

Struggling to Survive with Regression Power in the Primordial Saint Sect

Chapter 391: Sudden Upheaval!

Outside the 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 .

The White Lotus Sect had arrived in full force, even transporting the divine incense realm of 【True Void Homeland】 with them. The overwhelming incense flames nearly ignited the sea of clouds.

If someone were to look up from the ground, it would appear as if a second sun had risen within the sea of clouds. To put it bluntly, if this 【True Void Homeland】 were to fall, it would immediately cause the heavens to collapse and the earth to shatter. At that time, all gods and all people would perish without a trace!

Therefore, at this moment, the Black Lotus Divine Venerable was full of confidence.

‘Just a mere 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 , a heretical sect, today it shall be completely eradicated, thereby rectifying the world and making people dare not underestimate the authority of our sect.’

The Black Lotus Divine Venerable was aware of Lü Yang's minor actions.

Including the development of incense within the White Lotus Sect by the 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 , this act of borrowing a chicken to lay eggs, stripping the foundation of the White Lotus Sect, was naturally intolerable to him.

Hence, the current formation.

‘Mobilizing the entire sect, dozens of Divine Lords and Great Divine Lords, even bringing along the 【True Void Homeland】 . If necessary, the Old Mother can also take action.’

How could this be lost?

Just as this thought arose in the Black Lotus Divine Venerable's mind, a vast divine sense suddenly spread out from the 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 before him!

"It's coming!"

The Black Lotus Divine Venerable's expression turned solemn. In the next second, he felt the incense that originally belonged to him begin to divert, bit by bit, flowing towards the other party.

However, he still remained confident.

‘How many years has our White Lotus Sect ruled over its followers? Just a mere 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 , thinking to hollow out our White Lotus Sect in just ten years? Truly ignorant!’

Yet, as time passed.

He gradually realized something was amiss, because the loss of incense did not slow down as he had anticipated. Instead, it intensified, growing faster and faster!

Correspondingly, the aura of the 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 grew increasingly stronger!

"Not good!"

In an instant, the Black Lotus Divine Venerable roared in anger, commanding all the incense gods of the White Lotus Sect to take action. However, in the next second, a scene of despair unfolded before him:

The 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 lit up.

It was as if a sun had been ignited, with intense divine incense light converging upon it, presenting scenes of bustling traffic, pavilions, and towers.

In contrast, the originally radiant 【True Void Homeland】 suddenly dimmed. The Black Lotus Divine Venerable looked on in terror at his side, where a Divine Lord of the White Lotus Sect stood. At this moment, however, the incense had dissipated, and his pupils still held a strong sense of fear:

"Help—"

Before the other could utter a plea for help, as the incense vanished, his body seemed to lose its support and instantly exploded into flames!

Yet, this was only the first.

Boom!

As the Black Lotus Divine Venerable looked around, he saw bursts of flames suddenly erupting in mid-air, each flame representing an incense god!

This was the drawback of the incense divine path!

Within the 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 , Lü Yang manifested as a light and shadow, calmly overlooking the incense gods below, gaining some insight into this cultivation system:

‘This system... looks impressive but is useless!’

The reason being, it relied too heavily on incense and external forces.

Moreover, the starting point was too high. Even the weakest Earth God held a pseudo-Foundation Establishment level, strictly speaking, possessing the capability to cause large-scale extinction.

This led to an awkward situation.

Once a real battle broke out without any scruples, it would inevitably affect the ordinary people who provided incense, leading to the sudden death of the incense gods they worshipped.

Even more awkward was that Earth Gods, City Gods, and other incense deities could only exert their full power in areas where their worshippers gathered. However, once they did, those worshippers would immediately be killed by the aftermath, causing the incense to dissipate and the gods to die as well.

‘A huge pitfall!’

Thinking of this, Lü Yang couldn't help but laugh. In other words, the so-called incense gods were just ornamental, incapable of truly engaging in magical battles.

What pseudo-Foundation Establishment Earth God? Just to scare people!

‘Even if I'm just a Qi Refining cultivator, as long as I seize the opportunity to kill all the villagers in an instant, no matter how powerful the Earth God is, it's still a dead end!’

Qi Refining killing Foundation Establishment, here it was truly possible!

‘Borrowing external forces is harmless, but relying entirely on them leads to the fate of these incense gods.’ Lü Yang murmured in his heart, then couldn't help but shake his head.

One must rely on oneself.

At the time, it seemed insignificant, but now, this saying truly applied everywhere.

However, soon, Lü Yang recovered from his emotions. Although relying on oneself was correct, sometimes, to break the situation, external forces were also a means.

‘The flaws of the incense divine path are indeed significant, but for me, they are not considered flaws. After all, as long as they enter my Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, these problems can be avoided. As for their strength being superficial, so what? At the very least, their status is real, and that's enough!’

With this thought, Lü Yang no longer hesitated.

Incense empowerment!

Finally, as over ninety percent of the White Lotus Sect's incense dissipated, all the incense gods, including the Black Lotus Divine Venerable, exploded into flying ashes.

At this moment.

"Who...?"

Within the 【True Void Homeland】 , a confused voice was heard. A graceful figure appeared—it was a female cultivator in a white dress with a charming appearance.

She was the 【Old Mother of No Life】 .

Previously, she had been in slumber, but now, awakened by the loss of incense, she hadn't even reacted before being grabbed by Lü Yang.

"Boom!"

At this moment, Lü Yang stood in mid-air, feeling a sharp pain in his head. The myriad incense empowered the 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 , making him feel as if he was ascending infinitely, reaching an unattainable level. Correspondingly, the Old Mother of No Life before him seemed to shrink bit by bit.

Eventually, she was grasped in his palm, resembling a palm-sized doll.

‘This is status.’

The status of a perfected Foundation Establishment!

This disparity was like the past when Foundation Establishment overlooked Qi Refining—one high, one low. The latter's methods were now utterly ineffective against him!

However, at the same time, Lü Yang felt a sharp pain in his head, and faint noises echoed in his ears. These were the emotions contained in the incense offerings of the people—some seeking fame, some seeking profit, some seeking divination, and even some seeking children.

‘No wonder the ancestors said incense can temper sword intent!’

Lü Yang took a deep breath, then re-entered the state of 【Clear Sword Heart】 . Even so, the headache was still unbearable.

‘Three minutes—no, at most one minute.’

With his sword heart, he could only withstand this level of incense for one minute. Beyond that, he would immediately suffer irreversible effects.

However, at this moment, one minute was enough.

After all, with the White Lotus Sect's incense transferred, his status had risen, and the Old Mother of No Life naturally fell, no longer as before.

"Poof!"

Lü Yang gently squeezed, bursting the Old Mother of No Life in his hand like a balloon, then turned his palm to refine her into a banner spirit.

After completing all this, he exited the state of incense empowerment.

The overall situation was settled!

‘Successfully borrowed a chicken to lay eggs. Next, I can repeat the trick, stripping the entire City God system, then cultivating nine incense gods with perfected Foundation Establishment!’

‘Simply unbelievably smooth.’

Thinking of this, Lü Yang couldn't help but use the 【Tribulation Wave】 to brush himself, fearing that he was dreaming and would wake up to find himself still at the gate of the Myriad Poison Sect.

However, at this moment.

"Hmm?"

Suddenly, Lü Yang felt a change in his 【Puppet Master】 talent. After a brief sensing, a strange expression appeared on his face.

"The Yun Clan's ancestor has reincarnated? And went to the Secret Realm of Alchemy?"

Something's not right!

‘Normally, the Yun Clan's ancestor should reincarnate decades later, then secretly go to the Primordial Saint Sect's Secret Realm of Alchemy under the command of the Sword Pavilion's sect master.’

Why the early timing?

This change, completely different from the previous life, made Lü Yang suddenly awaken from his relaxed state of fishing, quickly projecting his vision through the 【Puppet Master】 .

In the next second—

"Hahaha!"

Lü Yang suddenly heard a burst of wild laughter. Looking up, he saw a powerful soul cursing at the sky:

"Goddamn Demon Sect! Beasts!"

"Beasts!"

"I, Mu Changsheng, am irreconcilable with you all—!!!"

Chapter 392 : The Ancestor of the Saint Sect is Too Devious!

Chapter 392: The Ancestor of the Saint Sect is Too Devious!

Mu Changsheng!?

This name was likely recognized by few in the world today, yet it unmistakably belonged to the Innate True Person who had once established the 【Void Heaven】 !

Why was he here?

Through the perspective of the 【String Puppet】 , Lü Yang saw the soul's light and shadow roaring in the sky, and countless speculations flashed through his mind in an instant.

‘Something's not right. I recall that back in the 【Void Heaven】 , the Innate True Person did mention that the version of him within the Void Heaven was merely his consciousness, much like my current state. His actual soul had long since reincarnated. So, the one appearing in the Secret Realm of Law Refinement now—is it his consciousness or his soul?’

“Boom!”

Just as Lü Yang was pondering, he saw the soul in the sky roar once more before slowly descending, revealing a miserable appearance.

Despite his fierce curses,

his soul was exceedingly thin, not even reaching the Foundation Establishment stage. As the halo spread, a face that Lü Yang found somewhat familiar emerged.

‘This is...’([Beijing Foreign Affairs Office][2])

The person's appearance instantly triggered Lü Yang's memory.

He had encountered him in the Secret Realm of Law Refinement, marking his first battle against a Foundation Establishment-level enemy. Had luck not been on his side, he might have perished there.

At that time, he had entered the Secret Realm of Law Refinement to cultivate the 『Saint's Theft』 but was unknowingly manipulated by the reincarnated ancestor of the Yun family. If not for a local mortal within the secret realm who enlightened him, he might never have realized he was being used. In a way, he owed that person a debt of gratitude.

Therefore, in a subsequent lifetime, he had specifically guided that person out once.

‘...Wang Boyuan?’

The familiar name surfaced in Lü Yang's mind, filling him with disbelief. He had never imagined this would be connected to the Innate True Person.

For a moment, Lü Yang's thoughts were in disarray.

Damn, after playing in low-level scenarios for so long, suddenly returning to high-level play made his brain feel inadequate.

At that moment, the soul's light and shadow seemed to sense something and directly looked toward the Yun family's ancestor, then sneered:

“Where did this Foundation Establishment come from?”

Lü Yang chose not to use the 【String Puppet】 to control the Yun family's ancestor but silently watched, allowing the ancestor to act naturally. The ancestor frowned and asked:

“...Who are you?”

“Didn't you just hear it?” The soul's light and shadow sighed, “I am indeed Mu Changsheng, the one from the 【Void Heaven】 .”

After speaking, a look of grievance flashed in his eyes once more.

“Beast!”([Wikisource][3])

He couldn't help but curse again.

Having established the 【Void Heaven】 and orchestrated plans backed by heaven and earth for five thousand years, his schemes were undeniably profound, nearly grasping the world's grand trends in his hands.

First, he used the 【Long Flowing Water】 to fill the prototype of the fruit position, evolving the 【Void Heaven】 , then widely propagated the 【Void Heaven】 across the world. Without needing to do anything, under the despairing situation where True Lords ruled the world and seeking gold was as hard as ascending to heaven, eventually, someone exceptional would choose to pursue gold through the path of the 【Void Heaven】 .

Regardless of their origin,

as long as they walked the path of the 【Void Heaven】 to seek gold and ascend, they would naturally become his allies. As expected, Chong Guang stepped forward.

After that, things became simple.

‘Chong Guang inherits the 【Void Heaven】 , seeks gold to ascend, while my consciousness is invested in the mortal world to find the reincarnated soul, then overwrite it...’

Previously, many believed that the Innate True Person would possess those who passed through the 【Void Heaven】 .

This statement was both correct and incorrect.

Because although he planned to possess, he never intended to possess outsiders but aimed to possess his own reincarnated soul thousands of years later!

Otherwise, why would he create the method of separating consciousness?

To separate consciousness alone, then let the soul reincarnate, cleansing the traces of the Great Dao, and then the consciousness would possess, retracing the path of cultivation!

The Innate True Person went to such great lengths to let the 【Void Heaven】 take away the world's True Lords, thereby creating a perfect cultivation environment for his return. With the support of heaven and earth, he wouldn't even need to worry about the Heavenly Gang and Earth Fiend, making ascending to the position of True Lord almost inevitable!

What a perfect plan.

However, as Chong Guang ascended through the 【Void Heaven】 , his consciousness also detached. According to the rituals arranged before his death, it found the reincarnated soul.

Then he broke down.

“Secret Realm of Law Refinement, oh Secret Realm of Law Refinement!”

The Innate True Person murmured, the resentment in his eyes almost impossible to conceal, which was extremely rare for a cultivator like him.

At the same time, Lü Yang finally sorted out his thoughts.

Five thousand years ago, the Innate True Person laid countless backup plans and arranged everything. Then the Saint Sect did just one thing that caused his current failure.

They threw his soul into the Secret Realm of Law Refinement!

‘Wang Boyuan is the reincarnated soul of the Innate True Person Mu Changsheng... In that case, Mu Changsheng's soul never managed to reincarnate from the beginning.’

In fact, this soul became bait to lure the consciousness of the Innate True Person. The result was that the Innate True Person, who had painstakingly secured a second chance, now found his soul trapped within the Secret Realm of Law Refinement. Forget about ascending to seek gold; he couldn't even restore his Foundation Establishment!

‘No wonder he broke down and cursed.’

For a cultivator like the Innate True Person, who had long cultivated a Dao heart that remained unshaken even if Mount Tai collapsed before him, any insult could be calmly endured.

Except for this.

This feeling of laying out plans for a thousand years, finally seeing hope for a fresh start and ascending to seek gold, only to find it all was an illusion...

‘...The ultimate insult!’

Simply the ultimate insult!

Thinking of this, even Lü Yang couldn't help but sigh. This ultimate insult had an even more profound effect on the Innate True Person.

Because for him, his Dao foundation was broken by the Saint Sect, his posthumous inheritance was taken by the Saint Sect, and even the 【Void Heaven】 was given to someone from the Saint Sect.

And the result?

His hope for a second chance, his soul, was thrown into the Secret Realm of Law Refinement by the Saint Sect, spending five thousand years day and night helping the Saint Sect disciples cultivate divine abilities!

‘Too beastly!’

Absolutely outrageous!

Just after Lü Yang had developed the talent industry in the Seven Luminaries Heaven, he couldn't help but feel a bit ashamed of himself—this was what it truly meant to use someone until they were dead, or rather, to use them as if they couldn't die!

Who did this?

‘In the Innate True Person's plan, the reincarnation of his soul should have been the most secure part. After all, he likely sent his own soul into the Netherworld personally.’

If one didn't enter the 【Netherworld】 , there would still be variables in soul reincarnation.

But once entered into the 【Netherworld】 , just like in the case of the former Hong Yun, even 【Ang Xiao】 could, at most, tamper with the soul—preventing reincarnation would be impossible.

From this point of view, it was understandable that the Innate True Person didn't anticipate a variable in his soul's fate.

Then the question arose: who had the power to endure the pressure of the 【Netherworld】 , forcibly extract his soul, and throw it into the Secret Realm of Law Refinement?

‘The Ancestor of the Saint Sect.’

The answer was self-evident.

‘...The Dao Master of the Saint Sect! That’s right, it must be him! Only a Dao Master would have the capability to forcibly seize a soul from the 【Netherworld】 !’

Lü Yang finally understood everything.

‘The Innate True Person created the 【Void Heaven】 and drew away the world's True Lords. There had to be some grand design from the heavens behind all this, but how could the Dao Master sit idly by?’

‘The World-Honored One took action, but only on the surface—and that too only after the incident had occurred, descending a Dharma image to explode some fish.’

‘But the Saint Sect Ancestor’s move was truly seamless! If not for seeing Mu Changsheng inside the Secret Realm of Law Refinement at this moment, who would ever have thought he had made a move?’

At this thought, Lü Yang felt nothing but awe in his heart.

Only a single move, and that too made five thousand years ago, had completely bankrupted the Innate True Person’s plans, leaving him nothing but impotent rage.

‘The Ancestor of the Saint Sect is too devious!’

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Chapter 393: The Frustrated Immortal Spirit

‘Good thing I ran away early!’

Looking at Mu Changsheng's despondent expression, Lü Yang felt immense relief at his decision. Indeed, this wretched place was utterly unfit for development!

Moreover, following Heaven and Earth truly led nowhere.

For a moment, Lü Yang even felt grateful that Heaven and Earth had taken away his Immortal Spirit body. Otherwise, wouldn't he have been targeted by all four Dao Masters in the future?

How could he possibly live like that?

However, in the next instant, Lü Yang suddenly thought of another matter.

Since the soul of the Innate True Person was in the Law Refinement Secret Realm, the Sword Pavilion's Sect Master having the Yun Clan's Ancestor reincarnate here carried a deeper implication.

‘Is the Sword Pavilion's Dao Master contending with the Primordial Saint Sect's Ancestor?’

‘No, it should be a simple matter of competing for talents. The Primordial Saint Sect used Mu Changsheng's soul to help disciples cultivate divine abilities. What would the Sword Pavilion do with him?’

Having studied in the Sword Pavilion before, Lü Yang quickly deduced the answer:

‘To fill the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 !’

‘Yes, if Mu Changsheng's reincarnated soul were to cultivate the 『Sword Sovereign's Profound Gold Secret Chapter』 and use it as a foundation, then when Mu Changsheng's consciousness returns...’

He would likely be driven mad!

‘The Sword Pavilion is truly ruthless.’

However, Lü Yang soon realized something was amiss: this lifetime was different from the previous ones. The Sword Pavilion's Sect Master was a Golden Core True Lord and should now be in seclusion.

If so, who arranged for the Yun Clan's Ancestor to reincarnate here?

It couldn't be the Dao Master, could it?

At this thought, Lü Yang felt a headache coming on. Although the 【Puppet on Strings】 could manipulate outsiders like puppets, it couldn't directly access memories.

‘Moreover, there are other doubts.’

Lü Yang hadn't forgotten that in a previous life in the overseas Biyang Cultivation World, the Innate True Person's Dao Sin had been drawn out by Hong Ju using Heaven and Earth's killing intent.

At the time, it didn't seem significant.

But now, the issue appeared substantial!

‘The Innate True Person was a staunch follower of Heaven and Earth. The Dao Sin's connection to 【Long Flowing Water】 must have had Heaven and Earth's tacit approval. How could Heaven and Earth's killing intent affect him?’

It made no sense!

Not only was the Dao Sin prematurely brought forth, but it was ultimately killed by True Lord Feixue. That lifetime's plans of the Innate True Person were completely aborted.

Why did this happen?

In an instant, Lü Yang felt as if a bucket of cold water had been poured over him. The slight pride he felt after destroying the White Lotus Sect and fishing in the Seven Luminaries Heaven vanished completely:

‘Was it because, in that lifetime... I brought Wang Borong out from the Law Refinement Secret Realm?’

At the time, while cultivating Qi-Eating Insects in the Law Refinement Secret Realm, he thought of bringing out some talents for his own use, but he hadn't followed up further.

Thinking of this, Lü Yang couldn't help but wipe the cold sweat from his forehead:

‘Because I brought Wang Borong out of the Law Refinement Secret Realm, Heaven and Earth's killing intent was able to draw out the Innate Dao Sin. Was there a Dao Master's influence behind this?’

That's utterly absurd!

‘Heaven and Earth's killing intent... the killing intent that Hong Ju drew using the 【Fate Exchange Talisman Book】 —did it truly originate from this Heaven and Earth? Or was there another source?’

Perhaps... the Dao Master!?

‘Heaven and Earth can bring down tribulations; the Dao Master can also bring down tribulations. What Heaven and Earth can do, the Dao Master can do as well. Dao Master... Master of the Heavenly Dao?’

Lü Yang dared not think further. After all, the level of the Dao Master was still too enigmatic for him at this stage, like viewing flowers through mist. Many speculations might not be correct and would only add to his troubles.

With this in mind, he immediately calmed his thoughts and looked once more at the Innate True Person.

In the next second, he heard the Yun Clan's Ancestor speak:

“So, it's the Innate True Person in person.”

“I am Yun Qingchuan. I've come this time under the verbal command of True Person Qu Xie, to rescue you from this Law Refinement Secret Realm.”

True Person Qu Xie?

Lü Yang frowned slightly; he recognized this Dao title.

Within the Sword Pavilion, there were three generational honorific titles: Dang Mo, Qu Xie, and Fu Yao. Each title had at least one Great True Person behind it.

‘Although, in name, these three titles are open to all, and anyone capable can strive to obtain them, in reality, for... thousands of years? Anyway, for a long time, these titles have only circulated within the three factions of the Sword Pavilion.’

Including True Person Dang Mo.

If not for the Ye Clan, he wouldn't have obtained this title.

In the Sword Pavilion, no one could avoid the mundane. Even a genius like True Person Dang Mo owed his current status to the Golden Core direct lineage.

While Lü Yang was pondering, the Innate True Person spoke again:

“The Sword Pavilion... wants to save me?”

In the next second, he sneered coldly: “What will you use to save me?”

“To bypass the restrictions and enter and exit the Law Refinement Secret Realm unnoticed, the only method is through the 【Underworld】's reincarnation. There's no other way.”

“But my soul now hasn't even reached Foundation Establishment. If a Qi Refining soul enters the 【Underworld】 , the only outcome is the forcible erasure of my current consciousness.”

What meaning would there be in starting over then?

At this thought, he glanced sarcastically at the Yun Clan's Ancestor: “You say you want to save me, but I think you want to guide me into the next life to become a disciple of the Sword Pavilion, right?”

Birds of a feather!

This was why he had broken down and cursed. He couldn't think of any way to escape unless someone within the Primordial Saint Sect responded and actively let him out. Otherwise, it was a situation of certain death!

However, in the next second, he seemed to think of something, his eyes lighting up slightly:

“.Wait, that's not right.”

After pondering for a moment, the Innate True Person suddenly laughed: “You're not trying to save me, but rather my backer... Heaven and Earth? No, it should be the Immortal Spirit!”

Suddenly, the Innate True Person became invigorated again:

“That's it! It must be the 【Heavenly Duke】 taking action. Could it be that He successfully nurtured an Immortal Spirit? And you want to find that Immortal Spirit.”

“That's why you came to find me!”

As a die-hard follower of Heaven and Earth, if there were a chance to rescue him, Heaven and Earth would certainly not stand idly by. However, Heaven and Earth found it difficult to intervene directly.

Therefore, the Immortal Spirit was the best tool.

And with the True Lord in seclusion, an Immortal Spirit at the peak of Foundation Establishment had a good chance of rescuing the Innate True Person.

But correspondingly, this also meant that someone with ulterior motives could use the Innate True Person as bait to lure out the Immortal Spirit nurtured by Heaven and Earth!

‘All calculations!’

On the other side, Lü Yang also figured out the Sword Pavilion's plan and couldn't help but sigh. Compared to this wretched place, the Seven Luminaries Heaven was almost naively pure.

‘However...’

Thinking of this, Lü Yang suddenly stroked his chin, revealing a playful smile: ‘That damned Immortal Spirit might not have reached perfection yet.’

Forcefully seizing his Immortal Spirit body—did he think there would be no price?

At this moment, in a place undetectable by anyone.

In a white pool bathed in moonlight, a stone-like figure sat cross-legged, its facial expression vividly lifelike, displaying clear anger.

“Rumble!”

In the next second, the entire pool shook violently. The stone figure grew increasingly furious, looking up at the sky, and saw a bright mark above its head.

【Pomegranate Wood Fate】

This was a fate Lü Yang had annotated for his Immortal Spirit body using the 【Scripture of Mysterious Response】 , helping him better sense the Pomegranate Wood Fruit Position.

The drawback was the need for 【Chastity】 .

Simply put, it required daily dual cultivation with someone. Now, with the Immortal Spirit body seized, this fate naturally fell upon the Immortal Spirit.

“This is too much to ask of me.”

It was truly too much!

Not that he couldn't transcend—it was fine to go all out—but the problem was that the World Honored One was still searching for him everywhere!

In this situation, how could he go out and transcend?

But if he didn't transcend and broke the vow, he would suffer the backlash from the fate... resulting in a waste of ten years just to barely recover!

This delay caused him to miss countless opportunities.

“.Beast!”

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Chapter 394: Take Them All!

Lü Yang could only guess at the frustration on the side of the Immortal Spirit Chapter, but he was not privy to the full details.

At this moment, he had already withdrawn his gaze, no longer paying attention to Mu Changsheng within the Artifact Refinement Secret Realm. He even decisively severed his connection with the ancestor of the Yun family.

The reason was simple.

'Just now, for a brief moment, I actually had the thought of manipulating the Yun family ancestor to recruit Mu Changsheng and incorporate him into the Myriad Spirits Banner.'

This single thought prompted Lü Yang to sever the connection.

Whether he was being overly cautious or making a mountain out of a molehill, the role of an Innate True Person was simply too significant for him to handle at this time.

Only a True Lord might be able to manage it.

"What secret of the Dao Lord, what Mu Changsheng—all are illusory! Only my own strength is the most genuine. The pressing matter is to continue improving!"

Lü Yang took a deep breath and sat upright within the 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 .

Without any conscious effort on his part, a vast amount of incense power began to converge. He was surprised to find that this incense power was even more abundant than he had anticipated!

'Ah, that's right. After all, besides the 【Mother of No Birth】 , the White Lotus Sect also worshipped numerous divine lords and deities, which siphoned off a significant portion of the incense power. Now that I've eliminated them all and consolidated the incense power, a rough estimate suggests... I might be able to support two more individuals at the peak of Foundation Establishment!'

This was an unexpected delight.

Given that the White Lotus Sect had such a foundation of incense power, the City God system and the ancestral temples of the imperial court, which were on par with it, must also possess substantial incense reserves.

In other words:

'If I replicate this method and find a way to strip the incense foundations of the other two factions in the Seven Luminaries Heaven, I could assemble nine individuals at the peak of Foundation Establishment.'

However, as this thought crossed his mind, Lü Yang's expression gradually calmed.

'But this approach is too slow.'

Among the three factions, the White Lotus Sect was already considered the smallest, yet it still took him ten years to strip its foundation. The remaining two would be even more time-consuming.

'Back then, Uncle Master Chong Guang initiated the Great Strife Era, which lasted only sixty years. Once that time passes and the True Lords return, what use is it for me to hold a false golden position?'

Only by holding a false golden position before the return of the True Lords could he maximize the benefits!

Moreover, he had to consider the next life.

The incense deity path was entirely established upon the fruit positions of the Seven Luminaries Heaven. If he were to restart and leave the Seven Luminaries Heaven, could these banner spirits still generate incense?

If not, wouldn't all his efforts be in vain?

At this thought, a bolder idea suddenly emerged in Lü Yang's mind: 'Perhaps... there is another way to resolve these issues.'

Seven Luminaries Heaven, Central State, Heavenly Capital City.

This place was the core of the entire Central State, the center of the City God system, and the location of the royal ancestral temple. At this moment, two consciousnesses were successively awakening.

"Just now, the Mother of No Birth... disappeared for a moment."

Of the two consciousnesses, one was naturally the Lord of all City Gods, the Capital City God Wu Ning, whose incense divine register was 【Heavenly Mandate Overseer of the Nation and People's Prosperity and Bright Spirit King】 .

The other was the founding ancestor of the Great Yan Dynasty, worshipped in the royal ancestral temple.

The Yan Ancestor, the Capital City God, and the Mother of No Birth—these three incense deities at the peak of Foundation Establishment had jointly crafted the current situation of the Seven Luminaries Heaven.

Therefore, they were most concerned about each other. At this moment, under divine sense investigation, they immediately sensed fluctuations in the world's incense power. However, the more they sensed, the more alarmed they became, because they discovered that the incense power originally belonging to the White Lotus Sect had, without exception, changed its object of worship.

"What is going on?"

The Yan Ancestor was puzzled and felt a bit uneasy. After all, incense deities like him favored stability and were most wary of variables.

"Something's not right!"

The Capital City God also had a solemn expression. His gaze followed the trail of incense and soon saw a figure sitting in the center of the sea of clouds, absorbing the incense.

Who was that?

It was a young Daoist with handsome features, surrounded by endless incense. Merely sitting there, he overshadowed all else.

Wherever his gaze fell, it seemed not to be a person but a vast expanse of sun, moon, mountains, and rivers, compelling all attention. More importantly, the incense enveloping him was unimaginably immense! The entire White Lotus Sect's incense had been gathered upon him!

"He's gone mad!"

The Capital City God was the first to speak. The power of incense contained countless distracting thoughts. The more one used it, the greater the impact on one's mind. It had to be dispersed.

Otherwise, why would there be a City God system?

If not for this drawback, why wouldn't he have all the people in the world worship him alone as the Capital City God, instead of appointing so many City Gods to share the incense?

Yet the person before them was utterly indifferent to the impact of the incense!

Why?

"Wait..."

On the other side, the Yan Ancestor noticed something: "That Daoist... he's not alone. Inside him? It seems there are others assisting him!"

Upon hearing this, the Capital City God was slightly moved. He gathered the incense into his eyes, fully exerted his divine powers, and looked towards the 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】. Only then did he finally see the scene within: amidst the layers of mountains, three figures sat cross-legged. They were the true bearers of the White Lotus Sect's incense.

Ancestor Ting You, the banner spirit Mother of No Birth, and Long Yue.

Seeing this, the Yan Ancestor and the Capital City God immediately changed their expressions. Especially the Yan Ancestor, who couldn't help but say in a deep voice: "This is sheer recklessness!"

On the other side, the Capital City God also frowned: "What exactly is he trying to do?"

How could incense deities be personally conferred?

Wasn't he afraid that the incense deities he cultivated would betray him?

Moreover, what was the use of cultivating so many incense deities? They couldn't possibly engage in actual combat; otherwise, it would inevitably affect the populace, leading to mutual destruction.

Apart from having others compete with him for incense, what was the point?

"Hu—"

Meanwhile, Lü Yang, having reformed his human form from the 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】, exhaled a deep breath, a sharp gleam appearing in his eyes.

'Success or failure hinges on this one move.'

Until now, Lü Yang had always considered himself an ordinary person.

He had some talent, but not enough.

He had some determination, but he also felt fear.

He had some skills, but they were far from sufficient.

'Uncle Master Chong Guang said that one must rely on oneself, but I feel that human effort has its limits.'

After ten lifetimes of cultivation, this life had taught him the most.

Despite all his calculations, he lost his Immortal Spirit body, was nearly frightened to death by the World Honored One, and ultimately had to leave his homeland. Every step he took left him with no choice.

He had plans, yet was forced to change them.

He had goals, yet was forced to abandon them.

While fishing for enjoyment was satisfying, it was ultimately a form of escapism. In the end, it only left him feeling empty and aimless, without any sense of accomplishment. Moreover, he hadn't changed anything.

He was still the one manipulated by heaven and earth, targeted by the Buddha's child sent by the World Honored One, and ultimately forced to flee like a homeless dog!

At this thought, Lü Yang had already made up his mind.

'...Take a gamble!'

He would refine the entire Seven Luminaries Heaven into the Myriad Spirits Banner!

Not just the incense of mortals, but also the very source of the incense deity path, the embryonic form of the fruit positions of the Seven Luminaries Heaven—he wanted them all!

Pack them all up and take them away!

Struggling to Survive with Regression Power in the Primordial Saint Sect

Chapter 395: The Beginning of World Refinement

Lü Yang's decision to refine the Seven Luminaries Heaven was not a spur-of-the-moment impulse, nor was it an idea conjured out of thin air after being influenced by someone else.

With this in mind, Lü Yang paused briefly, then took out the **【Tribulation Wave】** and brushed it over himself.

—No reaction.

Indeed, it was not the case.

In any event, he was confident. This idea had long taken root; it was only now that he had the courage to implement it.

"First and foremost, my strength is crucial. Ten years ago, I only had a Qi Refining late-stage protector, Meng Yue. Refining a world root was simply out of the question. However, now, after seizing the incense offerings of the White Lotus Sect, I have three incense gods whose statuses are comparable to the peak of Qi Refining!"

Ting You Ancestor, Banner Spirit Wusheng Old Mother, and Meng Yue.

In contrast, the Seven Luminaries Heaven was merely a nascent fruit position, incomparable to a true world fruit position. This presented an opportunity for him to exploit.

More importantly—

"Outside the Seven Luminaries Heaven lies the third-grade grand formation personally inscribed by Hong Yun when he was still a True Person! This is the key to the plan!"

【Seven Luminaries World-Stabilizing True Formation】 !

'Although Hong Yun left hidden hands within the formation, I have examined his memories and understand many of these hidden mechanisms. There's no need to fear.'

Strictly speaking, when Hong Yun set up this grand formation, he likely intended to refine the Seven Luminaries Heaven himself. However, he died suddenly before he could implement it, causing the plan to die prematurely. Though Hong Yun was somewhat unreliable, his realm as a True Person was genuine.

The grand formation of the past still operated smoothly today.

Thousands of years had not worn down Hong Yun's arrangement. At this moment, Lü Yang only needed a brief inspection to know that the formation was ready for use.

'Now is the best time!'

'Given my current state, it's impossible to improve further in a short time. Even with more preparation, it would only waste time.'

'Decisive action is needed!'

With this thought, Lü Yang exhaled deeply, no longer hesitating, and suddenly activated the second-grade true technique created by Hong Yun, specifically targeting the Seven Luminaries Heaven.

'《Opening the Altar to Cultivate the Dao Ceremony》!'

"Boom!"

In an instant, heaven and earth trembled violently.

Simultaneously, outside the 【Heaven of Parting Regret】 , the two incense gods still spying on Lü Yang, Ancestor Yan and the Capital City God, couldn't help but change their expressions.

This explosion did not echo through the heavens and earth.

It resonated within people's hearts.

Not only them, but all incense gods in the world, and even every mortal sustained by incense, felt a stirring in their hearts and looked up at the sky.

"What happened?"

"What is he trying to do!?"

Ancestor Yan's face was filled with horror, feeling as if the 【Heaven of Parting Regret】 where Lü Yang resided had transformed into a massive bloodthirsty mouth, wildly devouring the heavens and earth.

'《Mending Heaven Scripture》!'

Lü Yang's expression remained calm. Since the master of Mending Heaven Peak entered the banner, he had frequently exchanged insights on the 《Mending Heaven Scripture》 with him. Over the past ten years, through day and night of practical combat, he had finally surpassed his mentor in understanding the scripture, reaching a theoretical peak.

What is mending heaven?

As the name suggests, using one's strengths to mend the shortcomings of heaven and earth.

Surpassing heaven and earth!

At this moment, the 【Heaven of Parting Regret】 that Lü Yang had transformed into was entirely embedded within the heavens and earth. Simultaneously, a strong emotion surged into his mind.

Excitement, joy, exhilaration.

Clearly, Lü Yang's 《Mending Heaven Scripture》 had brought pleasure to the Seven Luminaries Heaven. He could distinctly feel that the world's favor towards him had risen to a new level.

However, witnessing this, Lü Yang sighed inwardly: 'It's a pity. If I still had my immortal spirit body and had reached the peak of Qi Refining, using this 【Surpassing Heaven and Earth】 ritual would surely attract the attention of the 【Pomegranate Wood】 . Unfortunately, now I can only make do and use it on this Seven Luminaries Heaven.'

While communicating with the Seven Luminaries Heaven, Lü Yang thought about the 【Pomegranate Wood】 .

In the next moment, he suddenly shivered, then felt as if a veil had been lifted from his eyes, perceiving a colossal entity.

It was a 'net'!

A net that covered the sky and sun, encompassing all information within the Seven Luminaries Heaven—flora and fauna, bustling traffic, sun and moon, mountains and rivers, all beings within it.

'What a massive scale!'

Even though the Seven Luminaries Heaven had not yet truly formed a fruit position, its scale was still enormous for a cultivator. Lü Yang's sea of consciousness couldn't contain it!

However, Lü Yang did not retreat; instead, he gritted his teeth.

'No retreat!'

Refining a world was inherently a challenging path. He had just taken the first step; if he couldn't even stabilize this step, how could he talk about refining the Seven Luminaries Heaven?

'Activate the formation!'

Lü Yang clenched his teeth, formed a seal with his fingers, and pointed. The 【Seven Luminaries World-Stabilizing True Formation】 that originally enveloped the Seven Luminaries Heaven immediately rumbled into operation.

As the formation operated, the vast information that nearly overwhelmed Lü Yang's sea of consciousness was instantly channeled away. With this third-grade grand formation to summarize, analyze, and organize, Lü Yang finally managed to free his hands, allowing the 【Heaven of Parting Regret】 to advance further, continuously delving deeper into the Seven Luminaries Heaven.

"Boom!"

In the next second, a loud noise rang in Lü Yang's ears. He knew this was the Seven Luminaries Heaven's warning to him. Clearly, it felt pain.

With this in mind, Lü Yang immediately took out a strand of earth vein energy.

"Here, eat this, and it won't hurt anymore."

The earth vein of the 800-li Skeleton Mountain had only used a small portion to appease the Seven Luminaries Heaven in the past. Now, he had plenty of earth vein energy at hand, perfect for pacifying!

"Buzz buzz..."

As soon as the earth vein energy appeared, it was entirely devoured by the Seven Luminaries Heaven. Lü Yang seized this opportunity to manipulate the 【Heaven of Parting Regret】 to delve even deeper.

"Boom!"

In an instant, another warning from the heavens came. Lü Yang, following the same method, threw out another strand of earth vein energy.

\[Note: The latest novel is first released on 69 Book Bar!\]

The meaning was simple: Don't be afraid. Big brother is feeding you earth vein energy. Bear it, and don't move.

Heaven and earth slightly calmed.

Lü Yang continued advancing—warning from the heavens, earth vein energy, a slight lull—in this process, the amount of earth vein energy demanded by the heavens also continued to increase.

Finally, he had fed the entire earth vein into it.

Correspondingly, he also finally arrived at the deepest part of the Seven Luminaries Heaven, reaching the center of that enormous web. What greeted his eyes was a cluster of radiant light.

Within the radiant light floated a single talisman.

The patterns on the talisman resembled a dragon and phoenix, and as they intertwined, it felt as though a dragon and phoenix sang in harmony. The sight was magnificent and mesmerizing, drawing one's spirit into its imagery.

'Dragon script and phoenix glyph, the manifestation of heaven and earth.'

'This is the 【Fruit Position Prototype】 of the Seven Luminaries Heaven.'

At this moment, staring directly at the talisman, Lü Yang finally understood what fruit position was currently being developed within the Seven Luminaries Heaven. The Incense Path of the Gods was merely its outward manifestation.

Its essence—was heart!

Form arose from the heart, and phenomena were borne from the mind. In a trance, Lü Yang seemed to return to the day when the Seven Luminaries Heaven was first created, witnessing the very foundation of this realm.

‘This realm came into being simply because an unimaginably powerful being once lingered here, and gave birth to a thought.’

That being had thought: 【If only a world-heaven existed here to serve as a foothold.】

It wasn’t deliberate, nor did they leave behind any divine technique—it truly was just a thought. Yet, the sea of light beyond the heavens spontaneously resonated with that mighty being’s intent.

And so, after countless years, a world-heaven was born in response to that thought.

‘Unbelievable!’

Lü Yang did not see that mighty being’s figure. In fact, by the time the Seven Luminaries Heaven was born in response to that thought, that being had already left countless ages ago.

For a moment, Lü Yang didn’t know whether to feel fortunate or regretful.

Regretful that he could not witness that being; fortunate—also because he could not witness that being. After all, if he truly had seen them, they would most likely have sensed him.

And then, perhaps, a great hand might have descended.

Lü Yang exhaled a long, turbid breath, pushed aside his distracting thoughts, and looked once more at the Fruit Position Prototype within the Seven Luminaries Heaven. Then, gathering his divine power of incense, he suddenly surged forward!

“Boom!”

In an instant, a thunderous sound echoed throughout the entire Seven Luminaries Heaven, both within and without. At this moment, Ancestor Yan and the Capital City God, as they looked at Lü Yang, also spontaneously gave rise to a single thought.

‘Kill!’

Kill this man!

Almost simultaneously, Lü Yang also felt the incense on his body beginning to dissipate. Clearly, the Seven Luminaries Heaven was attempting to revoke his incense authority.

‘Too bad. Since you gave it, then it’s mine!’

With a single thought, Lü Yang activated the 【Seven Luminaries World-Stabilizing True Formation】 , which instantly locked in the incense on his body and simultaneously suppressed the rampaging Seven Luminaries Heaven.

The refinement of the Seven Luminaries Heaven officially began!

At that moment, even Lü Yang, who had long since made up his mind, couldn't help but feel a sliver of apprehension. After all, he had placed all his chips on the table.

Could he win?

Struggling to Survive with Regression Power in the Primordial Saint Sect

Chapter 396: Seven Luminaries Heaven Became Anxious

“Will win!”

Lü Yang's unease lasted for only an instant before it turned into firmness. With a movement of his divine sense, he had already touched the core of Seven Luminaries Heaven.

“Boom!”

In that instant, dazzling radiance burst forth from Lü Yang's entire body. This was the fruit-position power belonging to Seven Luminaries Heaven, yet at this moment, it was being seized by him.

Reflected in reality, it manifested as the dazzling brilliance surrounding him. These rays merged into 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 , causing the originally lifeless and silent 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 to gradually revive with flourishing vitality. At this moment, this small blessed land actually showed signs of transforming into a true blessed land!

And along with this transformation surged—

‘Power!’

Seated cross-legged, Lü Yang felt the immense transformation pressing upon his body. This was a qualitative change distinct from the Path of Incense Fire.

The Path of Incense Fire, its foundation was hollow.

Moreover, no matter how incense fire shifted, in the end, it merely circulated internally without affecting heaven and earth. Yet Lü Yang's current action was different.

He was stripping!

Every trace of fruit-position power he seized was solidifying the status accumulated from incense fire upon him, making it increasingly firm.

For a moment, the entire 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 trembled.

Yet Lü Yang's heart gave rise to not the slightest ripple. He only quietly watched as the fruit-position power he stripped gathered before him.

Finally, it transformed into a dazzling, multicolored radiance.

As this radiance merged with him, in that instant, boundless knowledge surged into Lü Yang's sea of consciousness, directly flooding into his mind!

Heaven and earth, primordial chaos.

Yin and yang, the five elements, the three talents, the four images.

The knowledge belonging to a realm's heaven ceaselessly poured into Lü Yang's mind, the veil of mystery lifting before his eyes to reveal its true form.

‘ 【Exquisite Heart】 ’

This was, without doubt, an innate divine ability!

It was a divine ability that enhanced the calculating power of divine sense. Only with such an ability could one bear the torrent of information and incense fire impact from Seven Luminaries Heaven.

The next moment, Lü Yang raised his head toward the sky. His eyes were shrouded in divine brilliance. Under the augmentation of 【Exquisite Heart】 , his divine sense intertwined with heaven and earth. At this moment, he clearly saw deep within Seven Luminaries Heaven, three calamities being brewed, their chilling murderous intent already locking onto him.

‘Refining a realm's heaven truly isn't easy.’

This was still a realm heaven without a true fruit-position. If it were a great realm heaven like Ten Thousand Martial Realm, what kind of terrifying backlash would it be?

“Boom!”

The next moment, through 【Exquisite Heart】 , Lü Yang saw the first calamity of Seven Luminaries Heaven abruptly descend, striking upon two figures below.

Ancestor Yan.

City God.

At once, the aura around these two native incense fire gods of Seven Luminaries Heaven surged violently, their eyes staring straight at Lü Yang!

“The impact of incense fire... is gone!”

The City God murmured in a low voice, his heart ecstatic to the extreme, for the demonic murmurs that had always lingered at his ears had all vanished.

It was consensus that incense fire impacted consciousness.

Thus the City God had to establish the City God system to disperse incense fire, and had to remain in long-term seclusion to avoid the impact of incense fire upon himself.

But now, the nature of incense fire had been altered. The setting of ‘incense fire impacting consciousness’ was temporarily erased from the City God and Ancestor Yan. At the same time, clarity arose in their hearts as they looked toward Lü Yang: Kill him! Kill him, and this state could be maintained forever!

“Boom!”

In the next instant, the City God and Ancestor Yan moved. All the incense fire of the world was drawn to them at the highest seat.

At this moment, the other incense fire gods lost incense fire and fell from their positions.

Correspondingly, the City God and Ancestor Yan continually ascended. In the blazing incense divine light, all things between heaven and earth manifested.

Flowers, grass, trees, birds, beasts, fish, insects.

Mountains, ridges, rivers, lakes, seas.

Ordinarily, they would never dare condense incense fire on such a scale, for such incense fire would drive them mad in an instant.

Yet now, all shackles were released.

At the same time, the two incense fire gods, enlightened, realized what Lü Yang was doing. They both revealed anger: “Outsider, how dare you!”

Lü Yang did not reply.

He only urged **【Exquisite Heart】**, clarity surfacing in his eyes: “So this is the first calamity. This is my calamity of men.”

Refining a realm’s heaven inevitably provoked resistance from the beings within!

‘However... a little too hasty!’

After all, this was a young realm heaven, its fruit-position embryonic and far inferior to Ten Thousand Martial Realm. Like an infant, upon discovering Lü Yang was stripping its power, it immediately panicked.

‘In truth, the power I seized is nothing. Merely one divine ability’s position. To a fruit-position embryo, it is no more than a drop in the ocean. If it were other heavens of that level, they would surely endure in silence, continue amassing strength, and finally erupt in one blow to crush me.’

That Seven Luminaries Heaven hurried to descend calamities instead proved its loss of composure.

If all three calamities erupted at once, Lü Yang would certainly be doomed. But descending one by one left him room to maneuver and respond.

“Grandmaster.”

The next moment, Lü Yang calmly spoke: “Please protect the Dharma for me.”

Grandmaster Ting You nodded at his words. Taking a step forward, he unfurled the Myriad Spirits Banner, riding light to directly block Ancestor Yan and the City God.

Yet seeing this, Ancestor Yan and the City God did not care in the least. After all, they had gathered the incense fire of all their subordinates, while in comparison, Grandmaster Ting You only held one-third of the White Lotus Sect’s incense fire. In incense fire, the disparity was one to six—the advantage theirs!

“A mantis trying to stop a chariot...!”

Ancestor Yan was most domineering. At this moment, he stood at the pinnacle of his life, triumphant and conceited, utterly dismissive of Grandmaster Ting You. With a raised hand, he struck a palm.

“Boom!”

With that palm, dragon roars resounded. Boundless incense divine power surged forth, as if the entire sky was crashing down.

Yet Grandmaster Ting You only shook his head:

“Gorgeous but empty, vast yet unfit. Merely releasing incense fire power in one lump... are cultivators of this realm’s heaven all ignorant of refining Dao arts?”

With his words, Grandmaster Ting You extended a finger.

Formed seals, recited incantations, pointed at the profound.

“Fix!”

【True Method of Commanding Mountains and Moving Peaks】 !

Lü Yang had used this Dao art countless times, and Grandmaster Ting You had witnessed it countless times. How could he not understand it? At this moment, he employed it with ease, leaving Lü Yang dumbfounded.

Not because Grandmaster Ting You had learned the art.

After all, if Lü Yang could learn it, Grandmaster Ting You learning it was perfectly natural.

What truly astonished him was that Grandmaster Ting You was not using his own magic power to cast it, but entirely incense fire divine power!

It looked like merely replacing magic power with incense fire, but their natures were utterly different. How could the same Dao art be used? It was like trying to install a sports car's engine into a train—not even the same kind. Yet Grandmaster Ting You succeeded. He had improved the Dao art!

“Pu!”

The next instant, struck solidly by 【True Method of Commanding Mountains and Moving Peaks】 , Ancestor Yan's entire body erupted with mud, then turned into a stone statue falling from the sky.

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

He knew that as long as Grandmaster Ting You held the line, the calamity of men from Seven Luminaries Heaven would not hinder him!

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Chapter 397: Calamities Arrive in Succession

“Rumble!”

At this moment, the entire sky above Seven Luminaries Heaven was sealed off. Below, the boundless sea of clouds condensed out of thin air, transforming into a solid barrier.

This was to prevent the aftermath from affecting the people below.

Thus, the Grand Ancestor Yan, suppressed by the spell of Patriarch Ting You, did not fall to the ground, but instead crashed onto the sea of clouds. Only after ten breaths did a sound resound.

“Crack.”

On the stone statue that was his incarnation, countless cracks began to spread, followed by endless divine power of incense erupting outward, sweeping away all the earth and dust.

Patriarch Ting You frowned slightly at the sight, but quickly relaxed again:

‘It seems there’s still room for improvement. In the end, the difference lies in the quantity of incense power. The other party forcibly broke through my Daoist arts by exhausting incense. But that is all— they are not my opponents.’

This was because his state had yet to be fully restored.

After all, at present, his cultivation had only just recovered to the late Foundation Establishment stage. Even he could not fight evenly against someone at the peak of Foundation Establishment with just late-stage cultivation.

Thus, he could only rely on incense power.

Otherwise, if their ranks had been equal and he truly had cultivation at the peak of Foundation Establishment, he could have slain these so-called incense deities before him within three moves.

‘The gap is far too great.’

‘Moreover, Seven Luminaries Heaven has long been at peace, and their research in spell duels is pitifully lacking. They basically just swing giant hammers and brawl in close combat— even rogue cultivators are better.’

Patriarch Ting You pondered calmly, his responses growing ever more composed.

Even though the incense power he possessed was only one-sixth of the combined total of Grand Ancestor Yan and the City God, he could still hold the two at bay with ease.

He even had the spare attention to glance toward Lü Yang.

Meanwhile, within 【Heaven of Parting Grief】 , Lü Yang continued to swallow and exhale the vital energy of heaven and earth. Finally, a second divine ability manifested in radiant colors:

‘ 【True Qi Containment】 !’

As this divine ability appeared, Lü Yang seemed to hear the sound of a water droplet falling by his ear— clear and pleasant, sending ripples through his sea of consciousness.

‘Taiyi True Qi Containment— spirit and soul united.’

‘When stillness reaches its extreme, one perceives the Heavenly Heart, and naturally the divine radiance manifests.’

As the name suggested, this divine ability had the power to swallow all things and refine all forms. At this moment, as it operated, it seemed about to absorb all the essence of Seven Luminaries Heaven.

“Swish!”

Lü Yang’s figure vanished abruptly, replaced instead by a vast manifestation of sun, moon, mountains, and rivers— the true appearance of 【Heaven of Parting Grief】 .

And within 【Heaven of Parting Grief】 , a great banner was seen fluttering proudly in the wind.

The Ten Thousand Spirits Banner!

At this moment, all the essence of heaven and earth that Lü Yang had drawn in through 【True Qi Containment】 was being injected into the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, where he began to refine it.

However, as time passed, the process gradually became more difficult. The difference in scale between Lü Yang and Seven Luminaries Heaven was simply too vast. Even though he had already pushed himself to the limit, Seven Luminaries Heaven remained as immovable as Mount Tai, its essence like a boundless ocean, inexhaustible.

“Pu!”

Suddenly, Lü Yang’s body faltered slightly. Immediately afterward, the entire 【Heaven of Parting Grief】 shook violently, with cracks clearly appearing in many places.

Patriarch Ting You, who had been watching Lü Yang closely, was instantly alarmed.

“Be careful!”

Although he had long expected that refining a Heaven Realm would be extremely difficult, they had barely taken the first step, and Lü Yang was already approaching his limit.

“It’s nothing.”

At the same time, Lü Yang quickly calmed down after a moment of panic. In fact, a trace of expected composure appeared in his eyes.

‘Man’s strength has its limits.’

He had understood this truth long ago.

The reason he had just been injured was because the heaven-and-earth essence had exceeded his control limit in that instant, and the backlash had caught him off guard.

Yet, the amount of essence that exceeded his control limit was nothing at all for Seven Luminaries Heaven.

‘It’s deliberate.’

Lü Yang’s heart sank slightly. It was clear that Seven Luminaries Heaven had grown more skilled. It was no longer ignorant as it had been at first— it was learning how to counter him.

Normally, after suffering so many losses in succession, one would already be utterly destroyed, with no chance to learn and adapt. But the foundation of Seven Luminaries Heaven was simply too deep for Lü Yang. Its margin of error was so high that he could not simply crush it with a single blow. It had ample time to grow.

‘It’s not even unleashing tribulations anymore...’

Once more activating 【Exquisite Heart】 to look, Lü Yang saw that the second calamity within Seven Luminaries Heaven had already been fully prepared, yet it remained hidden, never descending.

Clearly, it had grown cunning.

Suffering once was enough to learn a lesson. After rashly unleashing a human calamity earlier, only to have Lü Yang easily dissolve it, Seven Luminaries Heaven would obviously not offer him another chance.

‘Damn, even this fishpond situation grows stronger over time...’

Lü Yang sighed inwardly, but he did not panic. Instead, he turned toward the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, extending his divine sense deep within, activating a long-unemployed method:

‘ 『Supreme Void Sacrificial Rite』 !’

This was originally a method to communicate with 【Heaven of Non-Existence】 . But ever since 【Heaven of Non-Existence】 had been validated by Chong Guang, this method had lost its purpose.

Yet that was only true for others.

For Lü Yang, this method still had another great use— to communicate with and draw upon the embryonic fruit-position within the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner!

However, unlike Seven Luminaries Heaven, the embryonic fruit-position within the banner was even more primitive. Strictly speaking, it was only a seed— far from sprouting, much less blossoming or bearing fruit. Therefore, its response to Lü Yang could only grant him very limited power.

‘No helping it. Otherwise, the Innate True Person would have long since validated 【Heaven of Non-Existence】 .’

‘Back then, the reason 【Heaven of Non-Existence】 could be validated was ultimately because the Innate True Person spent five thousand years irrigating it with 【Everflowing Stream】 .’

‘That said, this much is already enough!’

Lü Yang remained calm. With the support of the embryonic fruit-position within the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, his wavering 【True Qi Containment】 shone once more with dazzling brilliance.

A vast influx of heaven-and-earth essence surged in again.

This time, Lü Yang absorbed it all. At the same time, a third radiance gradually bloomed upon him— yet another innate divine ability was sprouting!

‘ 【Harmonizing Origin Art】 !’

As soon as this divine ability manifested, it revealed extraordinary effects.

At this moment, Lü Yang was still under the influence of incense empowerment. The issue of incense clashing with his consciousness was certainly not something Seven Luminaries Heaven would kindly resolve for him.

Yet in order to refine Seven Luminaries Heaven, and to seize sufficient rank to push his realm to the peak of Foundation Establishment, he could not abandon incense empowerment. On the contrary, to resist Seven Luminaries Heaven’s backlash, he even had to increase its usage, which naturally intensified its impact on his mind.

This impact was worse than death by a thousand cuts.

And he could not lose consciousness— he had to remain fully aware and endure it all.

If it were not for the fact that Lü Yang was maintaining the state of 【Sword Heart Clarity】 , he might already have been driven mad by the unbearable pain.

Yet at this moment—

With the radiance of 【Harmonizing Origin Art】 descending, Lü Yang’s mind suddenly grew incomparably clear. His once-chaotic sea of consciousness stabilized once again!

Even the borrowed power from the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner fused smoothly within him, no longer foreign.

‘Assimilating foreign powers— all methods return to one.’

A flash of insight arose in Lü Yang’s heart. This was the marvel of 【Harmonizing Origin Art】 — it could integrate external forces of entirely different systems and foundations into one whole!

Just like now.

The divine path of incense, which should have been a foreign force with tremendous side effects, was assimilated under the effect of 【Harmonizing Origin Art】 , truly becoming part of his own strength.

Of course, this could not last forever.

【Harmonizing Origin Art】 also had its limits. Unless Lü Yang truly achieved the peak of Foundation Establishment, the divine ability could only persist for at most one and a quarter hours before dissipating.

But to stir the heavens, that much was enough.

Boom!

In an instant, a heavy thunderclap resounded not only in Lü Yang's heart, but also in the hearts of Patriarch Ting You, Grand Ancestor Yan, the City God, and all beings of Seven Luminaries Heaven.

“This is...”

“Heaven's Punishment!”

The City God raised his head to the sky, a deep fear flashing in his eyes. Above the dome of heaven, dark clouds spread endlessly, with ten thousand lightning serpents roaming through them.

The boundless thunderclouds resembled a colossal eye gazing down from above. The lightning serpents within were like blood vessels of fury in that eye. As the thunderclouds churned, a destructive aura filled the world, locking firmly upon Lü Yang, intent on reducing him to scattered ash across the sky!

Struggling to Survive with Regression Power in the Primordial Saint Sect

Chapter 398: Man Proposes!

“Rumble, rumble, rumble!”

As the first clap of thunder resounded within the thunderclouds above the sky, symbolizing heavenly punishment, the purest and most unyielding aura swept across Lü Yang's entire body in an instant.

“Crack!”

Just like that, 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 let out a brittle crack under the unbearable strain!

Looking around, the mountains, rivers, sun, and moon within this minor blessed land began to collapse. And this was only the thunder's roar—true lightning had yet to fall!

However, upon seeing this, Lü Yang laughed.

‘Still too inexperienced.’

In the end, the Seven Luminaries Heaven had failed to maintain composure. Fooled by Lü Yang into believing that he had truly resolved the incense problem, it had immediately thrown out all of its trump cards!

At this moment, with the 【Exquisite Heart】 observing, Lü Yang saw clearly. Of the two calamities previously brewing within the Seven Luminaries Heaven, one had now been fully unleashed—the thunderclouds of heavenly punishment before him. As for the other calamity, Lü Yang could see it had at most condensed halfway.

But the latter was intangible and formless, and for now, its details eluded him.

‘...So be it.’

Lü Yang’s state of mind remained steady. After all, the outcome before him was already quite favorable—while the Seven Luminaries Heaven had responded hastily, he was fully prepared.

‘Speaking of which, this could also be called a Heavenly Tribulation.’

Lü Yang raised his head, gazing at the three divine abilities encircling his body. Enlightenment arose within his heart—once he crossed this heavenly tribulation, his fourth divine ability would surely manifest completely!

“This outsider... he is doomed!”

On the other side, the Capital Earth Deity and Ancestor Yan, upon seeing this, also ceased their battle. Even though the thunder was not directed at them, it still weighed heavily on their hearts.

“With heavenly punishment descending upon the world, no matter how high his cultivation is, could it surpass heaven itself?”

Heavenly punishment!

In the memories of the two incense gods, no one had ever been able to oppose heavenly punishment. They had no doubt that even if but a single bolt of lightning leaked from this thundercloud, it would be enough to shatter the Central State, annihilating all living beings. This was truly a calamity capable of destroying the world!

Yet upon seeing this, Ancestor Ting You only let out a cold laugh:

“Frogs at the bottom of a well, how could you ever behold the vast scenery of the world?”

Indeed, the tribulation condensed by the Seven Luminaries Heaven at this moment was powerful, exceedingly powerful. But that was only within the Seven Luminaries Heaven. What if it tried elsewhere? Still claiming it could destroy the world?

Not to mention the four great powers—even Ancestor Ting You reckoned that back when he himself sat in town with the geomantic veins bolstering the Witch Ghost Path’s mountain gate, this so-called heavenly tribulation would have been unable to breach it!

At the same time, Lü Yang also laughed.

“...Come then!”

Lü Yang raised his head to the sky with a hearty laugh. At this moment, he instead became carefree, for he no longer had any retreat, already at rock bottom.

No matter how he moved, it would only be upwards!

“Boom!”

Under everyone’s gaze, the thundercloud of tribulation collapsed with a roar. Torrential lightning, like the Milky Way itself, surged forth and crashed violently upon Lü Yang’s body!

In an instant, **【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】** shattered!

Like rotten wood crumbling, the mountains within it toppled, the sun and moon overturned, lakes and seas evaporated—inch by inch, everything was devoured.

Even so, Lü Yang remained calm.

With a rapid turn of thought, he unhesitatingly flung out the banner spirits Wusheng Holy Mother and Long Yue.

After all, these two banner spirits were far less valuable than Ancestor Ting You. Should something happen to them, he would feel no heartache.

Yet even with two incense gods at peak Foundation Establishment acting as shields, heavenly punishment remained utterly unstoppable.

‘Indeed, human power has its limits.’

Was there still a way to break this situation?

With a thought, the panel of the **【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】** appeared before him. The golden innate talent **【Divination by Lots of Fate】** suddenly shone brightly.

【Event: Refining the Seven Luminaries Heaven】

【Great Misfortune: Daring beyond measure, nine deaths and one life.】

【Great Misfortune: Daring beyond measure, nine deaths and one life.】

【Great Misfortune: Daring beyond measure, nine deaths and one life.】

A row of black divinations. Lü Yang could not help but let out a bitter laugh: ‘All three are great misfortunes? Not a single auspicious one? At least give me some fortune.’

Wait—that was wrong.

Lü Yang suddenly lifted his head, gazing around. With the 【Exquisite Heart】 piercing through illusions, enlightenment arose in his mind: ‘Of course—this is the third calamity of heaven and earth!’

The Fate Calamity!

As the name implied, this calamity differed from the human tribulation, which was visible to the naked eye, and from the heavenly tribulation, which was pure destruction. Instead, it arose from within, striking directly at Lü Yang’s fate. Its effect was much like that of 【Divination by Lots of Fate】—setting down Lü Yang’s destined future in the unseen.

‘Fortunately, it has been cut short!’

If the Seven Luminaries Heaven had fully brewed this Fate Calamity, then what 【Divination by Lots of Fate】 would have revealed would not be nine deaths and one life, but certain death.

‘So looking at it this way, nine deaths and one life is already not so bad?’

Lü Yang shook his head, then absorbed one of the black divinations into himself. In truth, it made little difference—he was still deeply trapped in crisis.

‘【Divination by Lots of Fate】 is useless now.’

‘What else can break this situation?’

‘What should I do next? Must I truly restart? But even if I restart, 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 cannot be brought back. How would I ever find the Seven Luminaries Heaven again?’

‘Could it be... restarting is the only option?’

Lü Yang activated 【Sword Heart Clear and Bright】. Time itself seemed to halt, and all sound vanished. In this silent world, he contemplated deeply.

The next second, a thought stirred in Lü Yang’s mind.

“Ancestor!”

In the blink of an eye, Lü Yang had summoned Ancestor Ting You back to his side, immediately handing him control over 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】.

“You operate it!”

That one must rely on oneself—this was Chong Guang’s philosophy, but Lü Yang did not truly agree.

In his eyes, relying on oneself or on others was unimportant. What mattered was the outcome. As long as the result was good, the process was irrelevant.

“Good!”

Ancestor Ting You reacted instantly, unleashing spell after spell without restraint, actually managing to block the heavenly tribulation’s strikes!

More importantly, he also drew upon the 【Great Formation of Seven Luminaries Stabilizing the World and Preserving Truth】 , which Hong Yun had laid down around the Seven Luminaries Heaven, extracting part of its suppressive power. With it, he re-anchored the nearly collapsing 【Heaven of Parting Sorrow】 . The teetering edifice was actually stabilized by sheer force!

Yet if this were all, it would not be enough.

The future drawn by 【Divination by Lots of Fate】 had already accounted for all of Lü Yang’s trump cards. No matter how overpowered Ancestor Ting You was, at most he could save Lü Yang’s life.

Nine deaths and one life—Ancestor Ting You was that one life.

But no more than that.

By letting Ancestor Ting You operate, Lü Yang might survive, but he would never be able to refine the Seven Luminaries Heaven. What meaning would that hold for him? Restarting would be better!

‘To break this situation, I must take a new step.’

To leap beyond the divinations of 【Divination by Lots of Fate】 , to leap beyond the Fate Calamity cast by the Seven Luminaries Heaven... But how? Lü Yang’s thoughts raced to the limit.

Finally, a notion surfaced in his mind.

In the next instant, he looked toward the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner beside him.

His original plan had been to merge the Seven Luminaries Heaven into the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner, refining it through the banner and thus making use of its nascent fruit-position.

But now, the situation had changed.

‘The Ten Thousand Spirits Banner has long been washed clean by the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 . With no cause or effect, it is naturally outside the bounds of fate... Perhaps, this is my chance to break free?’

At this point, he could no longer grow stronger.

Since that was so, he would change his approach. If he could not grow stronger, then let the Seven Luminaries Heaven become weaker!

‘Use the nascent fruit-position within the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner... to counterbalance it!’

Between two nascent fruit-positions, conflict was inevitable. Either one devoured the other, or vice versa. If they clashed, he might have a chance to reap the fisherman's benefit!

But the risk was immense.

If he failed to seize the moment and allowed the Seven Luminaries Heaven to devour the banner's nascent fruit-position, then it would instead gain an enormous benefit.

At that point, it would no longer be nine deaths and one life, but certain death.

Moreover, with the fruit-position devoured, even restarting would only bring back a diminished Ten Thousand Spirits Banner—its power weakened by far more than a single grade.

Once more, it was a moment of choice.

Up to now, Lü Yang had made many decisions. Some were right, others wrong. But if he misstepped here, this lifetime would very likely meet its end.

For a moment, countless past choices flashed through Lü Yang's mind—especially that reckless teleportation into the Myriad Poisons Sect's mountain gate, leading to a deadly trap of immortal spirits. What if he chose wrongly again? The unspeakable weight pressed upon his heart until he nearly ceased to breathe.

This time was no different.

The Fate Calamity of the Seven Luminaries Heaven had already descended. Theoretically, the result was fixed. That the Ten Thousand Spirits Banner stood outside fate was only his conjecture. He might be wrong.

To gamble everything rashly might prove fruitless—perhaps even a complete and utter loss.

And yet, even so, Lü Yang clenched his teeth.

He might not be a heaven's chosen like Chong Guang, Daoist Dangmo, or Innate True Person, but compared with them, he did have one small advantage:

He had cheats.

‘If wrong... then restart! If one life fails, then two, three, ten!’

In that instant, Lü Yang cast aside all hesitation:

‘I may lack great talent, my strength insufficient, my resolve perhaps flawed—but as long as the 【Book of a Hundred Lifetimes】 is with me, I have countless chances.’

Lü Yang feared not mistakes—only inaction.

Human power has its limits?

‘Then now is when I exhaust every ounce of human effort!’

The Fate Calamity already fixed?

“Man proposes!”

At that thought, deep within Lü Yang’s sea of consciousness, there suddenly rang out a clear, unyielding sword cry—straight, indomitable, never to bow.

Struggling to Survive with Regression Power in the Primordial Saint Sect

Chapter 399: One Sword Opens the Heavens, Foundation Establishment Perfection!

Jiangnan, Jade Pivot Sword Pavilion.

On Extreme Heaven Cliff, Daoist Dangmo sat cross-legged, quietly gazing at the sky. Above his head, a beam of radiant light pierced straight into the clouds, symbolizing that his fortune was now flourishing.

However, Daoist Dangmo’s face showed not the slightest joy.

‘This is urging me.’

Ever since the True Lords had gone into seclusion, his fortune had begun to rise, and it grew stronger with each passing day. By now, it had nearly condensed to the point of being visible to the naked eye.

Thinking of this, Daoist Dangmo could not help but sigh.

‘I thought that ten years ago, seizing that earth vein at Skull Mountain would slightly diminish my fortune. Yet who would have thought Heaven and Earth completely ignored it.’

Why had he personally intervened when Lü Yang sought the earth vein?

Caring for Lü Yang, not wishing him to recklessly depart, was one reason. But more importantly, this act itself was also of some benefit to him.

As expected, Lü Yang’s fortune completely dissipated, clearly punished by Heaven’s Tribulation. By the principle of Heaven’s joint liability, as the one who struck, he should also have been punished.

Yet, to Daoist Dangmo's helplessness, Heaven and Earth seemed as if they had not seen him at all. They punished Lü Yang relentlessly, but ignored him entirely. Clearly, even Heaven did not wish to offend him at this crucial moment and ruin his grand chance to attain the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 .

“Heaven's Will.”

Thinking of this, Daoist Dangmo sighed once more, preparing to continue his meditation and use his Sword Intent to suppress the growth of his fortune. Yet at that moment—

“Clang! Clang!”

Clear sword cries suddenly rang within Extreme Heaven Cliff. Instantly, the winds and clouds of Heaven and Earth surged, and countless sword cries resounded in succession.

Such a change instantly drew countless gazes.

Daoist Dangmo abruptly opened his eyes. Almost at once, he locked onto the source of the first sword cry, and then joy surfaced upon his face.

“Good, good, good.”

Unbelievable!

‘It has only been ten years... could the earth vein truly temper Sword Intent? I thought he fabricated an excuse to deceive me, but it turns out it was true!’

For a moment, Daoist Dangmo was overjoyed.

Thinking of this, he even could not help but feel the urge to one day cleave several earth veins himself, to see whether his own Sword Intent would also improve.

Meanwhile, within a cave dwelling on Extreme Heaven Cliff—

Lü Yang's Sword Dao avatar sat upright upon a meditation mat. His Sword Foundation, 【Brightly Harmonizing with the Eternal World, Upholding Righteousness with the Golden Sword】 , now lay flat across his knees.

No Sword Qi flared, no divine ability manifested. His spirit, essence, and vitality were all infused into the longsword upon his knees. All his boundless mana condensed into a single point of light at the sword's edge. Though it seemed ordinary, it was the ultimate sublimation of this avatar's divine ability and mana.

【Sword Intent】 !

The third realm of the Sword Dao, theoretically corresponding to a Golden Core True Lord, yet because the 【Sword Dao Fruit Position】 had not manifested, it could only stop at the level of a Foundation Establishment divine ability!

Seven Luminaries Heaven.

The vision that shook half the Sword Pavilion was but the aftershock of true 【Sword Intent】 , its root ultimately still resting within Lü Yang’s true body at this moment.

‘So this is Sword Intent.’

In an instant, the 【Sky of Parting Resentment】 collapsed. Facing the tribulation thunderclouds of Seven Luminaries Heaven, it once again transformed into Lü Yang’s form, standing quietly in midair.

“Is it over?”

Seeing this, Ancestor Tingyou revealed joy.

Lü Yang nodded. Without hesitation, he took out the Myriad Spirits Banner: “I must trouble Ancestor to extract the Fruit Position within.”

“Good!”

Ancestor Tingyou did not doubt Lü Yang’s judgment. With his comprehension, his thoughts spun swiftly and he instantly understood Lü Yang’s intent. He immediately formed hand seals.

The Fruit Position prototype within the Myriad Spirits Banner—Lü Yang had barely touched it before, let alone comprehended it. At most, he could borrow a trace of its power. To truly summon this prototype, only Ancestor Tingyou, both the Banner Spirit and long-studied expert, could accomplish it.

“Boom!”

The next moment, the great banner unfurled. A pearl condensed from myriad radiances was lifted out by Ancestor Tingyou, hovering in the air.

Almost simultaneously, thunder roared!

The tribulation lightning that originally targeted Lü Yang instantly shifted, greedily lunging toward the pearl!

Just as Lü Yang foresaw.

Seven Luminaries Heaven was ultimately like a child, consciousness muddled. Upon sensing the benefit of the Myriad Spirits Banner’s Fruit Position prototype, it immediately abandoned Lü Yang.

Of course, this was also because, in its eyes, Lü Yang was no longer a threat. His danger seemed greatly diminished. Thus, it shifted focus—precisely what Lü Yang desired. At once, he cooperated by feigning weakness.

His face was pale as paper, his body trembling as though about to collapse.

Yet in his hand, silently, he gripped 【Tribulation Wave】. His divine abilities and mana surged into it like a tide, yet no killing intent leaked forth.

“Outsider, die!”

At this moment, Yanjing City God and Ancestor Yan finally struck. They were Lü Yang’s human tribulation; naturally, they would not hold back.

“Bang!”

Lü Yang’s body was struck head-on by Ancestor Yan, staggering back a step, his mana even more feeble, cracks spreading across his body.

On the other side, City God also unleashed his attack.

The power of incense faith transformed into countless iron chains, piercing through Lü Yang’s shoulder bones. Agony twisted his face as he staggered and fell to his knees.

By all appearances, his life now flickered like a candle in the wind.

Seeing this, both Ancestor Yan and City God sighed in relief, and even the Seven Luminaries Heaven’s Fruit Position prototype diverted much of its attention.

“Boom rumble!”

The heavenly tribulation poured forth, thunder seas crashing, yet no longer upon Lü Yang. Instead, it clashed with the Myriad Spirits Banner’s Fruit Position prototype, which resisted fiercely.

Two Fruit Position prototypes in conflict!

In the struggle, the tribulation condensed by Seven Luminaries Heaven grew weaker, while the Myriad Spirits Banner’s prototype dimmed.

Finally, Seven Luminaries Heaven could no longer endure.

Boundless Heaven and Earth power spread, and Lü Yang once again beheld that talisman of dragon and phoenix script at its deepest core.

‘The time has come!’

In that instant, Lü Yang lifted his head.

Though his life still flickered weakly, his right sleeve whipped in the wind, revealing the tightly-gripped **【Tribulation Wave】** , its sword edge piercing toward Seven Luminaries Heaven.

Tribulation Wave was a supreme magical sword, holding five divine marvels, just a step away from becoming a true treasure. In the hands of Lü Yang, now possessing Sword Intent, it was like a fine steed meeting a worthy judge. Its edge trembled, light flaring and dimming, until a vast sea of sword radiance reflected forth!

【Proclaiming Might】 !

At once, in the divisions of the Great Void, the five-colored Dipper handle shone high, the three caverns' divine patterns manifested.

Though it was a scene of grandeur—

No killing intent was revealed.

Not until it pierced the talisman formed from the Fruit Position prototype of Seven Luminaries Heaven did all become clear.

“ ! ! ! ”

An indescribable sound roared through the Seven Luminaries Heaven, rumbling across the world.

Meanwhile, Lü Yang felt as though drought-stricken land had met life-giving rain. Infinite essence of Heaven and Earth poured into him through that sword!

The next instant, the fourth divine ability light burst forth upon his body.

‘ **【Supporting Heaven's Order】** !’

In an instant, four innate divine abilities interlinked. Under Sword Intent's unity, they fused, finally forming a light that tore through darkness!

“Open!”

At that moment, all of Seven Luminaries Heaven fell silent, then was cleaved apart under Lü Yang's sword!

Within the rift left by the sword, the Myriad Spirits Banner unfurled, expanding wantonly, devouring the realm of Seven Luminaries Heaven.

In the past, Seven Luminaries Heaven could have resisted easily. But now, after expending immense power and taking Lü Yang's sword strike, it was exhausted and had no choice but to retreat.

It needed time to recover, to gather strength anew.

Yet how could Lü Yang grant it that chance?

As it rested, with every passing second, Lü Yang was stripping away its strength. Though it was recovering, the power it could wield diminished endlessly!

“Boom!”

As Seven Luminaries Heaven was swallowed into the Myriad Spirits Banner bit by bit, Lü Yang’s aura grew ever stronger.

Behind his head, a fifth divine radiance appeared.

This radiance was like an adhesive, linking together all of his once-separate divine abilities.

Countless divine abilities, a thousand radiant colors, all finally condensed into a single circle of supreme nobility, pure as jade, suspended behind Lü Yang’s head.

【In Harmony with the World】 !

In that instant, Lü Yang’s aura broke past an insurmountable boundary.

【Exquisite Heart】 , 【Containing True Qi】 , 【Harmonizing Origin Art】 , 【Supporting Heaven’s Order】 , 【In Harmony with the World】 !

All divine abilities complete.

Foundation Establishment Perfection!

Struggling to Survive with Regression Power in the Primordial Saint Sect

Chapter 400: I Am Already Invincible Under Heaven!

Within the Seven Luminaries Heaven, a mass of illusory radiance floated high above, bursting forth with thunderous peals amidst intertwining rosy light, endlessly swallowing and spitting out the spiritual qi of heaven and earth.

“Just what is going on?”

Up until now, Ancestor Yan and the Capital City God still had not recovered from Lü Yang’s Heaven-Cleaving Sword just moments ago. At this moment, they could not help but exchange a glance.

However, as time passed, that mass of illusory radiance gradually collapsed, finally taking the form of a tall and handsome young man. He stood there quietly with his hands clasped behind his back, a

circle of white jade radiance behind his head as though expounding the supreme truths of heaven and earth, making him appear even more solemn and divine.

Lü Yang did not speak, only half-closing his eyes.

The surging mana within his body, enough to shake the Realm Heaven, nearly intoxicated him. At the same time, he could not help but feel a sense of indescribable wonder in his heart:

‘It really didn’t trick me!’

So smooth it was absurd.

Truth be told, even if right after breaking through to Foundation Establishment Perfection a giant hand had seized him and refined him in an instant, he would not have found it strange.

Yet in the end, all was well.

Thinking of this, Lü Yang shook his head: ‘As expected, all the previous misfortunes were purely because of that rotten place, not because of me.’

If he had not chosen decisive escape, how difficult would it have been to achieve Foundation Establishment Perfection?

If nothing else, just the four Heavenly Gang and Earth Fiends alone could have tormented him to the point of life and death, and he would likely still be stuck in mid-Foundation Establishment instead of achieving today’s accomplishment.

‘However, my success is probably impossible to replicate.’

Lü Yang knew full well: if merely fleeing that rotten place and cultivating outside was enough to achieve Foundation Establishment Perfection, then who would stay behind in that place?

Ultimately, it was because he had inherited Hong Yun’s arrangements. Whether it was the **【Seven Luminaries World-Stabilizing True Formation】** or the Seven Luminaries Heaven itself, all were trump cards left behind by Hong Yun. Lü Yang’s success was still because he had followed the escape route Hong Yun had originally prepared for himself.

‘Hong Yun, Hong Yun, you really are my great fortune!’

‘The most correct decision of this lifetime was surely when I usurped and slew the freshly reincarnated Hong Yun. That was my very first bucket of gold!’

No matter how trash a True Lord might be, he was still a True Lord.

Even a casual arrangement from such a being was enough to benefit cultivators beneath the True Lord realm immensely. Lü Yang once again deeply experienced this truth.

In the next instant, Lü Yang lowered his head.

As his gaze swept over, Ancestor Yan and the Capital City God suddenly awakened, only to feel a chill sweep through their hearts. Could it be that the outsider had won!?

In that moment, both Deities of Incense Fire wore extremely ugly expressions.

Seeing this, Lü Yang merely shook his head.

If it had been a Primordial Saint Sect True Person here, he would surely have already prostrated himself to the ground, crying out “Congratulations, Senior!”

‘Still too proud... Indeed, accustomed to throwing their weight around in the Seven Luminaries Heaven, their heads were held too high to bow, so failing to react was normal.’

At this thought, Lü Yang suddenly felt a wave of disinterest.

“Forget it. After all, the two of you are not masters of your own fate. I shall grant mercy beyond the law and not torment you by extracting your souls and refining your spirits. I will simply let you be annihilated.”

As his words fell, the white jade halo behind Lü Yang’s head suddenly shone brightly.

【Bearing the Heavenly Principle】 !

As the name implied, this divine ability was the youthful version of the Fruit Position prototype of the Seven Luminaries Heaven. Once unleashed, its restraint upon the Incense Fire Dao was utterly devastating!

At this moment, with Lü Yang’s words spoken, Ancestor Yan and the Capital City God immediately revealed looks of terror. Their faces turned aghast as they witnessed their once-obedient incense fire vanish in an instant. Immediately after, their bodies collapsed together, their souls shattering with a thunderous crash before they could even utter a scream!

The Seven Luminaries Heaven had no **【Netherworld】** .

Thus there was no reincarnation. After death, souls instantly collapsed into heaven and earth, then new souls would condense from heaven and earth again.

Of course, Lü Yang, out of mercy, did not let them fall to that step. He refined them into Banner Spirits instead.

‘I am already invincible under heaven!’

Of course, only within the Seven Luminaries Heaven.

Immediately after, Lü Yang turned his gaze to the side, where Ancestor Tingyou was carefully holding a dimmed treasure orb in his hands.

It was a nameless Fruit Position prototype within the Myriad Spirits Banner.

“It has suffered severe damage.”

Ancestor Tingyou frowned as he explained: “There are signs of necrosis. Unless supplemented by a complete Fruit Position, it will be very difficult to recover.”

Upon hearing this, Lü Yang felt no distress.

Difficult to recover? Then don't recover it!

With a mere thought, Lü Yang directly recalled that Fruit Position prototype back into the Myriad Spirits Banner, then cast it into the 【Seven Luminaries Heaven】 , his eyes filled with expectation:

‘Is there hope?’

Could two Fruit Position prototypes merge into one complete Fruit Position? If that were possible, he would not hesitate for a second—he would immediately kill himself and restart!

‘The Myriad Spirits Banner exists in every lifetime!’

‘If I can truly raise a Fruit Position by sheer accumulation, then no matter how many restarts it takes, nurturing one of my very own Fruit Positions would be pure profit!’

Under Lü Yang's eager gaze, the Myriad Spirits Banner trembled. The Fruit Position prototype that the Seven Luminaries Heaven had failed to consume while alive, was now devoured after Lü Yang's refinement. Yet very quickly, Lü Yang frowned, for the Seven Luminaries Heaven did not show any drastic change.

‘Could it be useless?’

No, not useless. Holding the Myriad Spirits Banner, Lü Yang could clearly sense that the Fruit Position prototype of the Seven Luminaries Heaven had indeed become more complete at this moment.

‘It works. The problem is the quantity.’

Lü Yang roughly estimated, then showed a helpless expression: for if he truly cultivated the Seven Luminaries Heaven by this method—

He would need to restart over three hundred times!

With that conclusion, Lü Yang instantly dispelled all such thoughts. After all, he did not have a Book of a Hundred Lifetimes—where would he obtain over three hundred Myriad Spirits Banners?

Forget it. A little progress was still progress.

This harvest was already tremendous, so Lü Yang did not dwell on it.

Thinking of this, he shifted his thoughts to another question: ‘Now, just how strong am I? What level would I be considered in that rotten place?’

‘Strictly speaking, I am extremely special, likely the only cultivator to start from zero, cultivate a Grade-Two True Art, and even achieve Perfection in it.’

This was Lü Yang’s assessment of himself.

Grade-Two True Art at Perfection, successfully usurping the heaven and earth essence of the Seven Luminaries Heaven.

In that rotten place, typically only Foundation Establishment True Persons would begin cultivating Grade-Two True Arts, making them mere embellishments and auxiliaries for seeking the Golden Core.

But Lü Yang was different.

He had made the Grade-Two True Art his main path, achieving Foundation Establishment Perfection through it.

‘In other words, in that rotten place, I am now a prized treasure. Using the Seven Luminaries Heaven as a stepping stone to draw the gaze of Fruit Positions would be as easy as flipping my hand!’

But flaws still existed.

‘Of the two most important steps in Seeking the Golden Core, Golden Nature and Blessed Land, I possess neither.’

The Blessed Land was easier to resolve, since he had the **【Heaven of Parting Resentment】**. The issue lay with Golden Nature. Lü Yang had once thought that after achieving Foundation Establishment Perfection, he could easily condense it.

But now it seemed not so simple.

‘The key... must be the Innate Divine Abilities. Though I seized all the fortunes of the Seven Luminaries Heaven, my achievement of Perfection was still through five Innate Divine Abilities.’

Reflecting now, every Realm Heaven outside of that rotten place, though they too possessed beings at the level of Foundation Establishment Perfection, were clearly different in certain aspects.

The Profound Spirit World was the clearest example.

Lü Yang had personally seen the Heavenly Immortal Minghua of the Profound Spirit World. In rank, she was equivalent to Foundation Establishment Perfection, yet he had never heard mention of Golden Nature or Blessed Land.

‘These two must be unique to the rotten place!’

That was troublesome.

Yet there were exceptions, such as Suo Huan, who had condensed Golden Nature using his Dao Court official position. This showed that the Dao Court's positions contained profound mysteries.

'The road is long and arduous...'

At this thought, Lü Yang's once-swelling emotions over Foundation Establishment Perfection settled back into calm. Perfection was but the first step on the slow road to Seeking the Golden Core.

Still, indulging in a moment of joy should be fine.

Seeking the Golden Core could wait. To know how strong he truly was now, he merely needed a point of comparison.

In the next moment, Lü Yang's qi surged as he turned toward Ancestor Tingyou beside him, his lips curling into an inflated smile: "Ancestor, come spar with me for a bit?"

He wanted to challenge the Ancestor!