

The Gate 531

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 531: I'm The Primary Genius

Ning Cheng remained immersed in absorbing the knowledge. At the same time, he even used this opportunity to sort out some of the problems relating to cultivation that had stumped him. Ning Cheng felt that once this Dao Discussion Convention ended, as long as he took the time to seclude himself, both his cultivation and strength would experience a qualitative improvement.

However, at this moment, an inexplicable sense of danger washed over. Ning Cheng did not even think about it and unconsciously threw out a punch.

Because of the spontaneity of the punch, Ning Cheng could not hold back with this punch.

"Bang...." With a burst of overbearing Celestial Essence, a sizable mist of blood immediately erupted followed by a medium-bodied male cultivator shooting backwards, forced by Ning Cheng's fist.

This punch immediately attracted the attention of many cultivators at the Dao Discussion Hall. Not because of two parties breaking into a fight, which could be considered normal in the Dao Discussion Hall, but because this male cultivator who shot backwards, had lost one of his legs, apparently smashed to pulp under Ning Cheng's punch.

Countless Spiritual Consciousnesses descended on Ning Cheng's body, mixed in with surprise, amusement, pity, and other kinds of emotions. Ning Cheng looked like a Celestial Novice Cultivator, who did not even have a Celestial Wheel. Yet this person managed to obliterate one of the legs of a Celestial Shatterer Cultivator with just a punch.

Ning Cheng had already sobered up because of that previous sense of danger. Looking at how his punch had sent a Celestial Shatterer Cultivator flying, he still showed a calm expression.

When this person had kicked him, Ning Cheng had subconsciously sensed the surging murderous intentions. If he remained immersed within that wondrous state, or if he did not have such a formidable strength, then the one lying on the ground devoid of arms or legs might have been Ning Cheng himself. Maybe he might have ended up losing his life.

The spot where Ning Cheng had chosen to sit down was a relatively quiet location; however, because of this matter, it immediately turned lively.

"This is quite the big headache. That fella actually laid waste to one of Lou Shao's legs. Even if restored, it would greatly lower his cultivation. Not to mention that it would require the assistance of top-grade Spirit Objects." Someone shook their head and mumbled to himself or herself while shooting sympathetic glances at Ning Cheng.

"It's not what you think. Rather, that fellow you called Lou Shao took the initiative to kick that Celestial Novice Cultivator. That Celestial Novice Cultivator stuck out on instinct. It's Lou Shao's own fault that he ended up with a wasted leg." The person next to him spoke up in disapproval.

The former speaker silently looked at the disdainful cultivator without a word, before whispering, "If you knew that Lou Shao's nephew is Lou Pingchuan, you would not have said those words. Whatever be the case, Lou Pingchuan is also here."

"What?" The disdainful cultivator replied in shock and immediately retreated two steps to stand aside. At the same time, his eyes glanced over a black-robed male cultivator.

Although he did not know anything about Luo Shao, he definitely knew about Lou Pingchuan. Moreover, pretty much everyone in this place knew about Lou Pingchuan. If one had to pick the ten most talented cultivators in the Man Lun Starry Skies, Lou Pingchuan would definitely appear on that list. This person came from the Shang Mou Celestial River and had an almost unmatched Celestial Gatherer Cultivation. Even Heavenly Emperor Man Lun felt optimistic about this person, yet someone dared to waste a leg of this fellow's uncle. Would that fellow even spare him?

Ning Cheng calmly stood up after hearing the conversations around him. That fellow whose leg he had wasted with a punch had already taken the backstage. Replaced by this black-robed cultivator, called Lou Pingchuan or something.

However, Ning Cheng did not feel afraid. Moreover, it was not his choice; that Luo Shao took the initiative to find trouble with him. Besides, Luo Shao wanted to reap his life with that kick. Although he did not like creating unnecessary problems, that did not mean that Ning Cheng felt afraid of getting into trouble.

This Lou Pingchuan apparently had a lot of fame attached to his name. Especially since a lot of cultivators immediately started gathering around just as he walked over.

"Was it you who wasted one of Luo Shao's legs?" Lou Pingchuan came to a stop in front of Ning Cheng and spoke out in a calm tone.

Lou Pingchuan and his uncle did not have a tall stature, only half a head shorter compared to Ning Cheng when standing in front of him. However, the strong aura radiating from this fellow's body made everyone know that this fellow definitely was an expert.

Ning Cheng replied calmly, "You should say that Luo Shao tried to attack me. It's his own fault that he lost a leg because of my defence."

"So are you saying that since Luo Shao did something wrong, you punished him?" Lou Pingchuan's tone turned even colder.

Ning Cheng would have very much taken a jab at it if it were the past, instead of exchanging words with this bastard. However, Ning Cheng still possessed reason. Not to say about fighting against Lou Pingchuan, even if Lou Pingchuan cannot beat him, Ning Cheng also cannot casually pick a fight with one of the geniuses in this place.

The others had backers; Ning Cheng, however, had no one.

"Yes. As far as this is concerned, I was just sitting here without moving when that Luo Shao decided to kick me. He obviously wanted my life." Ning Cheng still spoke in a calm tone. "Although I am an ordinary cultivator, if anyone wants to my life, they should also prepare to leave behind theirs."

“So, you still want to kill Luo Shao.” Lou Pingchuan’s tone, this time, oozed with dense murderous intent.

Ning Cheng simply did not want to answer Luo Pingchuan’s words. If this fellow wanted to have a go at it, he would not mind going along. Words simply had no effect in this place. If it were any other place and someone had tried to kill him without any reason, Ning Cheng would have killed him or her already. Why would he wait until now?

“Head to the Seeking Dao Platform right now, I want to see what you’re capable of.” Lou Pingchuan waved his hand and erupted with a murderous aura that smashed towards Ning Cheng.

Before reaching the Seeking Dao Platform, this fellow wanted to bring Ning Cheng down a peg first.

Unfortunately, such a trick had no effect on Ning Cheng. Ning Cheng also casually waved his hand, and a dominant Celestial Essence fluctuation erupted that completely disintegrated the incoming murderous aura.

Ning Cheng knew that although he had not secluded himself from the world, he had still absorbed the Dao Discussions all around for more than a day. As such, his moves had a completely different sense to them compared to the past. With that one move, Ning Cheng felt as if a heavy weight had lifted off his chest, bringing him more in-tune with the truths of heaven and earth. At the same time, because of that strike, Ning Cheng also realised that he definitely was not an opponent against Lou Pingchuan.

“No wonder you’re so arrogant. You have a few tricks up your sleeve.” Lou Pingchuan’s eyes flashed with surprise, concentrating his gaze over Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng felt slightly disdainful in his heart. With his character, if it were any other place, or a place devoid of people, this father would not have just dissolved that murderous aura; he would have counter-attacked with full force. Even if he could not beat this fellow, he would let this bastard know that Ning Cheng was not a dough that anyone could knead.

Sadly, this place was the Dao Discussion Public Square of the Lucky Heaven City. Even if he felt outrageously courageous, he could not outrightly kill any of the genius cultivators in this place. Not to mention Heavenly Emperor Man Lun, even a Celestial River King could turn him into fly ash with just the wave of their hands.

However, if he defeated Lou Pingchuan, and earned the favour of Heavenly Emperor Man Lun in the process, he might have a chance at self-preservation. Unfortunately, Ning Cheng never would believe in such a miracle happening.

Not to mention defeating Lou Pingchuan, even if he could kill Lou Pingchuan in just a few moments, he might not live long enough to get into Heavenly Emperor Man Lun’s eyes. Also, even if everyone backed off a step and Heavenly Emperor Man Lun decided to meet him, what of it. The first thing Heavenly Emperor Man Lun would do, instead of protecting him, would most likely be using his Spiritual Consciousness to scan Ning Cheng.

“Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, why are you here?” Ruan Mingshu’s shocked voice arrived, and then she squeezed in from the outside of the crowd.

She felt slightly panicked and had thought that she would not meet Ning Cheng before entering the Time Wilderness. Yet, here was Ning Cheng, caught in the middle of a situation.

“Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, do you this man?” Lou Pingchuan looked at Ruan Mingshu with doubt.

Ruan Mingshu had a top-notch figure. At this kind of a gathering, a female cultivator as beautiful as her obviously would draw the eyes of many male cultivators. Although Lou Pingchuan had a place within the top geniuses within this hall, he still appreciated Ruan Mingshu.

Ruan Mingshu quickly gave Lou Pingchuan a bow before speaking, “Greeting Senior Apprentice Brother Luo, Ning Cheng is my Senior Apprentice Brother, and we came here together.”

With that, she anxiously spoke to Ning Cheng, “Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, this is Shang Mou Celestial River’s genius, Brother Lou Pingchuan. Senior Apprentice Brother, you should apologise.....”

Ning Cheng calmly spoke back, “Someone attacked me, and I protected myself. Why should I apologise for it? Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, thank you for your concern. However, I am standing right here. If anyone wants my life, then they should also be prepared to leave their life behind.”

“Not to mention that you’re just a Celestial Gatherer Cultivator, even if the king of Shang Mou Celestial River came, so what? Do not regard yourself as the master of the universe. If you want to throw your weight around then just know that you are just a Celestial Gatherer ant, not the master of the universe. Since you consider yourself a genius, then I can also consider myself as a genius. No, I am the premier genius of the whole universe. And yet, you still want people to take your word as law.”

The latter half of the sentence, Ning Cheng had purposefully directed towards Lou Pingchuan. Now that he knew that Lou Pingchuan came from Shang Mou Celestial River, Ning Cheng felt even more disgusted within his heart. It was just that he still had no power to kill someone on the level of Shang Mou Celestial River King; otherwise, he would have already trained his spear towards that shameless Celestial River King.

“Ah...” Ruan Mingshu stood rooted in place. She had thought that her words could be of some help to him; however, considering Ning Cheng’s recent words, trouble definitely headed their way.

The surroundings instantly burst into laughter. As the crowd saw it, Ning Cheng currently definitely did not look like a cultivator who people could push around.

Lou Pingchuan already showed intentions of killing Ning Cheng; however, Ning Cheng’s words left him completely livid and even more sullen.

“Well said, I also agree with what this friend said. Standing upright and walking straight. If you want my life, then trade it with your life. Haha.....” Someone’s voice rang out in the crowd followed by a burst of laughter.

“Ma Jian, what you mean by that?” Lou Pingchuan’s expression turned heavier and overflowed with killing intent.

Ning Cheng also looked at the person standing leisurely in a corner. This fellow had a robust body but a lazy expression over his face. However, this fellow was also a Celestial Gatherer Cultivator. Ning Cheng

could not figure out why this fellow helped him. Moreover, since this Ma Jian could induce such a change in Lou Pingchuan, it showed that this fellow also had strong backing.

Lou Shao, whose leg Ning Cheng had smashed with a punch, suddenly called out from the side, “Pingchuan, I was just discussing the Dao with my friends. Because my technique turned out inferior to the others, I ended up blown away by my friends. I just happened to fly in the direction of this person. However, I did not expect this person to have such a cruel heart. I couldn’t even think of resisting when this bastard’s killer move blew off my leg.”

When Luo Shao’s words came out, almost everyone present believed it, except for Ning Cheng. True, this Luo Shao was a Celestial Shatterer Cultivator, but even if he was not one of the best, a Celestial Novice Cultivator still could not blow off one of his legs. The only plausible explanation was that Luo Shao could not muster any sort of defence and that Ning Cheng indeed had the intent to kill this person.

“What else do you have to say? If there is nothing else, then you better wash your neck and wait for me at the Seeking Dao Platform.” The killing intent around Lou Pingchuan had almost solidified. Sensing the changes, the cultivators standing near to him quickly retreated.

If this were not the Dao Discussion Public Square, Ning Cheng would have started fighting a long time ago.

“I can prove that Lou Shao definitely carried a murderous intent before he lost his leg, and I can also prove it without any doubt because it’s what I saw with my own eyes.” A voice suddenly emerged.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 532: Who is the coward?

Ning Cheng immediately noticed that the cultivator who spoke that they could prove his side of the story was a young-looking female cultivator, also with a Celestial Gatherer Cultivation. The female cultivator on seeing Ning Cheng look over showed a slight smile and gave a nod to Ning Cheng before speaking, “I just happened to roam around this place. As for the Dao discussion between Lou Shao and other cultivators, it is clearly false, as it never happened. In fact, his real target was you. This is something that I can both attest and prove as well.”

Seeing two people come out to help speak out for him at the same time, Ning Cheng knew that it definitely was not accidental. Scanning the crowd, his eyes locked in on Shen Qinyu, who stood relatively outside of the circle, who then showed a slight smile at him. Although a few people had spoken up for him, it was not because these people understood right from wrong, but most likely because of Shen Qinyu.

Lou Pingchuan obviously did not think that others would help testify against him, yet some people had really done it. At the same time, it definitely made him upset; moreover, he also knew that he now could no longer force Ning Cheng on to the Seeking Dao Platform to fight. If Ning Cheng had deliberately caused all of this to happen then even with a cultivation higher compared to Ning Cheng, he could have used that reason to force Ning Cheng on to the Seeking Dao Platform. However, now that Ning Cheng turned into a victim, if he wanted to fight against Ning Cheng over the Seeking Dao Platform, he would now have to obtain Ning Cheng’s consent.

Seeing someone help Ning Cheng testify, Ruan Mingshu felt slightly relieved. Then, seeing Zhao Yanxiang amidst the crowd, she quickly called out, "Senior Apprentice Brother Yanxiang....."

Although Ruan Mingshu did not complete her words, Zhao Yanxiang immediately understood what she wanted. Primarily because he knew Lou Pingchuan, Ruan Mingshu wanted him to intercede.

Zhao Yanxiang secretly cursed at that garbage Lou Shao, as this matter had indeed started because of him. When he saw Ning Cheng here, he wanted to search for a way to teach Ning Cheng a lesson, even if Ning Cheng ended up dead, it would have meant nothing to him. What he had not thought was that even with Lou Shao being a Celestial Shatter Cultivator, and using a sneak attack, he still failed to bring the slightest harm to Ning Cheng who was just a puny Celestial Novice Cultivator. Now things had only gotten out of hand; since Ruan Mingshu called out to him, he had to come over and speak up.

When Ruan Mingshu saw Zhao Yanxiang, Ning Cheng also locked in his gaze on Zhao Yanxiang almost at the same time. During that instant, he just happened to see Zhao Yanxiang and Lou Shao's quick exchange of gazes and instantly understood what might have happened. Ning Cheng already knew that he and this Lou Shao had no grudge between them. So why did this fellow want to kill him? From the looks of it, it turned out to be because of that garbage Zhao Yanxiang.

Lou Pingchuan simply did not wait for Zhao Yanxiang to speak up; staring at Ning Cheng, he spoke up in a cold voice, "Since you can injure Lou Shao with just one punch, you must be quite an expert. Now I really want to witness your Dao Laws for myself over the Seeking Dao Platform. Do you want to have a go at it?"

Everyone stared at Ning Cheng; those words were tantamount to issuing a challenge by pointing to his face. If Ning Cheng did not accept it, it would denounce him as a coward in front of everyone. The most important thing to cultivators was that if you someone issued a challenge by blatantly pointing to their faces, and they chickened out from the 'challenge', it would end up leaving some traces in their hearts that would be hard to erase.

[TL Note – In the Chinese culture, pointing at someone (face or otherwise) using fingers, chopsticks or any pointing objects is considered rude and in some situations is equivalent of challenging their authority and even manhood of the person(s) being pointed at. I could be wrong here, but it is what I learned in the past during my etiquette classes for different cultures.]

The scene remained silent, as all gazes gathered on Ning Cheng, waiting for Ning Cheng to answer.

Ning Cheng showed a faint smile, before suddenly looking at Lou Pingchuan and speaking, "Surnamed Luo, if an Undead Expert challenged you to a fight over the Seeking Dao Platform, would you dare to go up?"

How could Lou Pingchuan not know what Ning Cheng intended with those words? He laughed and was just about to speak up when Ning Cheng stopped his words and spoke, "Lou Pingchuan, you don't need to rush to give an answer right now. If you feel daring enough to agree, I can come up with this Fire Origin Crystal to ask for an Undead-level expert for the challenge against you. Since it is a duel, then, of course, life and death should not matter."

With that, Ning Cheng raised his hand and showed off a Fire Origin Crystal.

The scene initially focussed on whether Ning Cheng would accept the Cultivator's Challenge immediately shifted to the Fire Origin Crystal in Ning Cheng's hand. The value of such a thing was not something one could put a price tag on, especially for cultivators with Fire-attributed Spirit Roots. Ning Cheng had said that if Lou Pingchuan agreed then with a Fire Origin Crystal, he could ask an Undead-level expert to take the stage to challenge Lou Pingchuan, a small Celestial Gatherer Cultivator. With such an object, the crowd could definitely see such a situation happening.

Lou Pingchuan's face turned ugly to the extreme. If it were before, he would have said that he would absolutely agree to it; however, now that Ning Cheng took out the Fire Origin Crystal, everything changed completely. This meant that once he agreed to it, an Undead-level expert would definitely take to the Seeking Dao Platform and ask him for a challenge. What would happen if Lou Pingchuan decided to back out then? This little Celestial Novice ant turned a bit too hot to handle; he even dared to take out the Fire Origin Crystal.

Not to mention talking about invitations, even without any requests, several Undead-level experts had already locked their gazes on to the Fire Origin Crystal in Ning Cheng's hand. Apparently, as long as Ning Cheng showed intentions of relinquishing it, they would immediately scramble to challenge Lou Pingchuan. As for whether Lou Pingchuan agreed to it or not, it would not matter at all.

Lou Pingchuan sucked in a deep breath before staring coldly at Ning Cheng and speaking up, "The Undead Realm is two full realms higher than me. You want me, a Celestial Scryer Cultivator, to face off against a Celestial River-level Cultivator on the Seeking Dao Platform. Do you even have any face left?"

Ning Cheng gave a laugh before cupping his fists and speaking up, "Friends, this Lou Pingchuan said that I want him to fight against someone two realms above, accusing me of being shameless. I'm only at the Celestial Novice Realm, while Luo Pingchuan is at the Celestial Gatherer Realm, two realms higher compared to my own, and yet he wants to 'compare notes' with me over the Seeking Dao Platform, is this not equally shameless? Or is this Lou Pingchuan's face too thick, even thicker than a pig's butt?"

The surrounding cultivators immediately erupted into laughter, while Lou Pingchuan's hands visibly trembled.

The fact was that Ning Cheng had twisted the concept a bit too much. Although Lou Pingchuan indeed was two realms higher in cultivation compared to Ning Cheng, they both were still within the Celestial Scryer Realm. However, the difference in strength between the Undead and the Celestial Gatherer Realm was not just a simple difference between the two realms. It was mainly a chasm, as even someone at the peak of the Celestial Gatherer Realm could not match up to the weakest Celestial River-level Cultivator.

The word 'livid' could no longer describe Lou Pingchuan's face, which had already turned blue from anger. The only thing missing was that he had not yet vomited blood. From the moment he had started cultivating until now, no one around him could ever win against him in strength or in prestige; as such, wherever he went, he always remained the centre of attention and even took pride in it.

With such a personality, combined with his own personal skills, how could he swallow Ning Cheng humiliating him in such a manner?

The spectating cultivators could only look at Ning Cheng in admiration. Using such means to diffuse the challenge, no one could find the slightest flaw within it. They could even say that it was a flawless execution. The only possible downside was the exposure of the Fire Origin Crystal.

Shen Qinyu and Ruan Mingshu secretly gave out praises to Ning Cheng's moves, while also somewhat worrying in their hearts. After all, Ning Cheng exposed the Fire Origin Crystal. This was an extremely rare treasure; as long as one was a fire-attributed cultivator, none of them would give up on such an object willingly.

Ning Cheng did not let go of Lou Pingchuan, he still looked at Lou Pingchuan and spoke with a sneer, "Doesn't it mean that you are a coward, not daring to accept a challenge from someone in the Undead Realm over the Seeking Dao Platform?"

Lou Pingchuan clenched his fist and stared at Ning Cheng with a murderous gaze before speaking up, "Although I may be a coward, aren't you a similar coward? You don't dare to go to the Seeking Dao Platform with me."

Ning Cheng gave a loud laugh, before raising up his middle finger to Lou Pingchuan while saying, "You are wrong. You are a coward no doubt, but I am not. When did I ever say that I would not take on your challenge? You are just a coward that does not dare to accept other people's challenges, do not think that other people are the same as you. Remember; never be so quick to think of yourself as a genius; even if you are a genius, you are just a cowardly genius. Sigh, it's just a waste of my time to talk with nonsensical people like you, let's go to the Seeking Dao Platform to get the real facts."

After Ning Cheng finished, he turned and walked towards the Seeking Dao Platform.

The spectators really could not understand what was what anymore. Ning Cheng had said and done so much and proved that he really did not have to go to the Seeking Dao Platform. None of them had expected that Ning Cheng would turn the tables around once again, not only establishing and openly scolding Lou Pingchuan for being a coward but also walking knowingly towards the Seeking Dao Platform. In contrast, Lou Pingchuan's words no longer held any merit.

Everyone understood that even if Lou Pingchuan managed to defeat and even kill Ning Cheng, it would still leave an indelible mark over the deepest recesses of his heart.

Lou Pingchuan no longer could enjoy the feeling of forcing Ning Cheng on to the Seeking Dao Platform, and only felt his heart bleed drop by drop. If he could, he wanted to devour Ning Cheng bit by bit.

Lou Shao, still lying on the ground, seeing the way Lou Pingchuan acted, felt distraught internally. He knew that he was in deep trouble now. Lou Pingchuan was not only the genius from Shang Mou Celestial River; he was also the premier genius of the Lou Clan. One could even say that a hundred Lou Shaos were not as good as a single Lou Pingchuan. Although he started this incident, it would not have mattered much if Ning Cheng died or even if he perished. However, nothing could ever happen to Lou Pingchuan; even the slightest mark over his Dao Heart would be a huge matter to the Lou Clan.

After this incident, regardless of the outcome, Lou Shao could no longer continue living in the Lou Clan. Thinking of all this, Lou Shao viciously stared at Zhao Yanxiang. If not for this bastard's provocations, would he have gone against this cunning and vicious-tongued Celestial Novice Cultivator called Ning Cheng?

At this time, no one paid any attention to what Lou Shao thought. Almost everyone made their way and surrounded the Seeking Dao Platform. This time, virtually all the people concentrated their focus over the impending fight between Ning Cheng and Lou Pingchuan.

Because of the exchange of words between Ning Cheng and Lou Pingchuan a few moments ago, it firmly established Lou Pingchuan as a cultivator without a spine, while Ning Cheng, with his minor Celestial Novice Cultivation, established his prestige by courageously accepting the challenge from a Celestial Gatherer Expert. Such a turnaround immediately attracted the attention of everyone within the hall.

Ruan Mingshu and Shen Qinyu, two people somewhat familiar with Ning Cheng, also could not understand why Ning Cheng not only took out the Fire Origin Crystal to solve this problem but also accepted Lou Pingchuan's challenge.

As Zhao Yanxiang looked at Ning Cheng slowly walking towards the Seeking Dao Platform, he suddenly felt his heart turn cold. He had a vague feeling that it definitely would not be wise to take the initiative to provoke someone like Ning Cheng.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 533: Every type of cultivator

The Seeking Dao Platform of the Lucky Heaven City's Dao Discussion Convention had its own share of attraction, and there was never a shortage of cultivators duelling in this place. However, only fights between cultivators without any level difference were common; fights like the one between Ning Cheng and Lou Pingchuan, where there was a difference of two realms, apart from mutual hatred between the two, where each party wished the other dead, remained a rare sight.

Whether it was Ning Cheng and Lou Pingchuan's cultivation gap or the fame accompanying Lou Pingchuan's talents, everyone felt it worthwhile to watch it. As such, at this point, almost everyone within the Dao Discussion Hall came around and wanted to witness the duel that involved a difference of two full realms. Alternatively, they also wanted to see if Ning Cheng, who almost brought Lou Pingchuan to the point of vomiting blood out of anger, had any skills to back up his sharp mouth.

"I will let you understand what you have to pay." Lou Pingchuan stood on the Seeking Dao Platform and had long since returned to his original calm, no longer showing any hint of impatience or anger.

With that, he did not wait for Ning Cheng to answer, and the surroundings immediately blurred.

In the twinkling of an eye, Ning Cheng felt as if a powerful force had completely bound him while the space around him started squeezing upon him. Ning Cheng secretly felt amazed at this, he had fought against many Celestial Scryer Cultivators in the past and knew that the domain of a starry skies' cultivator played a vital role in determining his or her strength.

Now that Lou Pingchuan bound Ning Cheng within his Domain, Ning Cheng found that this Domain had no semblance to a normal Domain. Ning Cheng felt increasingly sure that if he still had the same Sea of Consciousness as before, even if he managed to advance to the mid-stage Celestial Novice Realm as the present, his Domain would barely be able to protect him under the crushing pressure from Lou Pingchuan's powerful Domain. Lou Pingchuan's Domain could not only suppress his opponent's Domain, but it could even perforate into the opponent's Domain.

If this was only the case, then Ning Cheng could easily rely on his spear skills and the strength of his Celestial Essence to fight. However, since Lou Pingchuan could bring forth such a powerful Domain, how could his skills and spiritual techniques be poor?

One could easily imagine that an average Celestial Novice Cultivator would have to struggle a lot under the crushing pressure of such a Domain. At the same time, the other party could easily dispatch their opponent without even doing anything. Ning Cheng had to admit that this fellow definitely had some talent; no wonder others referred to him as a genius.

Unfortunately, Ning Cheng was not an ordinary Celestial Novice Cultivator, his Sea of Consciousness had already undergone Nirvana and had transformed into the starry skies' Sea of Consciousness. Lou Pingchuan's Domain could crush the Domain of ordinary Celestial Novice Cultivators and even kill them in seconds; however, it had no effect on Ning Cheng,

At the same time, Ning Cheng also knew that he was not an opponent of Lou Pingchuan. As such, he did not take the initiative to attack; instead, he put all his efforts into self-preservation for now. He firmly believed that Lou Pingchuan would not have an easy time killing him.

The Seeking Dao Platform and a common duelling platform were different. A Duelling Platform majorly involved Life and Death Battles, while Seeking Dao Platforms held Dao Law exchanges as a battle. As long as he stuck around for a while, Ning Cheng could then take the initiative to admit defeat. Ning Cheng had no qualms of admitting defeat, even if he could grasp the chance to win. However, Ning Cheng did not intend to win this fight at all. Ning Cheng would not do such a flashy and retarded thing. At least for now, Ning Cheng would not choose such a retarded option that would definitely put a glaring spotlight over him.

Feeling Ning Cheng trapped in his Domain, and unable to break free from the restricted space, Lou Pingchuan showed a grin while thinking in his heart, 'why not rely on that mouth of yours to get out of this situation?' He had already made up his mind not to let Ning Cheng die quickly, if he did, he would not be Lou Pingchuan.

Thinking that his Domain had fully deployed and completely trapped his opponent, Lou Pingchuan then brought out a pair of cymbals.

As the cymbals clashed together, it unleashed a wave of sound that immediately caused the people who heard it feel uncomfortable.

Ning Cheng, however, was the first to feel the horror of this attack. After the sound of the cymbals penetrated into his Domain, he did not feel comfortable at all, as an unbearable pain violently erupted from inside his body. That was not the only feeling he had, Ning Cheng even felt the urge to vomit and that he might even end up vomiting out his viscera.

However, this was not the final attack. As the sound of the cymbals penetrated into his body, an invisible blade light landed on Ning Cheng.

A stream of blood splashed out, while Ning Cheng felt as if his Celestial Essence had suddenly experienced a massive decline. It felt as if the next moment, it would completely disappear.

No, he absolutely cannot go on like this. Although he might not be an opponent of Lou Pingchuan, Ning Cheng also cannot let his opponent play around with him in such a manner. Otherwise, life would not turn out much different from death.

The spectators seeing the two sides clash immediately made out that Lou Pingchuan had completely restrained Ning Cheng within his Domain. Moreover, Lou Pingchuan's first attack had already injured Ning Cheng severely. Also, until now, Ning Cheng had not even brought out any sort of weapon.

A collective sigh echoed around in the crowd, if this Celestial Novice Cultivator had the time to grow, this battle might have had a different outcome. However, the cultivation difference was just too vast. From the looks of it, in just a few more breaths, this Celestial Novice Cultivator would ultimately fall into Lou Pingchuan's hands.

Lou Pingchuan stared at Ning Cheng and spoke up sarcastically, "I haven't even begun yet, and you already can't handle it? Does it not mean that if I used my full power, you would have to kneel on the ground and beg for mercy? Rest assured though, I will definitely torture you well."

Ning Cheng, who had initially planned to bring out an ordinary spear, knew that his Domain could easily match up to Lou Pingchuan's Domain. He just had not erupted with full strength, only resisting it and nothing more.

Since his Domain could compare to the other party's, it remained impossible for the other party to kill him instantly.

Thinking of this, Ning Cheng spoke up with a dismissal tone, "Everyone already knows that you are a coward. Come on; let me see what means a coward possesses. Don't let this grandpa wait."

After saying that, Ning Cheng not only did not bring out a weapon to resist; instead, he started operating his Body Refining Cultivation Method. His Body Refining Cultivation Method remained invisible and had no form; as such, even during combat, he could run it as desired. Ning Cheng also understood that a genius like Lou Pingchuan cared too much about face. Therefore, even if he wanted to kill Ning Cheng, he would have to do so in a frank and upright manner, and would not engage in any sneak attacks. Besides, even if Lou Pingchuan participated in sneak attacks, Ning Cheng also had a strong Domain to back him up and avoid it all in time.

The cultivators watching the battle under the stage had no choice but to admire Ning Cheng's courage. Even when facing such attacks, this fellow still mocked Lou Pingchuan openly.

Lou Pingchuan's brows furrowed as blue veins popped up over his forehead. With another clash of the cymbals, even denser sound waves rushed out accompanied with invisible blade lights. Filled with majestic Celestial Essence, they bombarded Ning Cheng's body.

Ning Cheng crazily operated his Body Refining Cultivation Method, continuously using the attacks coming his way to consolidate his corporeal body further. At this moment, Ning Cheng even wished Lou Pingchuan could attack a bit more violently. In fact, a lot more violently.

"Poof-Poof-Poof....." Blood constantly splashed onto the stage; even the flesh covering Ning Cheng's body, under the constant bombardment looked completely shredded, with bits and pieces of flesh and blood dripping down. At this moment, Ning Cheng looked like a blood-soaked skeleton; one could even

hear the sounds of bones cracking under the shredded skin. However, even under such a situation, Ning Cheng still calmly kept staring at Lou Pingchuan, holding just a long sword-type True Artefact to create some useless resistance.

Lou Pingchuan felt increasingly unhappy in his heart, even after increasing the intensity of his attacks. He had initially felt that such a method of torturing Ning Cheng would allow him to win back a little face and even make his heart feel slightly comfortable.

However, he soon felt that something had gone wrong. Although Ning Cheng suffered more and more injuries, his aura had actually started to grow increasingly stronger. Lou Pingchuan even felt a strange Celestial Essence fluctuation around him. What was going on? If this was not the most bizarre thing, then what he felt even more bizarre was that his Domain had not yet managed to crush the other party's Domain completely. Something that Lou Pingchuan felt genuinely weirded about.

Something definitely is not right; something must have gone wrong somewhere. Lou Pingchuan suddenly had a bad premonition in his heart.

"Kaka....." For the first time, Ning Cheng felt that such violent attacks, where he had to use his Domain for resistance while crazily operating the Body Refining Cultivation Method, ignited his sense of crisis that then pushed him to go past his body's physical limits. Such a stimulation allowed his Body Refining Cultivation to climb quickly to the critical point of the Tier 7 God Body.

Taking in the scene of blood splashing around along with the sounds of bones breaking, some of the cultivators spectating from under the stage started to stand on Ning Cheng's side psychologically; some even began to admire Ning Cheng enough to the point of wanting to lend him a hand. How many of the cultivators present here have not killed people? Yet some of the same cultivators could not bear seeing Ning Cheng continue like this. Not because they had a soft heart, but such intense torture felt more bloody than a direct kill.

"Clack-Clack" Hearing such a sound coming from the bones of his opponent, Lou Pingchuan instantly understood what was going on. This puny Celestial Novice ant unexpectedly dared to fight with him while using the opportunity to refine his body. Not only was this fellow refining his body, but it had also reached the point of advancement.

Ning Cheng had indeed reached the point of advancement. Although his body's surface looked like a bloodied mess, even hideous, the fact was that his corporeal body was quickly repairing and strengthening itself from the inside out. As such, he did not suffer even a slightly severe wound. As for the surface injuries, he could recover from them at any point in time without even needing any medicinal pills.

"You're looking for death....." Lou Pingchuan no longer wanted to torture Ning Cheng slowly, and one of the bronze cymbals in his hands shot out, turning into a faint golden shadow.

The moment the cymbal penetrated Ning Cheng's Domain, Ning Cheng felt shocked to discover that he could not resist the incoming attack at all. Even if he managed to bring out the Nirvana Spear, he might not be able to stop it. Unless Ning Cheng decided to bring out the Everlasting Blue Thunder City. However, he would need some time to bring out the Everlasting Blue Thunder City; by the time he brought it out, it would be too late.

At this moment, Ning Cheng felt panic rising within his heart and felt that his actions were too brash. Previously, Lou Pingchuan wanted to torture him slowly; as such, there was no chance of death. However, now the other party truly wished to kill him; if he continued with refining his body like this, Ning Cheng would definitely die.

“Puff...” Not waiting for Ning Cheng to retreat, the cymbal directly slashed through Ning Cheng’s waist, causing an arrow of blood to shoot out from the cut. Ning Cheng also ended up blown back sideways because of the force accompanying the cymbal. Even his meridians broke apart at this moment, giving Ning Cheng even more severe, almost fatal injuries. However, the moment they split, they mysteriously joined up almost instantaneously.

The next instance, Ning Cheng felt his skeleton starting to reorganise, as his corporeal body advanced to Tier 8 God Body.

The corners of Lou Pingchuan’s mouth suffused with even more deadly killing intent, even the space around him gave out intermittent tremors. He had to tear apart Ning Cheng’s Domain and kill Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng gave out a sigh and was about to bring out his Nirvana Spear, when a cold voice rang out, “Enough. Lou Pingchuan, you are a Celestial Gatherer Cultivator, and yet you want to compare notes with a Celestial Novice Cultivator. Since it already reached this point, there is no need to continue anymore.”

No one spoke. At this time, almost everyone looked at Ning Cheng with sympathy. Even Zhao Yanxiang, the instigator of this incident, had to admire Ning Cheng’s courage, which allowed him to hold on until now. Not only had Ning Cheng held his ground until now, but the killing intent around him had also grown stronger despite Ning Cheng’s injuries growing increasingly severe.

In the entire Dao Discussion Hall, only Lou Pingchuan and Ning Cheng understood what was going on. In any case, Ning Cheng did not want to continue fighting anymore. He had just advanced to the Tier 8 God Body; at the same time, everyone in the public square had already heard his words. As such, Ning Cheng had already achieved a great harvest. Since he realised all his goals and extra during the fight with Lou Pingchuan, why would he bother to continue fighting?

Lou Pingchuan also knew that Ning Cheng had ultimately used him to enhance his own body further, intensifying his desire to kill Ning Cheng. However, when he heard that voice, he had no choice but to stop immediately. This voice belonged to a female cultivator by the name of Tang Yu. Moreover, Lou Pingchuan also clearly understood the identity of the other party. She shared the same status as him, as one of the premier geniuses of the Man Lun Starry Skies. However, her reputation was not something that Lou Pingchuan could ever match in his lifetime.

If the Man Lun Starry Skies had to pick the top ten geniuses, then Lou Pingchuan might squeeze into the tenth spot; however, Tang Yu would definitely rank within the top three. However, this was not the main thing. The most critical piece of information about this female cultivator was that she had an unfathomable father, one of the few Eternal Realm powerhouses within the Man Lun Starry Skies, Tang Yitang.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 534: Tang Yu's Straightforwardness

Although the name Tang Yitang sounded a bit mouthful, in the Man Lun Starry Skies, Tang Yitang had a resounding reputation. Even Heavenly Emperor Man Lun had to give him adequate respect. Not to mention Lou Pingchuan, who was just a genius from the Shang Mou Celestial River, even if he transformed into the king of the Shang Mou Celestial River, he would not dare to contradict Tang Yu's words. What's more, Tang Yu's words even resonated with the thoughts of the people present in this place.

Lou Pingchuan felt extremely depressed in his heart. Others had no idea that Ning Cheng had used him to refine his corporeal body. They only saw him torturing a helpless Celestial Novice Cultivator. He was a Celestial Gatherer Expert, yet he indulged in humiliating a Celestial Novice Cultivator in such a manner, it indeed was something shameful. However, could he actually reveal such a thing? If he said it aloud, it would be akin to slapping his own face.

If others knew that in a fight between a Celestial Gatherer Expert and a Celestial Novice Cultivator, the Celestial Novice Cultivator used the incoming attacks to refine his body, would people still consider Lou Pingchuan a genius?

Ning Cheng took out a robe and put it over his body. Then, he calmly walked down the Seeking Dao Platform, one-step at a time. Ruan Mingshu quickly came up and tried to support Ning Cheng. In her opinion, Ning Cheng's injuries were not light. Moreover, she vaguely felt that this matter had something to do with her.

Although Ning Cheng knew that he was in a lot better situation compared to the past, when he just stepped up on the Seeking Dao Platform, he still did not choose to reject Ruan Mingshu's kindness. This battle also showed that he indeed could not match up against Lou Pingchuan; moreover, it was not just a simple difference in strength. As for the rest of the people, they only saw Ning Cheng's bloody figure descending the Seeking Dao Platform, apparently without the strength to fight back.

Lou Pingchuan's expression returned to its previous calm after staring at Ning Cheng's back. From this moment on, he could no longer regard Ning Cheng as just a Celestial Novice Cultivator. This Celestial Novice Cultivator was not only far stronger than other Celestial Novice Cultivators; this fellow even possessed an extremely terrifying mentality. He could never let this person grow; otherwise, this fellow might end up becoming an eternal nightmare for him.

However, since Tang Yu had told him to stop, he could only make a temporary ceasefire. If he really killed Ning Cheng over the Seeking Dao Platform, although it might have brought him some relief, it would have also completely ruined his reputation. This temporary stop definitely was a good thing. Otherwise, his biography might have looked like 'a Celestial Gatherer Cultivator, challenged a Celestial Novice Cultivator. As a result, the Celestial Novice Cultivator suffered a humiliating beat down before the Celestial Novice Cultivator finally succumbed to death.' Such a biography would not bring any glory.

However, others had no idea about Ning Cheng's insidiousness. As such, he could only swallow such kind of a matter.

In any case, there would be many chances to kill Ning Cheng in the future, as this fellow definitely would enter the Time Wilderness. Once inside the Time Wilderness, he did not believe that he could not take down a Celestial Novice Cultivator.

Ning Cheng deliberately walked to the female cultivator who stopped the fight before speaking up with cupped fists, "Many thanks to this Senior Apprentice Sister for your words; otherwise, this Ning Cheng definitely would have died."

This female cultivator had just spoken a few words, yet it caused Lou Pingchuan to stop immediately. It allowed Ning Cheng to realise that this woman's background must definitely be extraordinary.

"So you're called Ning Cheng, huh? Sorry, my name is Tang Yu, and I'm one of the candidates heading into the Time Wilderness." Tang Yu showed a slight smile and did not speak anything about the battle.

Ning Cheng calmly replied, "Yes, I am called Ning Cheng."

Tang Yu had a very ordinary-looking appearance; however, she had two small dimples at the corner of her mouth, making her look quite sweet and amiable. At the same time, Ning Cheng could clearly feel that Tang Yu's strength was quite similar compared to Lou Pingchuan; in fact, she might even turn out stronger. Lou Pingchuan himself was a handful for Ning Cheng, yet this person felt even more powerful compared to the latter, and it was only within the Man Lun Starry Skies. From this, Ning Cheng understood that the starry skies contained a lot many geniuses compared to what he had initially imagined.

"You really are quite something; by the way, I have a fire attributed main Spirit Root. If you want to sell your Fire Origin Crystal, I can purchase it from you." When Tang Yu spoke, the smile remained over her face.

Ning Cheng felt his heart suddenly jolt. Looks like he ended up earning a few 'well-wishers' today, even this Tang Yu ended up taking a fancy to his Fire Origin Crystal. Moreover, since Tang Yu spoke about the Fire Origin Crystal in front of so many people, it might not necessarily be a bad thing for him.

Ning Cheng had many Fire Origin Crystals on him. Even if he used one to purchase the mask, and gave one to Shi Yulan, he still had more than ten pieces. However, Ning Cheng had no intention to sell those Fire Origin Crystals. After all, he also had a fire attributed Spirit Root; as such, he might use it in the future.

However, now that Tang Yu asked him to buy the Fire Origin Crystal, Ning Cheng took it out without hesitation and put it in Tang Yu's hands, "Many thanks, Senior Apprentice Sister Tang. I anyway was looking for a place to sell this Fire Origin Crystal. Now that Senior Apprentice Sister Tang wants to help out, it would be for the best, but....."

Tang Yu felt delighted to take over the Fire Origin Crystal that Ning Cheng had handed her and spoke up, "I don't know what Junior Apprentice Brother Ning wants? Is it Celestial Coins or weapons or something else?"

Ning Cheng spoke up with slight hesitation, "I still have some Celestial Coins on me, so I don't need them. However, I do use an axe and am currently looking for a better axe. Also, if there are any jade strips about the Dao of Arrays, Dao of Pills, or the Dao of Talismans, it would help me a lot."

Tang Yu received and put away the Fire Origin Crystal before smiling and speaking up, "I didn't know that you had quite the wide variety of hobbies. So be it, three days later, I will send these things to your residence."

"Many thanks, Senior Apprentice Sister Tang." Ning Cheng once again cupped his fists towards Tang Yu and immediately left the area with Ruan Mingshu. Although Tang Yu had not asked about the location of his residence, with Tang Yu's influence, Ning Cheng felt sure that she could easily find out where he lived. As such, revealing where he resided had no meaning.

Moreover, Tang Yu taking away the Fire Origin Crystal might also turn out as a good move, helping in reducing the attention the others paid him.

"Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, are you going to be okay?" Only after walking away from this place with Ning Cheng did Ruan Mingshu find the opportunity to ask Ning Cheng a question.

Ning Cheng smiled before speaking to Ruan Mingshu, "Many thanks for the care Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu. Do not worry; I am fine. The Dao Discussion has only just started, and Junior Apprentice Sister should head back. You don't need to care about me."

"What about you?" Ruan Mingshu looked at Ning Cheng with concern.

"I'll be heading to the resting pen to heal. Once the Time Wilderness opens, I hope that Junior Apprentice Sister will remember to call me." With that, Ning Cheng quickened his pace and soon left the Dao Discussion Hall.

Ruan Mingshu watched Ning Cheng as his back disappeared into the crowd while feeling confused within her heart. Initially, she had thought that Ning Cheng had suffered severe injuries; however, the moment she held Ning Cheng, she could feel that Ning Cheng had no severe injuries at all. Moreover, she had not expected that Ning Cheng even had a Fire Origin Crystal in his possession. From the looks of it, it felt like Ruan Mingshu had no understanding about Ning Cheng. Even when it came to how Ning Cheng made his way to this place, she had no idea about it.

As for Shen Qinyu, from the beginning of the ordeal to Ning Cheng's departure, she did not come out nor did she speak even a word.

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Back in his residence, Ning Cheng cleaned himself and continued to sort out his gains.

After advancing to Tier 8 God Body, that previous injury that would have been almost fatal below the Tier 8 God Body had no effect at all.

During the battle with Lou Pingchuan, Ning Cheng had little to do but to put up a strong defence. Yet, he still benefitted a lot; moreover, Lou Pingchuan's powerful Domain gave Ning Cheng a new understanding about Domains. Ning Cheng believed that as long as he went into seclusion for a while, he could further improve and perfect his own Domain.

This allowed Ning Cheng to cement the notion that fighting against more powerful opponents would enable him to grow faster.

However, because of the strain on time, Ning Cheng had no way to head deep into seclusion. He also had no idea when Tang Yu would come to hand over the things he requested nor did he know when the Time Wilderness would open.

Whatever be the case, Tang Yu did not let Ning Cheng wait for too long; the next day, she personally arrived at the resting pen where Ning Cheng resided.

“Greeting Senior Apprentice Sister Tang.” Seeing Tang Yu, Ning Cheng politely greeted her. No matter what the situation, Tang Yu had still helped him once.

Tang Yu walked into Ning Cheng’s living room and looked around for a bit before speaking up with a smile, “No wonder Junior Apprentice Brother Ning wanted jade strips about the Dao of Arrays. Looks like Junior Apprentice Brother Ning is a Grade 1 Celestial Array Master himself.”

She had already seen all that she could and could easily tell from the traces of the array formations in Ning Cheng’s room that all of them were Grade 1 Celestial Arrays.

Ning Cheng felt slightly startled, as she had guessed things correctly with just a glimpse. She truly deserved the title of ‘genius’. From Tang Yu’s sentence, Ning Cheng understood that Tang Yu not only had superior skills, she also excelled in the Dao of Arrays. Moreover, Ning Cheng knew that he had to rely on the Mysterious Yellow Formless to reach this level by himself, something that Tang Yu had no access to, further attesting her skills

“Before reaching the Celestial Stryer Realm, I followed a master for a brief period to study array formations, which allowed me to gain some superficial knowledge of array formations.” Ning Cheng replied modestly.

Tang Yu giggled, “Junior Apprentice Brother Ning that is not a small statement at all. Although you are a Grade 1 Celestial Array Master, it is still not enough to say that it is just the result of some superficial knowledge you gained about array formations. In general, only the grandmasters who can arrange Grade 4 Celestial River-class Array Formations and above are qualified to say that they have some superficial knowledge of array formations. From this, I can also make out that Junior Apprentice Brother Ning doesn’t know much about the starry skies.”

Ning Cheng felt his face turning red. He had initially thought that he was modest; however, Ning Cheng had not expected that in the ears of others, his words were not modest but quite boastful.

“You don’t have to feel embarrassed about it. It is just that you have not studied systematically and thus know too little. That said; it is also quite amazing that you could reach this level with such a foundation. I also study Celestial Arrays and currently am a Grade 3 Master, so I hope that we can learn from each other in the future.”

Seeing Ning Cheng feeling embarrassed, Tang Yu did not continue to joke with Ning Cheng. She then took out two jade strips and handed it to Ning Cheng, “One of them contains the basics of the starry skies’ Dao of Pills, and the other contains the foundations about the Dao of Arrays. The basics of the Dao of Pills are the true foundation; however, the Dao of Arrays might not necessarily be the foundation you are looking for. It’s just that my father is a Grade 7 Grandmaster, so I know a little more about the Dao of Arrays.”

Tang Yu then took out a palm-sized axe before placing it in Ning Cheng's hand and speaking, "This axe is called the Wishful Demon Axe and is a middle-grade Dao Artefact. My father left it to me, but you can have it."

As the axe fell into Ning Cheng's hand, he immediately felt a heavy feeling coming from it. Coupled with Tang Yu's words describing it as a middle-grade Dao Artefact, Ning Cheng realised that his Fire Origin Crystal definitely could not bring in such things. As such, he immediately spoke, "Senior Apprentice Sister Tang, this is too precious. My Fire Origin Crystal cannot possibly be worth this much."

Tang Yu laughed and spoke, "Ning Cheng, for you, a middle-grade Dao Artefact might be a very precious object; however, such an object means nothing to me. Moreover, the most precious thing that I gave you is not this middle-grade Dao Artefact, but the jade strip containing the fundamentals of the Dao of Arrays, which you will come to know in the future."

"Moreover, I also had my own reasons to ask for your Fire Origin Crystal at that moment. One was that I really had an urgent need of that object, and second, was to help you actually. Moreover, although you might have low cultivation, I still appreciate your character. So if you don't mind it, we can become friends from now on."

Tang Yu spoke openly and honestly, something in line with Ning Cheng's own character. As such, he did not hesitate nor did he use a polite tone before speaking up, "Tang Yu, guess we are friends from now."

Tang Yu, on not hearing Ning Cheng address her as Senior Apprentice Sister, giggled and spoke up, "Okay, we'll meet up at a later date then."

Saying that she turned around and quickly disappeared from the resting pen. The exchange and the conversation both happened in a thoroughly straightforward manner.

After a while, Ning Cheng activated the restrictions once again. He felt that Tang Yu had a straightforward personality. She did not ask Ning Cheng to team up with her for the Time Wilderness nor did she leave behind any communication pearls. Ning Cheng, based on his intuition, felt that Tang Yu might just be much more reliable compared to Ruan Mingshu.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 535: Time Wilderness

"Bang" A dull sound erupted, and all the restrictions around Ning Cheng's room turned into nothingness.

Ning Cheng felt pleasantly surprised as he looked at the completely disintegrated surroundings resulted from his Domain finally making some progress. The revelations from Lou Pingchuan and Suo Qiaoye's battles allowed him to integrate his Celestial River Flame into his Domain. The Celestial River Flame hidden in his Domain remained invisible. As long as the party could not detect it, he could use his own Domain to initiate an immediate attack.

However, the fact was that this was not a Domain attack. Instead, it was the result of integrating the Celestial River Flame into the offence. Looking at it from a broader perspective, the Celestial River Flame provided the primary firepower instead of the Domain. In any case, Ning Cheng had at least taken the first step in evolving his Domain.

Coupled with the axe that Tang Yu gave to him, the Wishful Demon Axe, which he had also wholly refined, Ning Cheng could now transform the axe into several forms, allowing him to secretly attack the enemy and catch them unprepared. Ning Cheng also realised that his strength had also grown a lot stronger compared to a few days ago. As long as he could advance to the Celestial Shatterer Realm, he felt confident enough to kill Lou Pingchuan.

The restrictions over the entrance to his room violently shook. Ning Cheng, on seeing that, immediately opened the restrictions, to the angry and fuming face of the resting pen's steward standing at the doorway. The steward on seeing Ning Cheng come out, immediately snapped, "How dare you try to practice your Spiritual Skills in our resting pen and even destroy the room's array formations?"

"I'm really sorry; I'll pay more attention the next time." Ning Cheng knew it was entirely his fault. He picked the wrong place and time to go into seclusion.

"Compensate the house with 10 million Green Coins and immediately leave our resting pen. We no longer welcome you living in our place." The steward's tone turned colder.

Ning Cheng also felt helpless. If Ning Cheng had to compensate the other party with 10 million Green Coins, he could have thought about it; however, thrown out of the resting pen, what else could he do. Moreover, Ruan Mingshu also had not come to him yet; as such, he could only search for another place to stay for now.

"Senior Apprentice Brother Ning...." Ning Cheng had just walked out of the resting pen's entrance when he heard Ruan Mingshu's voice.

What Ning Cheng wanted to see the most was Ruan Mingshu. Quickly moving forward, he asked, "Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu did the Time Wilderness open?"

"The Time Wilderness will open tomorrow. I specifically came here to meet you today, and tomorrow we can head to the Man Lun Public Square together. Did you have something you wanted to take care of before we left?" Ruan Mingshu felt it very strange when she saw Ning Cheng leaving the resting pen.

Since the Dao Discussion Convention, Ning Cheng ended up catching the attention of many people. Although Ning Cheng traded his Fire Origin Crystal with Tang Yu, some people thought that it might not be the only one on him. Many people believed that Ning Cheng had more than one Fire Origin Crystal in his possession or at the very least information about the location from where Ning Cheng obtained those Fire Origin Crystals. In Ruan Mingshu's view, Ning Cheng should not leave the resting pen unless the Time Wilderness opened.

Ning Cheng spoke up with a wry smile, "I just got kicked out. I tried to study array formations inside the resting pen and accidentally destroyed the resting pen's original array formations. I had to cough up 10 million Green Coins as compensation before they kicked me out. Now I was just about to go look around for a place to stay when you showed up."

Ruan Mingshu gave a smile and spoke, "Go to my place. In the evening, we will discuss on how to cooperate in the Time Wilderness. Moreover, I also have a few other things to tell you."

Ning Cheng knew that those 'other' things mostly involved the Perpetual Moon Pills; therefore, he did not choose to refuse Ruan Mingshu's re-invitation.

The reason why he decided to work with Ruan Mingshu was for the Perpetual Moon Pills. Initially, he did not have much knowledge about Perpetual Moon Pills. However, now that he read the jade strip containing the fundamentals of the Dao of Pills that Tang Yu had provided, Ning Cheng felt even more eager to get his hands over those Perpetual Moon Pills. Moreover, he also came to know that although objects like Perpetual Moon Pills had vital importance attached to them in the Man Lun Starry Skies; it did not have much significance in the other starry skies.

In the vast universe, within some of the starry skies, the Perpetual Moon Pills had the same function as starry skies' crystals and nothing more. If one wanted to enter the vast universe or enter other starry skies, then one had to work hard to improve his or her cultivation. If one had high cultivation, then he or she could then secure the right to enter a more resource-rich place to continue cultivating.

In the starry skies, only the strong had the right to enforce the truth. Although this fact might not have a 100% accuracy, it was at least 99% accurate.

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Ruan Mingshu's room only contained a bed. In fact, for people like Ning Cheng and Ruan Mingshu, with a Celestial Scryer Cultivation, even if they sat for a month discussing the Dao; they would not need to go to sleep.

"Did you read the map that I sent you on the jade strip?" Ruan Mingshu activated the restrictions over her room and immediately asked Ning Cheng about the contents of the jade strip that she had sent over previously.

Ning Cheng nodded, "I looked at it, and roughly understood the approximate position of our destination."

"The communication pearls have a short range within the Time Wilderness and might not even be of much use inside. The map that I gave you might not be the best one out there, but it is better than the jade strips containing normal maps sold around the Lucky Heaven City. There is a Moon Creek marked on the map, which is actually a dry and dead river. If we can't make contact after we enter, we will meet at Moon Creek." Ruan Mingshu finished as she stared at Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng had seen the location-marker of this Moon Creek. Now that Ruan Mingshu spoke about its purpose, he naturally would have no problem. "Ok, don't leave before we meet at Moon Creek."

Ruan Mingshu showed a slight smile, "Not leaving before meeting up huh, I like the idea."

Ning Cheng then thought about the map that he obtained in the Ocean Gambling City's auction, which he had bought due to its connection to the Time Wilderness. According to the cultivator that he spoke to at that time, one could find such maps anywhere in the Man Lun Star Land for around a hundred Green Coins. However, Ning Cheng ended up spending 110 million Celestial Coins over it.

Because of this substantial variance in price, Ning Cheng had not touched that map yet. Now that he heard Ruan Mingshu speaking about them, he wanted to purchase one of the normal maps and see how they compared to the one he obtained from the auction?

Seeing Ning Cheng silent, Ruan Mingshu spoke up, "Recently, someone has been trying to look for cultivators from the Orchid Borough Celestial River to strike up a conversation. He also came looking for

me. From the looks of it, this fellow is looking for a map. If this person comes looking for you, and you do not know anything about it, just try to brush him off. If he still remains persistent, then try to subtly expose the fact that you and Tang Yu know each other.”

Ning Cheng had not thought about Tang Yu; however, now that Ruan Mingshu spoke about that name, he quickly asked, “Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, who is Tang Yu, does she have a prominent background?”

Ruan Mingshu shot a surprised look at Ning Cheng, “You don’t even know who Tang Yu is? Her father’s name is Tang Yitang, one of the Eternal-level Powerhouses of the Man Lun Starry Skies. Even Heavenly Emperor Man Lun has to remain polite with Tang Yitang. At the same time, in the Man Lun Starry Skies, because of her background, no one would dare mistreat her or even go against her words. Otherwise, that Lou Pingchuan would not have stopped at that time.”

“Moreover, Lou Pingchuan also has a significant background, as he comes from Shang Mou Celestial River’s Lou Clan, which is one of the strongest clans within the Shang Mou Celestial River. By the way, how did you manage to get into the Dao Discussion Hall? Moreover, even Ma Jian, who never saw eye to eye with anyone, how did you convince him to stand up and even help in defending you?”

“A friend that I just met took me in. She was very nice. As for Ma Jian’s intervention, I think she might have invited him to help me.” Ning Cheng spoke out with ambiguity. In fact, Ruan Mingshu had already met Shen Qinyu once; however, Ning Cheng believed that Ruan Mingshu certainly would not remember that matter.

Without waiting for Ruan Mingshu to continue with the line of questioning, Ning Cheng took the initiative to change the topic, “Junior Apprentice Mingshu, can you tell me more about the Time Wilderness? To be honest, I don’t have any information about this Time Wilderness at all.”

Ruan Mingshu gave an ‘en’ sound before continuing, “Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, even if you hadn’t mentioned it, I was about to tell you. However, I also do not know much about it. I only heard that the Time Wilderness is the fusion of small fragments of the Void’s Worldly Laws and a starry skies’ wilderness. These fragments were those of the Laws of Time. According to what I had heard, a heaven-defying powerhouse had combined these fragmented Laws of Time with a starry skies’ desolate land fragment to form this Time Wilderness.”

“So it’s something with a master?” Ning Cheng asked in amazement.

Ruan Mingshu shook her head and spoke, “It might have had a master in the past, but it no longer has one currently. I heard that the powerhouse that constructed this Time Wilderness had not only fused many fragmented Worldly Laws of Time into it but had also accumulated many treasures inside it. However, before this powerhouse could fully form his Time Law World, this powerhouse ended up falling in a fight with others.”

Ning Cheng remained silent; he had already witnessed the scenes of powerhouses falling in the past. In the beginning, when he had just obtained the Everlasting Blue Thunder City, among any of those powerhouses locked in combat, which one among them was not a tyrannical character in the entire universe? Yet, did these characters still not ended up falling and turning to ashes within the starry skies? Even Cang Wei, a powerhouse in himself, still needed his help to save him.

Although Ning Cheng's eyes remained fixed over Ruan Mingshu's face, his thoughts, however, had already wandered off quite far away. If someone considered as a powerhouse died, could one still regard him or her as a powerhouse? With that logic, then in this part of the universe, only those real Eternal-level cultivators were the real powerhouses, while everyone else was akin to floating clouds.

"What's the matter with you, Senior Apprentice Brother Ning?" Ruan Mingshu spoke up after seeing Ning Cheng's far-away look.

"Oh, nothing, go on." Ning Cheng immediately returned to senses.

Ruan Mingshu knew that Ning Cheng must have a secret; however, she did not ask Ning Cheng about it and continued, "Later, the Time Wilderness ended up in the Man Lun Starry Skies. However, the Time Wilderness is not available at all times; only during specific times would it open."

"Over the years, countless cultivators have entered the Time Wilderness; at the same time, countless cultivators have also fallen in the Time Wilderness. Because inside the Time Wilderness, the scariest thing is Time itself. Sometimes, if one accidentally fell into a Time Vortex, by the time you manage to break free, your longevity might end up completely exhausted, resulting in your lifespan running out."

"So, the Heavenly Emperor Man Lun go in?" Ning Cheng suddenly asked.

Ruan Mingshu spoke up with affirmation, "That's right. If one does not meet the conditions, then even someone like the Heavenly Emperor Man Lun cannot get in. I heard that the Time Wilderness opens once in ten years. Therefore, after entering, one cannot come out before the ten-year period is up. After ten years, the Time Wilderness would automatically send out the cultivators that managed to survive till that point on the inside."

"Ten years?" Ning Cheng asked in surprise, for a mysterious realm to remain open for ten years, was it not too long?

"That's right, it is ten years. Moreover, within the Time Wilderness, the most precious things are not the Perpetual Moon Pills, but the Time Stones. Time Stones are something indigenous to the Time Wilderness; you cannot find one outside. Additionally, these objects are beyond precious and even contain traces of the Laws of Time. Moreover, Time Stones have no definite size and can range in size from a dust particle to a dragon-eyed fruit. I heard that this time's experience within the Man Lun Starry Skies' Time Wilderness would be based on the amount of Time Stones harvested....."

Ning Cheng immediately interrupted Ruan Mingshu, "Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, from what you said about the preciousness of Time Stones, even if someone obtained it, why would they take them out?"

Ruan Mingshu stared at Ning Cheng for a while before elucidating word-for-word in complete seriousness, "Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, if you really obtained Time Stones in the Time Wilderness, then you must take them out; otherwise, you would end up suffering a fate even worse than death."

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 536: The Wilderness Opens

Although Ruan Mingshu did not explain things, Ning Cheng managed to understand what she meant. That is, if one did not hand over the Time Stones, the inspectors had the means to detect them.

Unfortunately, Ning Cheng could not put things into his Mysterious Yellow Bead for a long time; otherwise, he could have housed the Time Stones in the Mysterious Yellow Bead. The Mysterious Yellow Bead was a Good Fortune Treasure; as such, if he could store the Time Stones inside the Mysterious Yellow Bead, absolutely no one would have the ability to locate it.

Why did he have to wait for completing the five origins of the Mysterious Yellow Bead to store things? As Ning Cheng thought of things until here, he felt, even more, surer that there was a way to put things inside the Mysterious Yellow Bead; at least store items temporarily within the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

In addition to the Mysterious Yellow Origin, his Mysterious Yellow Bead already contained the two origins, fire and water. Was it possible for him to arrange an array formation with the remaining three origin objects and then store things within that array formation? Looking at the options available at hand, the best origin object naturally was the Origin Crystals.

However, Ning Cheng already knew about the preciousness of a Fire Origin Crystal, so from where could he put up the money to purchase the three remaining Origin Crystals? Besides, even if he had the money, would he be able to buy it? Maybe there was another method instead of using the Origin Crystals? Could arranging a Five-element Array Formation provide the temporary yet necessary help?

“Senior Apprentice Brother Ning objects like Time Stones, it’s better to forget about them. The Time Wilderness anyway does not contain a lot of it. It is normal for not finding a single Time Stone during the entire ten years inside. Besides, you only stayed at the Dao Discussion Hall for just a day. If you feel willing, we can discuss a few things as I feel like I heard a lot.” Ruan Mingshu took the initiative to change the topic. She did not think that Ning Cheng’s thoughts currently dwelled on finding ways to hide the Time Stones.

“All right.” Ning Cheng happily replied. In any case, Ruan Mingshu might have learned much more than what he had learned until now.

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Ning Cheng had amazing insights, while Ruan Mingshu had a solid foundation. The two of them ended up discussing things throughout the night, with each of them obtaining significant benefits.

Early the next morning, someone touched the restrictions over Ruan Mingshu’s room. Ruan Mingshu opened the restriction and found Zhao Yanxiang standing at the doorway to her room. “Mingshu, the Time Wilderness opens today. Let’s head to the Man Lun Public Square.....”

Zhao Yanxiang’s words suddenly came to a stop, as he saw Ning Cheng coming out of Ruan Mingshu’s room.

“Did you stay inside the entire night?” Zhao Yanxiang immediately showed a frown and asked while staring at Ning Cheng.

Ruan Mingshu was someone that he had taken a fancy to, and someone Zhao Yanxiang regarded as his future Dao Companion. Moreover, the two of them even had plans to head into the universe’s starry skies. Now that another man had come out of his favourite woman’s room, regardless of anything happening, such a matter made it difficult for him to calm down.

Ning Cheng completely ignored Zhao Yanxiang. Regardless of whether the fellow who tried to kill him was Zhao Yanxiang or not, he would definitely settle the scores between them eventually. Since Ruan Mingshu looked like she had something to do with this Zhao Yanxiang, he decided not to talk any nonsense for now. What's more, Ruan Mingshu had not also cleared things about what she wanted from him or her goals.

Ruan Mingshu replied with a calm face, "Yes, Senior Apprentice Brother Yanxiang, I spent the night with Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, and benefited a lot."

Zhao Yanxiang's slightly fluctuating emotions suddenly calmed down before he showed a slight smile and spoke up, "In that case, let's go to the public square together."

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As the most important public square within the Man Lun Star Land, Man Lun Public Square required more than just a word to describe it. It contained a variety of starry skies' Transfer Arrays along with a range of facilities that catered to the needs of the cultivators.

Although the Ning Cheng trio arrived a bit early, many more cultivators had reached before them. When the three of them entered the square, the cultivators within the Man Lun Public Square had already formed a sea of black, filled with slight noise but many experts. However, every cultivator in this place knew that Heavenly Emperor Man Lun paid close attention to this place. Once someone tried to make any sort of trouble, the only thing that awaited was death.

Ruan Mingshu remained low-key; accompanied by Ning Cheng and Zhao Yanxiang she stood on the public square in a not very conspicuous location.

This time, the Celestial Scryer Genius Tryouts was a big event for the Man Lun Starry Skies, and something personally hosted by Heavenly Emperor Man Lun. Since Heavenly Emperor Man Lun had not arrived yet, some of the cultivators had started to gather and whispered among themselves. However, no one dared to speak in a loud voice.

Ruan Mingshu and Zhao Yanxiang seemed to be arguing about something, while Ning Cheng felt reluctant to take part in the conversation and took the initiative to stand on the other side.

"This friend, if I remember correctly, you are also from the Orchid Borough Celestial River. You should be called Ning Cheng, right?" Ning Cheng had just walked to the side when a cheerful voice resounded in his ears.

Ning Cheng looked back and saw a Celestial Gatherer Cultivator, with a thin body and three very conspicuous Celestial Wheels behind him, showing that this fellow definitely had a strong Celestial Gatherer Cultivation.

"Yes." Ning Cheng gave a simple reply.

This Celestial Gatherer Cultivator clapped his hands and spoke, "Let me introduce myself, I am called Fu Shougeng, and also from the Orchid Borough Celestial River. Seriously, for you to manage to escape from the rat tide, it truly is amazing. Congratulations. I was also on the battleship at that time. If I didn't have a starry skies' Escape Talisman, I might have not survived the influx of that many starry skies' Spirit Devouring Rats."

Ning Cheng showed a faint smile and spoke, "Then, congratulations to you too."

"Right, when I was in the Revolving Jade City, there was an auction that had a Time Wilderness Map as one of the auction pieces. Do you know about that auction?" Fu Shougeng seemed like a very talkative person, and instantly switched topics like a gossipmonger.

Ning Cheng immediately turned vigilant. He quickly recalled what Ruan Mingshu had told him previously, that someone was looking for cultivators from Orchid Borough Celestial River, asking about a map. Was it this fellow? Moreover, was he looking for the same one that Ning Cheng had obtained from the auction?

Ning Cheng replied without hesitation, "I don't know. I heard that the auctions in the Revolving Jade City would often bring out a Time Wilderness Map for sale, so I don't know which auction you are talking about."

Fu Shougeng explained, "I know that maps were often put in the auctions there; however, this one always had a price tag of several million Green Coins. Moreover, because everyone knows that it is a fake, very few people would choose to waste money on buying it. I am not talking about those ones though, but about the auction where a map sold for 110 million. Do you know about it?"

"I don't know." Ning Cheng replied without hesitation.

"You really don't know?" Sharp killing intent accompanied these four words, apparently not from Fu Shougeng, but from someone behind Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng turned around in an instant and saw a cultivator with five Celestial Wheels staring at him. This cultivator gave off a sharp killing intent; at the same time, this killing intent had wholly locked down the area around Ning Cheng. Those previous four words came from this fellow. Looking at the Celestial Wheels behind this fellow, Ning Cheng knew that this man was at least a cultivator in the Undead Realm.

Ning Cheng's eyes immediately flashed with chillness before he suddenly spoke out in a loud voice, "I'm a cultivator taking part in the Celestial Stryker Genius Tryouts of the Man Lun Starry Skies, and am quietly standing on the sacred Man Lun Public Square. Why do you want to kill me? Why did you lock me in with such a powerful killing intent?"

The cultivator brimming with killing intent had never expected that Ning Cheng would dare to speak so loud in the Man Lun Public Square; moreover, even mention that someone wanted to kill him. The cultivator's eyes instantly filled with panic. If he knew Ning Cheng would react in such a way, even if Ning Cheng slapped him a hundred times, he would not dare to indulge in such a matter.

"You....." The cultivator could not say more than a word in anger.

Ning Cheng stared at this cultivator and spoke up, "Just an Undead ant and yet dare to threaten this father in this place."

A Celestial Novice Cultivator had called the other party as an 'Undead ant', yet this Undead-level cultivator unexpectedly could not dare to refute.

"Who's so daring here?" Without waiting for this Undead-level cultivator to speak up, a grey-robed cultivator suddenly appeared in front of Ning Cheng.

“Senior, this is the fellow. Just now, he revealed a strong killing intent from behind me and even locked me down with his murderous intent. He even threatened me.” Ning Cheng pointed to the Undead-level cultivator who had locked him down with killing intent and spoke out to the crowd like a tattletale.

This grey-robed cultivator had already reached the Heaven Seated Realm. Even if Ning Cheng had not spoken about it, he could feel the killing intent that had not dissipated yet. He raised his hand and sent out a slap. The Undead-level cultivator did not even have the time to form a sentence when the grey-robed cultivator’s slap turned him into a bloody meat paste.

“Whoever dares to pick a fight within the Man Lun Public Square, even revealing killing intent, would face death.” After the grey-robed cultivator killed the Undead-level cultivator who had threatened Ning Cheng, he gave a cold snort and then disappeared without a trace, leaving behind those cold words.

Fu Shougeng shot a vicious stare at Ning Cheng. He had never thought that Ning Cheng simply defied common sense and ended up directly calling out a powerhouse in the Heaven Seated Realm.

Ning Cheng just ignored Fu Shougeng and gave Ruan Mingshu a greeting, who had come rushing to him. He would soon enter the Time Wilderness and would spend ten years inside the Time Wilderness. Ning Cheng did not even know this fellow, and this fellow dared to reveal his murderous intent towards him. It would have genuinely been strange if he remained polite while also not taking advantage of the situation.

“What happened?” Ruan Mingshu whispered into Ning Cheng’s ear.

“Nothing, the Heavenly Emperor is here.” Ning Cheng replied.

Heavenly Emperor Man Lun did arrive; however, no one knew when he came. His entry this time was completely different from when he entered the Dao Discussion Hall previously, lacking even the slightest trace of travel. It was as if this fellow was always here and had just decided to reveal himself.

“Long live the Heavenly Emperor!” A deafening sound erupted throughout the public square. Although no one had orchestrated it, it exploded in a wholly ordered fashion.

Heavenly Emperor Man Lun stood over the high altar in the middle of the public square and spoke with a slight bow, “I feel pleased today. Not only because today is the day when the Time Wilderness opens, but also because of the gathering of my Man Lun Starry Skies’ best Celestial Scryer Realm experts.”

“Perhaps, there might even be a future Heavenly Emperor among you, as well as a few Eternal-level powerhouses. I hope that you do not forget about the honour of our Man Lun Starry Skies. Regardless, staying indoors does not make you an expert. If one wants to grow strong, one would need to travel out of their homes, journey out of their planets, move out of their Celestial Rivers, wander out of their starry skies’ and explore the universe.....”

“Long live Heavenly Emperor!” A more ardent call erupted.

Ning Cheng suddenly felt a strange feeling within his heart. He thought that the sound of worship from the public square made the Heavenly Emperor Man Lun appear even taller. Although it felt like an illusion, it created a substantial impact over his mind.

At this moment, Ning Cheng recalled the Power of Hope, which he had seen and even witnessed before. Was this phenomenon something similar to the Power of Hope?

Heavenly Emperor Man Lun gave a hearty laugh and then spoke up loudly, "Today, I am here to announce that this day marks the day where you come out of the Man Lun Starry Skies, starting with the Time Wilderness. Although there might not be many geniuses who can enter the universe on behalf of our Man Lun Starry Skies, I still believe that our Man Lin Starry Skies would achieve the honour it deserves."

"You will remain inside the Time Wilderness for about 10 years, and the final results will be based cumulatively on the size and the amount of Time Stones you obtain from the inside. The ten years starts from this very moment. I will personally lead all the geniuses participating in the Time Wilderness Tryouts and help you all enter the Time Wilderness. I hope we get to see you all again after ten years!"

"Long live the Heavenly Emperor!" This time the public square instantaneously erupted in violent cheers and admiration. It felt as if every cultivator present over the public square had gone crazy.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 537: Dry Well

Ning Cheng originally wanted to buy a normal map for the Time Wilderness; however, he now had no chance. At this time, the cultivators participating in the Time Wilderness Tryouts have already started to board the battleship.

The Time Wilderness was not located within the Man Lun Star Land, nor could one create a Transfer Array that led to it. The only way to reach it was through a battleship.

This battleship took the nearly hundred thousand cultivators participating in the Time Wilderness Tryouts and rushed out of the Man Lun Star Land. In just half a day's worth of time, it came to a stop in an empty part of the starry skies.

Ning Cheng's Spiritual Consciousness had already noticed that the space in this location showed signs of extreme instability. No wonder one could not set up a Transfer Array that led to this location. A moment later, an entrance with a corrugated shape slowly appeared in front of the battleship. Seeing that, Ning Cheng did not have to guess about its identity and realised that it was the entrance to the Time Wilderness.

Heavenly Emperor Man Lun placed quite a bit of importance to this trial. Not only did he led the entire group personally, but he also specifically stood at the entrance and warned everyone. "The geniuses from my Man Lun Starry Skies, the entrance of the Time Wilderness will only remain open for thirty-six hours; if you lose this opportunity, you would then have to wait for when the Time Wilderness opens the next time, which is something that even I cannot predict."

"Ten years later, a temporary public square will be set up at this location. As long as you geniuses remain alive, you will appear over this temporary starry sky' public square ten years later. I hope that everyone pays attention to yourself and to each other while entering the Time Wilderness. That said, I wish all the participating talents good luck and I hope to see you all again returning safely."

"Long live the Heavenly Emperor, Man Lun forever!" The cultivators yelled out excitedly.

The restrictions covering the battleship opened, and a large number of cultivators jumped into the entrance. Just like dumplings falling soup, they all disappeared in just a moment.

“Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, let’s go in too.” Ruan Mingshu, standing next to Ning Cheng, whispered.

“Ok. By the way, Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, do you have a regular Time Wilderness Map?” Ning Cheng asked as the thought passed through his mind.

“Yes, I have, didn’t you buy it?” Despite the surprise, Ruan Mingshu took out a jade strip containing a normal map and handed it to Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng felt delighted. Receiving the jade strip and putting it away, he spoke, “Thank you.”

Ruan Mingshu showed a smile and took the initiative to fly into the entrance of the Time Wilderness. Zhao Yanxiang swept Ning Cheng with a gaze, as a flash of killing intent passed through and hid in the corner of his eyes before he followed Ruan Mingshu and entered the Time Wilderness.

Ning Cheng also saw Tang Yu enter; however, he did not see Shen Qinyu. He knew that Shen Qinyu could change her face, so it was entirely possible that she might even be around him. However, Ning Cheng chose not to spread out his Spiritual Consciousness. Following the rest of cultivators, he casually flew into the entrance of the Time Wilderness.

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A force immediately whisked Ning Cheng away. At this moment, Ning Cheng could not even think clearly, as everything in front of him turned blank.

Not knowing for how long was he in such a state, Ning Cheng only sobered up after his foot smashed on to the hard ground. Although reinforced with his mid-level Celestial Novice Cultivation, Ning Cheng still ended up stumbling. All around him, Ning Cheng could only feel the aura of extreme vicissitudes resulting from the passage of time. It gave Ning Cheng the feeling that he stood in the middle of a fading whirlpool of longevity, all the while hungering for life that flowed out of those who came in. For a moment, only panic and fear filled Ning Cheng’s heart.

Ning Cheng immediately took control of his mind and stabilised his thoughts. Did everyone feel the same kind of panic and fear when feeling his or her longevity slowly dissipating?

Only a barren expanse, without any light or any water, without any life or even the slightest hint of grass anywhere. If Ning Cheng had to pick a colour to describe the scene in front of him, then a dull grey would be the one. Although a strange choice of colour, it was the colour of time itself. Ning Cheng could not even reason out why such a thought emerged in his head.

Time, truthfully, had no colour, yet he still felt that this colour aptly depicted the shade of time.

Taking a deep breath, Ning Cheng quickly started walking forward. Although almost a hundred thousand cultivators had entered the Time Wilderness, he could not find even the barest hint of anyone in this place. From this, Ning Cheng could make out that the Time Wilderness definitely occupied a considerable area. Not only that, even with the help of his starry skies’ Sea of Consciousness, Ning Cheng could use his Spiritual Consciousness to sweep within a range of hundred miles around him.

A day later, Ning Cheng finally came to a stop in front of a withered thistle-filled forest. There finally was a different colour here, although still dull, it actually felt a lot brighter compared to the surroundings. One could even see many plants inside; however, these plants had no life in them.

Finding a secluded spot within this thistle-filled forest, Ning Cheng then took out the three maps.

Of the three, two came from Ruan Mingshu, one of which was something that the Ruan Clan had obtained in the past and the other was an ordinary map available everywhere for purchase within the streets of the Man Lun Star Land. The third map was what Ning Cheng had purchased from the auction for 110 million Green Coins, the sale where he felt ripped off.

Ning Cheng compared the two maps obtained from Ruan Mingshu and noted that they really were different. Although both maps were on jade strips, the one from Ruan Clan not only had more marked locations but also covered a lot more territory.

Ning Cheng then took a closer look at the map he bought from the auction. Not inscribed on to a jade strip, it was a map drawn over a leather-like scroll. Ning Cheng also could not make out the material of this scroll. However, the locations marked on the leather-like scroll map looked similar to the normal jade map. Even the pictures remained the same, except slightly coarse.

Sure enough, a lousy imitation that one could pick up from the street. Ning Cheng thought as he shook his head. However, he did not feel angry with the 100 million Green Coins he spent over it. The auction house had so many people attending, although he was deceived, Ning Cheng could only blame it on his incompetence.

Just when Ning Cheng was about to close this leather-like scroll map and put it away, a bright spot suddenly lit up on the leather-like scroll. Ning Cheng felt sure that this bright dot was not present when he examined it just a few moments ago, which caused him to stop rolling up the map immediately.

Soon Ning Cheng discovered that this bright spot was actually a direction indicator that pointed to a fixed direction.

Was it really a different map? Ning Cheng felt pleasantly surprised. He also guessed that the 'map' in his hand was most likely the one Fu Shougeng was looking for.

Ning Cheng also knew that his cultivation was a sore point. He had initially planned to find a place to go into seclusion for a time to see if he could improve his cultivation before looking for Ruan Mingshu. However, now that he discovered that this map came with directional instructions, Ning Cheng immediately gave up the thought of going into seclusion.

No matter who left the map and where it pointed, Ning Cheng decided to check it out.

Ning Cheng did not really know the extent of Time Wilderness's size; however, he kept following the directional indicator for a few days and still did not meet a single person.

Apart from the bleak landscape all around, which one could even call as desolate, Ning Cheng felt no wonder that people classified it as 'Wilderness'.

[TL Note – 'Wilderness' can also be interpreted as 'Wasteland']

After walking around in the Time Wilderness for a few days, Ning Cheng starting feeling more used to the surroundings compared to the fear and panic that arose when he first came in.

On the twelfth day, Ning Cheng came to a stop in front of a dry well. It felt strange seeing a dried up well in the Time Wilderness. After all, one could only see such objects in the mortal world. Moreover, what felt even stranger was that the well was very shallow. Even without Spiritual Consciousness, one could see the bottom of the well with their eyes with just the illumination of the grey light from the surroundings. Apart from a few broken stones and dead soil and sediment, it did not contain anything.

Ning Cheng opened the leather-like scroll map and compared the locations. Confirming that the bright spot on the leather-like scroll corresponded to the position of this dry well, Ning Cheng then carefully searched the bottom of the well with his Spiritual Consciousness. However, he could not find anything out of the ordinary.

Ning Cheng did not believe that someone would be so bored to create such a trick map to tease others. Thinking of this, Ning Cheng put away the scroll and directly jumped into the well.

After jumping into the well, Ning Cheng instantly knew that something had gone wrong. The well, on the first look, did not exceed three meters, both through his gaze and through his Spiritual Consciousness. However, after he jumped in, the well transformed into a bottomless pit, in which he started falling deeper and deeper. At the same time, his falling speed had also begun to increase the longer he sunk.

Ning Cheng felt startled. If he continued like this, would he not end up dead?

However, even if Ning Cheng wanted to fight against fate using Celestial Essence, it felt useless. Moreover, his speed of falling still increased with every passing moment. Horrified, Ning Cheng frantically waved the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds.

To Ning Cheng's relief, although waving the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds did not stop him from falling, it at least slowed down his descent to something within a manageable range.

Just as Ning Cheng wanted to speed up with the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds, his legs snapped with a crisp sound. At this moment, he had already landed at the bottom of the well.

Ning Cheng sucked in a deep breath; fortunately, he still had the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds along with possessing a God Body, a result from refining his corporeal body. Otherwise, he would have turned into another fallen nameless starry skies' cultivator.

Without regards to his broken legs, Ning Cheng immediately swept out with his Spiritual Consciousness. In just a short sweep, Ning Cheng found that there were many skeletons around him. However, because of his fall, along with the fluctuating air currents that it brought about, the intact skeletons around his landing spot had turned into fly ash instantly.

Looking up again, he wondered what happened to the entrance of the well. Moreover, even with the help of his Spiritual Consciousness, Ning Cheng could not find the opening of the well. Taking in all that, Ning Cheng took in a breath of cold air as he thought, what is this place?

However, sensing the dense Spirit Qi in the surrounding, Ning Cheng finally felt slightly relieved. At least one could cultivate in this place without any issues. As long as he could improve his cultivation, he could then wield the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds with better efficiency and can then try climbing up.

Ning Cheng had only recently entered the Time Wilderness; however, he never expected that he would end up in such a dried up well.

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For someone like Ning Cheng, breaking his legs did not constitute a severe injury. Under the operation of his Celestial Essence, in just half-an-incense-stick worth of time, Ning Cheng recovered from all afflictions.

Ning Cheng cautiously stood up, turned around, and took in everything at the bottom of the well. Although not too spacious, the bottom of the well was still around three feet in diameter, but filled with scattered bones of fallen cultivators. Just a casual footstep turned the bones into flying ash. As for any rings, Ning Cheng could not find any.

After carefully looking around for almost half a day, Ning Cheng finally found a concealed array formation in a corner. Seeing that the array formation did not pose any challenge, Ning Cheng then carefully opened the array formation and went in. Stepping inside, Ning Cheng only saw a small stone cave with a praying mat placed in the centre and nothing else.

Ning Cheng's Spiritual Consciousness surrounded it in an attempt to analyse it up; however, he could not sense the praying mat at all.

What kind of praying mat was this? Ning Cheng carefully walked over to the praying mat before bending down and giving it a light prod. Immediately, an extremely dense amount of starry skies' Essence Qi rushed into his body, filling it up almost instantly. The smooth and comfortable feeling that it brought completely wiped away the feeling of one's longevity disappearing without even a trace left behind.

Such a good treasure. Ning Cheng almost exclaimed out in surprise. Since his advancement to the Celestial Novice Realm, Ning Cheng had not felt such a feeling in a long time. If he could cultivate over this praying mat, Ning Cheng felt that his cultivation would definitely improve.

Cultivation often involved slow progress; at the same time, Ning Cheng also felt acutely aware of the difficulty in trying to survive in this world. Now that he found such a fantastic opportunity to cultivate, how could Ning Cheng miss it? After using his Spiritual Consciousness repeatedly to check that this praying mat did not pose any problems or threats, Ning Cheng did not hesitate to sit down on it and start operating the Mysterious Yellow Formless Cultivation Method to begin cultivating.

Dense starry skies' Essence Qi spewed out of the praying mat, almost taking a corporeal form, before surrounding Ning Cheng in just a moment.

The Gate Of Good Fortune

Chapter 538: A Best Quality Life Essence

With such dense starry skies' Essence Qi, which did not create even half-a-point of obstruction while absorbing, Ning Cheng completely forgot about his surroundings and immersed himself in cultivation. For his Mysterious Yellow Formless, the most crucial aspect was the ability to provide the necessary recourses for continued cultivation, which this cultivation environment provided.

Ning Cheng's meridians crazily expanded and experienced an increase in their tenacity as he continued to absorb the inflow of such resources. Even his Celestial Essence had started showing signs of

increasing in both intensity and quality. As time gradually passed, Ning Cheng experienced rapid improvement in his strength.

The Mysterious Yellow Formless Cultivation Method had very few bottlenecks, and now that Ning Cheng crazily absorbed such a high-quality inflow of resources, even those very few bottlenecks started to disappear.

From mid-stage Celestial Novice Realm to the late-stage Celestial Novice Realm, Ning Cheng finally broke through to the late-stage Celestial Novice Realm in just one swoop. Moreover, just as Ning Cheng broke through to the late-stage Celestial Novice Realm, his cultivation rapidly started to advance towards grand-completion Celestial Novice Realm without showing any signs of stopping,

[TL Note – Each realm/level has five stages: initial ascension, early-stage, mid-stage, late-stage, and grand-completion/full circle.]

“Bang.....” A dull noise came from the outside, forcing Ning Cheng to sober up and suddenly open his eyes. After he started cultivating in this place, Ning Cheng almost lost track of time altogether. Although it felt like an instant to him, when he examined his cultivation after this ‘instant’, Ning Cheng found that he had already reached the grand-completion of the Celestial Novice Realm.

Sensing such progress brought Ning Cheng true happiness. Now that he reached the grand-completion of the Celestial Novice Realm, Ning Cheng could now choose to go out to surmount the tribulation to advance to the Celestial Shatterer Realm at any time. Moreover, Ning Cheng heard that stepping up to the Celestial Bridge Realm from the Celestial Scryer Realm would prove extremely difficult. As such, Ning Cheng believed that Lou Pingchuan would not be in such a hurry to advance to the Celestial Bridge Realm. This fellow wanted to represent the Man Lun Starry Skies, so how could he be in a hurry to proceed to the Celestial Bridge Realm?

Ning Cheng’s Spiritual Consciousness swept out of the cave and noticed that a Celestial Shatterer Cultivator had just fallen from the entrance of the well. The sound that awakened him was the sound of this person falling and landing at the bottom of the well. However, this cultivator did not possess the same luck as Ning Cheng; as such, not only did his corporeal body collapse from the fall, even his Life Essence showed a dazed and confused look as it floated above the collapsed body.

However, without letting this Life Essence decide on a choice, a dark hand suddenly materialised and grabbed this Life Essence.

Ning Cheng shuddered at this scene. He could not even notice from where the dark hand had appeared from nor did he see this dark hand when he fell.

Need to leave this place quickly; not a place to stay for a long time. Ning Cheng had just thought of it and was about to stand up when he felt an even more violent starry skies’ Essence Qi rush into him. Under such a situation, Ning Cheng could only continue to operate the Mysterious Yellow Formless Cultivation Method.

“Kakaka.....” His meridians suddenly shattered before instantly reorganising. Even his Zifu suddenly started to expand wildly, while his starry skies’ Sea of Consciousness became more active.

No, such a phenomenon was something that happened right after a realm advancement; Ning Cheng felt a great shock in his heart. He had not even come out and initiated a tribulation, let alone surmount one, so how could he advance? Ning Cheng believed that one would have to face an ordeal similar to the Nirvana Tribulation every time one crossed through the realms. As such, he did not feel surprised about his meridians shattering and reorganising; however, he thought it was a bit too unreasonable to advance to the Celestial Shatterer Realm without even facing the thunder tribulation.

However, Ning Cheng could not continue pondering over it. At this moment, Ning Cheng could only operate the Mysterious Yellow Formless Cultivation Method in desperation, as he absorbed the crazy outflow of the dense starry skies' Essence Qi from the praying mat.

The Mysterious Yellow Formless, with the help of the Mysterious Yellow Origin, turned out even more potent than what Ning Cheng imagined. As such, after his shattered meridians reorganised themselves, they became even more robust and resilient.

As his starry skies' Sea of Consciousness expanded once more, Ning Cheng felt it even more deeply that his starry skies' Sea of Consciousness had now started to give out a starry sky-like aura. As his powerful Spiritual Consciousness swept out again, the surroundings turned even clearer. Sure enough, Ning Cheng affirmed that he genuinely advanced to the early-stage Celestial Shatterer Realm. Moreover, not only had his Celestial Essence experienced a multiplicative enhancement, even his Sea of Consciousness had grown significantly to a higher level.

Ning Cheng finally stood up, as he felt that this place was a bit too bizarre. However, what bothered him more was that he advanced to the Celestial Shatterer Realm without facing a thunder tribulation.

Also, he felt that the starry skies' Essence Qi from the praying mat had turned less dense. If Ning Cheng used it to cultivate, it would have a much-reduced effect over him. However, he did not let go of the praying mat and grabbed it again. What surprised Ning Cheng, however, was that he managed to lift up the praying mat this time.

After putting away the praying mat, Ning Cheng immediately felt that the starry skies' Essence Qi in the surrounding had returned to normal levels. Looks like it was all the result of this praying mat.

"Young man, you not only used my precious cultivation treasure but you even took away my cultivation treasure, this is just too much. How can you be so excessive? You should know that I saved this cultivation treasure for my future use. Although whether you take it or not is the same thing; however, if I have to use it then I would have to take it out from you....." A sudden voice appeared. Although the first part felt domineering as if coming from an expert; however, the later part felt a little verbose and sounded endless.

Ning Cheng immediately brought out his Nirvana Spear while thinking, who was this fellow?

Ning Cheng guessed that this voice should belong to the master of that dark hand. That dark hand had quickly caught the Life Essence of a cultivator who had crashed into this place; however, it had not touched him.

"Since the praying mat is yours, I will leave it to you. Also, since I am about to leave, I hope you can remove the restrictions over this well." Ning Cheng replied in a calm tone.

That dark hand had not tried to catch him; Ning Cheng felt that it absolutely was not because he was someone special. Most likely, this dark hand could not capture Ning Cheng due to Ning Cheng still having his corporeal body intact.

“Young people are just too impatient. You can use this place to reach the Celestial Gatherer Realm. That way both of us can come out again. Would that not be good? In this way, it would not only save time, but it would also take care of two things at once.....” The voice arrived once again.

“What do you mean?” Ning Cheng calmly interrupted the verbose, while his Spiritual Consciousness carefully wrapped around his body.

Then a laughing voice emerged, “Since someone came here, it means that the Time Wilderness has opened once again. I am just a Life Essence; you do not have to feel that nervous about me. Originally, I wanted to use this time to devour some Life Essences and grow myself. During that time, you can cultivate using the Essence Gathering Praying Mat. Once you reached the Celestial Gatherer Realm, my Life Essence would have also grown by a bit, and then we can fuse as one. Wouldn’t it be beautiful?”

“So you actually wanted to take over me, did you come out of the map?” Ning Cheng found the place from where this voice came from, it was from the right wall of this cave.

“Haha....” Although this voice laughed, this time the voice had a shrill and sharp tone to it. “Young man, what map are you talking about? You do not have to worry about it too much. Besides how can you say that I want to take over you, its fusion, fusion, do you not know? I’m just surprised that you not only managed to advance to the Celestial Shatterer Realm but you also have no Celestial Wheel.....”

By the time the voice reached the part about the Celestial Wheel, it had faded entirely. Following that, Ning Cheng felt a sharp sting in his Sea of Consciousness and a blurry shadow suddenly appeared within his Sea of Consciousness. This shadow did not belong to a human figure but resembled a bull-like head.

Ning Cheng felt shocked by the sudden appearance of this beast. However, what surprised him more was that he could not stop this bull-faced Life Essence from entering his consciousness. It also indicated that this fellow had some powerful means.

“I just need your Life Essence, let me eat another one.....” Just at this blurry bull-shaped face spoke out this sentence, a black hand suddenly took form within Ning Cheng’s Sea of Consciousness and rose up as if wanting to grasp something.

Ning Cheng felt his consciousness turning blank as if his Spiritual Soul wanted to separate from his body.

Ning Cheng would never let this bastard seize his body and immediately bit down hard on the tip of his tongue, causing the Everlasting Blue Thunder City to emerge. Countless thunder rays slammed into the blurry shadow of this bull-shaped head, causing it to emit shrill screams, “Who are you, how can you bring out a weapon within your Sea of Consciousness, what kind of weapon is this..... Ah, no, what kind of Sea of Consciousness is this? How does it resemble the starry skies?”

Ning Cheng was not in the mood of showing mercy to the vague bull-like head’s screams. Moreover, this was not the first time that someone wanted to take possession of him. At the same time, Ning Cheng also felt the most fearful towards others trying to take posses of him. If he had just shown a bit more

care, he could have merged the Celestial River Flame into his Domain before deploying. That way, this bull-like face could not have entered his Sea of Consciousness.

“Boom-Boom....” Lightning arcs slammed on to the bull-like head’s vague shadow, causing it to erupt in unceasing screams while its figure turned even vaguer.

“I’m going to swallow you.....” The blurry bull face no longer could remain calm and frantically tried to devour Ning Cheng’s life essence.

“Celestial River Flame explode.....” Ning Cheng also would not show any politeness towards anyone who tried to take possession over him and immediately unleashed the Celestial River Flame.

Initially, under the attacks from the Everlasting Blue Thunder City, the blurry bull-faced Life Essence could barely hold on; however, the moment the terrifying Celestial River Flame erupted; it immediately gave out a tearing cry.

“Let me out. I was wrong, let go of me.....” The bull-faced life essence screamed sharply within Ning Cheng’s Sea of Consciousness; however, its screams had started to grow weaker and weaker each passing moment. Previously, it already felt overwhelmed from the Everlasting Blue Thunder City; however, the moment the Celestial River Flame came out, it immediately felt mortified.

Ning Cheng raised his hand and grabbed the almost-extinguished Life Essence within his Sea of Consciousness.

“Eldest Brother, no senior... Please spare me. I am not even worth a fart to you. If I had known about it, I would never have tried to take possession of a supreme existence like you.” The caught bull-faced life essence, trapped in Ning Cheng’s palm, honestly looked miserable. How could one find even a shred of resemblance to its previous expert-like dominance?

“You think I’m very old?” Ning Cheng did not immediately kill this Life Essence. He first wanted to wring out a few answers from this life essence. In any case, Ning Cheng did not expect that this bull-faced life essence would be of such a high grade.

The bull-faced life essence quickly spoke up, “No, no, you are the most handsome, the suavest, the most generous and someone with the highest elegance. The premier genius of the entire starry skies and unparalleled in the entire universe.....”

“Stop.” Ning Cheng felt goosebumps erupting throughout his body as he heard this bull-faced life essence speak. Looks like he misjudged once again. This life essence was not one of a high grade, but of an inferior character.

The bull-faced life essence immediately stopped talking after hearing that word. In its view, Ning Cheng’s words had a higher authority compared to the world’s most potent mouth clammer.

“How much do you know about the Time Wilderness? Let me see if you have any value to me.” Ning Cheng stared at the bull-faced life essence and sneered.

The bull-faced life essence quickly shouted out, “I know a lot, I have value, there is a great value to my existence.....”

“Talk less noise, and speak.” Ning Cheng tightened his grip on the bull-faced life essence while increasing the power of the Celestial River Flame, leaving only a sliver of life.

The bull-faced life essence quickly spoke up, “I know about the Echo Falls, I also know about the Sea of Twilights, I know about... A lot, a lot...”

“Do you about the Perpetual Moon Lake?” Ning Cheng felt his heart move.

“I know, I know, I know about it very well, I absolutely know about it. My master once took me there, so I know about the Perpetual Moon Lake. Just let me live, I promise to take you to the Perpetual Moon Lake.” The bull-faced life essence quickly spoke up, even using a variety of words to try to describe its familiarity.

It feels like this bull-faced life essence has some value to it, Ning Cheng thought as he dispelled the thought of immediately killing this life essence.

“Although I don’t want to kill you, in the end, you’re still a life essence. How do you plan to follow me?” Ning Cheng, on hearing this bull-faced shadow speak about a master, guessed that bull-faced shadow was someone brought in by a cultivator in the past.

The bull-faced shadow looked at Ning Cheng and spoke up, “My master had left behind a big ring around here. As long as you let me go, I will take it out immediately. Everything is inside the ring. Besides, I, I’ve only lived in the praying mat before you came in.”

“You don’t have any room to negotiate. Hurry up and get it.” Ning Cheng raised his hand, pulled out the bull-faced life essence from the inside of him, and threw it out. As for giving up the praying mat to this bull-faced shadow, Ning Cheng did not even think about it.

“Yes, yes, I’ll go and get it right away.” The bull-faced life essence’s expression turned even more flattering.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 539: Travelling To Perpetual Moon Lake

An hour later, Ning Cheng finally figured out what was going on. The ring brought by this bull-faced Life Essence had a cavernous space within it, indicating that it was of a much higher grade compared to Ning Cheng’s Miniature World Ring and was almost at the level of a high-grade Dao Artefact, if not higher. Moreover, it could even allow a Life Essence to hole up inside to survive.

However, the things inside did not catch Ning Cheng’s attention at all. Apart from a knife, which was also a high-grade Dao Artefact, the storage ring only contained a few empty jade boxes and some cheap materials.

The bull-faced Life Essence usually hid within the praying mat. As long as any cultivator fell down the well, the bull-faced Life Essence would then devour the other cultivator’s Life Essence for cultivation. As such, it did not have much idea about the things inside the ring.

The bull-faced Life Essence turned out to be a Wind Seeking Longevity Bull; hearing the name, Ning Cheng almost laughed out. No wonder this fellow managed to live this long, its very name contained the words ‘Longevity Bull’. Its owner had already perished in the Sea of Twilight, following which the Life

Essence of the Wind Seeking Longevity Bull managed to flee to this dry well with the owner's ring, and did not choose to come out again.

As for the Wind Seeking Longevity Bull's way of speaking before Ning Cheng caught it, it was because it wanted to imitate its fallen owner and pretend to be an expert. However, after Ning Cheng trapped it, it completely forgot about differentiating between North and South, East and West and could only beg for mercy.

"How long have I been cultivating in here?" Ning Cheng asked while replacing the ring on his hand with the ring brought by the Wind Seeking Longevity Bull, deciding to use it as his own for now.

The Wind Seeking Longevity Bull did not dare to utter even half a word of discontentment as it carefully replied, "For almost two years. After Master came in and started cultivating, Master did not stop till Master advanced to the Celestial Shatterer Realm."

"I'm not your master. Do not mistake me for someone else. As for your Life Essence, I am giving it back to you. You can continue staying in here and devour Life Essences that come your way, but I'm leaving." Ning Cheng mercilessly pulled out the trace of the Wind Seeking Longevity Bull's Life Essence and spoke.

This bull had little use to him apart from its longevity. Although it said that it knew a few places, it had not mentioned anything else. It even said that it knew about the Perpetual Moon Lake, but only the general direction pointed out by his previous owner. To save its life, this bull had no bottom line at all. As such, although Ning Cheng did not want to kill this sly Wind Seeking Longevity Bull, he also did not want to take it with him.

"Master, please take me with you. I do not know for how many years I have remained trapped in this dark well. Besides, I cannot devour Life Essences anymore with my present condition. However, I still have many uses. I am a Wind Seeking Longevity Bull; as such, not only do I live a long life, I am also very fast. Once I restore my physical body, I would definitely be able to provide master with even more help." The Wind Seeking Longevity Bull pitifully spoke up. With Ning Cheng taking away its praying mat, how would it be able to stay in this place?

Ning Cheng hesitated for a long time before speaking, "I can take you with me. However, if you dare to have even a shred of disloyalty, I will help you recover your corporeal body....."

The Wind Seeking Longevity Bull felt shocked, daring to show even a shred of disloyalty, yet still helping in recovering my corporeal body. However, if it showed disloyalty again, would it have any way to deal with his terrifying Sea of Consciousness?

Ning Cheng looked at the Wind Seeking Longevity Bull and sneered before speaking, "And then I will stew you whole, add some shallots and scallions, and slowly relish a full pot of beef soup."

The Wind Seeking Longevity Bull shuddered and quickly spoke up, "There will be no disloyalty. There definitely would not be any disloyalty. I am loyal; I'll always follow you with unparalleled loyalty...."

"Stop" Ning Cheng stopped the Wind Seeking Longevity Bull from speaking anymore, "I will call you Little Chase from now on. If you manage to perform well in the Time Wilderness, I will take you out and restore your corporeal body. As for turning you into beef soup, it will depend on your performance."

The Wind Seeking Longevity Bull felt an intense shiver run down its spine and did not dare to continue with its wordiness.

Ning Cheng threw the Wind Seeking Longevity Bull's Life Essence into the Essence Gathering Praying Mat and then put the praying mat into the ring before stimulating the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds.

It had not taken too long for Ning Cheng to fall down; however, now that he had to fly upwards, even after advancing to the Celestial Shatterer Realm, it proved extremely challenging. Ning Cheng still could not figure out what this well was, but the powerful suction made Ning Cheng spend at least half a month inside it before he finally managed to come out.

The first thing Ning Cheng wanted to do after coming out of the well's entrance was to head to Moon Creek. He and Ruan Mingshu had made an appointment to meet at Moon Creek. However, since Ning Cheng had remained trapped for nearly two years, he did not know if Ruan Mingshu would still choose to stay at Moon Creek.

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The Moon Creek was not a brook or a stream, according to Ruan Mingshu it was just a dried up part of a stream. However, when Ning Cheng arrived at this place, referring it as a dried-up stream did not feel right; it felt more like a dried up basin at best.

After Ning Cheng advanced to the Celestial Shatterer Realm, although still without a Celestial Wheel, his Spiritual Consciousness had soared in strength and could extend up to two to three hundred miles around him.

However, Ning Cheng could not find any trace of Ruan Mingshu, nor did he see any mark left behind by Ruan Mingshu.

Did Ruan Mingshu not arrive here yet? Ning Cheng felt a bit doubtful. Although Ning Cheng had not come to this place in time, it was not because he decided to renege on the appointment, but because he ended up trapped at the bottom of a well. So what reason did Ruan Mingshu have for not showing up?

The Essence Qi around this dry river was only of an ordinary quality; however, Ning Cheng still decided to wait here. The main reason was that his Celestial Shatterer Cultivation had not consolidated yet. He had just advanced to the Celestial Shatterer Realm when the idiot bull, Little Chase, woke him up. Instead of wasting time and energy to look for a place to consolidate his cultivation, Ning Cheng felt it was better to stay at the Moon Creek and wait for Ruan Mingshu while solidifying his cultivation.

As two months passed by, Ning Cheng finally managed to consolidate his cultivation at the early stages of Celestial Shatterer Realm. During this period, Ruan Mingshu had not shown herself. With no indication of her, Ning Cheng started thinking about leaving this place and look for the Perpetual Moon Lake by himself.

Since Ruan Mingshu had not shown up for several months, was he supposed to continue to wait at this place all the time? Maybe Ruan Mingshu had already come here before and had long since left without waiting for him.

Besides, even though the stupid bull bragged a little, Ning Cheng still knew about the general location about the Perpetual Moon Lakes apart from one or two other things.

At this moment, a Taoist shadow quickly rushed towards his direction. Ning Cheng immediately stopped thinking about heading out. In any case, this was the first time he encountered another cultivator since he entered the Time Wilderness.

This Taoist shadow soon arrived at the dry stream's Moon Creek, allowing Ning Cheng to make out that it was Ruan Mingshu's silhouette. After more than two years, Ruan Mingshu's aura had grown much stronger than before. From this, Ning Cheng realised that he was not the only one to obtain a fortune after entering the Time Wilderness.

Without waiting for Ning Cheng to come out, another Taoist shadow quickly arrived. This silhouette was of Zhao Yanxiang, just as Ning Cheng guessed.

"Mingshu, why don't you listen to me instead of running back to this place again and again?" Zhao Yanxiang descended and stopped right in front of Ruan Mingshu before complaining. His aura had also grown stronger compared to the past. Looks like this fellow also experienced some not-so-small progress within the Time Wilderness.

"I promised Senior Apprentice Brother Ning Cheng to wait for him here." Ruan Mingshu calmly replied.

Zhao Yanxiang suddenly stepped forward and grabbed Ruan Mingshu's hand and spoke, "Mingshu, a long time has already passed. Who knows if Ning Cheng is still alive or dead? He has already offended Lou Pingchuan, who would never let go of this person. Besides, I don't believe that the two of us would not get into the Perpetual Moon Lake."

With that, Zhao Yanxiang pulled in his hand and hugged Ruan Mingshu.

Ruan Mingshu turned her body around and spoke to Zhao Yanxiang, "Senior Apprentice Brother Yanxiang, you know I don't like this."

"Ok, if you don't like it, I won't do it. Shall we now head to the Perpetual Moon Lake now?"

Zhao Yanxiang spoke up and immediately let go of Ruan Mingshu.

"I said I want to wait for Senior Apprentice Brother Ning." Ruan Mingshu spoke with a frown.

"Don't you just need a cultivator with a powerful Spiritual Consciousness for the blood sacrifice? Why can't we just grab a cultivator at random and drag them to the Perpetual Moon Lake for the blood sacrifice?" Zhao Yanxiang suddenly spoke with a dissatisfied tone.

Ruan Mingshu stared at Zhao Yanxiang and spoke in surprise, "You know about the blood sacrifice?"

"Of course, I know about it." Zhao Yanxiang replied while sneering in his heart. If he did not know that she wanted Ning Cheng for the blood sacrifice, would he tolerate Ruan Mingshu and Ning Cheng staying together for the night?

Seeing Ruan Mingshu's change of expression, Zhao Yanxiang once again stepped forward and lifted up her face before kissing her on the lips.

Ruan Mingshu's face suddenly erupted in anger and pushed Zhao Yanxiang away, "Senior Apprentice Brother Yanxiang, I said that I didn't like it, and you spoke of not doing it."

Zhao Yanxiang suddenly felt Ning Cheng's image flash through his head and finally spoke out in anger, "Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, you can sleep with Ning Cheng, yet I can't even kiss you. Just who is your Dao Companion?"

Ruan Mingshu's angry expression suddenly turned calm as she looked at Zhao Yanxiang and spoke up, "Senior Apprentice Brother Zhao, you are not my Dao Companion. Please do not ever make that mistake. We are just cooperating with each other for mutual benefits. I spent the night with Ning Cheng because I desired to spend the night with him. You have no right to control me or my behaviour."

Zhao Yanxiang's complexion turned stiff and could only speak after a while, "Mingshu, I'm sorry. I spoke too harshly. However, you know I care too much about you. Although I spoke a bit harshly, you don't have to worry about it....."

"Haha, Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, I did not expect that I would arrive at just the right time. Aah, did I keep you waiting?" Ning Cheng's laughing voice interrupted Zhao Yanxiang's words.

Ruan Mingshu, on seeing Ning Cheng, immediately showed a surprised expression. As if recalling something, her face suddenly changed once again before replying, "Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, I just arrived, did you also just reach?"

"That's right, I just reached this place. Oh, Junior Apprentice Brother Zhao is also here too. This is for the best, let's go together." Ning Cheng behaved as if he had just seen Zhao Yanxiang and added a sentence in surprise while acting utterly oblivious to Zhao Yanxiang's cultivation or his age.

Zhao Yanxiang also gave out a hearty laugh before replying, "Good, let us travel together."

With Ruan Mingshu leading the way, the three of them immediately headed in the direction of the Perpetual Moon Lake. However, none of the three spoke, as if all of them had their own thoughts they pondered over in their minds.

"Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, did you wait for a long time at the Moon Creek?" After a few days of travelling, Ruan Mingshu finally could not help but take the initiative to ask a question.

Ning Cheng replied with a puzzled expression, "No, did you wait there for a long time?"

"No, what happened though? After I came in, I found a Celestial Essence Spring and ended up cultivating for more than a year. I was afraid that you might have ended up waiting for a long time, turning a little anxious. By the way, did Senior Apprentice Brother Ning encounter anything good during these two years in the Time Wilderness?" Ruan Mingshu gave a dry reply.

"I always had good luck with things, so I also found a few Celestial Essence Springs along the way, and ended up cultivating for a greater part of the two years. Although I still haven't managed to condense a Celestial Wheel, I feel that I managed to make some good progress." Ning Cheng replied with a smile.

Zhao Yanxiang, on seeing Ruan Mingshu and Ning Cheng talk, felt like a complete outsider and quickly spoke up, "Mingshu, how far is the Perpetual Moon Lake?"

"Not very far" Ruan Mingshu returned a brief answer before turning silent once again.

“Boom.....” A loud explosion suddenly broke the silence.

Ruan Mingshu stopped and looked in the direction from where the explosion had erupted before she frowned and spoke, “It came from the direction of the Perpetual Moon Lake.”

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 540: Snatching the Perpetual Moon Pills

Hearing those words, Zhao Yanxiang immediately sped up and quickly disappeared from Ning Cheng and Ruan Mingshu’s vision.

Ruan Mingshu did not follow Zhao Yanxiang; instead, she turned to Ning Cheng and gave a bow before speaking, “Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, I’m sorry. I deceived you. My father had asked you to cooperate with me only because you do not have a Celestial Wheel while possessing a strong Spiritual Consciousness. This made you an ideal candidate for the blood sacrifice; something essential to open the Perpetual Moon Fort after entering the Perpetual Moon Lake.”

Ning Cheng spoke up with a pale complexion, “Why, why are you telling me all this? Doesn’t this mean that if I went along with you, you and your friend would offer me up for the blood sacrifice?”

Ruan Mingshu took in a deep breath and spoke up slowly, “I can’t do it. Whether I am suitable for living in the starry skies or not that does not matter; however, if I did this, I would never be able to forgive myself for the rest of my life. I told you to meet me at the Moon Creek, but I ended up cultivating in a place for two years while you waited for me there for those two years...”

Raising her hand to stop Ning Cheng from interjecting, Ruan Mingshu continued, “You don’t need to say that you just happened to arrive at Moon Creek after I arrived. There are no such things as coincidences in the world. I know that you have been waiting at Moon Creek for a long time. The Time Wilderness is full of opportunities, yet you hid in the barren Moon Creek for two years. I let you down, I’m sorry that I could not say these words to you before.”

Ning Cheng, who originally wanted to explain it, suddenly lost the desire to speak. After Ruan Mingshu spoke those words, it effectively marked the end of their ‘cooperation’. Since it all ended here, it meant they only had an ordinary relationship from now on, without any need for nonsensical talks. Besides, even before Ruan Mingshu mentioned about the blood sacrifice, Ning Cheng had already heard about it.

“Looks like my luck still holds, helping me avoid a disaster.” Ning Cheng showed a faint smile. He had initially intended to wait for Zhao Yanxiang and Ruan Mingshu to initiate the blood sacrifice with him before sneak attacking them and using the two of them as the blood sacrifice in return. However, he had not expected that the sudden changes at the Perpetual Moon Lake would cause Ruan Mingshu to confess everything.

Ruan Mingshu’s complexion blanched, “It is up to you whether you believe it or not. Whether you really waited at Moon Creek for two years or whether you heard Zhao Yanxiang and me conversing, I will not let you turn into a blood sacrifice. Whether you believe my words or not, it is all up to you. At the bottom of the Perpetual Moon Lake, there is an ancient desolate fort called the Perpetual Moon Fort, which I need to open. However, it requires sacrificing a cultivator without a Celestial Wheel. The more powerful the Spiritual Consciousness of the sacrificial cultivator, the better results would it provide.”

“After entering the Perpetual Moon Fort, one would find a Perpetual Moon Pill Pond filled to the brim with Perpetual Moon Pills; however, this Pill Pond also contains a King Pill. This medicinal pill is the Celestial River Essence Qi King Pill and is a medicinal pill that increases the chances for Heaven’s Mandate Cultivators to advance to the Heaven Seated Realm. The effect is even higher than ‘Fifth Severing Heavenly Pill’; at the cost of zero impurities.”

“So that’s what your father wanted you to do, obtain the Celestial River Essence Qi King Pill, right?” Ning Cheng spoke up suddenly. Ruan Mingshu’s father, Ruan Cheng, wanted to advance to the Heaven Seated Realm. As such, he needed such medicinal pills.

Ruan Mingshu nodded, “Yes, I’m going there to get it. In addition to the Celestial River Essence Qi King Pill, there is also a key inside, called the Perpetual Moon Time Key. Perhaps within the Perpetual Moon Fort, this key is the real priceless treasure.”

“Why are you telling me all this?” Ning Cheng asked while staring at Ruan Mingshu.

Ruan Mingshu then looked in the direction of the Perpetual Moon Lake in the distance and mournfully spoke up, “My father thought that he was the only one who knew about the secret of the Perpetual Moon Lake; however, there are now too many people in this place who know about the Perpetual Moon Lake’s secret. Although I want to grab those things inside, with my cultivation, it would only be a dream. I’m leaving!”

Finished with her words, Ruan Mingshu sped up and rushed towards the Perpetual Moon Lake.

“Wait, damn it, I still owe you a Grade 4 Celestial River Array Disc.” Ning Cheng called out. Although everything else turned irrelevant, he still owed a Grade 4 Array Disc to her. Giving her the appropriate compensation in Green Coins would also help him in resolving the unresolved matters.

However, Ruan Mingshu did not answer, as her figure disappeared into the Perpetual Moon Lake in the distance.

Ning Cheng knew that Ruan Mingshu and his cooperation had already disintegrated; however, no matter what Ruan Mingshu thought, the Perpetual Moon Lake contained the Perpetual Moon Pills, and Ning Cheng did not want to miss it.

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The Perpetual Moon Lake indeed was a considerably sized lake; however, it had completely dried up without even the slightest hint of water. One could only see dried cracks crisscrossing at the bottom of the lake.

However, this dried-up lake contained a vast dark pit in the centre with a sloping ladder that stretched out from the depths. With his Spiritual Consciousness, Ning Cheng could clearly make out many cultivators inside this black pit. Most likely, the previous explosion came from this place. Moreover, since Zhao Yanxiang and Ruan Mingshu were no longer anywhere outside, it meant that they had already entered the pit in the centre of the lake.

Ning Cheng also decided to enter the pit using the sloping ladder, which led all the way to a small public square paved with turquoise coloured stones. At this moment, a couple of hundred people stood on the

public square. As such, Ning Cheng's arrival did not attract the attention of others, as everyone had their attention focussed at the front.

Ruan Mingshu and Zhao Yanxiang were also in the crowd. At the end of this turquoise coloured public square, one could see a quaint fort gate with ripples rapidly emerging from its centre. A faint smell of blood seeped through the emerging ripples, allowing Ning Cheng to realise that someone had already turned into a blood sacrifice for opening this door.

"There is another cultivator without a Celestial Wheel. We can push one more in to open it faster...." Finally, a cultivator found Ning Cheng and immediately called out.

Without waiting for everyone to train their gazes on to Ning Cheng, Ruan Mingshu's sneering voice spread out, "Only one person is required for the blood sacrifice. If you send in more, not only would the blood sacrifice fail, this area would also collapse."

Ruan Mingshu's words had just ended when the fort gate suddenly burst open, causing rich starry skies' Essence Qi to ooze out from inside.

Similar to the contrast set off by the emergence of the gentle moonlight, the main hall gently materialised with a considerably sized pool right in front of the crowd, just behind the fort's open door. This pool was in the centre of the main hall and filled with dragon eyed fruit-sized medicinal pills, stacked on top of one another giving a very soft and mellow feeling.

"Perpetual Moon Pills....." Someone screamed, and almost everyone rushed in at the same time.

Are they Perpetual Moon Pills? Ning Cheng felt shocked. He could feel that these medicinal pills could bring significant benefits through his Spiritual Consciousness. If he could cultivate using it, it would definitely produce much better results compared to the starry skies' Essence Qi or the starry skies' crystals.

"Poof....." Splatters of blood erupted and several cultivators, who had just tried to rush towards the Perpetual Moon Pill Pond, fell from the sky.

"There is a killing formation here, to get to the Perpetual Moon Pills we need to break this killing formation." A cultivator leading the charge immediately called out, at the same time, he also brought out his weapon and attacked.

Many cultivators also followed suit and brought out their weapons. At this moment, none of them wanted to wait until this killing formation blew open to grab the Perpetual Moon Pills.

Ning Cheng had already squeezed out to the end; however, he did not rush in like the others. Although there were over a hundred people in this place, no matter how much these people wanted to grab those pills, they all had to wait until the moment the defences around the Perpetual Moon Pill Pond crumbled. At that point, Ning Cheng could then rush in and grab some of the Perpetual Moon Pills.

"Boom, Boom, Boom....." Countless weapon-lights collided with the array formation outside the Perpetual Moon Pill Pond, causing erratic Essence Qi fluctuations to erupt.

The killing formation outside the Perpetual Moon Pill Pond looked like it had transformed naturally because of the dense quantity of the Perpetual Moon Pills; however, this pseudo-natural killing

formation still needed a long time to change into a real natural killing formation. As such, under the simultaneous attack from so many cultivators, this killing formation quickly crumbled.

Instantly, the entire Perpetual Moon Pill Pond appeared in front of everyone's eyes. Regardless of everyone else's thoughts of snatching, how could Ning Cheng choose to remain hidden at this time? Waving his Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds, Ning Cheng was the first one to rush into the Perpetual Moon Pill Pond. Stretching out his Spiritual Consciousness through the Pill Pond, Ning Cheng took away almost one-tenth of the pills within the Pill Pond in just an instant.

The Pill Pond really was too vast, while these medicinal pills were only tiny objects compared to it. As such, even if Ning Cheng had an extremely powerful Spiritual Consciousness, he could take away only one-tenth of it in one sweep.

Ning Cheng finally enjoyed the benefit of being a cultivator without a Celestial Wheel, which allowed him to be the first to rush into the Perpetual Moon Pill Pond and grab these many Perpetual Moon Pills. At the same time, it also aroused the anger of others. However, no one could spare any thoughts towards taking care of Ning Cheng as everyone frantically grabbed at the Perpetual Moon Pills around them.

Ning Cheng deployed his formidable Spiritual Consciousness to the extreme. The more his Spiritual Consciousness crazily spread out, the more Perpetual Moon Pills did Ning Cheng manage to grab from the Perpetual Moon Pill Pond. In just a short time, Ning Cheng had seized about 40% of the total Perpetual Moon Pills within the pond.

"Kill him...." Seeing the Perpetual Moon Pills vanishing rapidly, all the cultivators immediately rushed towards Ning Cheng. This was also the reason why they choose to allow Ning Cheng grab so many Perpetual Moon Pills before because all the cultivators knew that even if Ning Cheng managed to seize more, he still could not escape this place by himself.

Dozens of weapon shadows bolted towards Ning Cheng, causing the area where Ning Cheng was at to transform into a chaotic Celestial Essence vortex. Because of so many weapon-lights hurtling towards him, everyone had invisibly locked in on him with his or her Celestial Essence.

When Ning Cheng snatched 40% of the Perpetual Moon Pills, he knew that he would turn into a public target. As such, almost the moment before the weapons slammed into him, he stimulated the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds to the maximum and rushed to the entrance leading to the outside.

"Bang...." However, a formidable resistance suddenly manifested that blocked Ning Cheng from moving forward.

Ning Cheng's heart sank. He did not think that someone would pre-arrange an Entrapment Formation at the entrance. From this, he realised that a few people definitely planned to play catch-up. Moreover, because he was the first one to try to escape, the array formation had immediately stopped him.

"Boom..." Because Ning Cheng had used the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds to escape almost instantaneously, those attacking Ning Cheng with their weapons ended up hitting the edge of the Perpetual Moon Pill Pool. At this time, the Perpetual Moon Pill started trembling violently, as if the next moment, the Perpetual Moon Pill Pond would collapse.

However, no one noticed the Perpetual Moon Pill Pond's shaking as everyone surrounded Ning Cheng once again.

Ning Cheng quickly shouted, "Someone used an array formation to seal the path that leads out and trap us inside. If you still want to continue to attack me, you all will eventually end up dead by the hands of others."

"Boom-Boom-Boom...." Several weapon shadows rushed towards Ning Cheng; someone even screamed about Ning Cheng possessing the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds.

Ning Cheng once again wielded the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds and flashed away to a distance. With space inside already constrained, even if Ning Cheng possessed the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds, he could not actually hide.

However, Ning Cheng's words had obviously taken effect. A part of the cultivators, who manage to grab a few Perpetual Moon Pills before, gave up on attacking Ning Cheng and headed towards the exit. However, just as Ning Cheng had pointed out before, they found the entrance sealed.

"The exit is really sealed." A cultivator shouted out, his voice immediately attracting the attention of the rest of the cultivators still chasing Ning Cheng.

Another fierce roar sounded out, and the shaking Perpetual Moon Pill Pool finally collapsed. Unexpectedly, a pale gold medicinal pill, the size of a chicken egg, suddenly emerged from this collapse and rushed towards the top of the hall.

"It's the Celestial River Essence Qi King Pill....." With the appearance of the Celestial River King Pill, almost all the people forgot about the sealed exit and even forgot about chasing down Ning Cheng.

At this point, the cultivators only had a single purpose, and that was to grab the Celestial River Essence Qi King Pill.