at the third section—this was the part he valued most.

‘Five thousand years... Fortune truly didn’t live in vain!’

Indeed, over five thousand years, Fortune died and died again, leading a miserable life.

But he had realized the problem.

Even a pig could notice such a steep drop in fortune compared to the first half of his life.

In fact, Fortune foresaw this before he even lost his position and betrayed heaven and earth.

And he left behind a contingency plan.

『Ritual Manual for Cultivating the Dao at the Altar』 !

This was a Grade Two true cultivation technique, personally derived and recorded by Fortune.

But that wasn't the most important part—the key was that the coordinates of the realm it corresponded to had never been recorded. Fortune discovered it independently and only he knew of it!

He had also modified that realm to ensure it wouldn't drift close to this world and be detected like the 【Mystic Spirit Realm】 .

'This... was Fortune's final escape route!'

'He arranged it all in the technique—one could reincarnate into that realm through it.'

'If he truly couldn't reclaim his position as a True Person, he'd settle for second-best—flee to that realm, establish himself as its ruler, and then strike back... Sadly, although he left many plans and preparations, his luck was just too bad. None of them ever saw use in this life or the last...'

After sorting through these memories, Lü Yang's impression of Fortune changed dramatically.

On reflection, his current predicament mirrored Fortune's. Both were being targeted by heaven and earth, and both faced a formidable enemy.

'I was worrying about what to do next—but now I don't need to think anymore.'

Fortune had already laid the groundwork. He simply hadn't had time to act on it.

But that didn't matter. Lü Yang could implement it, bringing the Golden Fortune Nature along and giving Fortune a sense of participation.

'I see it clearly now—this damned place has no real sanctuary. Even heaven and the Dao Masters join in the game, bombing the pond. Dreaming of growing stronger here is pure fantasy.'

To break free, he had to jump out.

To a real pond!

'Escaping is shameful—but useful!'

With the thought of fleeing, the heavens seemed to open wide before him. Lü Yang suddenly felt his once-confused path brighten once again.

That's right—head beyond the heavens!

Screw the Buddha Child, screw the Immortal Spirits—he wasn't serving any of them!

He would first become a True Person in the outer world—and then come back to settle the scores one by one!

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

[1,578 words]

Chapter 379: Not Killing

Once the thought occurred, Lü Yang acted upon it. After ten lifetimes of cultivation, he deeply understood one principle: action was paramount; procrastination led to no achievements.

'First is the 【Minor Blessed Land】 !'

Although this item appeared to be a completely new method at first glance, upon reflection, Lü Yang realized that this was not his first encounter with something similar.

' 【Blood Demon Island】 !'

Indeed, the so-called 【Minor Blessed Land】 was almost identical to the 【Blood Demon Island】 he had seen in previous lifetimes; in fact, the latter was a simplified version of the former.

'The 【Minor Blessed Land】 had the effect of concealing oneself within, evading the detection of heaven and earth. Although the 【Blood Demon Island】 was merely a simplified version, it likely inherited this effect. Therefore, the Blood Demon True Person hid within it, using a feigned death technique to sleep, thus surviving for thousands of years, far surpassing the ordinary Foundation Establishment cultivator.'

With this precedent, Lü Yang's confidence in the 【Minor Blessed Land】 increased significantly.

Only one problem remained: he did not know how to refine it.

After all, as a direct disciple of a True Person, the refining method of the 【Minor Blessed Land】 was extremely profound. It was not that Lü Yang could not comprehend it, but rather that it required a certain amount of time to learn.

'At this point, I can only rely on my talent!'

'Ancestor Ting You!'

Lü Yang shook the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, once again summoning Ancestor Ting You, and without further ado, handed over the method and the 【Indestructible Gilded Silkworm of Ten Thousand Tribulations】 .

"You..."

After listening to Lü Yang's request, Ancestor Ting You revealed a helpless expression. His aura fluctuated, clearly indicating that he had already reached the mid-stage of Foundation Establishment!

Although it had not been long since his revival, Ancestor Ting You's recovery speed was still very fast. Moreover, in his previous life, he had already achieved complete Foundation Establishment. His innate divine abilities were permanently certified, requiring no search for the Heavenly Gang or Earth Fiend. Therefore, even without doing anything, he was rapidly recovering.

This astonished Lü Yang.

'Now it seems that Ancestor Ting You did not lack the ability to recover to his peak; it was simply that in previous lifetimes, he was suppressed by True Persons and did not dare to recover.'

However, the current Ancestor Ting You should be even stronger than his original self.

After all, under Lü Yang's cultivation, he had consumed the 【Dao Merging Immortal Pill】 , fused with his original body, and his comprehension and intelligence had clearly reached a higher level compared to before.

"Practicing cultivation is not done this way."

Ancestor Ting You looked at Lü Yang and earnestly said, "I can help you comprehend the method, but if you do not understand the principles within, it will always be a hidden danger."

"What is mine is always mine."

"If you wish to seek the Golden Elixir and aspire to ascend in the future, you must have your own principles and insights. You can't expect me to help you even with the Golden Elixir, can you?"

"I understand."

Ancestor Ting You meant well, and Lü Yang was well aware of this.

"But Ancestor, you also know my current situation. I don't have that much time to waste. The longer I stay in this damned place, the more dangerous it becomes!"

Now, with the changing world situation, heaven and earth had taken away his immortal spiritual body. Under the wholehearted cultivation of 【Shang Zhang】 , it was estimated that it would not take long for him to reach complete Foundation Establishment. On the other hand, the Buddha Son Guang Ming had emerged from the Pure Land, clearly with grand plans. The surging undercurrents were about to surface.

Yet, heaven and earth were targeting him.

Once 【Shang Zhang】 achieved complete Foundation Establishment, it was highly likely he would come looking for him. Unless he stayed inseparable from Daoist Dangmo, but then how could he cultivate?

More importantly...

"My path is now severed!"

Although the Sword Dao clone was very strong, with the blessing of the 【Tribulation Wave】 , it possessed the combat power of a Great True Person, even among Great True Persons, it was outstanding.

But so what?

The Sword Dao was poisonous; restarting would not carry it over. Improving it was meaningless. The urgent task now was to find a cultivation path that could be carried over!

In this situation, staying in this damned place would mean starting over, searching for the Heavenly Gang and Earth Fiend anew. But under the targeting of heaven and earth, searching for the Heavenly Gang and Earth Fiend was no different from seeking death. Therefore, the only way was to go beyond the heavens, to first find an external cultivation path!

‘A temporary measure to overcome the crisis.’

Taking the external cultivation path to first improve his cultivation, then returning to support the cultivation of this world, leading the latter with the former, would yield twice the result with half the effort.

For this, the refinement of the 【Minor Blessed Land】 was urgent.

‘According to Hong Yun's memory, the 【Minor Blessed Land】 , as a vessel, was sufficient to help me escape this damned place and reach the realm sky discovered by Hong Yun.’

After all, he had the coordinates of the realm sky.

Although the 【Minor Blessed Land】 had a limited stay in the outer heavens and would self-destruct if it stayed too long, according to Hong Yun's calculations, it was sufficient to reach the destination.

"I entrust this to you, Ancestor."

Lü Yang solemnly cupped his hands, and upon seeing this, Ancestor Ting You could only shake his head, looking at Lü Yang with eyes full of 'you've really had it tough':

"I'll do my best."

"Thank you!"

Seeing his own talent striving to comprehend, Lü Yang finally breathed a sigh of relief, then surfaced his consciousness and controlled the Sword Dao clone to look ahead.

There, an ancient long sword was placed, its hilt inlaid with the patterns of the Heavenly Gang and Big Dipper formation, the handle wrapped with five-colored shark silk to attract lightning, the sheath covered with the leather of the Black Tortoise carrying a map, and the tassel tied with the fruit of the Taiyi green calamus. It was precisely Daoist Dangmo's 【Not Killing Sword】. At this moment, as Lü Yang's mind moved, the sword blade suddenly unsheathed.

"Clang clang!"

Amidst the clear sword cries, Lü Yang once again entered the state of 【Sword Heart Clarity】, beginning to carefully comprehend the sword intent transmitted from the 【Not Killing Sword】.

This might be the only advantage of the Sword Dao.

Compared to pure Sword Dao cultivation, Lü Yang valued more the mental realms such as 【Sword Heart】 and 【Sword Intent】, which also greatly enhanced his combat power.

Meanwhile, at the Extreme Heaven Cliff of the Sword Pavilion.

At the same time that Lü Yang began to comprehend the 【Not Killing Sword】, Daoist Dangmo was sitting upright in front of the cliff, his consciousness quietly sinking into the storage bag he carried.

What he saw was a myriad of heads.

Each head was talking to itself, each head was speaking eloquently, and at the top of them was the head of a beautiful woman.

"Amitabha."

The woman's face bore a compassionate smile. Although only a head remained, it was extremely serene, with rosy lips and white teeth, full and lustrous.

As if she were truly alive.

Seeing Daoist Dangmo enter, she immediately spoke: "Benefactor Ye, you have upheld the principle of not killing throughout your life. Your philosophy is no different from our Pure Land. You should become a Buddhist cultivator."

"Benefactor should know that our Pure Land has various Arhats and Bodhisattvas as protectors. Each day, one only needs to work diligently during the day, recite scriptures silently at night, and uphold discipline to enjoy supreme bliss. Everyone has the hope of becoming a Buddha. Cultivators never engage in killing or harming the people. Isn't this precisely in line with your vision?"

"Under the heavens, who else is like our Pure Land?"

"The Holy Sect respects the law of the jungle; the Sword Pavilion governs the weak and ignorant; the Dao Court herds the people like cattle and sheep, raising them fat only to slaughter and consume."

"Only our Pure Land is open and aboveboard, with everyone like dragons!"

Faced with the woman's head's exposition, Daoist Dangmo shook his head: "Pure Land Buddhist cultivation has only the appearance, but in essence, it's merely the puppet of the World Honored One."

"That's slander!"

The woman's head shook: "We, the lower cultivators, what is there for the World Honored One to covet? The World Honored One descending upon us is not possession, but protection!"

"One must know that cultivating the Dao is difficult, harder than ascending to the blue sky. But in our Pure Land, everyone has superior cultivation support, which can alleviate many hardships on the path of cultivation. Back then, I was favored by the Dharma Aspect, traveled the world, and even True Persons could only turn a blind eye to me. If not for the World Honored One's care, how could I have what I have today?"

"Even if Benefactor beheaded me, it wasn't because you were strong!"

"More so, it was because you received the favor of the True Persons of the Sword Pavilion, even that Sword Master. Without that, you couldn't possibly kill me!"

"I didn't kill you."

Daoist Dangmo said seriously: "I'm not like people like you."

"Ridiculous!"

The woman's head laughed heartily, then looked around at the thousands of still-living heads: "Benefactor, you are just like us!"

"The entire world is full of people like us!"

"Not killing? As long as Benefactor continues to uphold this philosophy, one day, you will still come to our Pure Land!"

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

[1,405 words]

Chapter 380: I Will Definitely Come Back!

Three months later.

Inside the closed-door cultivation chamber of the Sword Pavilion.

When Lü Yang withdrew his gaze from the 【Sword of No Killing】 before him and came back to his senses, an inexplicable realization emerged in his heart.

"Never thought 【Fated Commandment Holding】 would have such a wondrous use."

This was the profound wonder of the Sensing Spirit Response Sutra. To accelerate his comprehension of 【Sword Intent】 , Lü Yang had assigned himself a fate: the 【Innate Sword Seed】 .

The effect was quite remarkable.

To obtain the fate of 【Innate Sword Seed】 , the commandment he needed to hold was called 【Weapon Abstinence】 —as the name implied, from now on he could only use swords in combat.

If he used any other weapon, he would immediately break the commandment.

But under the support of this commandment, he progressed with lightning speed in understanding 【Sword Intent】. At this moment, he had clearly taken the most crucial first step.

"Buzz, buzz!"

Lü Yang sat still, without activating any divine sense or magic power, yet the 【Sword of No Killing】 before him trembled. A glint of cold light shone as the sword blade unsheathed half an inch on its own. It was stirred by Lü Yang's 【Sword Heart】, responding autonomously—symbolizing his level in the sword path.

‘Consider this entry-level mastery.’

Lü Yang nodded with satisfaction. When he could fully unsheathe the 【Sword of No Killing】, that would be the moment he was qualified to condense true 【Sword Intent】.

This was a long road.

‘The sword is the way of utmost sincerity—straightforward and unbending. It must be nurtured with experiences and emotions to gradually sprout, blossom, and bear fruit.’

The stronger the emotions, the easier it was to give rise to 【Sword Intent】.

‘In other words, most sword cultivators are obsessive people. With obsessions in their hearts and powerful emotions born from them, only then can they advance further on the sword path.’

The Daoist Dangmo was a typical example—so "good" it was terrifying.

The so-called 【No Killing】 was completely out of place in this world, yet he persisted with it consistently. It showed just how deeply rooted his obsession was.

In the next instant, a thought stirred in Lü Yang’s mind.

From within the Myriad Spirits Banner, a message came from Patriarch Ting You: the preparations for refining the 【Lesser Blessed Land】 had been completed, only lacking Lü Yang’s presence to initiate the actual process.

After all, although the 【Lesser Blessed Land】 had reduced many requirements, cultivation was still a crucial factor. Without a late Foundation Establishment Realm cultivation, there was no way to begin. And since Patriarch Ting You was still only at

mid-Foundation Establishment, he could only help organize and interpret the method. The final execution still required Lü Yang himself.

“Ho!”

As Lü Yang’s consciousness entered the Myriad Spirits Banner, he immediately saw a bustling scene. Countless spirit banners were moving in coordinated actions under Patriarch Ting You’s direction.

Leading them was none other than the Sect Leader of the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect—Long Yue.

This late Foundation Establishment realm spirit banner had now become Lü Yang’s loyal servant, diligently laboring and offering herself for his cause.

At the same time, she was also Lü Yang’s trump card for venturing beyond the heavens. After all, his sword path incarnation could not accompany him. One reason was the incarnation’s deep entanglement with the Sword Pavilion—bringing it outside risked exposure. Another was to leave behind an anchor.

After all, Lü Yang ultimately intended to return.

In this case, Long Yue, a late Foundation Establishment grand master, was undoubtedly the ideal protector—she would scout the path, step on traps, and serve as cannon fodder if needed.

“Patriarch?”

Lü Yang walked up to Patriarch Ting You and saw him holding a thin sheet of paper, sketching on it. Seeing this, Lü Yang’s eyes lit up.

“Is this the result of Patriarch’s insights?”

“Indeed.”

Patriarch Ting You nodded, but when he noticed Lü Yang staring at the thin paper, he quickly shook his head. “Oh, this one’s for me.”

He then pulled out a thick jade slip and stuffed it into Lü Yang’s arms. “This is your personalized tutorial. Read it carefully. When the time comes, follow the steps precisely—one misstep and the entire 【Lesser Blessed Land】 refining process will fail.”

Lü Yang fell silent.

Sweeping it with divine sense, he saw that compared to the thin page in Ting You's hand, the jade slip's content could easily fill a million-word book!

But correspondingly, it was extremely detailed.

Lü Yang didn't even need to understand it—he just needed to memorize it. So despite the volume, it posed no challenge to him.

This alone proved how diligently he had cultivated his talent during this period.

“All preparations complete.”

Soon, under Ting You's arrangements, the project inside the Myriad Spirits Banner neared completion. In its center, a golden silkworm had transformed into a cocoon.

Lü Yang stepped forward and began channeling his own magic power.

In the next moment, Lü Yang felt as though he had sunk into a vast underwater world—movement became nearly impossible, and he felt deeply cut off from heaven and earth.

Immense pressure closed in from all directions.

A single thought emerged.

‘Push it open!’

Lü Yang exhaled deeply, summoned all his power, his sword heart advancing with unstoppable force. His body swelled—head touching the sky, feet planted on the earth—stretching out freely.

“Boom!”

With a thunderous roar, he forcibly expanded a space using raw power. Above, a white rift split open, unleashing a torrent of spiritual energy like a dam breaking. This space greedily devoured it all.

Spiritual energy formed the Taiji.

One gave birth to two, two to three, three to all things. In the blink of an eye, rivers and lakes emerged where there was once emptiness, along with mountains and ridges.

The next instant, Lü Yang returned to the outside world.

Looking again, he saw the cocoon formed by the 【Indestructible Gilded Silkworm of Ten Thousand Tribulations】 split open. A speck of golden light turned into a butterfly, revealing an image of light.

A speck of mustard light, containing the vastness of Sumeru.

If one focused their divine sense, they could even see the landscape Lü Yang had just forged—mountains, rivers, and valleys. It was like a miniature world!

‘No, calling it a world might be too generous.’

‘In essence, it’s just a space. It cannot foster life, unworthy of being called a world. But with my cultivation, this is already the limit.’

With a thought, Lü Yang returned into the 【Lesser Blessed Land】 .

As its creator, he possessed absolute control over it. A sweep of divine sense could detect nearly every change.

And more importantly, it had another wondrous use.

“Swish swish!”

As Lü Yang’s thoughts shifted, the 【Lesser Blessed Land】 began to morph. Golden light outlined a humanoid form.

Next, wind and clouds formed qi, thunder gave voice, sun and moon became eyes, the four poles and five sacred peaks became limbs and body, rivers turned into flowing blood, the earth shaped the meridians, fields became flesh, metal and wood formed skin and hair—finally forming a handsome face.

‘Reforging the flesh!’

Lü Yang looked at his palm. This body had no cultivation, only the 【Lesser Blessed Land】 's inherent status and the raw strength born of it.

“Hong Yun... I truly underestimated him!”

The 【Lesser Blessed Land】 was self-sufficient and unbound by heavenly laws. Transformed into a body and sent to another world, even heaven and earth would struggle to trace it back.

Lü Yang could tell—everything he could consider, Hong Yun had already prepared for long ago. This escape plan was flawless. The only flaw was the immense cost.

And despite five thousand years of bad luck and death after death, Hong Yun had still failed to gather enough materials.

Lü Yang was no different.

If not for the rare treasure 【Indestructible Gilded Silkworm of Ten Thousand Tribulations】—cultivated by the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect over countless years—he couldn't have completed the refining.

Now that the 【Lesser Blessed Land】 was complete, Lü Yang hesitated no longer.

‘From today on, this is my true body! As for a name... let's call it 【Heaven of Parting Grief】—a vivid symbol of leaving this wretched place.’

Lü Yang took a deep breath and began activating his incantations.

‘The sword path incarnation will remain in the Sword Pavilion to observe worldly affairs. It doesn't need to do anything grand—just survive as long as possible and gather information for me.’

With that thought, Lü Yang cast one last glance around.

Since reaching Foundation Establishment, this life had probably been his most miserable. He had no choice but to leave his homeland, and the path ahead remained uncertain.

Guang Ming's Holy Child, Celestial Spirits...

‘Just you wait—’

Lü Yang withdrew his gaze, swallowing his emotions, his face calm like a still lake.

I will definitely come back!

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

[1,467 words]

Chapter 381: Lü Yang's Development Plan

At this thought, Lü Yang had already departed, leaving behind only his Sword Dao clone seated cross-legged at the original spot.

Under the arrangement of Ancestor Ting You, his primary consciousness was extracted from the clone and transferred into the 【Sky of Parting Regret】 , transforming it into his new main body.

No anomalies appeared in the heavens and earth.

This was because the entire process was completed within the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, which had been cleansed by the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 , rendering it cause and effect-free, sufficient to obscure the heavenly secrets.

At this moment, Lü Yang had arrived in the Outer Heavens.

“Strictly speaking, this is my first time coming to the Outer Heavens.”

The previous journey to the 【Ten Thousand Martial World】 was facilitated by the sect's treasured 【Heaven-Piercing Hall】 , an official channel, with full escort and no sensation throughout the process.

This time, however, was an illegal crossing.

He traveled through a narrow path opened by Hong Yun, and now, upon entering the Outer Heavens, Lü Yang truly witnessed the scenery of this realm.

Contrary to his imagination of the "universe,"

What met his eyes was a sea of light, blazing to the extreme, boundless and infinite. Merely being within it caused Lü Yang to feel intense pain.

‘This is the 【Profound Light of Yin-Yang Creation and Destruction】 .’

According to Hong Yun's memories, the so-called 【Profound Light of Yin-Yang Creation and Destruction】 was unique to the Outer Heavens, capable of decomposing all things, returning them to the primordial state.

Ordinary Foundation Establishment True Persons falling into it would depend on the quality of their Dao foundation. Those above third grade could last a quarter of an hour; those below third grade would inevitably turn to ashes within that time. Unless one had achieved complete Foundation Establishment and refined a Blessed Land, they could barely traverse it. Only Golden Core True Lords could cross it as if walking on flat ground.

“I've refined the minor Blessed Land 【Sky of Parting Regret】 , which counts as a clever workaround.”

That said, the 【Sky of Parting Regret】 was certainly inferior to a true Blessed Land. Having only advanced a short distance, Lü Yang could already feel the Blessed Land sustaining damage.

“Fortunately, the Outer Heavens lack the concept of distance.”

The Outer Heavens were vast, yet without the notion of near or far. It all depended on whether one possessed a "coordinate." As long as there was a coordinate, no matter how distant, one could arrive in a single step.

Without a coordinate, even the nearest place would seem as distant as the horizon.

Holding firmly to the coordinates provided in Hong Yun's memories, Lü Yang stepped forward. Under his spiritual perception, he suddenly saw scenes within the sea of light.

They were one cavity after another.

The sea of light in the Outer Heavens appeared flawless, yet in reality, cavities followed one after another, each unfathomably deep, as if leading to another world.

Was this the appearance of worlds in the Outer Heavens?

Lü Yang turned to look back and immediately his pupils contracted, for he saw the world he had left behind, that broken place, as it appeared in the sea of light.

Describing it as a "cavity" seemed inadequate.

It should be called an "abyss"!

Compared to the surrounding cavities, that broken place seemed to have torn the sea of light apart, vast and boundless beyond imagination, resembling a black hole!

Its manifestation was even similar to a black hole, emitting an immense gravitational pull, attracting the surrounding cavities representing worlds one after another, then devouring them. It was like a giant beast opening its bloody maw, instilling an inescapable sense of dread.

“That broken place.”

Lü Yang dared not look further. He turned his head and stepped out, swiftly disappearing from the original spot, plunging toward the direction of the coordinate sensed by his spiritual perception!

The moon was bright, stars sparse, and the evening breeze gentle.

Lü Yang opened his eyes, no longer relying on spiritual perception, but allowing himself to disintegrate, transforming from human form back into the 【Sky of Parting Regret】 , suspended at the center of the sea of clouds.

“Looking back, the world has changed.”

Lü Yang immediately activated the 【Puppet on Strings】. As expected, just like in the Ten Thousand Martial World, he could still sense the presence of his Sword Dao clone.

With just a thought, he could have his main body enter the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, which would then follow the 【Universal Manifestation Body of Qian Heaven】 to transfer beside the Sword Dao clone, allowing him to return to that broken place. However, before developing further, he would never make such a decision again.

‘Any thought I have is being manipulated by someone!’

Lü Yang surveyed his surroundings. Unlike his previous experience in the Ten Thousand Martial World, this time he felt no hostility or pressure from this world.

All thanks to Hong Yun.

Even when he was still a True Lord, Hong Yun had exerted significant influence over this world, shaping it into a form that wouldn't reject outsiders.

“Strictly speaking, this world hasn't yet condensed a Fruit Position, unlike the Ten Thousand Martial World. Theoretically, it should be similar to Suo Huan's native world.”

At most, it was a prototype of a Fruit Position.

If it were a world like the Ten Thousand Martial World that had truly formed a Fruit Position, even if Hong Yun were still a True Lord, it would be difficult for him to exert significant influence.

But a Fruit Position prototype was different.

Suo Huan's native world had once condensed a Fruit Position prototype, but what was the result? It was crushed by a True Lord, with only Suo Huan escaping.

“It's actually very difficult for a Fruit Position prototype to evolve into a full Fruit Position.”

With the supplement of Hong Yun's memories, Lü Yang realized that many of his previous thoughts were flawed.

“For example, having Ancestor prove the Fruit Position prototype within the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner... it's actually unfeasible, because without a true Fruit Position, it can't support a True Lord.”

Then why could an Innate True Person succeed?

“Because of the 【Long Flowing Water】 !”

“【Long Flowing Water】 signifies boundless vastness. The Innate True Person used Dao Sin to draw upon the 【Long Flowing Water】 for thousands of years, harnessing its vastness to nourish himself.”

“In simple terms, he used the power of the Fruit Position of 【Long Flowing Water】 to catalyze the Fruit Position prototype within the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, greatly accelerating the condensation of the Fruit Position, thus giving birth to 【Heaven of Nonexistence】. This required a long-term plan, which Ancestor didn't have the conditions for, not to mention...”

Lü Yang suspected that the heavens and earth also played a role in this!

After all, the Innate True Person's actions essentially stole the surplus of the heavens and earth to compensate for his own deficiencies. Without the support of the heavens and earth, how could he have succeeded?

Moreover, in terms of results, the heavens and earth also benefited.

With all True Lords hidden from the world, no longer overseeing the world, the heavens and earth had room to maneuver. The emergence of 【Heaven of Nonexistence】 was a huge advantage for them!

Thinking of this, Lü Yang couldn't help but curse again:

“What a broken place.”

Collecting his thoughts, Lü Yang looked up at the sky, only to see four moons occupying the east, south, west, and north, sealing the entire world.

This was a grand formation.

Named the 【Seven Luminaries Stabilizing the World and Preserving Truth Grand Formation】, ranked third grade, it was a formation at the True Lord level, left behind by Hong Yun when he discovered this world.

Its purpose was to prevent him from being drawn back to that broken place.

The power of the formation manifested externally as the sun and moon before him, with three suns in the sky during the day and four moons hanging high at night, combining the light of the seven luminaries.

“After all, it's a new world; caution is paramount.”

Lü Yang was very cautious. Having been deceived repeatedly in that broken place, even now in a new world, he instinctively decided to act cautiously.

As for how to develop in this world, Lü Yang already had a plan.

'A Fruit Position prototype can hardly support a True Lord. This is probably one of the reasons why Hong Yun never fled here. After all, once he fled here and didn't return, unless this world naturally evolved into completeness, his path upward would be cut off, making it impossible to become a True Lord.'

That said, Lü Yang was different from Hong Yun.

'The Fruit Position is actually secondary. For me, as long as I achieve complete Foundation Establishment, it's considered a success.'

Because of Ancestor Ting You!

Because of the pseudo-Golden Position method of the 【Yama Hall】 !

'Even if I can't become a True Lord, gathering nine complete Foundation Establishments and pseudo-holding the Golden Position would have a similar effect. At least, it would be more than enough to dominate when I return!'

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