

The Gate 691

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 691: Battling a peak demonic cultivator

In just two breaths, Ying Daoqi and Tie Shan's robes disintegrated, their muscles started to melt, and their bones simultaneously started snapping one after another. The horrifying temperature of this purple space burned them from the outside and worked its way into their bodies. Even if the two were Eternal-level experts, they could not delay it for even a moment.

Ying Daoqi gave out mournful screams as he raised his hands and brought out an escape talisman. In just a moment, the escape talisman turned into clumps of white light that then covered up what was left of Ying Daoqi's skeleton before disappearing.

Although Ying Daoqi managed to escape with a part of his skeleton, Tie Shan did not enjoy such good luck. A few moments after Ying Daoqi fled Tie Shan disintegrated into nothingness.

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One would find many cultivators roaming around the outer periphery of the Thousand Mound Forest, but the number of cultivators took a sharp drop about 300,000 miles into the Thousand Mound Forest.

Ning Cheng, by now, had already crossed about a million miles and had entered the depths of the Thousand Mound Forest. However, he knew in his heart that even if Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator were in the Thousand Mound Forest, it would not be easy to find them.

After travelling about a million miles into the Thousand Mound Forest, he had seen and encountered too many natural array formations and top-grade demonic beasts. But even with the Starry Sky Sea of Consciousness, Ning Cheng knew that he had not covered much ground.

"Boom-Boom...." Sudden celestial essence explosions immediately attracted Ning Cheng's attention, who was still searching around in the Thousand Mound Forest. It was already the third day since Ning Cheng ventured into the Thousand Mound Forest to look for those two women.

Judging by the celestial essence fluctuations, at least one of the involved parties must be an expert in or above the Life and Death Realm. Ning Cheng did not overthink and immediately changed directions with a wave from his Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds.

After an incense stick worth of time, Ning Cheng finally stopped. The ones fighting were a tall male cultivator and a demonic cultivator. The male cultivator had Eternal-level cultivation, but when Ning Cheng's gaze swept by, he could see that the cultivator had some severe, almost fatal, injuries. In contrast, the demonic cultivator had a leopard head and a robust healthy-looking human-like body, giving off a tyrannical aura similar to a starry sky grade nine demonic beast.

From the messy ground around them, one could tell that they have been fighting for quite a while now.

"Bao Xi, you and I always minded our own business, why are you behaving so unreasonably and pestering me day and night?" The man spoke with a grudge.

The leopard-headed demonic cultivator smiled and spoke, "Zhu Zhengfeng, do you still remember what you said when I came to Moyi City and asked you for a pot of None-to-depend-on Wine? You called me a

brute and told me to fuck off. This father anyways had planned to come after you in the future but since you came to me so kindly, how can I let you go without acting as a proper host?"

Zhu Zhengfeng? Ning Cheng immediately understood. He knew this fellow, the master of Interdependence Chamber of Commerce and the one responsible for snatching the Mutual Dependence Wine from the Mo Clan. Since this person appeared here, it meant he definitely wanted to chase down the blue-robed female cultivator.

"Who is it?" Sensing the slight fluctuation caused by the arrival of Ning Cheng, Bao Xi immediately turned alert.

Ning Cheng did not bother to answer and directly brought out a long spear-type Dao Artefact and shot out with the spear.

When Ning Cheng's long spear burst out, Bao Xi and Zhu Zhengfeng, both felt the majestic imposing aura bearing down on them. At the same time, Zhu Zhengfeng felt a fierce murderous intent wrap around him. Despite such a strong killing intent, Zhu Zhengfeng still could not detect its point of origin.

Bao Xi immediately understood that this person wanted to help him kill Zhu Zhengfeng. No matter the other party's intentions, Bao Xi absolutely would not miss such an excellent opportunity and unleashed a huge claw shadow directed at Zhu Zhengfeng at almost the same time.

Ying Daoqi's sneak attack had already severely injured Zhu Zhengfeng back then while this damned Bao Xi relentlessly boxed him in and hunted him for a full day and night. Therefore, at this moment, when Ning Cheng attacked him, he could not even accurately detect the location from where Ning Cheng attacked. Moreover, before he could even do anything, Bao Xi's giant claw immediately slapped down.

Just when Zhu Zhengfeng brought out a weapon to block Bao Xi's giant claw, Ning Cheng's spear shadows pierced through his domain. Only at this moment could Zhu Zhengfeng locate the origin of Ning Cheng's spear shadows filled with killing intent. It was a single spear completely traceless and shadowless, which had already reached his heart.

"Poof...." Ning Cheng's long spear-type Dao Artefact pierced through the already tattered robes and into Zhu Zhengfeng's body. As the fierce spear force transformed from killing intent poured into his body, Zhu Zhengfeng screamed out mournfully. The meridians in his body quickly broke down inch by inch, while even his life essence gave bursts of pain.

Zhu Zhengfeng's life essence was just about to escape when Bao Xi caught it in its hand. A demonic flame erupted, and Zhu Zhengfeng's life essence gave out even higher-pitched screams.

Ning Cheng did not care about Zhu Zhengfeng's life essence at all. Instead, he directly grabbed Zhu Zhengfeng's storage ring.

Almost the same moment that Bao Xi killed Zhu Zhengfeng's life essence, Ning Cheng took away Zhu Zhengfeng's storage ring.

"Young man. You sure have guts to grab something from my hand." Bao Xi loosened his hand, and Zhu Zhengfeng's lifeless body silently fell to the ground.

Ning Cheng put on Zhu Zhengfeng's storage ring smoothly onto one of his fingers and calmly spoke up, "Why do I seem to remember that this storage ring was on Zhu Zhengfeng's hand? Oh, is Zhu Zhengfeng your avatar?"

Bao Xi laughed in anger, "Let's see how strong you are...."

As his hand slammed down, a huge claw shadow descended.

When the claw shadow came out, Ning Cheng found that it was precisely the same as what he saw when the two had joined hands to kill Zhu Zhengfeng. However, it was only when the claw shadow appeared over his head did Ning Cheng realise that he could no longer see the blue dome of heaven.

This claw shadow seemed to represent the sky as it descended, causing the ground beneath his feet to shake. Ning Cheng's domain also started to crack like a spider web.

Feeling the violent suppressive aura bearing down, Ning Cheng found it challenging to breathe. At this moment, the long spear-type Dao Artefact in his hands seemed to have gained a great deal of weight, making it extremely difficult to lift it up.

Ning Cheng felt surprised at this. He had once killed a cultivator who had just entered the Life and Death Realm. Moreover, with the rapid development of his cultivation over the past few months, Ning Cheng knew that he might not match up to the Eternal-level experts, but he felt that he at least would not be too far off.

However, he now understood that a considerable difference existed between him and Eternal-level powerhouses. If it was not for Zhu Zhengfeng's previous injuries, and Bao Xi holding Zhu Zhengfeng down, he could not have successfully executed the sneak attack.

Ning Cheng, however, also knew that he could not retreat at this moment. He crazily stimulated his celestial essence and shot out the long spear-type Dao Artefact.

The next moment, his long spear turned into something akin to a giant pillar to greet the terrifying claw shadow that came crashing down.

"Boom...." As the claw shadow slammed onto Ning Cheng's long spear, a powerful counter-attack blew over, causing Ning Cheng's bones to rattle.

"Boom-Boom...." As the claw shadow kept pressing down, it felt as if the sky itself was pressing down on it. The long spear-type Dao Artefact, just like Ning Cheng, gave out cracking sounds under the suppression.

The ground under Ning Cheng's feet began to crack apart and slowly extend out. At this moment, Ning Cheng's legs shook even more. Finding that his strategy might not be the right one, he realised that he should not fight against Bao Xi recklessly when it came to celestial essence.

At this time, Ning Cheng did not hesitate to blow out dozens of Spiritual Consciousness Blades, targeting Bao Xi's horrifying giant claw first.

Almost at the same time that Ning Cheng shot out dozens of Spiritual Consciousness Blades, Bao Xi's giant claw that nearly covered the entire sky suddenly lifted up. Ning Cheng's heart had just loosened up

when the giant claw once again pressed down. This time, it gave off more than twice the imposing aura that it carried previously.

Damn it, Ning Cheng cursed internally. This demonic cultivator definitely knew how to play with people.

“Ca-Ca....” Sounds like knives trying to split cotton sounded in Ning Cheng’s ears, following which Ning Cheng’s face turned a bit hard to look at. From the looks of it, his Spiritual Consciousness Blades could not penetrate into Bao Xi’s Sea of Consciousness at all.

“Katcha!” Ning Cheng’s long spear-type Dao Artefact could not hold on and directly broke under the suppression. However, because of the Spiritual Consciousness Blades interfering with the claw shadow for a moment, Ning Cheng managed to move back a few hundred feet and fell outside the range of Bai Xi’s giant claw.

Bao Xi’s dark face flushed with a tinge of red. Although he had the absolute upper hand against Ning Cheng, he could not do anything to Ning Cheng.

“If I’m not wrong, your cultivation should not have reached the Life and Death Realm. A cultivator below the Life and Death Realm, yet so powerful, even cultivating a spiritual consciousness cultivation method, it’s definitely worth my time.” Bao Xi stepped out. However, a few hundred feet away from Bao Xi, everything suddenly seemed to have turned into nothingness.

Ning Cheng stretched out his hand and grabbed the Imperial Jade Seal, faced with celestial essence and spiritual consciousness as powerful as Bao Xi, Ning Cheng did not feel sure if he could achieve a victory using his Sunset’s Twilight. However, the Imperial Jade Seal contained the Power of Hope, and he had even refined a part of the seal. Therefore, he could use it against Bao Xi.

Despite the preparations, Ning Cheng did not take the initiative to attack. Instead, he calmly looked at Bao Xi and said, “Brother Bao, if I were you, I would not start a fight with me.”

Bao Xi laughed again, “If you have the means, then show it. I Bao Xi want to see it.”

Ning Cheng spoke up calmly, “Brother Bao, although I admit that I’m not your opponent, but it would be impossible for you to kill me. I can walk away from this place any time I want.”

Bao Xi felt surprised and showed a frown. If Ning Cheng did manage to escape, even if he won the battle, he would not get that storage ring.

Ning Cheng on seeing Bao Xi frown spoke up with a calm voice, “Brother Bao, are you still thinking about the storage ring? In my opinion, you should actually think about yourself.”

“Are you threatening me?” Bai Xi’s eyebrows pricked up and killing intent started to ooze out.

Ning Cheng did not feel any fear towards Bao Xi, “Whether I threatened you or not, I just wanted to say that you guessed it right. I am only in the Heaven Seated Realm. Just think about it. I have no fear towards you even in the Heaven Seated Realm, and you offended me today. In the future, once I advanced to the Eternal Realm, do you think that I would let you go? Even if you leave this place, you still have family here, right? You should know by now that I don’t have soft hands.”

Bao Xi’s heart skipped a beat. This was one of his deepest fears. What Ning Cheng said was not wrong at all. Today, if he made any rash decisions, and the person in front of him escaped, he would not obtain

anything; at the same time, he would have also made a powerful enemy for himself in the future. If it were just an ordinary cultivator, Bao Xi would not feel any fear at all. However, he was already finding it difficult to contend with a person still in the Heaven Seated Realm. If he truly managed to advance to the Eternal Realm in the future, then....

Ning Cheng immediately noticed the slightly frightened look in Bao Xi's eyes and calmly spoke up, "Brother Bao, although I'm not here to stay, I do have something to ask from you. Of course, if Brother Bao wants something and if I can help Brother Bao, then I will not refuse it."

Bao Xi hesitated for a moment before taking a deep breath and saying, "I just need a pot of the original None-to-depend-on Wine. It should be in Zhu Zhengfeng's storage ring."

Ning Cheng showed a faint smile, "Just this little thing, Brother Bao should have spoken about it earlier. Not to mention a pot, it wouldn't matter if you asked for two pots."

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Chapter 692: Helping Each Other

Bao Xi still felt some regret in his heart. If he were not in such a rush to kill Zhu Zhengfeng, and instead focussed on obtaining the storage ring, then that storage ring would have been in his hands right now. Zhu Zhengfeng's ring definitely was not something simple. It truly was a pity.

While Bao Xi pitied his misfortune, Ning Cheng quickly opened Zhu Zhengfeng's ring and took out two pots of None-to-depend-on Wine and passed them along to Bao Xi.

When Bao Xi saw Ning Cheng's speed in opening Zhu Zhengfeng's ring, taking out the two pots of wine and handing it to him, he suddenly felt fear creep up in his heart. Even if an Eternal-level expert died, people would still need a considerable amount of time to open the restrictions covering the storage ring. Yet Ning Cheng quickly opened Zhu Zhengfeng's ring. From this, he understood that Ning Cheng was a top-grade Array Formation Master.

Seeing that, Bao Xi decided to play nice and if possible form a friendship with Ning Cheng. He put away the two pots of None-to-depend-on Wine and then spoke to Ning Cheng with a friendly tone, "I don't know what help this friend needs from me?"

Ning Cheng couldn't help but marvel Zhu Zhengfeng's wealth. But after hearing Bao Xi's words, he quickly put aside the storage ring and spoke with a smile, "Brother Bao, I have two friends who had entered the Thousand Mound Forest some time ago. Zhu Zhengfeng should have been chasing after my two friends. Since Brother Bao is the master of the land here, I wanted to inquire if Brother Bao could provide me with the positional diagram of this place."

Bao Xi hesitated for a bit before taking out a jade strip and handing it to Ning Cheng, "You are a friend of mine from now, and I'm called Bao Xi. The Thousand Mound Forest covers an area of billions of square miles. I only control this part of the forest. But I got some information a day ago about a huge Essence Qi fluctuation from the southeast. Maybe you can head there to check it out. As for the specific location, I've already marked it on the positional diagram jade strip."

Ning Cheng took the jade strip and cupped his fists before speaking, "Many thanks, Brother Bao. I'm called Ning Cheng and also consider Brother Bao as my friend. I will have to leave first to find my other friends, and if I find some time in the future, I will definitely come to visit Brother Bao."

Talking to demonic cultivators felt quite refreshing as they didn't beat around the bush. If it were Duan Gantai who declared his intentions to form a friendship with him, Ning Cheng would definitely have thought that Duan Gantai had some schemes planned for him. However, when it came to Bao Xi, Ning Cheng did not doubt his words. He and Bao Xi didn't have any conflict of interest, yet Bao Xi said that he considered him as a friend; this meant that he approved of it from his heart.

Before Ning Cheng turned to leave, he suddenly seemed to have remembered something, "Brother Bai, I also wanted to inquire if you knew about the whereabouts of the Sifting Ferry Grass in the Thousand Mound Forest?"

"You want the Sifting Ferry Grass?" A flicker of surprise flashed through Bao Xi's eyes.

Ning Cheng nodded, "One of my friends need it. I just recalled it in passing."

Bao Xi remained silent for a moment before he spoke up, "You can indeed find Sifting Ferry Grass in the Thousand Mound Forest, but as far as I know, with Brother Ning's current cultivation, there is no way for you to get near that place. That place is called the Altar of Forefather's Library[1]. It is the most mysterious place in the Thousand Mound Forest. Even I don't dare to approach the area around it. You can find its location in the positional diagram jade strip that I gave you. If not necessary, I would highly recommend that Brother Ning not try to go anywhere near that place, at least not with your present cultivation."

Altar of Forefather's Library? Ning Cheng had a few doubts in his heart. He had purchased several jade strips at the Thousand Mound Makeshift Market, but none of them mentioned any place named 'Altar of Forefather's Library'.

"In any case, many thanks, Brother Bao." Ning Cheng once again thanked Bao Xi before turning around and leaving.

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Compared to all the jade strips containing maps of the Thousand Mound Forest that Ning Cheng purchased before coming in, the jade strip provided by Bao Xi had a much higher level of detail. On the jade strip, apart from the place Bao Xi had marked, it indeed marked the location of the Altar of Forefather's Library.

Although Ning Cheng's Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds had not yet evolved to its full potential, but in a place like the Thousand Mound Forest, as long as he had a specific positional diagram, the speed of the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds simply outpaced all other demonic beasts that tried to intercept him. In just one hour, Ning Cheng found the place Bao Xi had marked on the map.

The area was in a complete mess. Ning Cheng, however, did not see Tian Muwan or the blue-robed female cultivator anywhere near the place. However, he understood that there was a fight here, and this fight involved the most horrifying form of attacks involving fire attributes. This place had already been burned into nothingness by the fire, and even the ground had burned away to form a huge crater.

Ning Cheng slowly walked to the centre of the burned area and immediately noticed the difference. There was a trail that extended away from this scorched crater, which was slightly lighter in colour compared to the rest. This kind of scorch marks only appeared if someone escaped just before the fire took hold of them.

Following this trail, Ning Cheng quickly felt traces of Essence Qi fluctuations and confirmed that someone had indeed escaped from this place.

Just an hour later, Ning Cheng stopped again as he sensed a more significant celestial fluctuation pass through the area. Ning Cheng quickened his pace, and after half an incense stick worth of time, something appeared in the range of his spiritual consciousness.

A skeleton and another male cultivator were besieging a pale-faced demonic youth. Ning Cheng did not know who the skeleton belonged to, but he was just too familiar with the male cultivator. With a height about two feet and with horse-shaped face with blonde hair, this person was none other than Shui Guangxi, the patriarch of Shui Clan who had just advanced to the Eternal Realm.

Not far from the three, there was a sphere of flickering lights. Inside the field of flickering lights lay two female cultivators, who Ning Cheng recognised at a glance. They were Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator. The two of them must have changed appearances before, but their appearance changing masks had already come off, and both of them lay unconscious.

The celestial essence fluctuations from the three cultivators fighting continually slammed into the flickering light sphere, but the shield seemed quite tough, showing no signs of breaking.

Ning Cheng understood in an instant that it must have been the blue-robed female cultivator who put up that shimmering light sphere. As for the three people fighting here, most likely it was for the things on the body of the blue-robed female cultivator. Although the blue-robed female cultivator might have deployed the defensive sphere, it could only last for some time. Once the three people clearly delineated the winners and losers, they could then just take away the defensive sphere to deal with it later.

The fight among the three people looked unusually intense to the point that it had even driven the demonic beasts away in fear. As for the trees within this area of the forest, none remained whole. A huge gully stretched out between the three and overbearing Celestial Essence fluctuations continually erupted from it.

One could easily imagine that without the protection offered by the flickering light sphere, Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator would have already turned to slag under such intense power-filled fluctuations.

Ning Cheng kept himself hidden and tried to converge his aura as tight as possible. Since he can't beat all three of them, he had no other choice but to use such a method. If the blue-robed female cultivator and Tian Muwan were not within the flickering light sphere, Ning Cheng could have secretly taken away those two. But now, if he did anything to the sphere, those three would immediately notice.

When half an incense stick worth of time passed by, and while Ning Cheng kept pondering over different methods to open the sphere and save Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator, a few rays of light, filled with celestial essence brushed past the sphere, and the sphere cracked without warning.

Ning Cheng felt happy at this sight. Those light rays filled with celestial energy came from the pale-faced demonic youth. Looking at the light rays only brushing past it, it most likely happened due to a mistake.

Despite the sphere cracking open, those three people still showed no signs of stopping their fight. From this, he could make out that none of these three people cared about whether the blue-robed female cultivator and Tian Muwan lived or not. All they wanted was her storage ring.

However, Ning Cheng quickly found something wrong. He could see that the pale-faced cultivator was gradually but slowly moving towards Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator.

Ning Cheng had used such a trick many times in the past; therefore, he immediately understood that this pale-faced demonic youth had intentionally planned things out in such a manner. That demonic youth had not mistakenly shot those light rays filled with celestial essence at the sphere, causing it to crack open; rather, he had done so intentionally. Now he wanted to move in to grab the things he wanted without anyone noticing, somewhat similar to the situation between him and Bao Xi.

Although Bao Xi had higher cultivation after he obtained the ring, Bao Xi had to come to a compromise with him; otherwise, Bao Xi couldn't have received anything.

Ning Cheng originally intended to take advantage of their fight to grab those two and leave. But after observing the movements of this pale-faced youth, he couldn't wait any longer. He rushed out in a flash, grabbed Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator, and then stimulated the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds to almost its breaking point before disappearing from the place in a flash with its teleport-like speed.

Ning Cheng had just grabbed Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator when the pale-faced cultivator arrived. Although he was only two breaths slower than Ning Cheng, he could only grab onto empty space.

Seeing the pale-faced demonic youth's movements, the skeleton and Shui Guangxi immediately understood his intentions. They quickly brought out their most powerful weapons and slammed them down on to the pale-faced cultivator.

During the moment the pale-faced demonic youth tried to resist the attacks from both the skeleton and Shui Guangxi, Ning Cheng had already disappeared without a trace.

Although Shui Guangxi and the skeleton struck at full force, they knew that someone else had taken advantage of the situation to grab their prey. Without waiting for an explanation from the pale-faced demonic youth, the skeleton and Shui Guangxi quickly recalled their attacks at the last minute and chased after Ning Cheng.

At this time, the pale-faced demonic youth also did not feel like exchanging words with Shui Guangxi and the skeleton and started chasing after Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng held on to Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator in each arm as he flew in a particular direction. It's not that he did not want to take out the Starry Sky Wheel, but because he had already noticed a few signs of a natural Forbidden Space Array Formation out in front. Once he entered the Forbidden Space Array Formation, it would mean that he had entered the deepest part of the Thousand Mound Forest.

Besides, even without the Forbidden Space Array Formation, he couldn't bring out the Starry Sky Wheel. Those three experts behind him were like tarsal maggots who never let off even for the slightest moment. Most likely, he wouldn't be able to take out and escape with the Starry Sky Wheel before those three caught up with him.

Fortunately, Ning Cheng could make use of that Forbidden Space Array Formation. Although Ning Cheng wouldn't be able to use the Starry Sky Wheel in there, the three people behind him also wouldn't be able to use any sort of flying weapon. Although his Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds would also face some suppression in there, the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds were inherently different from conventional flight-type weapons. Therefore, even though Ning Cheng wouldn't be able to take advantage of the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds' flight capabilities, he could definitely use the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds to boost his running speed.

Although the three still kept chasing, Ning Cheng pushed forward with a considerable lead. Comparing cultivations, those three definitely surpassed Ning Cheng, but Ning Cheng still had full control over the direction of escape. Moreover, with the speed boost provided by the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds, the distance between Ning Cheng and the trio began to slowly widen.

Although the distance between them kept widening, Ning Cheng didn't dare to relax at all. Once any of these three fellows caught up to him, he would have no chance to leave the depths of the Thousand Mound Forest, especially under the suppression of the Forbidden Space Array Formation.

The three pursuing him seemed to have eaten scales or something and seemed to have hardened their heart to catch up with Ning Cheng. Ning Cheng kept charging into the depths of the Thousand Mound Forest for around five or six days, yet those three had still not shown any signs of giving up.

Afterwards, Ning Cheng simply didn't bother to pay much attention to the three people behind him. Instead, he lowered his head down and kept running forward wildly. He didn't believe that he couldn't get rid of those three pieces of dog skin plasters.

Ning Cheng didn't know for how long he kept running, but he didn't stop until he felt his spiritual consciousness showing signs of suppression, which immediately alerted him.

As soon as he stopped, Ning Cheng realised that the trio chasing them seemed to have disappeared. He breathed a sigh of relief and started looking around.

In this area, the range of his spiritual consciousness had shrunk down to less than ten miles under suppression; however, Ning Cheng did not feel too worried about it. He had already experienced many places that suppressed one's spiritual consciousness, but he still looked around carefully out of caution.

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Chapter 693: Time perishable, man changeable

He could not hear any sound around him; no, it was dead silent. Although he faced many dangerous situations in the forest, no matter the danger, he never encountered an area in the woods that had no sound at all. Ning Cheng felt his hair stand up. He furrowed his brows and thought the situation might have gone entirely out of control.

Even with his spiritual consciousness and cultivation suppressed, he was still a starry sky cultivator in the Heaven Seated Realm. As such, even in such a situation, he could destroy a small planet without much difficulty. Therefore, how could he feel like this?

“Thump” A loud sound suddenly erupted within this dead-silent place. It felt like an iron cone had stuck Ning Cheng’s chest, which almost burst his heart and almost forcing him to vomit a mouthful of blood.

What a strange place, Ning Cheng finally understood why those three old fogeys didn’t try to catch up to him. It looks like those three knew about the dangers of this place and didn’t dare to follow in.

Just when Ning Cheng tucked Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator more securely and wanted to step back, he found that he could not recall the direction he had come inside.

Ning Cheng quickly took out Bao Xi’s Positional Jade Strip and found a few small characters flashing over the Positional Jade Strip, ‘Altar of Forefather’s Library’.

It also contained a few other flashing characters that indicated his current position, which kept blinking quite close to the Altar of Forefather’s Library, implying that he had reached quite close to the altar.

Although he had planned to come to the altar, he never expected that he would stumble upon it accidentally.

Ning Cheng put away the jade strip and wanted to immediately retreat. Even if he wanted to explore this place, he had to first find a safe spot for the two wounded people in his arms.

At this time, the blue-robed female cultivator in his arms suddenly started to struggle.

Did she finally wake up? Just when Ning Cheng wanted to speak “Thump.....” another similar sound erupted.

Ning Cheng once again felt the same oppressive pressure over his heart. As for the blue-robed female cultivator in his arms, it looked like she could not bear it. She involuntarily opened her mouth and shot out an arrow of blood before fainting once again.

Such power, Ning Cheng no longer dared to stay in this place and quickly started backing away.

It seemed like he had inadvertently woken up something from its slumber, and the explosive sounds kept growing more intense with each passing moment “Thump-Thump.....” Another horror-inducing sound resounded throughout the area. Ning Cheng quickly realised that he couldn’t get out. It looked like one can only step inside this place but not step outside. He kept rushing backwards for a long time. Yet, whenever he checked the Positional Jade Strip, he still found himself near to the altar.

Sensing the blue-robed female cultivator in his arms, showing signs of waking up, Ning Cheng quickly spread out his spiritual consciousness. Even if this place strongly suppressed his spiritual consciousness, Ning Cheng managed to find a canyon. Although the canyon looked like the mouth of an endless abyss, Ning Cheng did not think twice and rushed straight inside.

He felt concerned that the blue-robed female cultivator would wake up again and get hurt by that thumping sound again.

The moment he entered the canyon, Ning Cheng threw out several array flags and arranged a few Isolation Array Formations.

“Thump.....” The sound emerged once again, but Ning Cheng’s array formation managed to block most of it. When the residual noise passed through Ning Cheng’s ears, it did not contain the offensive force from before.

The blue-robed female cultivator struggled for a bit before speaking up with a weak voice, “Ning Xiaocheng, please put me down.”

“I’m called Ning Cheng. Wait a little longer.” Ning Cheng continued to rush inside. A few minutes later, he stopped in a more spacious area. Only at this time did he put down the blue-robed female cultivator.

After throwing out a few more array flags, Ning Cheng arranged them into a Clear Light Array and several Defensive Arrays before returning.

The blue-robed female cultivator looked at Ning Cheng in surprise. It looked as if she had seen the most amazing thing in her life till now.

Previously, because Ning Cheng was on the run, he did not care about anything else. But when he saw the blue-robed female cultivator right now. He suddenly felt embarrassed. The remaining scraps of clothes on the blue-robed female cultivator and Tian Muwan could not completely cover their bodies, revealing large patches of their snow-white chests and waists.

“How did your proficiency in array formations improve so much? Back then, the array formations you arranged in Shui Clan....” The blue-robed female cultivator did not continue. She didn’t have to understand why. Previously, although Ning Cheng had arranged a few array formations in Shui Clan, he definitely had not revealed his full capabilities.

She knew full well about Ning Cheng’s age, which should be the same as Tian Muwan. For any cultivator, it was still an age that they couldn’t be considered any younger. Yet such a young cultivator not only had robust cultivation but also reached such a high level of proficiency in array formations. Was he a monster?

She wasn’t a rogue cultivator who knew nothing about the world of cultivation. She also had a few accomplishments in the Dao of Arrays and the Dao of Artefacts, but they could only be considered as average. She knew that if one wanted to achieve some success in these fields, then one must spend a lot of time researching. Especially when it came to the Dao of Arrays, it needed a huge chunk of time. Although a cultivator enjoyed a significantly longer life span compared to mortals, no matter how long a lifespan, if they spent time studying these things, it would mean even lesser time for cultivation.

Therefore, in the world of cultivation, although one would find strong cultivators, rarely would these cultivators have a high understanding in regards to the Dao of Array, Dao of Alchemy or the Dao of Artefacts. Such things rarely happened, unless the cultivator in question was a genius among geniuses.

Could this Ning Cheng be one of those few rare geniuses? If so, Muwan definitely had a good pair of eyes.

She subconsciously looked back at Muwan. However, when she saw that Tian Muwan’s torn clothes couldn’t cover her body, even exposing the red beans at the front of her chest, she immediately

screamed and covered her own chest on instinct, “Ning Cheng, you rogue, turn your head away immediately.....”

Ning Cheng, who was just about to speak, quickly turned around his head. The scream from that blue-robed female cultivator had an almost similar effect as those thumping sounds from before.

“Wait.... If you have any clothes..... Can you lend us two sets?” By the time the blue-robed female cultivator said those words, her tone had also softened. Apparently, she understood that it wasn’t Ning Cheng’s fault. In any case, Ning Cheng had carried her around in his arms for several days.

Ning Cheng threw out a ring to the blue-robed female cultivator and said, “Apart from clothes, it also has a few medicinal pills inside. While you use them, I’ll set up a few more array formations.”

One hour later, when Ning Cheng returned, the blue-robed female cultivator and Tian Muwan had changed clothes. Tian Muwan had also woken up. However, when she saw Ning Cheng come in, she immediately lowered her head.

The blue-robed female cultivator took out a white key and handed it to back to Ning Cheng, “Thank you for saving us twice. Let me return this key to you.”

Ning Cheng’s spiritual consciousness swept out and brushed past it, immediately realising it this key was the real white Perpetual Moon Time Key. He showed no politeness in putting it away; after all, it was something he obtained by himself.

“Xiaocheng, thank you....” Tian Muwan bit her lips and spoke up with a weak voice. She didn’t understand how Ning Cheng had saved them, but she realised that Ning Cheng possessed a strength much higher and secrets even more profound than what she had imagined.

“No need to stand on ceremony. It’s just a small matter.” Ning Cheng smiled, just like an everlasting sun.

Such familiar words, such familiar smile.....

Tian Muwan glanced at Ning Cheng’s familiar sunshine-like smile, as her thoughts drifted off into the distance....

As the mudslide came crashing down, she couldn’t help but feel terrified while crouching and hiding behind a not-very-large tree, entirely at a loss of what to do. It was at that time that a boy with a sunshine-like smile rushed over and quickly carried her away from that place on his back. As he fled with her on his back, she saw the not-so-large tree, the one she tried to hide behind just a moment before, drown under the mudslide.

If it weren’t for him, that mudslide would have easily covered her up and buried her under the debris.

He then carefully put her down in a relatively safe spot and spoke up, “Your friends are ahead...”

“Thank you. My name is Tian Muwan.”

“I’m called Ning Xiaocheng.”

“Xiaocheng, thank you.....”

“No need to stand on ceremony. It’s just a small matter.”

.....

Time flew by, many years later, she once again heard those same words. Even after many years, he still remained the same, and she also did not change. However, something had gone missing in the middle.

What exactly was missing? When did it go missing?

Was it because she put the pearl hair clip, which Ning Cheng had given her, into the hands of another man, who intentionally threw it into the sewer?

“Even if you lost it, you can just buy me a better one when you have the time. Let’s go.” Tian Muwan’s face turned pale with every moment. Perhaps that something had gone missing when she said those words to another man in front of Ning Cheng. No, it was more accurate to say that she had lost it instead of missing.

If there were no Zeng Jiyun, would they have reached this point? Tian Muwan shook her head. She knew that even without Zeng Jiyun, she and he would have still ended up like this eventually.

In her current view, then only reason she and Ning Cheng had remained together, seemed to be to take care of Ning Cheng’s reputation and honour everywhere. In fact, she always seemed to have held an inner sense of superiority over Ning Cheng. It was just that she had never realised it back then.

If not for that, how could she have taken out a bank card and tried handing it to Ning Cheng after Ning Cheng had disappeared from her life and had come back again? Why would she have thought that she and Ning Cheng were no longer people of the same world? Why did Tian Muwan ‘permit’ Ning Cheng to call her by her full name instead of Muwan? Why did she care about the fact that Ning Cheng had not come back to explain things to her after she found that Ning Cheng had not died?

In fact, did she even give Ning Cheng a chance to explain? Didn’t she already know about Ning Cheng’s pride and yet still put on such a domineering front back then? Why did she feel insulted when the first words Ning Cheng asked her after returning were about his sister Ruolan? If she had really loved him then after she saw Ning Cheng again, she would have never cared about all these things, and instead would have felt happy that Ning Cheng was still alive.

But she didn’t.

Back then, she was only a Qi Gathering 3rd Level True Cultivator and thought that she and Ning Cheng were no longer people of the same world. Yet, the fact was that Ning Cheng’s cultivation had probably far surpassed her.

Although she found the lost pearl hair clip, it no longer felt like the original pearl hair clip, it no longer had its original pure white colour.

“Muwan, are you okay?” The blue-robed female cultivator on seeing Tian Muwan staring at Ning Cheng in a daze lightly shook her out of worry.

When Tian Muwan returned to her senses, she bit her lips again and spoke up with a somewhat weak but hoarse voice, “Big Sister, I’m alright.”

The blue-robed female cultivator nodded but did not continue asking Tian Muwan about the things between her and Ning Cheng. She knew that it was not appropriate for her to ask about those things at this time.

She turned her head and looked at Ning Cheng before asking, “Ning Cheng, as far as I know, Earth and this place are not in the same positional plane. Not to mention you, even I can’t come to this place directly from Earth. How did you come here?”

Ning Cheng only showed a slight smile, “It’s my personal secret, why bother me about it? Did I ask how you two got here?”

Although Ning Cheng’s words sounded rude, it made sense. Asking someone about their private matters and secrets, in a way, went beyond just rude behaviour.

The blue-robed female cultivator chuckled and spoke, “Alright, I won’t ask you about your private matters. I can at least tell you that this plane does not have complete laws; as such, even if you have the same cultivation level, you would have a hard time matching up to your counterparts from other positional planes. If you can help this big sister find the Sifting Ferry Grass, big sister can take you out of here to the real cultivation positional planes, what do you say?”

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Chapter 694: Giant Heart

“What do you mean by complete laws? What does it have to do with cultivation in positional planes?” Ning Cheng stared at the blue-robed female cultivator and asked. Not to mention her current predicament, even if she did have the ability to take him away, he would not go. However, Ning Cheng also understood that she had a much deeper understanding of cultivation compared to him.

The blue-robed female cultivator looked at his face for a long time before replying with a smile, “As far as I know, cultivators would find it extremely challenging to confirm their Dao in this place. The people here consider cultivating to the Eternal Realm as the pinnacle. But if they want to step beyond the Eternal Realm, they would have to come out of this place. I also know that this place lacks Thunder Tribulations for the three sub-realms of the Celestial Scryer and Celestial River Realm. That’s enough evidence to indicate that this plane does not have complete laws. If it had complete laws, there would be no lack of Thunder Tribulations.”

“Besides, I heard that one would find it impossible to ascend in this positional plane. Even in True Cultivation Worlds, if one wants to break through the cultivation shackles, he or she would have no choice but to find that world’s Heaven’s Way and leave the low-level interface.”

Ning Cheng remained silent. He knew she spoke the truth. Going from the Graceful Star Mainland to the Starry Sky, Ning Cheng had to pass through Heaven’s Way. However, unlike other cultivators, he had to face thunder tribulations when passing through each of the sub-realms in the Celestial Scryer and Celestial River Realm.

“If I agree to come with you, how do you intend to take me out of this place?” Ning Cheng looked at this blue-robed female cultivator. The storage ring on her hand looked ordinary. Even if the blue-robed female cultivator’s cultivation surpassed the Eternal Realm, he did not believe that she could take him away, unless she had an Opening Heaven Talisman.

The blue-robed female cultivator showed a proud smile as she replied, "As long as I can repair my Sea of Consciousness, I could use countless worlds[1] that could help me take you away. Of course, the prerequisite would be that you enter my world. You don't have to look at my storage ring, it's just something that I crafted out of necessity. As for leaving this positional plane, I have my own ways, you don't have to worry about it."

"Let's talk about it after getting out of this place. You can wait here for me, I'll go out to see if I can find any Sifting Ferry Grass but don't keep your hopes up." Ning Cheng stood up.

He did want to find the Sifting Ferry Grass to help the blue-robed female cultivator, but not because he took a liking to her. It was also not for getting out of his place, but for Tian Muwan. Despite the past between him and Tian Muwan, he cannot ignore Tian Muwan dying in this place.

He also had no choice. With Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator's current situation, it would be impossible for them to find the Sifting Ferry Grass. If they could not find that grass, it would definitely result in their deaths.

Of course, he also wanted the Sifting Ferry Grass for personal uses. Sifting Ferry Grass could repair any damage to the Sea of Consciousness. In case he ended up in a situation with a damaged Sea of Consciousness, having at least a strand of Sifting Ferry Grass and not having any Sifting Ferry Grass could mean the difference between life and death.

"Xiaocheng....." Seeing Ning Cheng standing up, Tian Muwan also stood up with worry.

Just when Ning Cheng was about to speak, a loud 'thump' resounded throughout the area. The shockwaves produced by the sound almost instantly obliterated the several defensive arrays he had arranged previously. The resulting force from the shockwaves blew away Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator and smashed them on to the canyon's wall, forcing each of them to spit out a mouthful of blood.

What the hell was that sound? Ning Cheng's expressions turned ugly. If he was alone, he could barely resist this sound. But if that blue-robed female cultivator, who had almost completely lost her cultivation and Tian Muwan with her low cultivation, wanted to follow him, what should he do?

Ning Cheng looked at the blue-robed female cultivator. She slowly stood up while leaning on the wall and wiped off the blood from the corner of her mouth. She knew what Ning Cheng wanted to ask and shook her head. "I don't know what this sound is, but I know that it will come again. Forget about Sifting Ferry Grass. If you can take us out, then you need to do it quickly. If not, then leave quickly."

"Tian Muwan, you stay with me. Make sure you don't stray more than three meters away from me. I'll carry Senior Apprentice Sister Ye over my back. Even if I wanted to go out, I wouldn't be able to find a way out in time anyway." After Ning Cheng finished, he directly brought out the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort[2].

"You have good weapons...." Seeing the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, the blue-robed female cultivator's eyes flashed with surprise and spoke up in amazement. She still could use some scraps of her spiritual consciousness, which allowed her to understand that this blue thunder fort was an extraordinary item.

Unfortunately, this place severely restricted Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness; otherwise, with his current cultivation, his blue thunder fort's projection would have been a lot clearer.

"Thump....." Another sound erupted, which Ning Cheng's Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort managed to block with its overflowing thunder rays.

Ning Cheng felt slightly relieved at this. Looks like the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort could help in blocking that terrifying sound.

"Hurry up, if you don't want to move then just wait for me here." Ning Cheng started to feel a little impatient. This canyon made him feel really uneasy.

Tian Muwan, on Ning Cheng's urging, quickly supported the blue-robed female cultivator onto Ning Cheng's back. The blue-robed female cultivator did not squirm around but smiled, "Thank you, Junior Apprentice Brother Ning Cheng. By the way, why did you address Sister Muwan as Tian Muwan? Wouldn't it be better to call her as Muwan?"

Feeling the softness and the fragrant scent from behind, Ning Cheng took in a deep breath. Then taking out a chain-type True Artefact, he quickly bound the blue-robed female cultivator tightly to his back. However, he did not answer the blue-robed female cultivator's question.

Tian Muwan gave out a sigh and also did not respond.

Seeing Ning Cheng and Tian Muwan act in such a manner, the blue-robed female cultivator did not ask anything else.

Ning Cheng then tightly grabbed on to Tian Muwan and rushed out. However, when he had only covered a distance of about ten meters, a roar erupted from somewhere up ahead. Tian Muwan couldn't bring out her spiritual consciousness in this place, but Ning Cheng saw it clearly. The canyon in front of him had started to collapse and extend towards him.

If it were an ordinary canyon, even with a mountain pressing down, Ning Cheng could have easily opened a path for himself with a punch. But in this place, Ning Cheng knew he could not do such a thing. This place had already suppressed his spiritual consciousness by a large extent, which meant escaping from this collapsed canyon would prove impossible.

When he had first come inside, then canyon still looked ordinary. It hadn't been long since he came in, but the gorge that had stood for seemingly unknown years had now started to collapse on a large scale. If someone said that it had nothing to do with him coming in, Ning Cheng would never believe it.

Since the front of the canyon had already begun to collapse, Ning Cheng could only stop. He tried to determine if he should push forward and try rushing out of the collapsing canyon or retreat. Ning Cheng knew that if he did take a step back, chances were that he wouldn't be able to come out.

The blue-robed female cultivator's soft voice rang out in Ning Cheng's ear, "Quickly go back, you can't rush out."

"Why?" Ning Cheng subconsciously asked.

Taking a deep breath, the blue-robed female cultivator spoke with a solemn voice, "Did you think that this was just a simple canyon collapse? This collapse is the result of sandwiching devouring spaces. If you dare to go through those devouring spaces, it will devour you without a trace left behind."

Ning Cheng took in a deep breath and did not hesitate to quickly retreat. If he truly had no place to go, he could enter the Mysterious Yellow Bead, but he did not want to be swallowed by space. But the same cannot be said for the other two.

He didn't doubt the blue-robed female cultivator's words. In any case, the reason he hadn't noticed the devouring space was that he hadn't seen it before.

"This place is strange. From what I see, this collapse happened only because we came in. There should be something in here controlling it." The blue-robed female cultivator spoke once again.

Ning Cheng did not answer; instead, he kept retreating. Tian Muwan also did not say anything. Caught in Ning Cheng's arms, she held tightly onto Ning Cheng's waist, seemingly immersed in memories.

Initially, Ning Cheng felt worries that the canyon would quickly come to an end, but the canyon now seemed like an unending and bottomless pit. No matter how deep Ning Cheng ran, the path still kept extending out ahead of him.

"We seem to have entered the Thousand Mound Forest's subterranean area." The blue-robed female cultivator spoke up again.

Ning Cheng finally stopped, feeling something wrong. If it was a canyon before, it could no longer be called a canyon now. The walls on both sides of the canyon had disappeared at some unknown time. Instead, they seemed to have entered a world filled with a fishy smell. Moreover, the collapse catching up to them also seemed to have disappeared.

"Thump" The sound echoed once again. This time it felt much bigger and more threatening than before. Ning Cheng's Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort started to crack. However, as long as the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort did not break apart in one blow, it would repair itself in an instant.

The blue-robed female cultivator did not speak anymore. She could tell that Ning Cheng had run for quite long, but it seemed as if they were moving closer and closer to the origin of that thumping sound.

"Thump"

"Thump-Thump...."

.....

In the dark space, Ning Cheng's Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort kept defending against those thunder-like 'thump' sounds.

Ning Cheng hesitated for a moment before choosing a direction and quickly rushing over.

Although the blue-robed female cultivator's cultivation had now completely disappeared, she still could use a small portion of her spiritual consciousness. She could feel that the direction Ning Cheng chose was the direction from where those thumping sounds originated. She didn't say anything as at this point Ning Cheng was in charge. She knew that she can't let Ning Cheng hesitate.

Although Ning Cheng ran fast, the thumping sounds grew more and more oppressive, which gradually increased the pressure on Ning Cheng.

More and more cracks started to appear over the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, while its recovering ability started to slow down as it could not keep up. Ning Cheng felt truly anxious now. Once the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort's shadow disintegrated, even if he could re-condense the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort's shadow, the blue-robed female cultivator and Tian Muwan would definitely suffer fatal injuries if they did not fall already.

A dim red light suddenly materialised in front of Ning Cheng. After a slight pause, Ning Cheng speeded up towards the dim red light. As Ning Cheng gradually came closer to the source of the red light, he finally saw what it was.

It was a lake filled with blood. In the middle of the blood-filled lake was a huge heart crisscrossing with meridians.

"Thump...." The thumping sound emerged again. When Ning Cheng felt the surging waves of sound reaching over, he quickly urged his celestial essence and spiritual consciousness to stabilise the already-cracking Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort's shadow.

By this time, he could clearly see that those thumping sounds actually originated from the giant heart within the blood-filled lake.

Ning Cheng trio looked at each other. None of them had seen such a strange thing. Within this heaven and earth, there not only was such a large heart, but it could also unleash such destruction with just a beat. Just who did this heart belong to?

"Those are Sifting Ferry Grasses." The blue-robed female cultivator looked across the lake with spoke up with a slightly excited tone.

The same moment the blue-robed female cultivator saw the Sifting Ferry Grass, Ning Cheng also locked in on strands of Sifting Ferry Grasses on the opposite side.

"Thump...." The huge heart made another beat. This time, the shadow of Ning Cheng's Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort could not keep up and completely cracked open, forcing Ning Cheng to spit out a mouthful of blood. As the pressure increased sharply, it disoriented Ning Cheng for a moment and he could not re-condense the shadow of the Blue Thunder Fort.

The blue-robed female cultivator quickly took out a talisman and threw it out; the next moment, a weak-looking membrane covered the three of them.

The blue-robed female cultivator showed a weak smile and said to Ning Cheng, "That was the last defensive talisman I had. Unfortunately, when my True Spirit World cracked, I could only take out a very few things."

[1] The raws so mention it as 'Countless/Myriad Worlds', I have no idea if it is a typo or is used as intended, so I decided to leave it as it is.

[2] Our team had been contemplating whether to use 'Fort' or 'City' as the character 'Cheng' (城) used can mean both (in a more literal sense, it means 'wall'). After long deliberation, we decided to change

‘Everlasting Blue Thunder City’ to ‘Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort’, since it feels much more accurate based on the context of it. Fun fact, 城 is also the same ‘Cheng’ from Ning Cheng’s name.

The Gate Of Good Fortune

Chapter 695: Forefather’s Library

“Since the defensive light shield would last us for a while, Senior Apprentice Sister Ye, you and Muwan should wait here for me. I’ll go alone.” After Ning Cheng finished, he took out an array disc and threw it on the ground before quickly rushing out.

Tian Muwan stared at Ning Cheng; she only heard a single word ‘Muwan’. Once upon a time, didn’t this same small form of address excite her?

The blue-robed female cultivator glanced at the array disc thrown out by Ning Cheng and smiled, “So it’s a Transfer Array Disc. No wonder he could achieve so much by this day. He really has a good head over his shoulders.”

As to supplement the blue-robed female cultivator’s words, Tian Muwan muttered, “He must have gone through a lot to get where he is today.”

The blue-robed female cultivator gave out a sigh, “Muwan, although he might have low cultivation, it’s still quite impressive. Unfortunately, you missed the chance with him.....”

“Ah.....” Tian Muwan looked at the blue-robed female cultivator in confusion.

The blue-robed female cultivator kept looking at Ning Cheng’s back and suddenly started feeling lonely.

“Big Sister.....” Tian Muwan also felt a little uncomfortable in her heart and spoke up with a slightly sad tone.

“Muwan, when you put me on his back, he took out a chain-type True Artefact. That chain had no effect other than to help lessen the load of carrying people. He should have crafted it himself. Why do you think he would keep such a chain-type True Artefact on him?”

Tian Muwan remained silent, she vaguely understood why. The blue-robed female cultivator also turned silent, it was the first time for her to feel this kindly towards a male cultivator.

.....

Moving around by himself, Ning Cheng found it a lot easier. However, as soon as he reached the blood-filled lake, the loud thumping sound once again shattered the Blue Thunder Fort’s shadow.

Recondensing the Everlasting Blue Thunder’s shadow, Ning Cheng did not hesitate to rush forward with the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds at full speed. Just when he reached the heart of the lake, another thumping sound passed over.

The huge pressure that accompanied it crashed into Ning Cheng, forcing him to fall down immediately.

The two women kept their gazes trained at Ning Cheng with nervousness; therefore, when Ning Cheng suddenly fell down, both of them cried out in a frightened voice. They had no idea what was under the

blood-filled lake. But because of that giant heart, it definitely did not feel like a comfortable place to fall in. They didn't know what would happen if one fell into it.

Ning Cheng naturally didn't want to fall into this blood-filled lake. No matter what would happen if one fell into the lake, he did not want to experience falling into this lake filled with blood.

Whether a blood lake or a blood river, Ning Cheng already had some experiences with such occurrences. When still in the True Cultivation World, Cang Wei had his Essence Blood transform into a blood river to absorb Spiritual Qi. In the end, he used the Essence Blood from the blood river to rebuild his body.

Although that blood river had made Ning Cheng a little uncomfortable, it did not make him feel this uncomfortable. As just nearing the blood lake made him this queasy, it made him even more unwilling to touch the blood lake.

Just when he was about to fall into the blood lake, Ning Cheng's raised his hand and took out an airship-type Dao Artefact. Although he lacked a lot of such artefacts, he definitely had a lot of Dao Artefacts.

The moment the airship-type Dao Artefact fell into the blood lake, it gave out a loud 'snap' sound. Countless blood flowers started to bloom over it. When Ning Cheng's foot touched the airship-type Dao Artefact, he used that momentary pause to stimulate the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds once again. The following instant, Ning Cheng landed safely on the opposite side of the lake.

Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator, on seeing Ning Cheng reach the opposite side of the lake safely, felt immensely relieved.

Ning Cheng also breathed in a sigh of relief. He didn't turn around but quickened his pace to reach the area with the several strains of the Sifting Ferry Grass.

"Something's happening!" Tian Muwan pointed to the blood lake and cried out.

In fact, without Tian Muwan's scream, the blue-robed female cultivator had also seen it. The previously calm blood lake seemed to have now turned agitated after Ning Cheng dropped a flight-type Dao Artefact in it. At this moment, the entire blood lake started to bubble.

"Gululu....." More and more blood bubbles started to form as if someone had started to boil the blood lake.

Ning Cheng also felt alarmed when he heard those gurgling-like sounds. He turned his head back at the blood lake and immediately felt a sense of crisis. He quickly grabbed a strain of Sifting Ferry Grass and threw it into the other Transfer Array Disc with him.

With that strain of Sifting Ferry Grass transferred away, Ning Cheng immediately began to collect the rest of the strands of the Sifting Ferry Grasses. He knew the sooner he left the place, the better.

When the blue-robed female cultivator saw Ning Cheng sending over the strand of Sifting Ferry Grass through the Transfer Array Disc, she immediately grabbed it out of excitement. In just a short time, the strand of Sifting Ferry Grass in her hands withered into a dried husk.

The blue-robed female cultivator then closed her eyes, and her face started to quickly turn from pale to rosy. At the same time, her imposing aura also started to rise.

After Ning Cheng collected three strains of Sifting Ferry Grasses, he no longer wanted to gather the rest. He was just about to activate the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds to rush across the blood lake when a huge pressure suddenly descended. Under this horrifying pressure, Ning Cheng could not move at all. Even though he could still utilise his celestial essence and spiritual consciousness, it couldn't help him mitigate even the slightest bit of this terrifying pressure.

"Thump...." The giant heart pulsed again, and the shadow of Ning Cheng's Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort turned into nothingness in just an instant.

"Gululu...." The blood bubbles in the blood lake started to burst one after another, and a seemingly endless swarm of dark red insects flew out from the blood lake in droves. The moment these insects came out, they immediately shot towards the edges of the blood lake with unmatched speed.

"Aah...." Tian Muwan screamed. These insects looked utterly disgusting. She had never seen such disgusting insects despite experiencing the insect tide on Earth. Moreover, the largest among these insects was only the size of a bean but had a layer of dark red mucous covering it. These insects kept scrambling over each other to create a dense and seemingly inexhaustible wall.

That swarm of insects issued screeching-like noises, which made it sound like the approach of a hoard of demons.

Ning Cheng's scalp turned numb. The pressure had utterly suppressed him to the point that he could not even struggle. The insects would reach him in less than half-an-incense stick worth of time. At that point, he wouldn't even need to imagine what would happen to him.

"Xiaocheng, run away aah...." Tian Muwan screamed. Ning Cheng no longer had the protection of the blue thunder fort's shadow. If he just stood there without even moving, wasn't it equivalent to looking for death?

"Bong...." The huge heart, already covered with layers upon layers of those dark red mucus-lines insects, pulsed once again.

"Poof...." Ning Cheng, now without any kind of defence, immediately spurted out a mouthful of blood.

"Big Sister..." Tian Muwan cried out anxiously. She wanted to help Ning Cheng, but she could not do anything. By this time, those dark red insects had already reached the periphery of their light shield. Seeing those insects swarming to cover the membrane, she instinctively understood that those insects could bite through the shield.

The blue-robed female cultivator suddenly stood up. Although she hadn't recovered her full cultivation, she would not have any problems in activating the Opening Heaven Talisman's child talisman.

She took out a talisman and called out to Ning Cheng, "Junior Apprentice Brother Ning Cheng, what's wrong with you?"

"I'm being suppressed. I can't break free for now. Hurry up and get out." Ning Cheng immediately recognised the Opening Heaven Talisman's child talisman in the hands of the blue-robed female cultivator. He really felt surprised seeing the blue-robed female cultivator holding such a talisman. He knew that a child talisman could only be used once. Since the blue-robed female cultivator and Tian

Muwan reached this place from Earth, then they should have already used it up. How come she had one? Did she have more than one?

“Let’s go together....” The blue-robed female cultivator finished and directly manifested a sword light, “It should be the spirit of this heart that has suppressed you. I’ll attack the heart. As soon as the suppression loosens, immediately come over.”

This place still suppressed the blue-robed female cultivator’s spiritual consciousness, and her cultivation had also not recovered fully.

Before Ning Cheng had the time to speak, the sword light from the blue-robed female cultivator struck the giant heart.

“Bang.....” Just like a balloon filled with gas exploding, the giant heart suddenly burst open, and the endless mucus-lined insects rushed out, giving out terror-inducing screeching sounds.

It’s over..... Ning Cheng screamed within his heart. He had wanted to say to her that the heart cannot be attacked.

“It’s over....” The blue-robed female cultivator also regretted her actions. If she had known that she shouldn’t attack the heart, she would have never done such a thing.

“Boom.....” Another burst of roaring sound erupted. Ning Cheng who had just fled from the canyon to reach here naturally knew what this sound meant.

The blue-robed female cultivator and Tian Muwan also knew this sound, which caused their faces to turn ugly.

“That’s the sound of devouring spaces opening up. Hurry up and get out, I have a way for myself.” Ning Cheng roared out.

“Katcha.....” The light shield around Tian Muwan and the blue-robed female cultivator finally started to crack apart as those dark red insects chewed through it. A fishy aura rushed inside, causing Tian Muwan to almost faint.

Seeing the insects about to engulf the two of them, the blue-robed female cultivator gave out a sigh before grabbing Tian Muwan. She then raised the child talisman in her hands and activated it. It was not that she did not want to help Ning Cheng, rather she really couldn’t help Ning Cheng even if she wanted to in such a situation.

“Ning Cheng, I owe you.....” The blue-robed female cultivator uttered those words with difficulty.

“Xiaocheng....” Tian Muwan shrieked. She could only call out those two characters when the blue-robed female cultivator disappeared with her from that place without even a trace left behind.

The two of them had just disappeared when that seemingly endless swarm of insects drowned that location with their bodies.

However, as that swarm of insects had realised that the blue-robed female cultivator and Tian Muwan had both disappeared, they almost in an instant shifted their target to Ning Cheng.

After Ning Cheng realised that devouring spaces had started opening up randomly in this place, he wanted to wait till the moment just before a devouring space opened up near him. As long as he entered the Mysterious Yellow Bead, even if the devouring spaces engulfed him, he could still survive. However, that endless swarm of insects had immediately shifted their target to him.

At this time, Ning Cheng no longer cared about the repercussions and crazily shot out one spiritual consciousness blade after another.

However, the more spiritual consciousness blade he shot out, the more chaos erupted in his Sea of Consciousness. Fortunately, his almost insane efforts finally started to bear fruit. He immediately felt the shackles around his body loosen a bit. Ning Cheng did not overthink, desperately stimulating the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds, he quickly moved away from his current location.

“Thump-thump-thump....” Another sound erupted like a beat of the drum. Ning Cheng had already readied his spirit sense to send the signal to the Mysterious Yellow Bead. As soon as a devouring space reached him, he would immediately enter the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

However, Ning Cheng suddenly felt something wrong, the rumbling sound came to a screeching halt the moment Ning Cheng gained his freedom. At the same time, the area around Ning Cheng suddenly opened up, and the light turned much brighter. The oppressive darkness that had shrouded him previously seemed to have completely melted away at this moment.

Maybe because of the sudden appearance of the light, but that swarm of insects that had locked on to Ning Cheng retreated and surrounded the punctured heart.

A huge black-coloured altar suddenly solidified in the direction from where that light originated, with two words suspended over it, ‘Forefather’s Library’. This altar looked as if it was far away from the heart of the blood lake, making Ning Cheng standing in the middle feel really uneasy.

The Gate Of Good Fortune

Chapter 696: I Offered My Blood

“Step, Step.....”

“Crash, Crash....”

Sounds of incomparably heavy footsteps came from behind the altar. Hearing that, Ning Cheng forcibly tried to calm down and look at the source.

A giant, about ten feet in height, walked in his direction step by step. Each time its foot fell on the ground, it caused everything to tremble.

What shocked Ning Cheng, even more, was the sad state of this giant. This giant had a huge hole in its chest and no heart. It looked like someone had torn out its heart, spilling fresh blood down its chest. Moreover, this giant only had one arm, and huge chains seemed to bind the only arm along with its two feet. Every step the giant took, those chains would make crashing-like sounds.

One of its eyes sockets had no eye at all, utterly empty like an empty hole, while the other eye looked blind. As for the empty eye socket, it kept dripping black blood. Only the word ‘miserable’ could describe the state of this giant.

“I offered my blood as sacrifice, give me back my heart.....”

“I offered my blood as sacrifice, give me back my eyes....”

.....

As the giant walked up to the altar, it kept repeating the same two sentences over and over again.

Ning Cheng subconsciously looked back at the blood lake directly opposite to him and the altar. His gaze immediately focussed on that giant heart above the blood lake. Did that heart belong to the giant?

By this time, that giant had already walked up to the altar. However, the giant showed no care about the altar; instead, he reached out to grab the heart suspended above the lake. At the same time, he kept calling out, “I offered my blood as sacrifice, give me back my heart..... I offer my blood as sacrifice, give me back my eyes.....”

However, it looks like whoever created those three chains locking the giant’s body had created it for a specific length. The single arm of the giant could only reach the edge of the lake, and could not advance by even a tiny bit.

Looking at the giant’s body, desperately reaching out to grab the heart suspended over the blood lake, deep and mournful feelings started to rise up in Ning Cheng’s heart. It even gave birth to the thought of helping the giant get his heart back. Or rather, help the giant cut off and free it from the three chains binding it.

However, Ning Cheng didn’t lose his mind. He can’t even protect himself right now and already had difficulties staying alive in the middle of this altar and the lake of blood, let alone try cutting off those three chains. Besides, when it came to those three chains, he might not be able to cut it off even in peak condition.

At this time, the altar suddenly gave out a groaning sound, similar to the sound of a horn one would hear in a battlefield. That groaning sound immediately made Ning Cheng even more uneasy, but he had no way of stopping it.

When the groaning sound emerged, the giant turned even more desperate to grab the heart. It tried to inch and claw its way forward, but the chains binding it kept pulling it back like a taught iron wire.

Maybe because the giant struggled too much, but Ning Cheng suddenly felt a familiar aura from it. It was as if he had encountered a similar aura somewhere in the past.

Not waiting for Ning Cheng to think about it carefully, the dark red insects in the blood lake started to swarm out once again, seemingly under the effects of the groaning sound.

It’s just that these insects now seemed to follow an order, and did not rush towards Ning Cheng. However, Ning Cheng’s expressions quickly changed. He was an array formation master; meaning, he was proficient with array formations. As such, he immediately understood what these insects were doing.

These insects were arranging themselves into a top-notch blood-draining array formation. Once this array formation took shape, it would immediately draw every scrap of blood in the surroundings into the blood lake. In other words, even the blood inside a body would face the same fate.

What a vicious son-of-a-bitch! This bastard even controlled these insects to arrange themselves into setting up a blood-draining grand array using the sound from the altar. Although Ning Cheng felt angry and outraged, he could not find a way to counter it.

“Ka-Ka....” As the insects continued to arrange themselves, the array formation finally took shape.

A horrifying suction suddenly erupted. Ning Cheng quickly materialised the shadow of the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, but that shadow could not last for even a moment before it dissipated under the suction force.

Immediately following that, the Essence Blood in his body, without any control, started to seep out of his skin and bones, moving towards the blood lake.

“Weng....” While Ning Cheng continued to resist, the blood within the giant’s body rushed out like a blood bridge and poured into the blood lake.

This sight made Ning Cheng even sadder as he looked at that the tortured giant. He also understood that the existence who locked this giant up had not only kept it confined here but even continually extracted blood from this giant’s body.

At this time, Ning Cheng understood the origins of the blood in this blood lake. It turns out, the blood filling the blood lake came from this giant.

The roar from the giant turned even more melancholic and quick, “I offered my blood as sacrifice, give me back my heart..... I offered my blood as sacrifice, give me back my eyes....”

“Kacha....” A cracking sound emerged and the shadow of Ning Cheng’s Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort once again cracked apart under the suction forces.

Although feeling tired and exhausted, Ning Cheng once again condensed the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort’s shadow and shouted at the giant, “You must not forcibly take your heart, you can’t grab it right now. You’re only letting the blood lake suck away your blood. Go back quickly. But before you go back, I’d like to ask you to do me a favour. Tear apart void here and let me go. As long as I, Ning Cheng, remain alive, I will come here one day to help you regain your heart.”

The giant suddenly stopped its actions of wanting to rush into the blood lake and looked at Ning Cheng through the empty eye socket.

Seeing the giant’s reaction, Ning Cheng shouted even louder, “You can believe in me. As long as I live, I will definitely help you.”

“Many years ago, I helped someone like you. But he never came back to help me.....” The giant spoke slowly with a hoarse voice devoid of any emotion.

Ning Cheng froze, he didn’t expect someone to cheat the giant in front of him. It immediately made him angry. That son-of-a-bitch not only cheated this giant, that bastard would also be the reason of him dying here.

Just when Ning Cheng wanted to explain, the giant suddenly spoke up, “I will help you....”

With those words, the giant raised his only hand and grasped at the void before pulling down. A tear appeared in space in front of Ning Cheng, and a spacial wind edge shot out from the torn void.

After the giant tore the space open, it then ignored Ning Cheng and once again tried to reach the blood lake to grab its heart, "I offered my blood, give me back my heart..... I offered my blood, give me back my eyes....."

Ning Cheng's spirits immediately lifted and shouted at the giant, "I'm leaving. You should really stop trying to force yourself to grab the heart. Listen to me and go back quickly. One day, I promise to come back to help you. This Ning Cheng vows to never break this promise...."

"Katcha...." The shadow of Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort broke apart once again, while the void, torn apart by the giant, also started to close up. Ning Cheng did not dare to delay for an extra moment. After saying this, he quickly rushed into the void torn open by the giant.

"Boom...." Ning Cheng had just disappeared when the void torn open by the giant completely closed. The blood lake and the altar along with the giant behind it also disappeared.

Ning Cheng remained standing within the chaotic space. Despite the spacial wind edges striking his body, Ning Cheng stood there for a full incense stick worth of time before he murmured to himself, "As long as I Ning Cheng do not die, I will return here one day to kill those disgusting insects, destroy that Altar of Forefather's Library and cut off those three chains!!"

With those words, Ning Cheng silently looked back. At this moment, he felt his own incomparable insignificance in the grand scheme of things. Even though his cultivation had reached the middle-level of Heaven Seated Realm, he was still an ant within the vast universe. There were still countless powerful beings much stronger than him out in the vast universe.

Ning Cheng brought out the Starry Sky Wheel and prepared to leave when he suddenly stopped. At this moment, he managed to recall why the aura from the giant felt so familiar.

It was because of an eye, an eye nailed to the bottom of a lake.

The lake called White Robe Ghost Lake, within the Forsaken Lands. At the bottom of the White Robe Ghost Lake, somewhere in the endless desert of the Forsaken Lands, was a blue eye nailed to the bottom of the lake by a strange dagger, making it so that no one could move it at all.

At this time, when he compared the aura from back then to the aura he sensed from the giant, he finally understood that the blue eye also belonged to the giant.

Ning Cheng immediately felt excited as he thought back to Princess Mann from Yaren City. Princess Mann had a crystal dot on her forehead which gave off the same aura as the blue eye beneath the lake.

Back then, Ning Cheng had thought that Princess Man wanted to search and prepare a body so that the eye could take over it. But now, he finally understood that Princess Mann's body had already come under someone's control. However, the entity who took possession of her body was not the eye at the bottom of the lake, but someone else who wanted to refine the eye at the bottom of the lake into her third eye.

That fellow possessing Princess Mann's body definitely had some lofty ambitions. To actually want to refine one of the giant's eye as their third eye.

Ning Cheng suddenly felt some regret in his heart. He should have killed that Princess Mann when he had the chance. Although Ning Cheng felt sure that Princess Mann wouldn't manage to refine the third eye so quickly, Ning Cheng also knew that he now owed the giant a lot. If Ning Cheng wanted to help the giant, Ning Cheng had to carry it out to the end. That eye, he must bring it back to the giant at any cost.

The Gate Of Good Fortune

Chapter 697: Hard To Survive

After flying around with the Starry Sky Wheel for about an hour, Ning Cheng determined that his current location was not within the void between interfaces. Instead, he should be somewhere between starry skies, but Ning Cheng was not sure whether he was still in the same positional plane.

However, instead of continuing, Ning Cheng stopped the Starry Sky Wheel.

After going through the previous experiences, he became more aware of his own shortcomings and wanted to improve his cultivation.

Moreover, he now had some cultivation resources; unfortunately, he had no way to set up a Time Grand Array, unlike Cang Wei. Otherwise, if he could set up the Time Grand Array, he could cultivate inside it for ten years and only a year would have passed outside. However, it was just a dream. Even if he was a Tier 7 Array Emperor, he was still too far away from setting up even a small scale Time Grand Array.

Fortunately, he also owned the Mysterious Yellow Bead. If he cultivated in Mysterious Yellow Bead, he could achieve a much faster cultivation speed compared to improving outside.

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Half a month later, Ning Cheng set up several Shielding Array Formations in the depths of a remnant star within the void before entering the Mysterious Yellow Bead to start cultivating.

Nevertheless, Ning Cheng knew that despite arranging many Shielding Array Formations, people would still discover him if they wandered within a certain distance of him. This made him feel a little helpless. Who let his Mysterious Yellow Bead lack the Wood Origin Bead? Despite that, he did not put too much importance to it now. 'Time' was just too valuable of a resource to him right now. Moreover, with his current cultivation, even if someone in the Eternal Realm discovered him, he could still manage to escape calmly.

Although he was at the middle-level of Heaven Seated Realm, it was not worth mentioning in front of some of the major powers. However, Ning Cheng was now no longer the ant he was when he first stepped into the Heaven Seated Realm. At this moment, even if an Eternal Starry Sky Emperor coveted his things, they would have to put their life on the line to obtain them.

After setting up the array formations, Ning Cheng did not immediately start cultivating. He first began to organise the things at hand. He had obtained two rings from Eternal Starry Sky Emperors, one during the siege at Shui Clan and the other from Interdependence Chamber of Commerce's Zhu Zhengfeng.

The storage ring he had picked up from the Eternal-level cultivator during the siege in Shui Clan contained quite a lot of things. In addition to the sizable collection of artefact-crafting raw materials and alchemy-related spiritual grasses, it also included two top-tier starry sky-class battleships. Cultivators at this level of cultivation did not usually carry purple coins. Instead, most of them had a large amount of Perpetual Moon Pills and Permanent Essence Pills. Just from this storage ring alone, Ning Cheng obtained millions of Perpetual Moon Pills along with a little more than a million Permanent Essence Pills.

Although considered as an ordinary level of wealth among Eternal-level cultivators, it was still a huge harvest for Ning Cheng.

However, the harvest from this storage ring could not match up to even a tenth of the things from the storage ring of the Interdependence Chamber of Commerce's Zhu Zhengfeng. Zhu Zhengfeng's storage ring not only contained ten times more artefact-crafting raw materials, but even the average grade was a lot higher.

However, these were not what Ning Cheng valued the most. Ning Cheng found nearly ten million Permanent Essence Pills and approximately a billion Perpetual Moon Pills in Zhu Zhengfeng's storage ring, the most essential resource to him right now. Although Ning Cheng gave away two pots of None-to-depend-on Wine to Bao Xi, the storage ring still contained more than a dozen jars.

Whether or not Zhu Zhengfeng's storage ring contained the real Mutual Dependence Wine, Ning Cheng did not know, nor did he care. Even if all the Mutual Dependence Wine in Zhu Zhengfeng's storage ring were fake, he still had a barrel of the real stuff.

However, what surprised Ning Cheng, even more, was that he found a fist-sized Polar Star Nucleus. Polar Star Nucleus, also known as the Star Flame Nucleus, was the core of a fire-attributed planet. However, not every fire-attributed planet had a Polar Star Nucleus. Moreover, to obtain the Polar Star Nucleus, one must destroy the fire-attributed planet. This treasure could help a Grade 3 Nirvana Flame to evolve into a Grade 4 Starry Sky Flame. Unfortunately, his Celestial River Flame has still not achieved nirvana. Its level was too low to use this material.

Putting away the Polar Star Nucleus, Ning Cheng no longer had any qualms. Entering the Mysterious Yellow Bead, he immediately went into secluded cultivation.

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Covered Snow City.

This was a city in Kun Zhuo Celestial River's Second Revenant Star.

Second Revenant Star was Kun Zhuo Celestial River's primary star. Initially, when Ning Cheng wanted to search for his sister Ruolan, he first came to the Second Revenant Star. However, the city Ning Cheng went to was the premier city of the Second Revenant Star, the Descendant City. He had even stayed in the city for a few months.

Compared to the Descendant City, Covered Snow City was not a major city within the Second Revenant Star. It was just a remote city, located at the edge of the Second Revenant Star. Because the city was under snow perennially, it ended up getting the name Covered Snow City.

In Covered Snow City, there was a famous grand bridge, called the East Gate Grand Bridge. The East Gate Grand Bridge spanned across a river that ran through the Covered Snow City, dividing the city into two parts.

The eastern part had scarce starry sky Essence Qi and was the home to ordinary and rogue cultivators. As for the west part of the Covered Snow City, it had a relatively vibrant starry sky Essence Qi and was full of sects and other forces, along with residences of the more wealthy cultivators.

Despite the scarcity of starry sky Essence Qi in the eastern part, every inch of land within the Covered Snow City was worth its weight in gold.

A few miles away from the East Gate Grand Bridge, one would find a relatively small restaurant called 'Cheng Ruolan'.

Although Cheng Ruolan Restaurant was a restaurant, only three people ran it. The owner of the restaurant, Helian Mingzhe, his granddaughter Helian Dai and a helper, Ning Ruolan.

Cheng Ruolan Restaurant might have looked small, but many rogue cultivator liked to come here to drink. Mainly because this restaurant provided good quality wine at low prices. A hundred blue coins could get one a pot of some quality wine.

Obviously, Ning Cheng's sister, Ning Ruolan, was the one who came up with this name. Moreover, the reason Ning Ruolan chose such a name was so that Ning Cheng could find it easily.

According to her original idea, she wanted to establish this restaurant in Descendant City. However, the price within Descendant City was not something she could manage. Rather, she could not afford it at all.

Therefore, she decided to look for establishing a shop somewhere near Descendant City; however, the prices still posed a prohibitive barrier. As she kept looking, she finally reached Covered Snow City. Fortunately, although Covered Snow City was in a remote location, it was still in the Second Revenant Star.

When Ning Ruolan came to Descendant City, she was not alone. She had come with Rui Baishan, Luo Ziyang, Que Hongshui, Taishu Pinghao, Meng Jingxiu, Xian Caixue and others. However, Ning Ruolan insisted on staying in Second Revenant Star to keep searching for her brother Ning Cheng. She believed that her big brother could find her in Second Revenant Star.

In the beginning, others were willing to wait with Ning Ruolan. However, Rui Baishan suddenly went missing, and the rest started to feel that staying in this place would not have any future. When Ning Ruolan decided to remain behind long-term in Covered Snow City, everyone started to separate and go his or her separate ways.

In the end, Ning Ruolan was the only one left in Covered Snow City. She later met with Helian Dai and decided to work at Helian Dai's small restaurant. Moreover, since Ning Ruolan had experience in operating a business, she quickly helped double the profits of this restaurant. This won the trust of Helian Dai and her grandfather Helian Mingzhe.

Finally, the no-name restaurant officially named themselves as Cheng Ruolan Restaurant on Ning Ruolan's suggestion, mainly catering to the less affluent rogue cultivators.

However, today, the Cheng Ruolan Restaurant, which usually opened on time, remained shuttered.

Inside the restaurant, a man with a sickly-looking face sat with a melancholic look over his face.

“These people are too shameless. Our restaurant has been running here for over a hundred years. Now that a mystic realm has opened up in the eastern part of the Covered Snow City, everyone wants to come here and move us away. We are not moving. What can they do about our Cheng Ruolan Restaurant?” A green-robed woman sat on the side and spoke with a face filled with anger.

The sickly-faced man knew the reason behind his granddaughter’s anger. He gave out a sigh before turning his gaze towards the yellow-robed woman sitting in the left, “Ruolan, what do you think?”

This beautiful woman, in a yellow robe and sitting on the left, was none other than Ning Ruolan who came from Graceful Star Mainland to search for her brother Ning Cheng. She had stayed in Covered Snow City for many years, on the hope that her big brother could find her. She understood that searching for her elder brother Ning Cheng within the vast universe would be impossible with her current cultivation of Celestial Novice Realm.

This place was not Earth, but the endless starry sky universe.

Ning Ruolan hesitated for a moment before speaking up, “Grandpa Helian, Junior Apprentice Sister Dai, we have to leave. If we stay here, I’m afraid the three of us wouldn’t even know how we died.”

The sickly-looking man nodded and said to the green-robed female cultivator, “Little Dai, Ruolan is right. We have to leave. You and Ruolan both have Celestial Novice Cultivation, and I am at the Celestial Gatherer Realm. However, I am still injured. Anyone in the Celestial Gatherer Realm could easily wipe us out, let alone people with strong family background. We will not only lose our restaurant by staying here but also our lives.”

“But, but....” Helian Dai wanted to refute. Even her expressions showed that she did not want to leave, but she could not find any logical reasoning or words to deny it. She knew Big Sister Ruolan and her grandpa were right. They had to leave.

Ning Ruolan also knew that Helian Dai did not want to leave. She gave out a sigh, “This time, the Ancient Shadow Temple’s Mystic Realm suddenly appeared and that too not far from the Covered Snow City. Many people would definitely come here to explore it, which means the locations outside the Covered Snow City would turn into precious commodities. Although we will have to leave the restaurant, we can still set ourselves outside the Covered Snow City if we still hope of doing any business in the future.”

Helian Mingzhe also nodded, “Let’s do as Ruolan said. When the Ancient Shadow Temple finally opens, it will definitely attract many cultivators to Covered Snow City. Maybe our business could improve outside.”

Although the three of them knew that those were just words of self-consolation, they had no choice but to hope for it. Instead of waiting for someone to snatch the Cheng Ruolan Restaurant through force, it would be better to let go of it early.

“Boom.....” Just when Helian Mingzhe’s words ended, the entrance to the restaurant burst open.

A scarlet-robed woman stood at the entrance with three male cultivators standing behind her. The scarlet-robed woman's gaze swept over Ning Ruolan's trio before she spoke up in a cold tone. "I already sent you my words yesterday, but you still haven't rolled away. Do you want me to personally kick you out or have you gone deaf?"

Seeing Helian Dai suddenly stand up, Ning Ruolan quickly rushed ahead and said, "This Senior Apprentice Sister, please calm down. We have already planned to move away and were just discussing where to go."

Ruolan knew that she could not let Helian Dai speak at this moment. In case Helian Dai's words angered the people in front of them, none of them would see the light of the next day. She already had a good understanding of the forces represented by the people standing in front of her.

"Fuck off..." The scarlet-robed woman did not even bother to look at Ning Ruolan and slapped her palm horizontally.

Ning Ruolan only had a Celestial Novice Cultivation, while this scarlet-robed female cultivator had a full-circle Celestial Gatherer Cultivation. How could she avoid it? The force from the scarlet-robed woman's palm slap caused Ning Ruolan to fly back and crash into the wall stacked with bottles and jars of wine behind her, breaking them all to pieces.

Seeing Ning Ruolan starting to grow angry as she stood up, Helian Mingzhe quickly stood up and planted himself in front of Ning Ruolan. He then spoke up, "Little Dai quickly help up your Big Sister Ruolan. We're leaving."

Even if Helian Mingzhe had turned stupid, he knew that staying here would mean death for the three of them. Moreover, before Helian Mingzhe finished speaking, Helian Dai had already rushed up and helped Ning Ruolan up. Then following Helian Mingzhe's lead, the three of them quickly moved out from the side door, without even bothering to take their things from the restaurant.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 698: Rediscovering the Returning-to-one Dao

As the three people came out of the back of the restaurant, Helian Dai looked at the surrounding mess and spoke up with some fear, "Grandpa, Big Sister Ruolan, are we really that lucky?"

Ning Ruolan and Helian Mingzhe also felt surprised at the scene around them. As Helian Dai said, it looked like luck really played a part for the three of them. The East Gate Grand Bridge was an area initially filled with a variety of shops and rest stops; but now, all those establishments were in ruins. No one had even bothered to move the dozens of bodies scattered across the wreckage. These corpses all belonged to the various owners of the shops and merchant houses near to them. However, these shop owners just like their shops, have already turned into corpses.

Ning Ruolan murmured to herself that this was a world of the strong. The strong always devoured the weak, as evidenced by the scene in front of them.

Initially, the east part of the city had a relatively stable balance of powers. Although fights would erupt occasionally, it would not affect the overall situation. However, once those powerful forces from the

other side of the river poured into this area, this balance of power quickly crumbled. Maybe in a while, a new balance of power might appear in this area, but it would have nothing to do with them.

“Let’s go.” Helian Mingzhe gave a sigh and spoke up.

None of the three said anything anymore. Covered Snow City, a real starry sky city of the Second Revenant Star, meant that people at least adhered to some laws. Yet someone dared to break this adherence of rules and openly occupied this area by killing the rest of the cultivators, who else could do this besides the Ji Clan?

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Because of the scouring of the Mysterious Yellow Origin Aura and aura from the Origins, Ning Cheng’s cultivation improved like a bird soaring into the skies. Celestial essence aura from the two spiritual veins and several Permanent Essence Pills mixed with the Origin Aura as it wrapped around Ning Cheng, completely obscuring him from view.

The power of the Mysterious Yellow Formless had a multiplicative effect in the Mysterious Yellow Bead, causing Ning Cheng’s cultivation to climb rapidly. Even he could not judge the time he spent in cultivation.

Only after an unknown amount of time later did he start to feel a sense of stability. It felt as if he was just a moment away from breaking out of the Heaven Seated Realm and advancing to the Life and Death Realm.

The Life and Death Realm was the second sub-realm within the Destiny’s Three Realms. However, only by gaining enlightenment in life and death, could a cultivator split Yin and Yang and touch upon the Life and Death Realm.

If an ordinary starry sky cultivator wanted to advance to the Life and Death Realm, he or she would have to rely on the Life and Death Intent Field Pill. This pill could let cultivators experience the cycle between life and death, give birth to Yin and Yang and let them experience the joys and sorrows of two reincarnations.

This also meant that any cultivator who could refine the Life and Death Intent Field Pill would most likely be a Pill Emperor in the Life and Death or above realms. Ning Cheng had no access to such medicinal pills, but within the depths of his heart, a strange feeling started to grow stronger. That is, as long as he continued to derive and cultivate in such a state, he would definitely advance to the Life and Death Realm.

At this moment, Ning Cheng had subconsciously immersed himself in gaining enlightenment of the Life and Death Realm, while trying to improve his cultivation’s foundation.

If someone came to this place before, he would have sensed it. However, even if someone took away the Mysterious Yellow Bead right now, he would not be able to wake himself up.

A one-of-a-kind obsession filled his mind. If not for the Mysterious Yellow Origin Aura, maybe this obsession would have already transformed him into a devil.

At this moment, a tall tower, which gave him some familiarity, suddenly appeared in front of him. A moment later, he recalled why it felt familiar. This tower was the same starry sky tower he had seen on the Culmination Public Square. It was just that the starry sky tower on the Culmination Public Square only went up to the 49th floor, but this tower in front of him seemed to contain more than 49 levels.

Ning Cheng felt a call in his heart. He increasingly felt that as long as he conquered this tower, he could then breakthrough from the Heaven Seated Realm and touch upon the Life and Death Realm.

As a wave of Mysterious Yellow Aura washed over him, Ning Cheng's consciousness suddenly turned clear and stopped himself from walking into the tower. Was he not in secluded cultivation? How did he get here? Was this an illusion?

No, this was not an illusion. Ning Cheng immediately threw the thought of illusion aside. The tower in front of him looked much brighter compared to the past, which further consolidated his will and determination to advance to the Life and Death Realm.

Ning Cheng did not hesitate anymore and stepped into the tower.

A pale golden ladder appeared in front of Ning Cheng. As soon as Ning Cheng stepped onto this ladder, an intense twisting pressure descended onto him.

This definitely was not an illusion, Ning Cheng immediately understood. If this were an illusion, he would not have felt this intense twisting pressure so clearly.

Ning Cheng stirred up his celestial essence and released his Celestial River Domain as he climbed up the ladder step-by-step. He kept reminding himself that this was all for advancing to the Life and Death Realm and that he must not turn anxious.

1st floor, 2nd floor... 10th floor... 15th floor...

The more floors Ning Cheng climbed up, the higher the pressure he experienced, but Ning Cheng's heart grew equally delighted. Every time he crossed a floor, his spirit techniques seemed to solidify a little.

27th floor, 28th floor... 36th floor, 37th floor...

At this moment, Ning Cheng forgot that he came to this tower in pursuit of the Life and Death Realm. He also forgot that as long as he crossed this tower, he could advance to the Life and Death Realm.

At this moment, he only focussed on climbing through the floors within this tower, gaining continuous insights, which allowed his spirit techniques to grow more and more powerful.

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At the same time, within the Grand Culmination Starry Skies' Culmination Public Square.

A cultivator standing on the public square suddenly screamed, "Look, someone stepped onto the 50th floor of the Eternal Starry Sky Tower....."

"Idiot, the Eternal Starry Sky Tower only has 49 floors, seven sets of seven, which means 49 floors." Someone immediately scolded the cultivator.

The three towers of Culmination were always the centre of attention throughout the entire Grand Culmination Starry Skies. Although a symbol of Culmination, it also attracted cultivators from other grand starry skies to enter their names in the three Culmination Towers.

“Ah, it really turned into 50 floors.” Another cultivator exclaimed, but his words suddenly changed, “It’s not the 50th floor, its 51st floor now.”

The Eternal Starry Sky Tower on Culmination Public Square had suddenly changed from 49 floors to 51 floors. This kind of absurd thing, no one would believe it anywhere else. Nevertheless, standing in Culmination Public Square, they had no choice but to believe it. Moreover, everyone could see it with their eyes and could easily count the number of floors of the Eternal Starry Sky Tower to verify the change.

“It’s true; the number of floors in the Eternal Starry Sky Tower is increasing.....”

One by one, shouts of surprises rang out in the Culmination Public Square. The facts were in front of everyone’s eyes, they had to believe it.

“Boom....” A violent explosion erupted. All the cultivators standing in Culmination Public Square felt shocked as they looked towards the huge array formation display in front of the Eternal Starry Sky Tower.

Just now, the display array formation had exploded. Such a strange thing had never happened at the Culmination Public Square.

Just when all the cultivators looked at each other trying to decide if such a thing was a blessing or a curse, something came out of the Eternal Starry Sky Tower. It was a huge stone tablet.

“This stone tablet came out suddenly....” A cultivator whispered, as if afraid that if his voice was too loud, the stone tablet would suddenly explode.

The cultivators on the public square turned quite. They could all see that this stone tablet was not only growing, it grew just like the Eternal Starry Sky Tower. The stone tablet had distinct marks for each layer. For each floor passed in the Eternal Starry Sky Tower, another mark would appear over the stone tablet for that floor as it grew.

At this moment, the Eternal Starry Tower now had 63 floors.

The news of the rapid growth of the Eternal Starry Sky Tower in Culmination Public Square disseminated like wildfire and quickly spread all over the Culmination Starland before spreading out at the fastest speed.

Chuan Xinlou was the first to appear in Culmination Public Square, followed by other experts that poured onto the Culmination Public Square from other areas. Even the Eternal-level powerhouses from Grand Spirit Heaven, Grand Devil Domain, and Grand Demon Domain Starry Skies rushed to Culmination Starland.

For such a phenomenon to occur in respect to the Eternal Starry Sky Tower at the Culmination Public Square, it definitely indicated that the laws of heaven and earth had somehow changed.

As for a reason, no one could tell.

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Ning Cheng did not know about the commotion he caused at the Culmination Public Square's Eternal Starry Sky Tower. He just kept climbing up.

"70th floor... 71st floor....."

The pressure from the 71st floor to the 72nd floor more than doubled. The pressure increased to such an extent that Ning Cheng once again began to feel the bones in his legs give out subtle cracking sounds. This kind of pressure was very different from when he entered the Mysterious Yellow Temple. At that time, the pressure he experienced in the Mysterious Yellow Temple was only the pressure created from a powerful imposing aura. However, the pressure here not only originated from a powerful imposing aura but also seemed to come from a form of will.

Was this the end? Ning Cheng felt some disappointment as he looked at the golden ladder in front of him. A sense of unwillingness started to creep up in his heart.

Ning Cheng felt that if he could cross the 72nd floor, he would obtain something much more significant than what he gained from all the floors combined before it. After reaching the 72nd floor, he had already put aside the thought of advancing to the Life and Death Realm.

No, I cannot afford to lose this chance. Ning Cheng thought as he started to burn away his celestial essence. As he forcefully burned his celestial essence, it turned into a powerful force, turning the imposing aura from his Celestial River Domain even more majestic.

As Ning Cheng's power kept growing, the power of the golden ladder also kept increasing proportionally.

One more step, just one more step...

"Kacha...."

One of Ning Cheng's legs finally broke, but at this time, Ning Cheng stood on the 72nd floor. He quickly brought out the Nirvana Spear and forced himself to remain standing with its help.

Looking up, he saw the 73rd floor and even a 74th floor in front of him. A surge of despair and hopelessness started to rise in Ning Cheng. Looks like this was the end, he could only stop here.

However, an inexplicable Dao Charm suddenly came crashing down and instantly washed away Ning Cheng's despair. At this moment, the endless charm of the Grand Dao filled Ning Cheng's mind and will.

Ning Cheng felt so spirited that he unconsciously raised his hand and grabbed the Returning-to-one leather scroll. Initially, he had comprehended the prototype of his Dao because of this leather scroll.

"Darkness gives birth to light, existing order gives birth to form, consciousness gives birth to Dao, and myriad beings shape one another....."

"..... Neither Yin nor Yang, between heaven and earth, just a human, desiring to return to the source, all returns to one..... "

“All things in heaven and earth are born with form, and this secret does not come without reason. It is like something bright coming out of the darkness, becoming visible through form, and gaining consciousness through Dao... If one lives inside Yin and Yang and has a physical body, one would eventually return to the origin, Returning-to-one.”

“I understand.” Ning Cheng muttered to himself. No matter if the golden ladder brought down higher pressure, it also had an origin that is precisely what the Returning-to-one explained. He burned his celestial essence to push himself forward recklessly, it was just asking for the end. The best way was to find the strength to concentrate on returning to the source.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 699: The Cycle of Life and Death

Reaching the 72nd floor of this tower, Ning Cheng finally gained more profound enlightenment in regards to the Returning-to-one Dao. All things in heaven and earth had an origin, and will eventually return to its source.

It was just like, “One gives birth to two, two gives birth to three, three gives birth to everything else....”

If one reversed that saying, everything would return to one. This was what ‘Returning-to-one’ meant.

It was as if an invisible shackle binding Ning Cheng had suddenly dissipated, and he immediately felt relaxed. Even the leg that broke under pressure naturally returned to its original state.

As Ning Cheng raised a hand, Dao Charms naturally formed around it, and the huge pressure surrounding him immediately disappeared without a trace. It seemed as if he and this floor had fused into one, creating a whole.

Bringing out the Nirvana Spear, the spear seemed to split the void and caused a sudden stagnation of space. This was not like when he cast Sunset’s Twilight; at this moment, he could feel that this stagnated space was now entirely under his control.

This feeling was just too good to be true. Perhaps, this was the real introduction to the Laws of Time. If one day he merged all laws into one according to Returning-to-one maybe that would be the day he would prove his Supreme Grand Dao.

Ning Cheng raised his hand once again after putting away the Nirvana Spear, and the surrounding space seemed to have solidified. It felt as if he now completely grasped the area within his hand.

This was not due to the Maximal Flame Spirit Technique, but a simulated space spirit technique that Ning Cheng had derived from the laws of the Maximal Flame Spirit Technique. From now on, when using the Maximal Flame Spirit Technique, he would not necessarily have to use the ‘Maximal Flame’ part; at the same time, he could also use other attacks with it. Eventually, this simulated space spirit technique would one day evolve into a real space spirit technique.

Ning Cheng didn’t immediately head to the 73rd floor; instead, he brought out a crystal ball. This contained Mo Clan’s spirit technique, None-to-depend-on. Now that he experienced such powerful enlightenment, it was the best time to understand this None-to-depend-on.

Ning Cheng didn't touch the None-to-depend-on Wine from Zhu Zhengfeng's storage ring; instead, he took out the barrel of best quality None-to-depend-on Wine. He didn't use a jug, and instead, took off its cover before lifting the barrel up and taking in a mouthful. At the same time, his spiritual consciousness formed a link with the crystal ball.

"Boom...." Melancholic emotions poured into Ning Cheng, completely immersing him within it. He completely forgot about the barrel in his hand.

"Always separated abandoned heart; gazing at the distant stars, none to depend on....."

Amid such sadness, the Dao Charm from the spirit technique started to overflow from the crystal ball, filling Ning Cheng's mind with even more grief.

Down the worn path, the west wind blows, the bony horse groans...

The west wind brings yellow sands, wanting to fill the world with it, to drown the long ancient road outside the village. Leading the skinny horse, desiring to see the lover down the old path. But yellow sand obscures the gaze...

As the sun sets below the horizon, the yellow sand gradually drowned the ancient road. Everything in front of him slowly started to blur and fall into darkness.

"Kacha...." The crystal ball shattered and Ning Cheng suddenly woke up. He looked up at the open space around him and immediately burst out in cold sweats.

Caught up in those melancholic emotions, if someone had suddenly tried to kill him, he would have definitely died.

Turns out that this None-to-depend-on was a spirit technique that directly affected one's heart.

Once again bringing out the Nirvana Spear, the sorrowful despair-filled Dao Charm flowed into the Nirvana Spear before permeating into the world around him.

At this moment, this piece of heaven and earth transformed into an ancient road. At this moment, his opponent would have no choice but to stare blankly at the yellow sands creeping over the ancient road. Only sadness and despair filled this piece of the world, and he was the master. He was the one who dominated this entire world. As long as his Nirvana Spear swept out, everything in this world would face complete and thorough destruction.

Whether it was the ancient road, or the west wind, or the skinny horse, destruction and annihilation would follow regardless of the opponent's strength.

Ning Cheng recalled the spear and everything around him returned to its original state. Even the sadness-filled aura disappeared without a trace. In front of the 72nd floor, there was no ancient road, no west wind, no skinny horse, and no yellow sand.

"So this is the original None-to-depend-on." Ning Cheng muttered to himself, "What a powerful spirit technique."

He felt sure that if someone had used this None-to-depend-on Spirit Technique on him, then he would have fallen for it with his temperament.

Whether a person was good or bad, whether it was a demon or a fairy, whether it was a god or a devil...

Within everyone's hearts, there always exists a place deep inside, which no one else but that being can touch. As long as this place existed, None-to-depend-on would take advantage of it. This was the None-to-depend-on Spirit Technique.

Taking a deep breath, Ning Cheng ambled towards the 73rd floor. He obtained many gains on the 72nd floor.

Although the pressure from the ladder swept over, Ning Cheng now did not have to burn his celestial essence anymore. His entire body exuded a burst of aura filled with Dao Charm, which integrated his Celestial River Domain and the powerful forces surrounding it into one.

The pressure from the golden ladder quickly weakened, allowing Ning Cheng to comfortably climb the ladder and enter the 73rd floor.

Sure enough, one just had to find the origin of the power. Ning Cheng had already understood the source of this tower's pressure. It was a kind of force generated through laws. As long as one could integrate with or understand this law, the pressure would quickly weaken. If one took full control of this law, climbing the ladder would be just like taking a stroll in the yard.

74th floor, 75th floor...

As Ning Cheng climbed all the way to the top, his understanding of Returning-to-one also grew more concise. This allowed him to gain a clearer understanding of the laws in this part of the world. Thus, he didn't have to do anything as he went straight past the 79th floor and entered the 80th floor.

From the looks of it, this tower was the same as the Nine-by-Nine Celestial Scryer Tower he had entered previously and contained 81 floors. Ning Cheng did not hesitate at all, did not even take the time to understand the Dao Charm flowing in the 80th floor and directly climbed the ladder to the 81st floor.

The Returning-to-one Dao Charm merged with the Dao Charm of the tower's law, creating a series of golden ripples around Ning Cheng as he climbed up the ladder. From afar, Ning Cheng looked like he was walking amongst the golden ripples, surrounded by a golden light.

As soon as Ning Cheng reached the 81st floor, the scene around him suddenly changed. It seemed as if he no longer was in the tower; instead, a vast starry sky surrounded him, and beyond this starry sky was an even broader expanse of void.

Ning Cheng felt himself standing in this endless starry sky, while his Dao Charm interwove itself with the infinite space. He sensed that the laws in this seemingly vast universe were broken and imperfect, which gave him an impulse to change these imperfect heaven and earth laws and even supplement it.

Just thinking about it caused a strand of his Dao Charm to float out in front of his eye and then merge into the starry sky. The endless starry sky universe immediately felt like it had gained some vibrancy, and its laws gradually improved.

The roar of the perfecting laws echoed in Ning Cheng's spirit sense and consciousness. Hearing that, his eyes immediately lit up, seemingly replacing the stars in the sky. His gaze passed through layer after layer of spacial interfaces, looking at all the spiritual worlds as his gaze passed through each layer.

At this moment, he felt like a master who stood high above everyone else over a cloud, soaring high above even the highest peak.

Time slowly flowed by and Ning Cheng kept himself immersed in this beautiful feeling. He seemed to love this feeling of dominance; he appeared to have fallen in love with the pleasure of controlling everything. These laws of heaven and earth changed because of him, and the universe grew perfect because of his Dao Charm.

Not knowing for how long he remained immersed in this state, a wave of Mysterious Yellow Aura washed over and Ning Cheng suddenly woke up. He was just a tiny cultivator who hadn't even reached the Life and Death Realm. How could he change the laws of heaven and earth and control the Dao Charm of the universe?

The moment he woke up, everything around him disappeared. The starry sky universe also turned into nothingness. His gaze could no longer pass through the layers of spacial interfaces. All he could see were the things in front of him on the tower's floor.

This tower was the same one. In addition to the words in front that spelt the 81st floor, it contained nothing.

Ning Cheng took in a deep breath. He understood that what he experienced just now was an illusion. It was as if he had become the master of the universe, and could really perfect the laws of heaven and earth. Fortunately, the Mysterious Yellow Aura woke him up. Otherwise, he might have turned arrogant over the thought that he could change and perfect all the laws of the heaven and earth of that starry sky universe.

Sure enough, this tower only contained 81 floors. Ning Cheng thought as he panted slightly. Reaching this place, he no longer could feel or see the golden ladder leading to a higher floor. This clearly indicated that this tower had no more floors.

Wait, Ning Cheng suddenly remembered his purpose of entering the tower. He had to cross the tower to touch the Life and Death Realm, so that he could gain enlightenment regarding the Life and Death Realm. But now, he did not see any way out of the tower, even the path he took to get here had disappeared.

Currently, he wanted to advance to the Life and Death Realm. But if he can't find a way out of the tower, how could he proceed? If he couldn't get out of the tower, how could he advance to the Life and Death Realm?

Life and Death Realm, gaining awareness of Yin and Yang, comprehending life and death...

Life and Death paved the way for reincarnation. But only by experiencing reincarnation could one touch upon the Life and Death Realm. However, only the Life and Death Conception Pill[1] can help one simulate the cycle of life and death and reincarnation.

Since Ning Cheng was an Alchemy Master, he naturally knew about the Life and Death Conception Pill. But he did not have a Life and Death Conception Pill. Therefore, to advance to the Life and Death Realm, apart from coming out, he had to search for a Conception Pill to simulate the reincarnation cycle of life and death.

Thinking about the reincarnation cycle of life and death, did he really need that medicinal pill? He had already reincarnated once, experiencing life to death and from death to life. The Mysterious Yellow Bead was the witness, and the same Mysterious Yellow Bead had accompanied his reincarnation from death to life.

Ning Cheng felt like he had grasped onto a vague insight towards life and death. He understood that death and life had a samsaric cycle separating them and that he had already gone through this samsaric cycle once. Unlike others, he still had his memories from his past life in this reincarnation. This made his comprehension of the reincarnation cycle of life and death even more evident compared to others.

The moment Ning Cheng understood this, a golden gate suddenly appeared on the 81st floor, on the other end of the floor. Over the golden gate was a strand of life and death reincarnation cycle's Dao Charm.

Ning Cheng felt truly surprised at this. This golden door gave him a vague feeling that he could directly skip to bombarding the cultivation barrier to the Life and Death Realm once he pushed it open.

Ning Cheng took a deep breath to calm down before walking over to the golden door and pushing it open with his hands.

.....

"Boom...." Over at the Culmination Grand Public Square, a blinding pillar of golden light burst out from the Eternal Starry Sky Tower. At the same time, many of the lower levelled cultivators over the public square prostrated themselves onto the ground instinctively and even started to offer worship. Although just a heaven and earth phenomenon, everyone could feel that basking in this golden light seemed to deepen one's perceptions by a bit.

People could no longer see the top floor of the Eternal Starry Sky Tower. While all the cultivators in the Culmination Public Square seemed to have unanimously gained this thought. The Eternal Starry Sky Tower seemed to have integrated into the starry sky itself, which made it impossible to count how many floors it now contained.

Some of the cultivators in the Heaven Seated and above realms looked at the changed Eternal Starry Sky Tower, and their eyes started to glow with enthusiasm. They could all feel that the laws within the Eternal Starry Sky Tower seemed utterly different from before. Perhaps, if they went into the Eternal Starry Sky Tower, they might gain more recognition from this vast universe and understand even more things.

The Gate Of Good Fortune

Chapter 700: Insanity

Ning Cheng pushed open the golden door and once again saw a vast starry sky outside. However, at the centre of this starry sky, there was a pure white coloured stele, which Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness could not penetrate.

Was this still an illusion? Ning Cheng frowned and raised his hand to touch this pure white coloured stele. The stele felt cold and hard. This definitely is not an illusion, what's going on?

Ning Cheng had just thought of it when everything around him suddenly disappeared.

Still in the Mysterious Yellow Bead? Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness immediately swept out and found himself inside the Mysterious Yellow Bead. The tower had disappeared, as did the starry sky around him... No, the starry sky remained; it had become the starry sky of the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

Ning Cheng felt shocked as he looked in all four directions in the Mysterious Yellow Bead, and found that his Mysterious Yellow Bead had changed entirely. Initially, it only contained the auras of origins, but now it gave out an aura similar to that of the starry sky outside. Moreover, his Mysterious Yellow Bead now not only contained the aura and the laws of the starry sky outside, but it also continued to improve upon it. Yes, that's right, the Mysterious Yellow Bead's laws continually improved on itself.

Ning Cheng, by this time, had fully sobered up. He recalled the reason he went into secluded cultivation in the Mysterious Yellow Bead. That is, to advance to the full circle of the Heaven Seated Realm, and then to go look for opportunities to break through the Heaven Seated Realm and step into the Life and Death Realm.

Initially, to break through the Heaven Seated Realm and advance to the Life and Death Realm, he would have needed to leave the Mysterious Yellow Bead and then go out to search for the Life and Death Conception Pill, before looking for a suitable opportunity to breakthrough. However, he unintentionally fell into an illusion and entered the 81st floor of a tower. No, this tower also had a golden gate that opened into a starry sky, apart from those 81 floors.

While passing through that tower, he improved his Returning-to-one Dao and gained an even in-depth understanding of Sunset's Twilight and the Maximal Flame Spirit Technique. At the same time, he also gained an understanding of a new spirit technique, None-to-depend-on.

Finally, after going through the 81 floors of the tower, he entered a new seemingly vast starry sky. But after touching a pure white stele, everything disappeared without a trace.

However, unknowingly, during all that, his Mysterious Yellow Aura started to change. To be exact, the laws within the Mysterious Yellow Bead began to improve by themselves. The Mysterious Yellow Bead now no longer contained just the aura of the origins he collected. Moreover, the worldly laws inside had even started to evolve on their own. Perhaps one day, his Mysterious Yellow Bead would transform into a real starry sky, just like the world outside.

That definitely was not an illusion. Ning Cheng looked down and saw a pure white stele in his hand. He took in a deep breath and mumbled to himself, "It was not an illusion."

Although the tower had disappeared, the pure white stele sat over his palm. His spiritual consciousness still could not penetrate into the stele. However, he could feel the vast and boundless starry sky aura coming from it and contained within it, which indicated that this definitely was not an ordinary object. Moreover, he knew that this object didn't actually belong to the Mysterious Yellow Bead, nor was it his own. This meant that whatever he experienced in that 'illusion' was real.

Just when he sobered up from that enlightenment, everything had disappeared again. Maybe one day, when his cultivation reached a sufficient level, he could recreate that initial scene once again. But today, only the stele in his hand and the spirit technique that he comprehended could prove that everything he experienced was real.

Putting away the stele, Ning Cheng found that he had used up almost half of the tens of millions of Permanent Essence Pills. Even the half Starry Sky Essence Qi Vein from Su Clan had also disappeared. Not only that, but even the Starry Sky Essence Qi Vein he had extracted from Interdependence Chamber of Commerce had shrunk to half its original size.

It still requires horrifying amounts of cultivation resources. Ning Cheng thought to himself as he gave out a sigh. Every time he wanted to advance, even for a small improvement, he would have to consume an increasingly terrifying amount of resources.

Fortunately, his cultivation had already reached the peak of full-circle Heaven Seated Realm, and just as he sensed in the tower, he had touched upon the Life and Death Realm.

Coming out of the Mysterious Yellow Bead, Ning Cheng immediately started arranging a Spiritual Gathering Array over the broken starland. Since he had already touched upon the Life and Death Realm, he now no longer needed the assistance of the Life and Death Conception Pill. He could immediately initiate the Life and Death Tribulation and attack the barrier to the Life and Death Realm.

.....

Just when Ning Cheng began the process of breaking through to the Life and Death Realm, he finally gained a profound understanding of how one's perception of Dao directly affected the barrier to a realm.

In the beginning, when he wanted to break into the Heaven Seated Realm, he had to strike at the barrier multiple times, and only with the additional help from the Celestial River Essence Qi King Pill was he barely able to crack it open.

But at this time, when he struck the barrier to the Life and Death Realm, the barrier felt like paper in general. His celestial essence easily shook the Life and Death Realm's cultivation barrier. Although it still resulted in a violent shock that shook his meridians and even his Zifu, the blow would have been much more forceful if he had to strike it repeatedly before the enlightenment. Perhaps, he would have already lost his life before hitting the barrier for the second time.

At the same time, just when Ning Cheng made the first strike, raging lightning arcs suddenly started to rain down without any warning.

As those seemingly endless lightning arcs descended, Ning Cheng couldn't even count the number of lightning arcs in the first wave of the tribulation.

"Boom.... Kacha....."

It was just the first wave, yet the broken starland under Ning Cheng's feet started to break apart. Only one piece, around ten miles in diameter, of the original broken star remained under Ning Cheng's feet. This wave had even destroyed the robes covering Ning Cheng's body, turning it into ashes.

Not waiting for Ning Cheng to prepare any defensive measures, powerful thunder tribulation arcs started to rain down. These arcs looked like a real thunder waterfall, interspersed with sizable thunder spheres.

“Poof.....” Under that powerful second wave, Ning Cheng shot out an arrow of blood for the first time. At the same time, his bones started to break, inch by inch.

Even if Ning Cheng operated the Mysterious Yellow Formless and the body refining cultivation method to its peak, and was even a body-forging expert with a Celestial River Body, he still could not block this terrifying thunder tribulation.

A shadow of doubt started to rise in his heart. From the time he took ownership of the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, he could refine the Thunder Source and even use it for body forging. As such, he had never considered thunder tribulations seriously.

In fact, it also helped him gain confidence in not fearing thunder tribulations. No matter how ‘terrifying’ thunder tribulations might be for others, it would not injure him severely. In fact, thunder tribulations actually helped him advance to the higher level even faster, and improve upon his body forging attainments.

But today, he couldn’t block this thunder tribulation. The first wave of this thunder tribulation had also already severely injured him.

“Boom-Boom-Boom.....” Those endless lightning arcs seemed to have heard his thoughts, causing the next wave to grow even more violent.

Ning Cheng struggled to get up; raising his hand, he finally managed to bring out the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, which gave him the chance to swallow a few medicinal pills for healing.

Since the time he started forging his body, he did not actively have to rely on using the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort during a thunder tribulation. But today, he had no choice but to bring it out for protection.

“Kacha... Ka-Ka....”

The next wave of this thunder tribulation contained even more violence. Although Ning Cheng could now condense around half of the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, under this thunder waterfall, it still exploded after a short moment of respite. Under the thunder tribulation, the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort looked like a broken ruin, with more than half of it in shambles. The projection had still not yet managed to reform when the thunder waterfall directly blew it into nothingness.

“Boom-Boom-Boom.....” As the rest of the thunder waterfalls smashed the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort to nothingness, it once again splashed down onto Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng’s bones continued to break apart, and his skin once again turned bloody. If not for the fact that Ning Cheng controlled a weapon like the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, this wave of thunder tribulation would have smashed him into a meat patty.

But this time, with the help from the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, although Ning Cheng’s bones continued to shatter, he managed to preserve his life. Ning Cheng only had one thought right now, and that was to absorb the thunder source contained within this thunder tribulation and use it to repair his muscles and bones and temper his corporeal body.

As the next wave of this thunder tribulation descended, he once again used the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort to block it for as long as it could and then absorb the thunder source from the aftershock to continue quenching his corporeal body.

Under such a violent thunder tribulation where he could fall at any time, Ning Cheng forgot that he still hadn't breached the cultivation barrier to the Life and Death Realm. Instead, he focussed all his energies into tempering his corporeal body. From a different perspective, even if Ning Cheng wanted to break down the cultivation barrier to the Life and Death Realm completely, he could only protect himself right now and had no spare power to breach the barrier to the Life and Death Realm.

This thunder tribulation felt as if it would go on endlessly. However, as it continued, although Ning Cheng's cultivation didn't improve, his corporeal body kept growing stronger and stronger, and his Celestial River Body gradually reached the full circle.

This was probably the longest time Ning Cheng had taken to surmount a tribulation. He could not remember the number of days he defended against it, he even forgot about the first wave of this thunder tribulation. He only remembered that he had to re-materialise the projection of the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort continually to block the descending thunder tribulation temporarily and then use the aftermath to strengthen his corporeal body using his body forging cultivation method.

"Boom....." Another wave of thunder waterfall descended, Ning Cheng's celestial essence finally couldn't keep up, and his Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort's projections started to grow weaker. Eventually, it once again turned into a shadow that directly blew apart under this wave of thunder waterfall, causing almost all of lightning and thunder contained in it to strike Ning Cheng's body at full force.

"Kaka. Puff...."

At this moment, Ning Cheng's skin looked hideous. Almost all of his bones had broken. Even with strong resilience and willpower, his body's healing capabilities couldn't keep up.

However, just when those raging lightning arcs and thunder waterfall struck Ning Cheng and shattered every bone in his body, Ning Cheng's body forging finally paid off and his body broke through the shackles of the Celestial River Body.

Ning Cheng's broken bones almost immediately started to recombine the moment his corporeal body evolved into a Starry Sky Body. It felt like a spring breeze blowing over a burnt field, allowing fresh grass to emerge from the soil.

"Kaka....." Once again, Ning Cheng's body resonated with sounds; however, this time, it was no longer the sound of breaking bones. It was the sound of his skeleton reorganising and restructuring.

In just a few breaths, the bones in Ning Cheng's body finished restructuring. At the same time, his flesh and skin also started to recover rapidly.

"Boom-Boom-Boom....." Another wave of thunder waterfalls descended, the lightning arcs and the thunder waterfall merged, creating interspersed yet massive thunder spheres.

Ning Cheng suddenly roared. The broken piece of starland under his feet crumbled instantly as he shot up into the sky. This thunder tribulation had almost killed him this time. Although the pressure from this

powerful thunder tribulation had allowed his forged body to evolve into a Starry Sky Body, the advancement could not eliminate the inner suffocation and grievances he had to suffer because of it.

Only by rushing up to strike down the source of this thunder tribulation and fighting back hard could he feel some comfort and happiness. He didn't even bother about stepping into the Life and Death Realm. He just wanted to pay back the suffering he had gone through under this thunder tribulation.

You hit me, bullied me, pushed me down; I will hit back, bully you, and even fight back. Don't expect me to show kindness for evil; don't expect me to put up with it.

One punch, two punches...

Ning Cheng didn't know how many punches he fired. It wasn't any spirit technique, nor did he use any weapons. Just two fists of flesh and blood. He wanted to use his flesh and blood fists to pulverise the thunder tribulation that wanted to erase him out of existence. As each punch shot out, each one struck back at a lightning arc.

"KaKaKaKaKa...."

"Bang-Bang-Bang-Bang...."

As the fists and the lightning arcs clashed, it only produced a dull sound, no flesh and blood went flying; rather, there was only a slight trace of blood over his fists. After Ning Cheng's body evolved into a Starry Sky Body, this thunder tribulation could no longer crush him like before.

"Boom-Boom-Boom....." This thunder tribulation seemed to have grown enraged by the arrogance shown by Ning Cheng and immediately gave out even more violent rumbles to produce stronger lightning arcs to strike back at Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng's eyes narrowed. He could clearly feel the laws in this thunder tribulation turning clear in his mind. This was his first time sensing the laws of heaven and earth from the thunder tribulation.

In the distance, a flying weapon stopped its advance a few thousand miles away due to the horrifying thunder tribulation in front of it. As its controller stared at Ning Cheng rushing into the thunder tribulation arcs and sensing the change in the rumbling of thunder tribulation, he couldn't help but mutter to himself, "Insanity, all insanity...."