

The Gate 851

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Chapter 851: The Origin of Grand Essence Ruins

“How do I address you Junior Apprentice Sister?” After purchasing a jade card, Chi Zimin sat next to Ning Cheng and took the initiative to speak to Nalan Ruxue.

Nalan Ruxue stood up, gave a slight bow and said, “Nalan Ruxue, also a rogue cultivator.”

“This Junior Apprentice Sister Nalan and Brother Ning, you both reached such a point in cultivation as rogue cultivators. It shows that you both have peerless talents. As long as you reach the Grand Essence Domain, most sects and other forces will receive you with open arms.”

Chi Zimin had a very talkative personality. Even if Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue didn’t talk much, he could still pick a topic and all kinds of allusions would come out of his mouth. Moreover, they were all exciting bits too. In the end, many cultivators leaned in to listen to him talk about various things.

Ning Cheng also learned many new things from Chi Zimin’s mouth. For example, Boundary Essence Spirit Sea City was the worst place within the Grand Essence Realm. The real law-cultivation sacred grounds of the Grand Essence Realm were in the Grand Essence Domain. Because of this reason, the Grand Essence Domain had numerous top-grade sects. However, ordinary cultivators didn’t have the chance to enter the Grand Essence Domain. Even cultivators with poor cultivations weren’t qualified to enter despite having the right qualifications.

However, experts from Grand Essence Domain frequently came out looking for qualified disciples. Once selected by a sect within the Grand Essence Domain, one could then obtain a chance to enter the Grand Essence Domain.

Although the Grand Essence Ruins lay outside of the Grand Essence Domain, it was a peculiar existence. Even the various powerhouses in the Grand Essence Domain didn’t know about its exact size. Moreover, many sects in the Grand Essence Domain would go looking for potential disciples there. They would also use that place as a staging ground for brokering various deals between other sects and forces.

One could say that in addition to the Grand Essence Domain, the most prosperous place within the Grand Essence Realm was the edge of the Grand Essence Ruins.

“Senior Chi, would I have to join an alliance or a union to enter the Grand Essence Ruins?” Someone next to him asked with a careful voice.

Chi Zimin chuckled, “Of course, joining an alliance is a must. The Grand Essence Ruins has many alliances; you can take your pick. But the strongest ones out there are the Dao Confirming Alliance, Rogue Cultivator Alliance, Sword Ruins, Spirit Thunder and a few others. Of course, it would be impossible for most cultivators to join these alliances. But you also need to keep in mind that if you didn’t have some ability that the alliances find useful, then even the weakest alliance wouldn’t want you.”

“What if you don’t join any of them?” Someone asked again.

“Many cultivators initially make the mistake of not joining an alliance right away. But after these rogue cultivators enter the Grand Essence Ruins, very few of them can manage to come out alive. If they do come out, they would immediately choose to form or join an alliance. It’s because it’s almost impossible to rake in points within the Grand Essence Ruins by yourself. Plus, there’s always the risk of losing your life.”

“Moreover, without points, you can’t buy treasures and other essential stuff from the Grand Essence Quest Hall either.” Chi Zimin wasn’t just a talkative person, but he also seemed to have a kind heart. He answered every question in as much detail as possible, regardless of who asked it.

“There’s even a Quest Hall in the Grand Essence Ruins?” A shocked voice asked from within the crowd.

This time, without waiting for Chi Zimin to answer, someone else took the initiative to help, “Of course, even I have heard about this Quest Hall. Rumour has it that some big sects from Grand Essence Domain established it with the help of many chambers of commerce. Thus, anyone can post tasks or accept tasks from there. Completing those tasks would give you a certain number of points, which you can then exchange for various treasures from the Quest Hall. As long as you have enough points, you can get anything you want.”

“So good? Then, if I want a Dao Fruit, can I exchange for it there?”

This time, Chi Zimin spoke up, “That’s natural, but points required for a Dao Fruit aren’t easy to accumulate. Some people have completed many tasks for thousands of years, yet I’m afraid that they still haven’t collected enough points to exchange for a Dao Fruit. However, the points for the Quest Hall’s tasks aren’t just for exchanging for treasures, but also serve a more important purpose....”

“What is it?” Before Chi Zimin could say it, someone asked eagerly.

Chi Zimin spoke with a calm tone, “That is, it serves as a measurement of qualifications to enter the Grand Essence Domain. Many sects within the Grand Essence Domain use the Grand Essence Ruins’ rankings to select their disciples.”

“You can’t get a Dao Fruit in even a thousand years, alas. But I should be able to accumulate enough points to go to the Grand Essence Domain, right?”

“That’s both true and untrue. If you have luck on your side and find the Grand Essence Realm’s lost Spirit Thunder Spirit Technique in the Grand Essence Ruins, you can easily exchange it for a basket full of dao fruits. You can even hand it over to the sects for a high position. But if you have bad luck, then even after venturing for countless years, you might not find anything.”

“Stop dreaming. Grand Essence Spirit Thunder, hehe....”

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While everyone eagerly involved themselves in the discussion, a huge airship landed not far away. Then, the cultivator who issued the jade cards spoke up with a loud voice, “The airship for the teleportation point has arrived. Everyone, please get on board and then go to your cabins based on the number on your jade cards.”

Ning Cheng’s cabin number was 121, and Nalan Ruxue got 122.

Not long after Ning Cheng entered his cabin, Chi Zimin came knocking.

“Brother Ning, I took the liberty to find you. I hope you can forgive me for this.” Chi Zimin entered Ning Cheng’s room and spoke with cupped fists and a smile over his face.

Ning Cheng let out a dark sigh. Chi Zimin truly knew how to approach people. His purpose of all that talk before most likely was for this moment. Even Ning Cheng had to admit that this sort of approach truly worked. If it hadn’t been for him talking about those relatively critical bits of information before and answering everyone’s questions, Ning Cheng wouldn’t have thought much about it. Moreover, Ning Cheng wouldn’t have bothered to let him inside his cabin.

“Brother Ning should already know why I came here. I know that Brother Ning wouldn’t lie to me and that you truly had only one pot of None-to-depend-on Wine. But I still want to know from where Brother Ning obtained that pot?” Although Chi Zimin’s cultivation exceeded Ning Cheng, he still spoke with a low posture and a very polite tone.

Ning Cheng pondered over it for a moment before speaking, “I obtained that pot from someone named Mo Wang. But I have no idea about his whereabouts.”

Ning Cheng didn’t need to hide this information in this place. Moreover, he truly did obtain the None-to-depend-on Wine because of Mo Wang. Mo Wang was a descendant of the Mo Clan and had guided Ning Cheng to find the None-to-depend-on.

“It’s truly the Mo Clan.” Chi Ziming’s eyes flashed with excitement and then asked eagerly, “Brother Ning, I have two more things to ask you. When you obtained the None-to-depend-on Wine, did you also obtain None-to-depend-on Wine’s brewing method? Have you heard about a spirit technique called None-to-depend-on?”

Ning Cheng frowned slightly, “I’m afraid it’s not much use in asking me about these matters. You should ask people from the Mo Clan about it.”

Ning Cheng had not only heard of it, but he also possessed the None-to-depend-on wine’s brewing method and the spirit technique. The only reason he said those words was because he didn’t want to expose those two things.

Chi Zimin, however, felt even more excited. “Brother Ning, can you find Dao Friend Mo Wang?”

“This....” Ning Cheng hesitated, “I can’t guarantee if I can find him. I can only try my luck at it.”

The reason why Ning Cheng didn’t reject it outright was that he wanted to know to what extent did Chi Zimin want the None-to-depend-on Wine’s brewing method. The brewing method for the None-to-depend-on Wine went hand in hand with the None-to-depend-on Spirit Technique. If one didn’t know the None-to-depend-on Spirit Technique, even having the complete brewing method would be of no use.

Chi Zimin took out a jade card and cautiously spoke to Ning Cheng. “Brother Ning, if you can find these two things in the future, even if you only find some clues about it, just bring this jade card to my Chi Clan in Grand Essence Domain. I give you my word that my Chi Clan can meet any of your requirements.”

“Okay, I will keep that in mind.” Ning Cheng took the jade card and secretly wondered if Chi Zimin could truly meet any of his demands despite making a vow. I want the Breath Soil; would this Chi Clan provide it?

Chi Zimin stood up and said, “I won’t bother Brother Ning much. But if Brother Ning needs any help in the future, you can always come to find this Chi Zimin.”

This sentence was just a polite gesture. Chi Zimin had given him a jade card for the None-to-depend-on, not for Ning Cheng to ask for help.

“Brother Chi, do you have any jade strips with information about the Grand Essence Ruins?”

Chi Zimin had already taken out a jade strip and handed it to Ning Cheng before Ning Cheng finished his words. He even spoke with a smile, “I anyway intended to give this jade strip to Brother Ning. Brother Ning can take a look at it. In any case, it would still take a few days for us to reach the teleportation point.”

After speaking, Chi Zimin quickly walked out of Ning Cheng’s cabin.

Ning Cheng waited for Chi Zimin to leave before raising his hand and activating the restrictions while his spiritual consciousness swept into the jade strip.

Half an hour later, Ning Cheng put away the jade strip.

The Grand Essence Ruins covered a vast area and was countless times larger than the Grand Essence Domain. A long time ago, a shocking war had erupted between the five grand realms, but no one could figure out the reason. As one of the five grand realms, the Grand Essence Realm couldn’t avoid the war.

During that war, laws themselves began to collapse. Only when the top powerhouses’ Good Fortune Treasures began to break apart, only then did these powerhouses realise the terrible consequences of the war. If the battle continued, it might even cause the full collapse of the five highest positional planes of the five grand realms. Once a positional plane’s laws collapsed, it would immediately cause widespread destabilisation. At that point, it would be no different from the collapse of the five grand realms. Therefore, even if they won, they would have lost their roots.

But even if those powerhouses realised it, it was already too late. In the end, the Grand Change Realm was the only one among the five grand realms that remained intact. However, it only survived because it had the protection of heaven and earth’s first treasure[1].

The other four realms didn’t enjoy such luck. The Grand Beginning Realm suffered the most damage, turning into countless minor law interfaces that flowed into the various positional planes in the void. These minor law interfaces weren’t uniform in size either. But irrespective of which positional planes they ended up in, they became the highest-level interface within that positional plane.

In retrospect, the Grand Essence Realm remained relatively complete. However, most of the places inside of it had already turned into ruins. Fortunately, these ruins didn’t drift away from the Grand Essence Realm and into the void.

In any case, even before the collapse, the Grand Essence Realm was known as a treasure trove of spiritual objects. It resulted in the realm having many powerhouses, just like the clouds in the sky.

Therefore, once these powerhouses fell in the war, their powers turned into various guardian laws. Most of these guardian laws took root within the ruins of the Grand Essence Realm, and after a long time, they evolved and formed the Grand Essence Ruins.

It was the reason why the Grand Essence Ruins had countless mysterious locations within it. Moreover, also a reason why some Second-step Dao Confirming experts have fallen inside the Grand Essence Ruins. However, the Grand Essence Ruins also created many new powerhouses every generation. As some cultivators gained great opportunities in this place, it allowed many to become overlords.

Over time, three top powerhouses emerged in the Grand Essence Realm and the unaffected parts of the Grand Essence Realm got divided among these three great powers. These powers then formed the Grand Essence Domain, which kept itself isolated from everything else. This isolation was not isolation in the strictest sense as it only allowed the strong to enter the Grand Essence Domain for cultivation. Cultivators with insufficient or low qualifications simply couldn't enter.

After a long time, three areas formed in the Grand Essence Realm, with the largest being the Grand Essence Ruins, and the second-largest was the Spirit Qi-enriched land of the Grand Essence Domain. Apart from these two, the other place was the Grand Essence Sea containing some rogue cultivator factions and small sects. However, these sites remained outside the Grand Essence Ruins and the Grand Essence Domain.

Regardless, if rogue cultivators wanted to achieve higher success, but couldn't enter the big sects, they would all choose to establish themselves in the Grand Essence Ruins.

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Chapter 852: Seeing the seven bridges again

A few days later, the airship stopped on a public square once again.

After getting off the airship, Ning Cheng immediately noticed the layout around this public square and quickly understood why the public square of Boundary Essence Spirit Sea City had that layout. It simulated the design of this place.

Moreover, there was more than one public square here. As Ning Cheng looked around, he saw dozens of big and small public squares. Every public square had a teleportation array in the middle, with some merchant houses scattered across the edge of these public squares.

"Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, the teleportation array to the Grand Essence Ruins is over there....." Nalan Ruxue quickly walked to Ning Cheng's side and pointed to a large public square not too far from them.

Even without Nalan Ruxue pointing it out, Ning Cheng's gaze had already locked-in on the teleportation array at its centre. Gazing past it, on the opposite edge of this public square, he also saw a huge screen with the words "Grand Essence Ruins, 80,000 high-grade spirit crystals".

But despite such a high price, numerous people still willingly paid the spirit crystals before being transferred away. Moreover, Ning Cheng had also noticed that many people coming off the other teleportation arrays also chose to go to the Grand Essence Ruins. From this, one could say that this

teleportation formation was the most lively of all. No wonder people referred to this place as the teleportation point. It was akin to a spirit crystal collector.

Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue walked over to the Grand Essence Ruins' teleportation array, lined up with the others, paid the required 160,000 high-grade spirit crystals. After that, they waited for their turn to use the teleportation array.

This teleportation formation could teleport 20 people at once. But even then, it took nearly two hours for their turn. Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue followed more than a dozen other people and stepped onto the teleportation formation.

A few moments later, the teleportation array finally activated. Ning Cheng, with his proficiency in the Dao of Array, used this time to study the teleportation array. Therefore, the moment it started, he understood that it was a long-distance teleportation array. But even when going through this long-distance teleportation, Ning Cheng didn't feel even slightly dizzy. From this, he also understood that Array Formation Master who built this teleportation array had truly high attainments.

In less than half an incense stick worth of time, Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue appeared over another teleportation array within a great hall. The two then followed everyone out of the hall and felt shocked by the prosperity in front of them.

How was this the periphery of a ruin? It was akin to a super-prosperous starry sky city.

A huge public square, densely packed merchant houses, makeshift markets, countless people.....

But no matter how lovely and bustling this area was, no matter how many people flowed through this place. It couldn't block the majestic dao charm flowing out of the characters 'Grand Essence Ruins' Quest Hall'. The Quest Hall towered over everything else and sat in the middle of the largest public square, with numerous cultivators going in and out of it.

"Strange, no one seems to push for renting caves here." Ning Cheng looked at the crowd of cultivators and muttered with some confusion.

In such crowded areas, renting caves was naturally the best business. It stood to reason that someone would take the initiative to push rental caves at the exit of the teleportation array.

"Is it this friend's first time coming to the Grand Essence Ruins? Do you need to rent a cave in Grand Essence Ruins? You should know, those are in short supply around these parts. If you want to rent a cave, then look in that place, but I'll tell you beforehand that you'll find it almost impossible to rent a good one. Only if you have a high-grade quest card, can you rent a higher grade cave...." A cultivator standing not far from Ning Cheng smiled and spoke up. At the same time, he pointed to a place on the opposite side of the public square.

"Many thanks." Ning Cheng cupped his fists and thanked the man. As for what the Quest Card was, Ning Cheng didn't know nor did he specifically ask about it. He believed that as long as he entered the Quest Hall, he could always inquire about it there.

"Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, are we going to rent a cave?" Nalan Ruxue asked.

Ning Cheng looked at the opposite side and said, "Let's check it out later. First, let's go to the Quest Hall and ask about some information."

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Walking into the Quest Hall, everything looked eye-catching. He even found some rest stops and restaurants in one part of the Quest Hall.

The Quest Hall also had nearly a hundred screens erected in the middle and divided into particular groups. Spiritual Grass-type tasks, Spirit Technique-type tasks, Weapon-type tasks, Material-type, teaming....

Moreover, every kind of task had different grades to it. For example, the Spiritual Grass-type tasks had four primary divisions: top-grade tasks, high-grade tasks, middle-grade tasks, and low-grade tasks. Similar divisions also existed for other jobs.

Ning Cheng glanced at the low-level tasks first and found that they only provided a few task points. While the top-grade tasks, even the lowest-ranked one, provided as many as one million task points. He also saw a few tasks without any points written next to it. From this, he gauged that these tasks were of ridiculously high difficulty. And that the task points for these tasks, most likely, were based on the needs of people completing it.

"Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, we might as well take up a few quests, and then hang up a task to find Senior Apprentice Sister Yan Ji." Nalan Ruxue spoke up.

Ning Cheng understood what Nalan Ruxue meant by hanging up a task. One required a certain number of points to post even an errand. If you didn't have any points, how could you post any jobs?

"Wait-wait. Let's keep looking at the tasks....." While Ning Cheng spoke, he was just about to sweep out with his spiritual consciousness, when he felt a few mighty spiritual consciousnesses passing by him. He quickly took back his spiritual consciousness and turned vigilant. These spiritual consciousness were several times stronger than the guy he killed with the Five-coloured Star Splitter Arrow a few months ago.

This place was the Grand Essence Ruins, where even second-step Dao Confirming powerhouses frequented. As such, Ning Cheng had no choice but to stay careful whenever sweeping out with his spiritual consciousness. After spending some more time in the Quest Hall, Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue started to have a better understanding of their Quest Hall and the Quest Cards.

To receive tasks from the Quest Hall, you must first apply for a Grand Essence Ruins' Quest Card. Moreover, these Grand Essence Ruins' Quest Cards were of five different grades: purple, gold, silver, white, and black.

The primary purpose of a Quest Card was to record points and also conduct task-related transactions. One could even exchange task points with other Quest Card holders. The black card was the lowest tier Quest Card, and anyone who could pay 1,000 spirit crystals can apply for it. Once the Quest Hall's transaction points reach 100,000 points, you can then apply for a white card.

These transaction points weren't the points on the Quest Card, but the transaction points accumulated between you and the Quest Hall. Even if you collected 100,000 points, you can't just apply for a white

card without conducting any transaction with the Quest Hall. Only after spending the 100,000 points, would you be eligible to exchange for a white card.

Of course, these transactions must be transactions with the Quest Hall. If it were a transaction between cultivators, even if it were a transaction of one million points, they wouldn't count it.

To exchange a white card for a silver card, it would require transactions equating to one million points, and from a silver card to a gold card, it needed 10 million points. As for the purple card, you can apply for it after your transactions exceed the 100 million-point threshold.

Moreover, the colour of your Quest Card indicated your position in the Grand Essence Ruins. It meant the higher the grade of your Quest Card, the more precious things you can purchase from the Quest House. The Grand Essence Ruins' Quest House was right next to the Quest Hall. The Quest House also had five colour divisions, black, white, silver, gold, and purple. If you only had a black card, then you could only enter the first floor. The higher the floor, the higher the grade of things you would find inside.

Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue had just arrived at the Grand Essence Ruins, which meant that they could only apply for a black card each. The black card was only half the size of a palm, and it mainly recorded the task points and transactions points.

"Okay, let's go pick up a quest. The one to find the ice-type spirit technique, Raging Ice Sea, in the Grand Essence Ruin's Opening Ice Mound. Let's head to there; maybe we might get lucky and find this spirit technique." Ning Cheng's choice of going to Opposing Ice Mound wasn't on a whim, but because of Nalan Ruxue who had just entered the Heaven Seated Realm, one of Destiny's three realms[1]. She didn't seem to have any suitable spirit technique on hand. Besides, Nalan Ruxue had a mutated ice-attributed spiritual root, so he might as well help her.

For Ning Cheng, this task was just a ride. Apart from looking for Yan Ji in Grand Essence Ruins, he also wanted to further his cultivation. Moreover, this place was also an excellent place to search for opportunities to step into the Dao Confirming Realm.

Nalan Ruxue felt taken aback. She immediately thought that Ning Cheng might have picked it up to help her. She just couldn't believe it and spoke up, "Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, but that's a high-grade quest...."

This task provided a lot of points on completion, and the spirit technique was also a very compatible one for her. But the risk involved in a high-grade task was also relatively high.

"I know it's a high-grade quest. Let's go and see if we truly can complete it and even if we couldn't complete it, it wouldn't matter much." Ning Cheng nodded and spoke.

Too many people had already accepted this task, which meant it wouldn't affect the task if they didn't complete it. One could even pick up the task after completing it. In truth, most cultivators didn't even pick up any quests at first; rather, they first completed the task and then came here to pick it up. People only picked easy to complete tasks that have high points, or prepaid tasks, before starting those tasks.

"This Dao Friend, I think you might as well pick the Grand Essence's Seven Bridges than the Opposing Ice Mound's task. The Raging Ice Sea Spirit Technique is just 10,000 points, which is quite low for even a

high-grade quest. But if you go to Grand Essence's Seven Bridges, completing one task would give you 100,000 points, and for every other task you pick up and complete, you could double your points....."

"Grand Essence's Seven Bridges?" Ning Cheng felt surprised.

The cultivator responded, "That's right, it's an ancient quest. Regardless, many people go there. Although it's a top-grade quest, it's much safer than the Opposing Ice Mound's quest. Moreover, I heard that in the ruins of Grand Essence's Seven Bridges, you might even get to cultivate other spirit techniques."

Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness once again fell onto the high-grade task screen and quickly located the Grand Essence Seven Bridges' quest. The task issued a reward of 100,000 points for finding one of the specified spirit techniques. If you collected two spirit techniques, then you can get 200,000 points, and if it's three spirit techniques, then 400,000 points. If you found all seven spirit techniques, then it would give you 6.4 million points. An award higher than that of unearthing the complete Grand Essence Spirit Thunder Spirit Technique.

"Many thanks, Dao Friend, for your reminder." Ning Cheng quickly thanked him, while his heart pounded wildly. Unexpectedly, he encountered the Grand Essence Seven Bridges here. Moreover, Ning Cheng felt almost 90% sure that this Grand Essence Seven Bridges Spirit Technique was the wordless book's Seven Bridges Spirit Technique. The same technique that he had no way of cultivating right now.

Ning Cheng didn't have much of an idea about the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique as it had no words. But now, he might just find the origin of this spirit technique in the Grand Essence Ruins. Maybe he could even learn the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique in the Grand Essence Ruins.

Ning Cheng currently had Sunset's Twilight, Maximal Flame, Time Wheel, None-to-depend-on, Traceless Spear and other spirit techniques in his arsenal. But if he met a real powerhouse, the only trump card that could help him in that situation was the Five-coloured Star Splitter Arrow.

The primary reason for the lack of power in his spirit techniques was because he had just started understanding the various laws. It meant that these spirit techniques still lacked a foundation to deal with the real powerhouses.

Moreover, the Seven Bridges Spirit Techniques was a progressive series. What if he learned the complete spirit technique? Maybe at that time, he wouldn't need to use the Five-coloured Star Splitter Arrow every time.

"Junior Apprentice Sister Ruxue, let's go to Opposing Ice Mound first, and then to Grand Essence Seven Bridges." Ning Cheng didn't pick up the tasks before leading Nalan Ruxue out to prepare for entry into the Grand Essence Ruins.

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Chapter 853: The Raging Defying Ice Mound

The entrance of Grand Essence Ruins remained open at all times. Moreover, with no array formations or restrictions obstructing the entrance, anyone could enter.

Cultivators entering the Grand Essence Ruins usually formed a four-person team or at the very least a three-person group. Therefore, Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue's team of two was an exceedingly rare one.

Besides, Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue were new cultivators. Therefore, if they didn't take the initiative to find teammates to team up with for the tasks, very few people would actively come to find them.

Moreover, neither of them knew the rules and regulations of the Grand Essence Ruins very well. But since Ning Cheng wanted to go to the Grand Essence Seven Bridges, he didn't want to team up with others. Therefore, after purchasing the Grand Essence Ruins' latest map, he took Nalan Ruxue and followed the rest of the cultivators into the Grand Essence Ruins on an airship.

The airship flew inwards for a day before considerably slowing down. Ning Cheng, however, understood why. The various laws in the Grand Essence Ruins were in disarray, which meant that ordinary airships couldn't fly through it at a fast pace. Ning Cheng didn't want to expose the Starry Sky Wheel, so he could only use his celestial essence to hurry along with the other cultivators.

One had to marvel that even after tens of thousands of years, this place hadn't withered yet.

After flying around for a few more days, Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue's spiritual consciousness could no longer spot a single person around them. From this, they also understood the vastness of the Grand Essence Realm. No matter how many cultivators came in, thrown into the Grand Essence Realm, it was just like a drop of water in an ocean.

Reaching this place, they also started to discover the worthless and broken weapon fragments and the ruined buildings. From what they saw, this place most likely was a lively starry sky city countless years ago. Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness scanned the ruins but didn't find anything of value. The first comers had long since cleaned up and turned over every inch of this place a long time ago.

Continuing to follow the directions on the map for another two days, the two eventually stopped at the sloping ice valley entrance. Standing there, the two could hear the whimpers coming from the ice valley below them. Some of the overflowing icy aura made Nalan Ruxue shiver subconsciously. Simultaneously, near the edge of the inclined entrance, the two also saw a huge ice sculpture lying on the ground. The ice sculpture had numerous cracks covering its surface, and only had one leg and one arm remaining.

"The aura from the Defying Ice Mound is too cold." Although Nalan Ruxue didn't walk the path of body-forging, she was still a Heaven Seated cultivator. Yet, she felt chills even before entering the Defying Ice Mound.

Ning Cheng hesitated before speaking, "If you can't bear it, you can enter my True Spirit World."

Nalan Ruxue refused without hesitation, "No. When I reached the starry sky from Heaven's Way alone and started wandering around, I realised something. I realised that sometimes training out in the open is much more useful than hiding in the sect for secluded cultivation."

In fact, after entering the starry skies, Nalan Ruxue no longer was the pampered disciple from Thoughtless Academy. Instead, she had become an ordinary starry sky rogue cultivator, a starry sky wanderer. But what she had gained during those years while wandering the starry skies were countless times more precious than what she had experienced at the Thoughtless Academy. More importantly, she had grown more determined than before. Even she never thought that something like this would happen to her.

Before Ning Cheng had the time to say 'let's go inside', several figures landed not far from them. It was a group of four cultivators, two men and two women.

All four of them had Eternal cultivations. One of them, a grey-robed woman, was already at the full-circle of the Eternal Realm. One of the male cultivators had a star on his forehead and was at the late-stage Eternal Realm. In comparison, the other male and female cultivators were at the early-stage Eternal Realm.

"Are you also going into the Defying Ice Mound?" The grey-robed female cultivator asked in surprise after seeing Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue.

"Yes, we're heading to the Defying Ice Mound." Ning Cheng replied with a nod.

This grey-robed female cultivator dressed in old-fashioned attire and even wore a grey-coloured outfit. But even if she didn't want to put up an appearance, her beauty didn't lose out to Nalan Ruxue.

She shook her head and said, "I would advise you not to go inside. This Junior Apprentice Sister's cultivation is only at the early-stage Heaven Seated Realm, and it's not even stable. Entering the Defying Ice Mound with such cultivation would only result in her death. Although there are a lot of good things in Defying Ice Mound, if you can't even keep your life, then it's no use going after them."

Ning Cheng didn't respond to her words. He understood that although this grey-robed female cultivator spoke some harsh words, she did have kind intentions.

Nalan Ruxue quickly bowed and said, "Many thanks, Senior Apprentice Sister, for the kind reminder."

After the grey-robed female cultivator finished speaking, she no longer cared about Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue and rushed into the Defying Ice Mound with her companions.

"Senior Apprentice Brother Ning....." Nalan Ruxue looked at Ning Cheng with a little embarrassment. She wasn't afraid of death but also didn't want to hold Ning Cheng back.

Ning Cheng showed an indifferent smile, "Let's go. Just because someone said something, why wouldn't we go in?"

As the grey-robed female cultivator's spiritual consciousness swept around, she immediately noticed Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue entering the Defying Ice Mound despite her warning. She just shook her head and continued forward; she wasn't in the mood to care for them. She had already shown enough kindness by giving them that warning. If people didn't want to accept her kindness, what else could she say?

"Sister Ning, they don't appreciate your kindness. There's no need for you to worry about such people." Next to the grey-robed female cultivator, the early-stage Eternal woman noticed her shaking her head and took the initiative to speak up.

The grey-robed female cultivator smiled, "It's not too much to worry about them, but it's also not easy to cultivate to Heaven Seated Realm. It's especially not worth it if you're just going to leave your life here. As far as I know, all tasks for entering the Defying Ice Mound are high-grade quests. For a Heaven Seated cultivator to take up any of them, is just suicide. Forget it. We're about to enter the ice mound, so pay attention and take out your defensive weapons."

The other three had already brought out their defensive weapons even without the reminder from the grey-robed female cultivator. They became even more cautious with their actions.

“Wu-Wu....” Waves of ice knife lights swept over with a whimpering sound before hitting the defences of the four people. Even with fully activating the defensive weapons, they still involuntarily shuddered while facing these icy knife lights.

“These icy knife lights are a bit too much.” The early-stage Eternal male cultivator walking behind them spoke up in surprise.

The grey-robed female cultivator spoke with a cautious tone, “The icy knife lights of the Defying Ice Mound contain ice-attributed laws. Even if you go to other icy regions, you won’t find such strong ice blades containing law dao charm. It’s what makes this place an ideal environment to understand ice-attributed laws. At the same time, it’s also easy to get caught up in law-related epiphanies here, so be careful.”

As soon as the grey-robed female cultivator finished speaking, a horrifying roar sounded out, and deathly repression suddenly surged over the four.

“Not good, it’s the Defying Ice Storm, run” The grey-robed female cultivator quickly rushed out after speaking.

Even without the grey-robed female cultivator’s warning, the others also knew that the Defying Ice Mound’s Defying Ice Storm was the most violent thing in this region. Moreover, the Defying Ice Storm contained chaotic law attributes; combined with its large size; it produced an extremely damaging impact. Moreover, there was no way to resist it directly. If ordinary Eternal cultivators got caught up in this Defying Ice Storm, they would have no choice but to wait for death.

“Boom-Boom-Boom.....” The Defying Ice Storm’s chaotic ice laws swept through the four like an avalanche.

After an incense stick’s worth of time, the most violent part of the Defying Ice Storm passed away. However, the Defying Ice Knife Lights behind it still swept over them like an endless barrage. Fortunately, the Defying Ice Storm travelled in a straight line, and the grey-robed female cultivator’s group of four managed to escape by a hair’s breadth. They then huddled together in a small rocky opening at the side. However, the Defying Ice Knife Lights had no directions. Therefore, the four had to team up and bring out their best defensive weapons to block the Defying Ice Knife Lights’ endless barrage.

“I’m afraid we might lose our lives today.” The grey-robed female cultivator watched the endless ice-law blades hitting the defensive weapons and spoke with a solemn tone.

The others didn’t speak. They knew about the Defying Ice Storm before they came to the Defying Ice Mound. It’s just that they never expected that they would have such bad luck to encounter the Defying Ice Storm the moment they entered. Even after the Defying Ice Storm passed, the ice-law blades would continue to rage for several days or even months from what they knew. Now, the four had no choice but to hide in this corner. If they could support the consumption for a few days, it wouldn’t be much of a problem. But if they had to block these ice-law blades for a few months, they simply wouldn’t be able to keep up.

"If these Defying Ice Knife Lights didn't dissipate in three days, we would have no choice but to rush out together." The late-stage Eternal male cultivator with a star on his forehead spoke with a solemn tone.

Hiding in a corner among ice and rocks to resist these Defying Ice Knife Light was a much easier option than rushing out. But it was a question of if they could sustain it.

.....

As the sound of the roar swept over, Ning Cheng felt the ice-laws within the knife lights for the first time.

Nalan Ruxue shivered. The ice-law blades hadn't swept over yet, but she already couldn't bear the cold.

"That...." Nalan Ruxue then saw the horrifying Defying Ice Storm rushing towards them. She only had time to say one word before the law aura contained within it sealed her and she could no longer speak.

"Boom-Boom-Boom....." The Defying Ice Storm rolled up endless ice-law blades as it passed by them. Submerged within these ice-law blades, Nalan Ruxue couldn't even stand straight, let alone put up some resistance.

"I'm okay?" Nalan Ruxue then quickly noticed a huge thunder fort shielding her and Ning Cheng. As the Defying Ice Storm blasted over the thunder fort, it triggered a cascade of debris and lightning arcs that looked like a goddess showering resplendent flower petals from the sky.

Ning Cheng didn't enjoy the same luck as the grey-robed female cultivator and couldn't find a place to hide in time. Moreover, he also had no idea about the power within the Defying Ice Storm. At least, he had no idea about it before using the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort to block it.

When the Defying Ice Storm's violent ice laws blasted onto the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, Ning Cheng almost lost control.

The violent ice laws within the storm even blasted open a gap within the blue thunder fort's defences, and several ice-law knife lights rushed inside through it. Fortunately, Ning Cheng stood in front of Nalan Ruxue. Therefore, these violent ice-law knife lights could only open a few bloody gashes on Ning Cheng's body.

If Nalan Ruxue had stood in the front, just a single strike would have caused the collapse of her corporeal body. This law-related attack wasn't something that Nalan Ruxue, an early-stage Heaven Seated cultivator, could bear.

As Ning Cheng stabilised the fort, the Defying Ice Storm, which seemed like the Milky Way from his viewpoint, finally got blocked out by the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort. If the grey-robed female cultivator had seen this, she probably might have fainted from the shock.

Facing such terrifying Defying Ice Storm, apart from dodging to the side, even Dao Sculpting experts wouldn't dare to block it with defensive weapons. An Eternal cultivator using a weapon to defend against the Defying Ice Storm was not only a crazy idea but also a useless one.

Ning Cheng wasn't a crazy person, but he truly did defend against it. Apart from the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort's power, his celestial essence and Sea of Consciousness had long surpassed the Eternal Realm's bounds.

As the most violent part of the Defying Ice Storm passed by quickly, the endless Defying Ice Blades that came behind it couldn't threaten Ning Cheng at all. Ning Cheng could easily defend against these Defying Ice Blades for several months without doing anything.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 854: Mutated Law

"Sister Ning, look at them....." The early-stage Eternal male cultivator trapped in the icy crevice stared blankly at Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue. He couldn't believe what he saw right now.

But even without the reminder, the grey-robed female cultivator and the other two also noticed Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue.

"How is that possible?" The grey-robed female cultivator stared at the dense ice-law blades blasting on Ning Cheng's blue thunder fort. Apart from a sky full of lightning arcs that erupted from the impact, it didn't even move slightly.

"What a powerful weapon." The early-stage Eternal male cultivator stared enviously at Ning Cheng's Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort.

The grey-robed female cultivator finally calmed down from the shock. She took in a deep breath and spoke with a solemn tone. "It doesn't matter how good is the weapon. It would require a strong celestial essence and spiritual consciousness to support it. Moreover, if one had never come in contact with laws, one would never be able to stop those Defying Ice Blades containing a powerful mutated law."

"Sister Ning, let's ask him for help." The early-stage Eternal female cultivator spoke up eagerly. She had already forgotten what she had said about them before.

The grey-robed female cultivator shook her head but didn't ask Ning Cheng for help. As a full-circle Eternal cultivator hailing from a prominent sect, she naturally had a lot of pride in herself. She tried to discourage Ning Cheng from not entering the Defying Ice Mound earlier. Now if she asked Ning Cheng for help, she wouldn't be able to recover her face.

Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue also saw the four people trapped in that icy crevice. But Nalan Ruxue didn't speak. She didn't know whether Ning Cheng felt willing to help them or if Ning Cheng could even help them.

Fortunately, Ning Cheng took the initiative to step forward and said, "If you don't mind, you can come with us."

He still had a good impression of this grey-robed female cultivator. Switched with any other cultivator, entering the Defying Ice Mount or not would have nothing to do with their life or death. They probably wouldn't even bother to remind you.

She already felt embarrassed by the thought of asking for help. But since Ning Cheng took the initiative to speak, the grey-robed female cultivator also didn't refuse. She even spoke up with a grateful tone, "Many thanks, Senior Apprentice Brother. My name is Kong Ning, from River Luo Sacred Sect."

After speaking, she pointed to the other three people around her to introduce them, "This is my Junior Apprentice Brother Tang Jinshe. These two are Heaven Extreme Island's Senior Apprentice Brother Jing Xingwen and Junior Apprentice Sister Xie Zhilan."

Tang Jinshe was the male cultivator with early-stage Eternal cultivation. While Xie Zhilan was the female cultivator at the early-stage Eternal Realm. Jing Xingwen was the late-stage Eternal cultivator with a star point on his forehead.

After Kong Ning finished the introductions, Jing Xingwen, Xie Zhilan and Tang Jinshe quickly greeted Ning Cheng with cupped fists. They all then quickly entered his Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort.

"I'm Ning Cheng, and this is my friend Nalan Ruxue, rogue cultivators." Ning Cheng gave a brief introduction. Since he and Nalan Ruxue have just arrived at the Grand Essence Ruins, it would be good for them to know more people.

"Are you really rogue cultivators?" Tang Jinshe exclaimed with surprise.

They all had indeed thought that Ning Cheng was a rogue cultivator before. They then saw Ning Cheng's Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort blocking the Defying Ice Law Blades and even moving around without much effort. Based on these 'pieces of evidence', they immediately stopped regarding Ning Cheng as a rogue cultivator.

There indeed have been some powerful rogue cultivators throughout the ages. But the truly powerful cultivators had always come from big sects. No matter how powerful, rogue cultivators couldn't enjoy the many opportunities only available to big sects.

Ning Cheng only smiled but didn't explain. He originally was a rogue cultivator, so it wasn't anything worth mentioning for him.

Kong Ning spoke up with a slight embarrassment, "Please don't mind my arrogant words from before, Senior Apprentice Brother Ning."

"I naturally wouldn't have minded it. I know that Junior Apprentice Sister Kong Ning said it for our good." Since Kong Ning addressed him as 'Senior Apprentice Brother', Ning Cheng decided to go along with it and call her 'Junior Apprentice Sister Kong Ning'. Regardless of the place, people always respected the strong.

Kong Ning was the one with the highest cultivation here. Since she addressed Ning Cheng as 'Senior Apprentice Brother', the other also picked up on it and addressed Ning Cheng as 'Senior Apprentice Brother'.

With Ning Cheng's help, in just half a day, the group of six walked out of the area raging with Defying Ice Blades.

Endless ice pits and ice peaks appeared in front of everyone. However, as Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness swept out, it could only reach a thousand miles before it stopped extending.

They all saw three twisted icy paths extending inwards in the middle of these ice pits and ice peaks. However, none of them could see the end of any of these three paths.

Occasionally, a few fragmented Defying Ice Blades swept over. But these fragmented Defying Ice Blades did not affect this group of people. At the same time, they could also hear the faint whimpering sounds of ice-law blades from each path, along with the growls of some unknown demonic beasts.

“Many thanks, Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, for your help. Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, are you and Junior Apprentice Sister Ruxue going to pick the left or the middle path?” Kong Ning thanked Ning Cheng and checked to see if Ning Cheng wanted to continue deeper into the Defying Mound.

Ning Cheng asked in confusion, “Junior Apprentice Sister Kong Ning, why didn’t you mention the path on the right?”

Hearing what Ning Cheng just said, Kong Ning’s four felt taken aback. Only after some time did Kong Ning ask. “Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, did you not purchase the Defying Ice Mound’s introductory jade before coming here?”

Ning Cheng frowned slightly. He truly didn’t know that the Defying Ice Mound also had an introductory jade.

Ning Cheng’s expressions made Kong Ning understand that Ning Cheng hadn’t purchased the introductory jade. She felt a little speechless about it. Was this confidence born out of strength, or did ignorance bring on such fearlessness?

Ning Cheng’s skills had indeed surpassed the strongest Eternal cultivator she had seen. Moreover, she also felt sure that Ning Cheng hadn’t reached Dao Confirming. Yet, as an Eternal cultivator, he could calmly face the Defying Ice Storm and the endless Defying Ice Law Blades without suffering any losses. Only those with true abilities can do such a thing.

“Junior Apprentice Sister Kong Ning, I hope you can guide me on this matter.” Ning Cheng quickly cupped his fists and spoke. If he knew that the Defying Ice Mound also had an introductory jade, he would have bought one already.

Kong Ning nodded and said, “According to the legends, Defying Ice Mound is the place where the Defying Ice Holy Emperor fell. Moreover, according to recorded history, Defying Ice Holy Emperor’s insight into the ice-attributed laws had reached an unprecedented peak. But after he fell here, his body and cultivation turned into endless ice-attributed laws. It’s those laws that formed those Defying Ice Law Blades. As for the Defying Ice Storm we encountered, it is an explosion that regularly happens after the accumulation of sufficient Defying Ice Law Blades.”

“The Raging Ice Sea Spirit Technique is one of Defying Ice Holy Emperor’s defining spirit techniques and is also the high-grade spirit technique quest in the Grand Essence Ruins’ Quest Hall. But the Defying Ice Mound also contains another thing, which is the Defying Ice Beads. Defying Ice Beads can fetch you a high price on the market. But more importantly, it can help cultivators with ice-attributed spiritual roots understand ice-attributed laws. We came here this time for the Defying Ice Beads. However, this task is not a task released by the Grand Essence Ruins’ Quest Hall, but by our sect.”

“But what does this have anything to do with the ice path to the right?” Ning Cheng asked in doubt.

“Because the path on the right contains mutated laws resulting from the decomposition of the original ice-attributed laws. Moreover, it also resulted in the birth of endless Defying Ice Beasts who made that

path as their home. These Defying Ice Beasts have no value but are tough and extremely ferocious. All because of the mutated laws that make them. A Dao Sculpting expert had once tried to capture them before. But those Defying Ice Beasts besieged this Dao Sculpting expert and killed him within a few moments. Besides, you'll find nothing of value except the Defying Ice Beasts on that path, which means that the right path has nothing except for danger."

"Moreover, the true heritage of the Defying Ice Holy Emperor lies on the middle path. Many cultivators who came here to explore the Defying Ice Mound also found many ice-attributed spirit techniques in that place. Someone even found the skeleton of the Defying Ice Holy Emperor on that path. Therefore, if you want to go forward from here, then I would highly suggest not selecting the path on the right." Kong Ning spoke with a frank tone.

It was the first time Ning Cheng heard that the laws of heaven and earth could mutate. Law-related spirit technique originated from understanding the great laws. But if the laws itself started to mutate, could one still try to comprehend the original law?

"Many thanks, Senior Apprentice Sister Kong Ning. But I plan to take the path on the right and have a look." Ning Cheng thought for a while and decided to pick the path on the right.

As a starry sky cultivator in the Eternal Realm, Ning Cheng had long since understood that spirit techniques involving laws were much more potent than those that didn't. He already had contact with the Laws of Space and the Laws of Time. Although not very deep, he could already kill opponents at higher cultivation levels, which already proved its significance. The Defying Ice Mound's mutated heaven and earth laws created those Defying Ice Beasts. They could even kill Dao Sculpting experts without much effort. This point alone had immediately caught his interest. He even wanted to know if he could comprehend this mutated law while exploring this place.

Besides, he also had the means to protect himself, no matter how many Defying Ice Beasts came rushing up, he also had the Time Wheel. With Time Wheels, he wasn't afraid of any siege; they'd only be throwing themselves to death.

Seeing Ning Cheng insist on taking the path on the right, Kong Ning couldn't say anything else to persuade him otherwise. Instead, she just said, "Then, I wish Senior Apprentice Brother Ning good luck. Here, you can keep my communication pearl."

After the six exchanged communications pearls with each other, they then picked their paths before dispersing.

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As Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue walked deeper, the surrounding Defying Ice Blades had also increased. But as Ning Cheng had the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, no Defying Ice Law Blades affected his speed.

However, the deeper they went, the colder the path grew. Ning Cheng also felt that this icy cold was somewhat different from the ordinary cold of ice. This icy-cold seemed to seep into one's spiritual soul, and then begin to mutate. It also created a strange feeling. One's body would feel cold, but the essence spirit would feel uniquely hot.

Ning Cheng looked back at Nalan Ruxue and found that she didn't look uncomfortable. It stood to reason that Nalan Ruxue would have a tough time adapting to this situation. Although the blue thunder fort blocked those Defying Ice Blades, it did nothing to the surrounding law aura caused by the mutated laws.

"Junior Apprentice Sister Ruxue, do you feel anything strange about this cold. Cold on the outside but hot inside? Moreover, it's a kind of strange heat?" Ning Cheng asked in doubt.

"No, I just feel a little bit of chill, but not the kind you mentioned....."

Before Nalan Ruxue finished speaking, a burst of roars washed over them.

"Defying Ice Beasts...." Ning Cheng looked at the endless translucent demonic beasts in front of him. Even if he had the Time Wheel, he still felt his scalp tingle. These Defying Ice Beasts looked like galloping wild horses. Moreover, the aura coming from their bodies felt similar to the strange icy chill that Ning Cheng felt before, only stronger. Even before they rushed up to Ning Cheng, or launched an attack, this peculiar aura made Ning Cheng very uncomfortable.

Therefore, before these rushing Defying Ice Beasts attacked, Ning Cheng blasted out with dozens of Time Wheels, and they swept out like faint grey streaks of light.

Ning Cheng had high confidence about Time Wheel's group killing abilities. Moreover, the level of these Defying Ice Beasts didn't seem too high. As Time Wheels swept through them, turning to nothingness was the only option. No matter how many Defying Ice Beasts came rushing up, the Time Wheels would sweep them into nothingness.

But when Time Wheels swept past the Defying Ice Beast horde, the outcome immediately dumbfounded Ning Cheng. Apart from swaying some of the Defying Ice Beasts, his Time Wheels didn't even kill one of them. The Time Wheels at the back immediately rushed towards the Defying Ice Beasts. But the effect wasn't any different from the previous one. Only a few smaller Defying Ice Beasts shattered before reforming once again, and only because of the impact force of the wheel...

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 855: Nalan's Departure

Ning Cheng quickly understood why this happened. He also understood why a Dao Sculpting expert would fall under the siege of these Defying Ice Beasts.

The only reason his Time Wheel was powerful was all due to the violent aspect of the Laws of Time contained within it. This Law of Time ignored everything. Therefore, as long as the Time Wheel swept over, it would feel just like the flow of time passing through the target. Nothing could stop the flow of time, which was why it created such a sweeping effect.

But these Defying Ice Beasts weren't living beasts per se, but products of the mutated law in this place. The Laws of Time could sweep through things made from ordinary laws, but it might not have much of an effect against things formed from mutated laws.

Maybe when his Time Wheel grew powerful and his Laws of Time grew more profound, it could then sweep through the Defying Ice Beasts. But in the same line of thought, when his Time Wheel grew stronger, would these Defying Ice Beasts remain at this level?

Facing powerful demonic beasts containing mutated laws, he would have to control a more powerful law-related spirit technique to kill them. Either that or he must understand a law-related spirit technique related to this mutated law. If the Defying Ice Holy Emperor also comprehended this mutated law, then this Defying Ice Holy Emperor was just too heaven-defying.

“Let’s leave.....” Ning Cheng finished speaking and grabbed Nalan Ruxue before activating the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds.

“Wait-wait, Senior Apprentice Brother Ning....” Nalan Ruxue suddenly stopped Ning Cheng.

What surprised Ning Cheng, even more, was that the Defying Ice Beasts that besieged them suddenly stopped. The endless Defying Ice Beasts then surrounded Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue but did not attack.

Ning Cheng could escape with the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds at any time, but he still asked, “What’s the matter?”

“I felt a call, saying that I can inherit the Defying Ice Law....” Nalan Ruxue looked at the endless Defying Ice Beasts in front of her with suspicion. She could still feel a call coming from somewhere up ahead.

“You can inherit the Defying Ice Law?” Ning Cheng only said half of what he thought before recalling Kong Ning’s words, “Is it the inheritance of Defying Ice Holy Emperor? Oh right, you also have a mutated ice-attributed spiritual root.”

Nalan Ruxue nodded. She then looked at Ning Cheng and said, “Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, I want to check it out.”

“I’ll come with you.” Ning Cheng had brought Nalan Ruxue here to help her find a powerful ice-attributed spirit technique. But now, the Defying Ice Holy Emperor seemed to have taken a fancy to Nalan Ruxue’s talent and wanted to pass his legacy to her. Ning Cheng naturally wouldn’t stop it.

Ning Cheng and Nalan Ruxue had just taken a step when the endless Defying Ice Beasts immediately moved closer to them. The powerful mutant ice-attributed law aura forced Ning Cheng to keep up a constant guard around the two of them.

“Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, I have to go alone.” After Nalan Ruxue finished speaking, she took the initiative to walk out of Ning Cheng’s Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort.

Sure enough, even though she walked out of the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, none of the Defying Ice Beasts attacked her. Nor did the Defying Ice Beasts rush over.

Ning Cheng felt helpless here. He could only stay here and wait for Nalan Ruxue to return.

As Nalan Ruxue walked over, the dense Defying Ice Beasts suddenly separated, revealing an ice path over an ice river. Nalan Ruxue walked along this ice path to the other side of the ice river that separated and demarcated the two sides.

After Nalan Ruxue walked past it, the ice path gradually melted away, and he could no longer see her figure.

Even Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness could no longer feel Nalan Ruxue's aura. It felt as if Nalan Ruxue had never come here at all.

As for those Defying Ice Beasts, they once again surrounded Ning Cheng, as if guarding the path against Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng understood that he couldn't do anything at this point and could only sit down and try to feel the mutated law around him.

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As time passed by, Ning Cheng had already immersed himself into the surrounding world of law and felt a whole new world around him.

This kind of heaven and earth law was utterly different from anything he had encountered until now. Moreover, this was a heaven and earth law that subverted both vision and perception. It's just that it produced a very uncomfortable feeling. Whenever he reached anywhere near understanding this mutated law, it would always feel like he missed a tiny bit.

Not knowing how long he had remained immersed in such a state, Ning Cheng suddenly woke up. He could no longer feel the aura of the mutated law.

Ning Cheng also discovered that the Defying Ice Beasts around him had disappeared without a trace. Even the Defying Ice Blades had disappeared. But at this moment, Ning Cheng saw Nalan Ruxue walking over to him from a distance.

"Have you accepted the inheritance?" Ning Cheng could feel a change in Nalan Ruxue.

She still had a Heaven Seated cultivation, but she now seemed to have a touch of holy charm around her. Not only that, but he also felt a faint, icy aura circulating within and around her. Ning Cheng had already come into contact with laws before, so he naturally understood that it was a phenomenon created through the influence of law.

But Ning Cheng showed a slight frown. He didn't like Nalan Ruxue's cold aura.

He had willingly brought Nalan Ruxue to the Grand Essence Ruins to find a suitable spirit technique. He did this not just because Nalan Ruxue had helped Yan Ji, but because Nalan Ruxue had also changed a lot. At the very least, he preferred speaking to the changed Nalan Ruxue, rather than the arrogant disciple from the Graceful Star Mainland who didn't put anyone in her eyes. But now, that faint bit of cold aura within Nalan Ruxue's body had erased that slight affinity Ning Cheng had felt for her.

"Yes. Many thanks, Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, I have accepted the inheritance of Defying Ice Holy Emperor...." Nalan Ruxue quickly noticed Ning Cheng's frown and her words trailed off.

Ning Cheng decided to tell the truth. In any case, he and Nalan Ruxue had experienced a friendship, even if it was only a brief one. "Junior Apprentice Sister Ruxue, I feel that the aura in you has changed you. Does it have anything to do with your inheritance?"

Nalan Ruxue spoke up with a little trepidation, "Yes, the inheritance of the Defying Ice Holy Emperor is the inheritance of the ice-attributed law. Since I accepted the inheritance of Defying Ice Holy Emperor, I have to help the holy emperor in completing the reconstruction of the Defying Ice Sect...."

Ning Cheng gave out a sigh, Nalan Ruxue didn't truly answer his question. He wanted to ask what happened to the ice-attributed law, and why it changed her aura. He believed that Nalan Ruxue could understand his words' meaning and that he wanted a detailed answer. But Nalan Ruxue only spoke a few general statements without giving any explanations.

"Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, I don't know if I should accept this inheritance or not. I want to hear your opinion." Nalan Ruxue lowered her voice and even lowered her head.

Ning Cheng guessed that this was just Nalan Ruxue looking after his emotions. Even if he told Nalan Ruxue not to accept this inheritance, Nalan Ruxue wouldn't listen to him.

"I know that you have already decided in your heart. If you must ask me to give you a suggestion, then I suggest you....."

"Big Brother Ning....." Before Ning Cheng could finish his words, Nalan Ruxue suddenly interrupted Ning Cheng's words before stepping forward and hugging Ning Cheng tightly.

As the soft chest pressed into Ning Cheng's body, even if Nalan Ruxue's body still had a trace of that cold aura, Ning Cheng felt a small fire starting to burn in his heart.

But the fire quickly dissipated. It didn't matter why Nalan Ruxue did this. When she interrupted him, maybe she had already firmed her mind to inherit the Defying Ice Holy Emperor's inheritance. Perhaps, she had already prepared herself to rebuild the Defying Ice Sect.

Thinking of this, Ning Cheng suddenly felt at a loss. He and Nalan Ruxue had come here together. To a certain extent, one could even say that they shared the weal and woes of the journey and even helped each other when in need. But the Defying Ice Holy Emperor's inheritance had made Nalan Ruxue make up her mind.

Ning Cheng's body heat also aroused the desire hidden within Nalan Ruxue's heart. But when the fire in Ning Cheng's heart dissipated, Nalan Ruxue woke up completely.

She gave out a sigh. She could only do this. She took the initiative to drop her guard in front of Ning Cheng, but that the limit she could achieve. If Ning Cheng wanted her, she would have willingly given up her body to him even in this ice world. Moreover, she would have even handed over the Defying Ice Holy Emperor's inheritance to Ning Cheng without hesitation. She would have even cut off all traces of the Defying Ice Law in her Sea of Consciousness and walk with Ning Cheng to wherever he went.

But Ning Cheng didn't have the kind of emotions shared between Dao Companions towards her. Even if it were only a short-lived physiological desire, reason would eventually quash it out of existence. One day in the future, Ning Cheng would also leave her. Rather than waiting for that day, she might as well make her own choice under this opportunity. It was a truth Nalan Ruxue had understood while wandering around the starry sky. She couldn't be any clearer about it.

From today, she would be the second sect master of Defying Ice Sect. From today, she would fight and strive for her goals.

"Big Brother Ning. I'm leaving." Nalan Ruxue loosened her arms around Ning Cheng and gave Ning Cheng a deep bow before quickly retreating. Soon, she disappeared from the range of Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness.

Ning Cheng silently looked at Nalan Ruxue's departure direction and muttered to himself after a while. "Everyone has the right to choose their paths. I hope you find success in whatever path you choose."

.....

Nalan Ruxue stood outside the Defying Ice Mound and kept looking at it. She wanted to go back several times, but she also held herself back several times.

Even she didn't know whether the choice she made was the right one or not. But she felt sure that once she started cultivating the Defying Ice Cultivation Method, she would forget about these beautiful emotions completely. As the inheritor of Defying Ice Holy Emperor, she knew about it too well.

After a long time, Nalan Ruxue silently wiped the tears in her eyes, bent down and put away the huge ice sculpture at the mouth of the sloping valley, before turning away and never looking back.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 856: Seeing the Bridge of Coping once again

Ning Cheng came to the Defying Ice Mound to help Nalan Ruxue find a suitable spirit technique. Now, Nalan Ruxue found a spirit technique and decided to leave by herself after obtaining the inheritance. Ning Cheng naturally wouldn't stay in this place.

The mutant law was a mighty one. But unfortunately, the mutant law aura within the Defying Ice Mound had also disappeared after Nalan Ruxue accepted the inheritance. Therefore, even if Ning Cheng wanted, he couldn't continue comprehending it based on the remnant aura.

But just as Ning Cheng walked out of the Defying Ice Mound, he received Kong Ning's message. He immediately sent back a message. After waiting for an incense stick worth of time, Kong Ning's group eventually appeared in front of Ning Cheng. Among the four, the star on Jing Xingwen's forehead looked a bit dim, and Ning Cheng even saw faint bloodstains on his exposed body. From this, Ning Cheng gathered that he suffered some severe injuries.

"It's always a happy event to see Senior Apprentice Brother Ning again...." Kong Ning paused a bit before finishing her words.

She didn't see Nalan Ruxue with him, and Ning Cheng didn't seem too interested in speaking. In her opinion, Nalan Ruxue, Ning Cheng's companion, should have fallen to the Defying Ice Beast Horde. As such, it wasn't appropriate to continue speaking about happy events.

"Junior Apprentice Sister Kong Ning, can you tell me why you were looking for me?" Ning Cheng wanted to go to the Grand Essence Seven Bridges to explore and didn't want to waste too much time with this group of four.

Kong Ning quickly replied, "Well, I'm in admiration of Senior Apprentice Brother Ning's cultivation. What does Senior Apprentice Brother Ning think about my River Luo Sacred Sect?"

Ning Cheng spoke with an apologetical tone, "I'm truly sorry. It's only my second time hearing about the River Luo Sacred Sect. You mentioning it before was the first time, so I can't express an opinion about it. But since River Luo Sacred Sect can train someone like Junior Apprentice Sister Kong Ning, I can at least say that it's got a strong foundation. Presumably, it's a big sect."

Hearing Ning Cheng's words, Kong Ning's group of four could only look at each other. Only after some time, Kong Ning spoke up with a dry voice, "Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, have you truly never heard of the River Luo Sacred Sect?"

Ning Cheng showed a slight frown. His previous words were only out of politeness. What did this River Luo Sacred Sect have anything to do with him? Why was it necessary to repeatedly ask him if he had heard of River Luo Sacred Sect?

Seeing the change in Ning Cheng's expression, Kong Ning quickly spoke up. "Well, I want to invite Senior Apprentice Brother Ning to join my River Luo Sacred Sect. With Senior Apprentice Brother Ning's cultivation, even within the River Luo Sacred Sect, you could obtain a separate sacred peak for yourself."

Ning Cheng only showed a smile and said, "Many thanks for Junior Apprentice Sister Kong Ning's invitation, but I'm used to being alone. I'm afraid I can't stand the constraints of joining a big sect. In case I accidentally violate the sect rules, I wouldn't be able to answer Junior Apprentice Sister Kong Ning's kindness. If Junior Apprentice Sister Kong Ning has nothing else to talk about, then I will take my leave."

Ning Cheng initially wanted to ask Kong Ning if she could tell him about the Grand Essence Seven Bridges. But, in the end, he dismissed the idea believing that he wasn't the only one who wanted to explore the Grand Essence Seven Bridges. After arriving at Grand Essence Seven Bridges, he could just look for other cultivators to purchase information.

Seeing Ning Cheng walk away, Kong Ning couldn't speak for a while.

"How could there be a person who doesn't know about the River Luo Sacred Sect? Moreover, reject a direct invitation from Senior Apprentice Sister Kong. If someone heard of being invited to join the River Luo Sacred Sect, I'm afraid they would immediately try to wake themselves up thinking it's a dream."

Xi Zhilan spoke with an incredulous tone.

Jing Xingwen, the one with a star on his forehead, spoke up with a calm voice, "It's why you're still a minor disciple. This person could not only venture into the Defying Ice Beast Zone, but he could also come out safe and sound without a single scratch."

"What's so great about that? Isn't his Dao Companion dead? A person who can't even protect his Dao Companion is nothing but a piece of trash." Xie Zhilan gave a defiant rebuttal.

Kong Ning waved her hand, "Enough. Stop fighting and let's move. Such experts have their secrets. It's not surprising that he doesn't want to join the River Luo Sacred Sect. What a pity...."

"Sister Ning, did you want to recruit him for the Grand Essence Great Meet?" Xie Zhilan asked.

Kong Ning nodded, "Yes. If someone like Ning Cheng could join our River Luo Sacred Sect, our River Luo Sacred Sect would get more attention in the next great meet. That's why I pity it."

.....

Without Nalan Ruxue, Ning Cheng could fly much faster by himself. Moreover, after his Twin Wings of the Heavenly Cloud underwent nirvana, its speed had also risen to a whole new level. Even in the Grand Essence Ruins, the environment didn't affect it at all.

Grand Essence Seven Bridges. It was one of the most famous places in the Grand Essence Ruins. However, it wasn't what Ning Cheng expected. Not many cultivators came to the Grand Essence Seven Bridges.

The spirit techniques in Grand Essence Seven Bridges indeed had high value, and countless people desired to obtain it. But the Grand Essence Seven Bridges was also one of the most dangerous places in the Grand Essence Ruins. Of the cultivators entering the Grand Essence Seven Bridges' depths, out of ten, only two or three would manage to return alive, which was already the best-case scenario. As for whether those two or three who managed to return alive obtained any spirit techniques from the Grand Essence Seven Bridges, no one could say for sure.

The Grand Essence Seven Bridges contained a lot of danger. Yet, there were still a few cultivators who would occasionally make the trip here. In addition to the quest for greater power, another reason was that the spirit techniques in Grand Essence Seven Bridges' spirit techniques weren't limited to just the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique. Cultivators would occasionally find some other spirit techniques in this place. Moreover, these spirit techniques were also quite powerful and worth a bunch of points.

In the Grand Essence's Quest Hall, most cultivators would usually take up tasks related to spirit techniques. That way, they could not only have the chance to learn those spirit techniques, but they could also rake in a lot of points. Except for some spirit techniques that they couldn't reproduce, everyone would try to search for a way to learn the spirit techniques after completing the spirit technique-related tasks. Or at the very least, make an engraving of the spirit technique before going to hand it over at the Quest Hall.

But when Ning Cheng came to the Grand Essence Seven Bridges, he saw no one.

The Grand Essence Seven Bridges entrance was shrouded in a white mist cloud, which isolated one's spiritual consciousness and carried a highly toxic aura. This kind of aura could not only strangle spiritual consciousness, but it also contained a violent power. People would feel as if someone was choking them the moment they entered the mist.

This kind of aura was somewhat similar to the one outside the Ancient Shadow Temple. When Ning Cheng had explored the Ancient Shadow Temple, he had also encountered a similar toxic mist near the Ancient Shadow Temple entrance. But the fog outside the Ancient Shadow Temple wasn't even a fraction as potent as the one here.

Ning Cheng's first feeling wasn't for the mist here, but rather, he felt amazed at that man named Zhong Wuchen.

The Ancient Shadow Temple and the First Bridge of Coping were both built by Zhong Wuchen. Moreover, this fellow had built the Ancient Shadow Temple to learn the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique. Now that Ning Cheng saw this place, he immediately understood that Zhong Wuchen must have come to this place in the past. Otherwise, he couldn't have simulated this environment along with the First Coping Bridge.

But even though Zhong Wuchen paid a great price, he couldn't learn the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique. He couldn't even complete the First Coping Bridge.

Ning Cheng took a deep breath. He decided to go into the white mist and look for the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique. It wasn't due to Ning Cheng's arrogance, but Ning Cheng's belief in the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort and his formidable body-forging cultivation method. With these two, he felt confident enough to cope up with any crises.

More importantly, Ning Cheng had a lingering suspicion that his Seven Bridges Realm Book and the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique had a connection. Now that he came to the Grand Essence Seven Bridges, he wouldn't be able to sleep without going in and taking a look.

Ning Cheng brought out the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort and without hesitation, stepped into the white mist.

The white mist isolated one's spiritual consciousness. Even if Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness seeped into the white fog, he could only observe a few feet around him. Zhong Wuchen had arranged the Ancient Shadow Temple to simulate the Grand Essence Seven Bridges. Therefore, once he stepped into the white mist, he should eventually reach a door.

But what Ning Cheng didn't expect was that his feet would step on empty air, instead of solid ground. After he stepped into the white mist, he found nothing, everything around him felt utterly devoid of anything.

While Ning Cheng stepped on air, a powerful suction force washed over him. But with the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Cloud already activated, and combined with Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness, he didn't immediately fall. Instead, he descended into the depths at a slow speed.

After a full hour, Ning Cheng's feet finally touched the ground. During this hour, his spiritual consciousness also slowly adapted to the surrounding violent and toxic mist. Initially, he could only extend it out to about three feet. But after adjusting to the pressure, he could now observe up to ten feet around him.

However, within the range of Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness, except for a few white bones, there were only black bones without even a remotely intact piece. These black bones lay scattered on the grey-black gravel, and if one didn't look closely at them, one wouldn't be able to notice it.

The violent and toxic mist repeatedly scoured around the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort. But it couldn't break past the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort's protective perimeter.

Ning Cheng actively stretched out his spiritual consciousness while walking on the grey-black gravel-covered ground. He used this opportunity to temper his spiritual consciousness further.

With an already mighty Starry Sky Sea of Consciousness, Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness slowly increased its range under the continuous tempering. Fifteen feet, twenty feet, thirty feet.....

A day later, Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness could already observe dozens of miles around him. Later, he even took the initiative to bring in some of the toxic mist. However, when this mist fell on him, apart from corroding his clothes, the impact on his body wasn't as terrible as he imagined.

Ning Cheng secretly sighed that his body-forging cultivation method could not take him beyond the Starry Sky Body. Otherwise, refining one's body in this place could have produced some significant progress.

Moreover, despite the many bones at his feet, Ning Cheng didn't see a single ring.

After a few more days, Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness finally reached a limit and could no longer stretch any further. But at this time, he could also see a bridge-shaped silhouette about a hundred miles away from him.

After seeing this bridge silhouette, Ning Cheng quickened his pace without thinking and rushed towards it.

As soon as Ning Cheng reached the bridge's head, he saw five scribbled characters right on the bridgehead, 'First Bridge of Coping'. He could even see the faint dao charm circulating on these five characters' surface, which could penetrate through one's heart and soul. It was countless times stronger than the bridge he saw in the Ancient Shadow Temple.

But what puzzled Ning Cheng was that he didn't encounter the same gloomy winds like when he reached the bridgehead in the Ancient Shadow Temple.

"Do you want to cross the bridge too?" A sudden voice appeared beside Ning Cheng. Only then did Ning Cheng discover that another person had appeared beside him. He immediately took a few steps back and looked at the cultivator who had suddenly appeared beside him with wariness. But Ning Cheng had a strange feeling that this cultivator's cultivation wasn't as strong as him.

This cultivator wore a grey robe and had very long hair. It draped behind him and matched his slightly pale face. However, this fellow would give anyone who glanced at him a very uncomfortable feeling.

He immediately noticed Ning Cheng's wariness and waved his hand and said, "This dao friend, you don't have to worry about me. You can already walk to the bridgehead of the Coping Bridge, that itself is an extraordinary feat. My name is Zhong Wuchen, and just like you, I want to cross that bridge. But I feel that I can't do it on my own, so I wanted to find someone to form a team."

If this cultivator hadn't said that his name was Zhong Wuchen, Ning Cheng would have truly believed that this person wanted to look for others to form a team. But at the same time, when Ning Cheng heard 'Zhong Wuchen', his scalp immediately started tingling with numbness.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 857: Once you enter, you never return

Zhong Wuchen, wasn't the Ancient Shadow Temple related to this fellow? To learn the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique, this fellow even tried to build the Bridge of Coping within the Ancient Shadow Temple. However, even after expending tremendous resources, he couldn't learn the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique's first bridge. Later, after understanding that he couldn't comprehend the first bridge of the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique in the Ancient Shadow Temple, he immediately left. He didn't even bother building replicas of the following bridges.

"The Seven Bridges Holy Emperor built the first bridge here, and I know it very well. If we...."

"Wait-Wait....." Ning Cheng interrupted Zhong Wuchen's words, "Brother Zong, you said that the Seven Bridges Holy Emperor built the first bridge here? Is this place not the underworld?"

Zhong Wuchen laughed, "Dao friend probably doesn't know much about the Grand Essence Seven Bridges. The origins of the Grand Essence Seven Bridges are indeed related to the underworld. The Seven Bridges Holy Emperor experienced some near-death moments in the war. He comprehended the peerless Seven Bridges Spirit Technique after returning to Grand Essence Realm. It's a pity that even after Seven Bridges Holy Emperor spent his entire remaining life, he could only comprehend up to the fifth bridge. As for the Other Shore Bridge and the Reincarnation Bridge that comes later, he couldn't learn even one bit of it."

"Brother Zhong, so you're saying that the First Bridge of Coping here is also a fake? Did the Seven Bridges Holy Emperor build it to take control of the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique?" Ning Cheng asked in confusion.

Zhong Wuchen nodded, "Yes, the First Bridge of Coping here is also a fake. But here you can comprehend the real Seven Bridges Spirit Technique, and it's not a fake....."

As soon as Zhong Wucheng said this sentence, he immediately felt something wrong about it. But before he could react, Ning Cheng's long spear suddenly materialised, and he cast the Sunset's Dusk.

The setting sun looked infinitely beautiful, just nearing dusk. It was a Laws of Time-related spirit technique that carried with it a hint of artistic conception. As the long spear came out, it brought a dao charm-filled spear intent that caused the surroundings to freeze immediately.

"Ling Zhe, if you don't hand over Grey Toottoot today, I will burn your soul for eternity...." After the setting sun-like dao charm-filled spear intent locked on to the long-haired man, Ning Cheng's killing intent immediately erupted with full force.

He was sure that this man in grey robes and long hair wasn't Zhong Wuchen. If it were Zhong Wuchen, he would have never discussed it with him. Moreover, since Zhong Wuchen could build such a powerful and terrifying place like the First Bridge of Coping, it meant that his cultivation far exceeded him. How could it not be better than him?

Moreover, Zhong Wuchen modelled the First Bridge of Coping in the Ancient Shadow Temple based on the first bridge. If Zhong Wuchen couldn't perceive the First Bridge Spirit Technique here, he wouldn't have set up the Ancient Shadow Temple or built the first bridge's replica.

With such a genius-level talent as Zhong Wuchen, he would never return here for the second time. Especially once he realised that he couldn't comprehend the first bridge's spirit technique here.

Ning Cheng had purposefully added the words 'also a fake' while speaking and the other party too replied with the words 'also a fake' unconsciously. It indicated that this fellow had seen the Ancient Shadow Temple's First Bridge of Coping. Apart from Zhong Wuchen, the only other person alive that should have known about it was the ghost cultivator Ling Zhi. However, Ling Zhi had already shaped his body. Successfully evolving from a ghost cultivator to a human cultivator.

This grey-robed man indeed was Ling Zhi. When Ning Cheng cast the Sunset's Twilight, he understood that it contained the Laws of Time. Moreover, before he could even break free from Ning Cheng's Laws of Time, Ning Cheng had even said his name.

The grey-robed man was a ghost cultivator who had just formed his corporeal body after many years. Even his essence spirit hasn't made a perfect connection with the newly-formed corporeal body. Therefore, it would have been a strange sight if it could have avoided Ning Cheng's Sunset's Twilight under such conditions.

The setting sun in his eyes hadn't even gone down yet before he heard the sound of his body tearing apart.

"Boom....." Ling Zhi took decisive action. He didn't know if Ning Cheng got scared from his words, but he knew that he would die tonight. Therefore, at this moment, he didn't even try to put up a resistance and immediately blew himself up.

As the violent celestial essence force raged, Ning Cheng could only grab at Ling Zhi's ring in anger before flying out.

After the self-detonation force subsided, a huge pothole appeared in the location where Ling Zhi stood a few moments ago. It showed that the Grand Essence Ruins' laws were of a much higher grade than those of the starry skies. Even with Ning Cheng's strong body, his hands still received numerous bloody scars as he grabbed at Ling Zhi's ring during the explosion. Yet, the place where Ling Zhi blew up only created a huge pit.

Ning Cheng didn't care about Ling Zhi, and his spiritual consciousness immediately swept into Ling Zhi's ring. Ling Zhi's ring could store life, but Ning Cheng felt disappointed. He didn't see Grey Toottoot in Ling Zhi's ring.

Since Ling Zhi blew up because of his actions, it also meant that clues leading to Grey Toottoot have also disappeared. He couldn't even ascertain it was still alive or dead.

With a sigh, Ning Cheng put away Ling Zhi's ring. Then, without any hesitation, he stepped on to the First Bridge of Coping.

As soon as Ning Cheng stepped onto the Bridge of Coping, the scene around him suddenly disappeared. Endless yin winds started to sweep over, and Ning Cheng once again felt that the yin winds would blow away his essence spirit at any time. Moreover, it happened under the protection of the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort's thunder rays. If not for the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, Ning Cheng suspected that his essence spirit would have collapsed.

Ning Cheng immediately thought of retreating, but the path at his back had already disappeared when he looked back. There was nothing else around him except for the chaotic yin winds.

"Ka-Ka....." The Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort creaked under the onslaught of the yin winds. Even if Ning Cheng continued to pour in his spiritual consciousness and celestial essence, the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort kept shrinking.

Ning Cheng had experienced countless dangerous situations in the past. However, he still found cold sweat dripping down his face in this situation. He didn't even know if he should resist it or not.

"Woo-Woo" As the sounds grew more and more gloomy, Ning Cheng even started hearing sounds of rolling waves. After he forced his spiritual consciousness out, he finally saw the source of these rolling waves. It was just like the First Bridge of Coping within the Ancient Shadow Temple. But the blood river

under the bridge raged with more violence, and it even contained a bloody aura that assaulted one's senses. This bloody aura even washed away Ning Cheng's protective domain.

Except for the blood river raging under the bridge, he saw no path in front of him or behind him. Even when using his spiritual consciousness to observe the situation at his front and back, Ning Cheng didn't dare to move. Once he took a wrong step and fell into the blood river, he would have no choice but to enter the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

The Mysterious Yellow Bead still lacked the Wood Origin Bead. Therefore, once he entered the Mysterious Yellow Bead in a place like the Grand Essence Realm, someone might just sense the Mysterious Yellow Origin Aura.

Just as Ning Cheng started to grow anxious, he suddenly felt the Seven Bridges Realm Book in this True Spirit World tremble slightly.

Ning Cheng couldn't help it. Therefore, after feeling the tremble from the Seven Bridges Realm Book, he didn't hesitate to take it out.

As soon as the Seven Bridges Realm Book came out, it rushed out of Ning Cheng's hand and started to hover right over the bridge before automatically opening. At the same time, the pages of the book began to buzz and shake. The next moment, Ning Cheng could only look in surprise as the endless yin qi from the First Bridge of Copping and the blood river under the bridge quickly flew into the Seven Bridges Realm Book.

The Seven Bridges Realm Book kept absorbing the yin qi and the aura from the blood river like a bottomless pit. It happened so suddenly that Ning Cheng had a hard time believing that this plain-looking book had such an ability. It had gone beyond every expectation he had of it.

In just a few moments, Ning Cheng felt a difference around him. No matter the direction, the terrifying yin winds here could no longer bind him. As long as he wanted, he could exit the First Bridge of Copping at any time.

The First Bridge of Copping suddenly started to tremble ever so slightly under his feet. But before Ning Cheng could react, the Bridge of Copping under his feet suddenly blurred. Ning Cheng didn't have time to think about it, and immediately urged the Twin Wings of Heavenly Clouds to move to the other side.

Ning Cheng had just crossed the Bridge of Copping when the Bridge of Copping he was just standing on disappeared completely, just like a mass of melting ice and snow.

The book not only absorbed the Yin Qi and the bloody aura tumbling around in the blood river, but even the Bridge of Copping....

The blood river turned into dry grey-black grit and the Bridge of Copping, which stood here for countless years had also disappeared.

After absorbing everything, the Seven Bridges Realm Book made a buzzing sound, seemingly wanting to fly away.

Ning Cheng quickly rushed over and grabbed the Seven Bridges Realm Book that seemingly wanted to run away.

But after Ning Cheng caught the Seven Bridges Realm Book, it became quiet. Immediately, Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness swept into the Seven Bridges Realm Book.

At this moment, a faint bridge appeared on the first page, which previously contained no words. The bridge looked very pale and wasn't stable. Still, Ning Cheng could vaguely read the bridgehead's characters, the First Bridge of Coping.

Although these characters still looked very vague, they contained a potent dao charm that he had felt from the First Bridge of Coping that had just disappeared.

What's going on? The Seven Bridges Realm Book still kept trembling slightly, as if it wanted to escape from his grasp. Ning Cheng didn't care that this place was still within the Grand Essence Seven Bridges and quickly let his spiritual consciousness penetrate it. He then immediately started to refine the Seven Bridges Realm Book once again.

Ning Cheng couldn't find any clue in this wordless book before. But after the first bridge appeared this time, and when Ning Cheng started to refine the Seven Bridges Realm Book again, it immediately showed a reaction.

A trace of dao charm and a spirit technique's law started to pour into Ning Cheng's mind....

The First Bridge of Coping started to grow clearer in Ning Cheng's mind, and Ning Cheng even felt as if he stood in the middle of the First Bridge of Coping once again. The blood river rolled around beneath it, while yin winds ran rampant above it. A row of black characters also appeared before his eyes.....

"There's no return to life, no retreat from death; once you enter, you never return."

"There's no looking homewards, no reincarnation, only the river of blood to wash away your sins..."

A new spirit technique gradually grew clear in Ning Cheng's mind, and the dao charm also slowly formed. Just like the foundation for a tall building, it slowly stabilised within Ning Cheng's mind.

Ning Cheng knew that he was still too far from cultivating this spirit technique. But he felt a one-of-a-kind magnificent ambition to look down at the whole world in disdain. It felt as if he now fully controlled the First Bridge of Coping. Anyone who stepped on to the First Bridge of Coping would have no choice but to prostrate themselves and confess to their guilt. As long as he wanted, the other party would willingly step into the blood river to wash away all their sins.

It truly was a supreme spirit technique. This spirit technique could easily affect people's emotions before they even got injured.

As a few days passed by, Ning Cheng gave out a sigh and opened his eyes. He finally understood the real face of this Seven Bridges Spirit Technique.

The Seven Bridges Spirit Technique was, in truth, a weapon, and this weapon was called the Seven Bridges Realm. When this weapon had no owner, it would turn into a wordless book called the Seven Bridges Realm Book.

The Seven Bridge Realm was a weapon, but also a spirit technique. It was a complimentary pair of spirit technique and weapon. If you only learned the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique without the Seven

Bridges Realm, you would never be able to use the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique. Even if you could cast it through a miracle, it would lack both form and spirit.

Therefore, if you want to cultivate the Seven Bridge Spirit Technique, you must first have the Seven Bridges Realm. Only then would it not die out or extinguish, and even follow you into reincarnation. But if one fails in cultivating the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique fully, even if you 'owned' the Seven Bridges Realm, the understanding of the spirit technique would disappear. At that point, the Seven Bridges Realm would again transform into the Realm Book and automatically go into hiding.

The Gate Of Good Fortune

Chapter 858: Collapse

Ning Cheng then looked at the seven-page book in his hand and felt truly impressed. He never thought that the Seven Bridges Realm Book would turn out to be such a heaven-defying treasure. Ning Cheng initially felt confident in his cultivation. But facing the First Bridge of Coping, no, rather just a tiny fraction of the real First Bridge of Coping Spirit Technique, he couldn't even last a moment. Once he comprehended the First Bridge of Coping fully, just how much power would this spirit technique unleash?

Moreover, if he managed to unleash the full Seven Bridges Spirit Technique, even Dao Perfection experts, the pinnacle of Dao Confirming Second Step, might not survive in front of him.

Ning Cheng then thought back to what Ling Zhi said. From its looks, Seven Bridges Holy Emperor must have started cultivating the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique because of the Seven Bridges Realm. Yet, even this person could only cultivate up to the fifth bridge, which showed how difficult it was to cultivate it.

Ning Cheng took out a jade box and put away the Seven Bridges Realm Book. It would take him some significant time to comprehend the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique's first bridge fully. As such, he had to find the time for secluded cultivation and slowly start understanding it. Ning Cheng naturally couldn't sit down and study it in this place.

Moreover, the first bridge in the Seven Bridges Realm hadn't formed fully yet. Therefore, even if he controlled the First Bridge of Coping's spirit technique, he couldn't fully display the first bridge's power. Plus, based on his current understanding of the Seven Bridges Realm Book, only after fully comprehending the First Bridge of Coping would the bridge's faint shadow solidify inside it.

After the First Bridge of Coping, the road was no longer grey-black gravel. Rather, it changed to a khaki-yellow road, which looked like a dirt road in a rural village, surrounded by chirping birds. Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness swept out, but couldn't see even a shadow of a bird anywhere around him. Moreover, the surroundings still looked a bit blurry.

After walking for dozens of miles, another bridge appeared in front of Ning Cheng. This bridge was a little different from the First Bridge of Coping. The earthly yellow bridge's body looked the same colour as the dirt road extending to the bridgehead. If one didn't look carefully, one couldn't even tell whether it was a bridge or an extension of the road in front of you.

Ning Cheng stopped at the head of the khaki-coloured bridge. He saw another five characters with a powerful dao charm circulating at the bridge's head, 'Second Bridge of Looking Homewards'.

With the previous experience on the Bridge of Coping, Ning Cheng took out the Seven Bridges Realm Book, grabbed it in his hand and stepped on to the Bridge of Looking Homewards.

As soon as Ning Cheng stepped onto the Bridge of Looking Homewards, the seemingly endless aura of dao charm poured in, and the landscape around him changed in an instant.

He now stood barefoot on the fields of Donghe Village. At this moment, he seemed to have forgotten everything about himself and had returned to the time when he was once a worry-free boy.

But just when he wanted to run across the field, he grew up instantly. He embarked on the road to leave his hometown, reaching an earth-yellow bridge that separated his hometown from the outside world.

Ning Cheng wanted to look back but felt hampered by a sense of desperation. He wanted to pursue something more significant in life. Therefore, in desperation, he stepped onto the yellow bridge without hesitation.

“Step on the bridge, don’t look back, you’ll find no one looking homewards.”

“Don’t look, don’t hesitate, as stepping on this bridge will break your heart....”

A sense of sadness and depression started to well up in his heart, and Ning Cheng felt as if he couldn’t go on by himself. He had a vague feeling that he would lose all interest in life as long as he stepped off this khaki bridge. He wanted to turn his head to look back, but a compelling aura suppressed that thought, preventing him from turning his head. This kind of sadness made him want to take the second step immediately. Since he would eventually lose his heart, he no longer wished to wander and wanted to put an end to it.

But when Ning Cheng was about to take the next step, the Seven Bridges Realm Book once again rushed out of Ning Cheng’s palm and hovered over the yellow bridge.

The Seven Bridges Realm once again sucked away the endless dao charm aura and all the surrounding scenery. In just a few moments, the view around Ning Cheng disappeared entirely.

Ning Cheng looked down at his raised foot and immediately started sweating. This Second Bridge of Looking Homewards was just a spirit technique’s projection. Yet, it had almost caused his mind to drown in overwhelming emotions. Rather, if not for the Seven Bridges Realm Book, he would have already lost his mind. No wonder so many people perished in the Grand Essence Seven Bridges. If he didn’t obtain the Seven Bridges Realm Book, he would have also died here. From the looks of it, those cultivators who could escape from Grand Essence Seven Bridges all had top-grade escape talismans or an unyielding grasp on their mind.

By the time Ning Cheng flew to the opposite side of the Bridge of Looking Homewards, the Seven Bridges Realm Book had already sucked away the Bridge of Looking Homewards. But this time, the Seven Bridges Realm Book didn’t escape but voluntarily fell into Ning Cheng’s hand. Ning Cheng still hadn’t gained full control of the Seven Bridges Realm inside it, but he had at least branded his spirit sense into the Seven Bridges Realm. Therefore, as long as no one tried to rob it from him, it was only natural for the Seven Bridges Realm to return to Ning Cheng.

Turning over the Seven Bridges Realm Book, Ning Cheng noticed that the second page, that initially had nothing, now had a faint outline of a bridge.

He had obtained two of the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique. Although Ning Cheng couldn't cultivate these two spirit techniques right now, as long as he collected these spirit techniques, he would eventually cultivate them in the future.

With experiencing the First Bridge of Coping and the Second Bridge of Looking Homewards' spirit techniques, Ning Cheng reached the Third Bridge of Forgetting River's bridgehead. But instead of stepping on it, he first threw out the Seven Bridges Realm Book.

The Bridge of Forgetting River looked like a foggy bridge. Except for the faint outline in the middle, it only had fog surrounding it.

Ning Cheng quickly crossed the Bridge of Forgetting River when the Seven Bridges Realm Book began to absorb all the scenery and the body of the Bridge of Forgetting River. This time, he didn't experience any effects and quickly reached the opposite bank of the Bridge of Forgetting River.

As the Third Bridge of Forgetting River disappeared, a bridge shadow appeared on the third page of Ning Cheng's Seven Bridges Realm Book. With that, Ning Cheng then moved on to the bridgehead of the fourth bridge.

The Fourth Bridge of Yellow Springs had a tumbling yellow river below it. However, it had a body wholly made out of blue-coloured stones and looked like it had a majestic, imposing aura. Ning Cheng had just reached the bridgehead when the dao charm leaking from the bridge almost completely suppressed Ning Cheng, to the point that he couldn't even stand.

Ning Cheng, fortunately, did the same thing he did before and threw out the Seven Bridges Realm Book.

The Bridge of Yellow Springs had incredible momentum. But under the Seven Bridges Realm Book, the dao charm aura that had formed this path got sucked into the Seven Bridges Realm Book.

By the time Ning Cheng reached the opposite bank of the Bridge of Yellow Springs and grabbed the Seven Bridges Realm Book, the fourth page of the Seven Bridges Realm Book had already formed an outline of the Fourth Bridge of Yellow Springs.

The Fifth Bridge of Afterlife looked even more blurred than the Third Bridge of Forgetting River. At least one could still physically see the Bridge of Forgetting River. But standing in front of the Bridge of Afterlife, Ning Cheng couldn't see anything except the words Fifth Bridge of Afterlife.

But Ning Cheng didn't care about this. He couldn't even touch the First Coping Bridge's spirit technique, let alone the one in the Bridge of Afterlife. All he could do was throw the Seven Bridges Realm Book and let the Seven Bridges Realm Book take away all these spirit techniques. Ning Cheng could slowly comprehend and then create any of these bridges with a wave of his hand in the future.

No matter the power within the Bridge of Afterlife, under the Seven Bridges Realm Book, it didn't mean anything. In just half an incense stick's worth of time, the Seven Bridges Realm Book once again fell into Ning Cheng's hand. Moreover, the outline of the Fifth Bridge of Afterlife also appeared on its fifth page.

After Ning Cheng's Seven Bridges Realm Book sucked in the fifth bridge's spirit technique, his surroundings immediately turned chaotic, and even gave out a dull roar.

Within just a few moments, everything within the range of Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness turned clear. Even the aura that suppressed Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness disappeared abruptly. Within the scope of Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness, besides the turbulent space, where was the Sixth Bridge of Other Shore?

As the roars became louder and louder, the space around Ning Cheng also started shaking, becoming extremely unstable.

No, it was a prelude to a spacial collapse. Ning Cheng quickly understood and stimulated the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds and rushed out. In just a moment, an earth-shattering rumbling sound came from somewhere behind him. Dust spilt into the sky, and the toxic white mist in this area also started to fall apart. In just a few more moments, the white fog disappeared entirely.

Ning Cheng stood in the void and watched the disappearing Grand Essence Seven Bridges with shock.

The Grand Essence Seven Bridges collapsed when he took the five spirit techniques, and he didn't see any signs of the sixth bridge. From the looks of it, Ling Zhi had spoken the truth. The Seven Bridges Holy Emperor truly hadn't comprehended the spirit techniques linked to the sixth and the seventh bridge. It also meant that his title as Seven Bridges Holy Emperor was nothing more than bragging.

Ning Cheng even started to suspect that the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique wasn't something created by the Seven Bridges Holy Emperor. Rather, this Seven Bridges Spirit Technique existed long before him. Most likely, Seven Bridges Holy Emperor obtained the Seven Bridges Realm Book and the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique and then named himself as Seven Bridges. But in reality, he could only comprehend up to five bridges.

With the Grand Essence Seven Bridges collapsing, Ning Cheng understood that news of it would quickly spread out. Therefore, he pushed the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds to the limits and promptly left the area.

As for exchanging the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique for points, Ning Cheng never even thought of it. Since he got the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique, why would he take it out for others? Even if he knew that others couldn't learn it, he would never take it out.

After Ning Cheng left, the sudden collapse of the Grand Essence Ruins' Grand Essence Seven Bridges quickly spread out. Grand Essence Seven Bridges was one of the most famous places in the Grand Essence Ruins. Therefore, learning that this place collapsed, countless cultivators started to rush towards it. It meant that the collapsed Grand Essence Seven Bridges no longer held any danger, at least it would now be less dangerous compared to the past. Simultaneously, the news also forced many influential people to make the trip to Grand Essence Seven Bridges. They all wanted to find out what caused the Grand Essence Seven Bridges to collapse suddenly.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 859: Law Soil

"Wait...." Ning Cheng, who was in a hurry, got stopped by two cultivators, a man and a woman, both at the late-stage Eternal Realm.

Seeing Ning Cheng stop, the male cultivator cupped his fists towards Ning Cheng and asked, "Is this dao friend coming from the Grand Essence Seven Bridges?"

Ning Cheng looked at the two people in front of him in confusion and asked, "Why do you want to ask?"

The male cultivator explained, "The Grand Essence Seven Bridges collapsed. Almost everyone who received the news rushed to the Grand Essence Seven Bridges to look for opportunities. But since this dao friend is moving in the opposite direction of the Grand Essence Bridge, I wanted to ask if dao friend went to the Grand Essence Seven Bridges and then left?"

Ning Cheng immediately understood from this conversation that these two people must have just heard about the Grand Essence Seven Bridges collapse. They immediately wanted to go to the Grand Essence Seven Bridges. But with their speed, it would still take them about two days to reach it from here. If they went to the Grand Essence Bridge and didn't find anything, wouldn't they have made the trip in vain?

"Grand Essence Seven Bridges collapsed?" Ning Cheng asked with a surprised look, "When did this happen?"

The two cultivators, a man and a woman, saw Ning Cheng's expression and understood that Ning Cheng had no idea about the collapse, and felt a little disappointed. But the male cultivator still kept a polite tone and explained whatever they heard to Ning Cheng.

After listening to the male cultivator, Ning Cheng frowned slightly. "Even if I went all out, it would still take me several days to get to the Grand Essence Seven Bridges. Since you said that the Grand Essence Seven Bridges collapsed two days ago, I'm afraid that even if there was anything good in there, I can't get it now."

The male cultivator also very much agreed to Ning Cheng's words, "I think so too. That's why I couldn't make up my mind."

After speaking, he turned to the female cultivator next to him and said, "Yu Ling, let's not join in on the fun. Let's head to the Broken Land to find Law Soil. With some luck, we might just find one or two clumps."

Ning Cheng quickly asked when he heard this, "May I ask what is this Law Soil?"

The male cultivator looked at Ning Cheng with a confused look and only spoke after a while, "This dao friend, you're in the Grand Essence Ruins, how could you not know about Law Soil?"

Ning Cheng gave an immediate reply, "I just arrived at the Grand Essence Ruins, but went straight to Grand Essence Ruins' Defying Ice Mound on arrival. I'm not too clear about the Grand Essence Ruins, so I request some advice on it."

The male cultivator didn't doubt Ning Cheng's words. Many first-time cultivators rarely had complete knowledge of the Grand Essence Ruins before coming here. Therefore, he took out a jade strip and handed it to Ning Cheng, "This contains an introduction to the Broken Land. This dao friend can keep it with you. We'll be taking our leave first."

He didn't seem willing to join forces with someone as ignorant as Ning Cheng. Therefore, after passing the jade strip to Ning Cheng, he immediately said goodbye and left.

Ning Cheng didn't care about it either, and let his spiritual consciousness scan through the jade strip.

After a few moments, Ning Cheng got a good idea about 'Law Soil'.

Broken Ground was a special place within the Grand Essence Ruins, and just like its name, was mostly broken and in ruins. The war from back then destroyed most of the heaven and earth laws in that place. However, this place was also somewhat different from other areas in the ruin. Nobody knew why, but countless years after the war, Law Soil started to condense in this place, a place with destroyed heaven and earth laws.

The most significant use of Law Soil was to cultivate Dao Raising Fruits.

The universe contained numerous, almost infinite, kinds of Dao Fruits holding law-related dao charm from all kinds of heaven and earth laws. Moreover, different Dao Fruits had different law-related dao charms. Some even contained wisps of Grand Dao Laws, while a few also contained law-related spiritual techniques. One could even go so far as to say that no two Dao Fruits were alike, even if they came from the same source or even the same tree.

Because of this, Dao Fruits could help people sense the different dao charms contained within it to step into the Dao Confirming Realm successfully. Moreover, if refined into a Dao Pill, you would have an even higher chance of entering the Dao Confirming Realm.

But how many cultivators did the vast universe have? Even the word 'countless' might not give justification to that question. Therefore, no matter how hard it was to enter the Dao Sculpting Realm, there were still plenty of cultivators in the universe who had reached that level. What's more, for every step after Dao Sculpting, and even understandings related to the spirit techniques' laws, needed some kind of help from Dao Fruits. Therefore, without relying on Dao Fruits, and just depending on one's understanding, the chances of successfully stepping into the Dao Confirming's three steps or moving forward remained slim to none.

Many cultivators needed Dao Fruits, but even though the universe had all sorts of Dao Fruits, it remains a limited commodity. It necessitated some experts in the Dao of Pills to start cultivating Dao Raising Fruits.

Dao Fruits usually contained all kinds of law-related dao charm, and some of the top-grade Dao Fruits even had strands of heaven and earth laws. Therefore, how could one cultivate them using ordinary means? It wasn't just a matter of supplying it with adequate Starry Sky Spiritual Qi or even Spirit Qi[1].

The most important thing required to cultivate the Dao Raising Fruits was to infuse various law-related dao charm auras into the Dao Fruit Tree and then transfer it to the Dao Fruits. But even a cultivator proficient in laws couldn't share their understanding of the law with Dao Fruits. Plus, the wild Dao Fruit Trees found between heaven and earth were even scarcer than the Dao Fruits raised by cultivators.

Moreover, even though Dao Fruit Trees capable of producing Dao Fruits were scarce, it was almost impossible to transplant them.

Every Dao Fruit Tree was already a rare treasure in itself. But the only reason any Dao Fruit Tree could grow and condense Dao Fruits is the area where it grew. Moreover, the laws permeating the site also needed to be highly compatible with it for its growth. It meant that once someone transplanted it, and

the new area wasn't a top-grade spiritual treasure land, then even if this Dao Fruit Tree didn't die, it wouldn't bear a single Dao Fruit.

Therefore, Law Soil became particularly handy and essential in such situations. Law Soil could allow Dao Fruit Trees to grow, and could also help it condense a trace of law-related dao charm aura during the growth process. Therefore, if you transplanted the Dao Fruit Tree into it, as long as you had enough Law Soil, the Dao Fruit Tree could continue to grow and bear Dao Fruits.

The Grand Essence Quest Hall also had many tasks related to the collection of Law Soils, but there were only a few places in Grand Essence Ruins that could condense it. That's why jobs associated with Law Soil always had very high points. Even a little fingernail-sized clump meant a hundred thousand points. Therefore, the more Law Soil you can gather, the more points you can earn. If you get a lump of Law Soil as big as a fist, you might even rake in several hundred thousand points.

That's because the larger the volume of Law Soil, the more complete the law aura contained within it, and the easier it would become for the Dao Fruit Tree to absorb it. Moreover, it was just one of its primary purposes. Law Soil's tasks were also among the few jobs that can rake in both points and spirit crystals. More specifically, whatever points you get in exchange for the Law Soil, you would also receive the same number of high-rank spirit crystals.

It was this point that attached a high-value to the Law Soil in the eyes of the cultivators. Moreover, finding Law Soil didn't involve much danger as long as you didn't offend anyone. So much so that many low-level cultivators would head to the Broken Land to search for Law Soil.

But precisely because so many cultivators went looking for Law Soil, it resulted in a widespread scarcity for this item. No matter how much Law Soil would form in an area, the cultivators looking for it would wipe it clean.

After Ning Cheng learned about this Broken Land, he decided to go to this place to search for Law Soil. In the four grand starry skies, very few cultivators in the Eternal Realm could threaten him. But in this place, an Eternal cultivator was nothing more than an ant.

In any case, those who haven't converted their celestial essence into spirit essence couldn't threaten him. But if he met an Eternal cultivator who had already transformed their celestial essence into spirit essence, could he still take them head-on? What's more, what about Dao Sculpting cultivators?

Ning Cheng hadn't come in contact with any Dao Sculpting cultivators yet. Although Chuan Xinlou said that he had successfully reached the Dao Confirming Realm, it was his own words as even he had no idea about the Dao Sculpting Realm. Whether Hong Lun and that naked black-skinned man were Dao Sculpting cultivators or not, Ning Cheng had no idea.

Now that he obtained five of the Grand Essence Seven Bridges' spirit techniques, the most important thing for him was to improve his cultivation. It wasn't too realistic to reach the late-stage Eternal Realm in just a short period. But he could at least try converting his celestial essence into spirit essence. Once his Essence Qi transformed, his strength would take another step forward.

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The Broken Land wasn't like what Ning Cheng had imagined. According to Ning Cheng's initial thought, this place most likely should have been a place filled with ravines and gullies, or at least have a devastation-filled view.

But after Ning Cheng reached this place, he realised that his thoughts were just too ridiculous.

The Broken Land had no crisscrossing ravines or gullies. Even if it did have some, they looked dug-out recently. From above, this place looked more like an endless, rugged plain.

Entering the Broken Land, Ning Cheng's swept through every crevice and shadow. But the Broken Land was just too vast; even the Striking Order Star would look like a blip if placed next to it. Moreover, there were just too many cultivators looking for Law Soil in this place. If it already looked this crowded on the surface, one could only imagine the number of cultivators searching underground.

Even with Ning Cheng's powerful spiritual consciousness, he could only view a small part of the area around him because of this place's restrictions on spiritual consciousness.

As Ning Cheng let his spiritual consciousness drill deeper into the ground, he started to see fewer and fewer cultivators compared to the number on the surface of the Broken Land. However, Ning Cheng understood that it was just an illusion. Feeling the fluctuations of Essence Qi coming from under his feet, it let him know that there were far too many cultivators searching underground.

Ning Cheng kept changing positions for a full day while observing the situation and eventually reached the Broken Land's depths. There he found a secluded place to dive into the ground.

He had never previously seen Law Soil, but he knew it very well that no one would show him something as precious as Law Soil. Fortunately, the jade strip given to him by that male cultivator had enough details. Law Soil was the soil required for cultivating Dao Fruits. Since it contained the laws of heaven and earth, it would be reasonably easy to recognise.

The soil containing a trace of heaven and earth's laws would indeed be very easy to identify. As long as a cultivator had reached the Heaven Seated Realm or even Heaven's Mandate Realm, they could quickly identify it. However, easy to identify didn't mean easy to find.

After Ning Cheng dived nearly 10,000 meters into the ground from his chosen location, he let his spiritual consciousness permeate through the earth around him searching for Law Soil.

If an ordinary cultivator stood on the surface and focussed their spiritual consciousness downwards, they could at most reach a depth of around a thousand meters. Therefore, Ning Cheng chose to dive nearly 10,000 meters below the surface to ensure that no cultivators' spiritual consciousness reached him.

Three days later, Ning Cheng felt truly disappointed. He wasn't lazy at all during these three days and carefully searched everything around him. But even after three days of searching underground, he couldn't sense any patch of soil with law aura, despite searching almost a few hundred miles in detail.

On the fourth day, Ning Cheng still kept closely searching. However, he had decided to give up on it and retreat if he didn't find anything after another half a day. At this rate, even if he found a patch of Law Soil the size of a nail, the gains wouldn't be worth the loss in both time and effort.

Ning Cheng intended to look around for another half a day, and if he still couldn't find it, he would return to the Grand Essence Ruins' Quest Hall to look for other tasks that could earn him enough points. But just when he thought of taking up another task, Ning Cheng felt a faint trace of law fluctuations. A clear difference existed between the fluctuations of the laws of heaven and earth and the fluctuations from Law Soil. Therefore, as soon as Ning Cheng felt these fluctuations, he understood that it came from a Law Soil patch.

He immediately moved towards it, but just when he wanted to reach out and grab this clump of Law Soil, a wave of Essence Qi rushed up from somewhere ahead of Ning Cheng and swept up that clump of Law Soil.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 860: The First Bridge's Epiphany

A moment later, a late-stage Eternal cultivator with a round face and hints of fat appeared within the range of Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness. He didn't look too old, but with his tender-looking and fat face, this person looked more like an overgrown teenager instead of an adult.

Ning Cheng had already prepared himself to fight at any time. He discovered the Law Soil first but lost the Law Soil only because of a lack of experience. Besides, he didn't know that there was another way to search for the Law Soil underground.

Regarding the actions of this round-faces fat cultivator who snatched the Law Soil, Ning Cheng didn't feel angry either. He could just grab it back. In this place, the speed of one's hand determined everything, which meant getting angry wouldn't solve anything. There was no place for politeness and jealousy in an area that relied solely on strength.

The round-faced fat cultivator seemed to have understood Ning Cheng's intentions. Therefore, after grabbing the clump of Law Soil, he didn't leave. Instead, he waved his hand and opened up a private space around him and Ning Cheng. At the same time, he spoke up with an anxious voice, "This friend, please don't start....."

Ning Cheng's domain locked onto the fat cultivator and spoke up with a calm tone, "Who found this clump of Law Soil just now?"

The round-faced fat cultivator quickly spoke up, "Of course, this friend found it first. But didn't you see that I didn't leave and stayed behind to consult with you? If I wanted to leave, here, take a look at my talisman, and you would realise that I could leave at any time. Besides, my cultivation is also not worse than you. So, if you still want to talk with your fists, then I wouldn't talk to you anymore."

After speaking, the fat cultivator raised a talisman in his hand. At the same time, he also stretched out his domain as if to prove his strength.

But Ning Cheng still spoke with a calm voice, "You can give it a try."

The round-faced fat cultivator smiled and even put the talisman away, "My friend, I just want to speak a few sincere words with you. I don't want to grab things and leave. This clump of Law Soil is almost as big as half a fist. It indeed has a lot of value. But who am I? I'm Peng Shan. No matter how precious the

thing, I wouldn't grab it even if thrown in front of me. However, I truly require this thing urgently, which is why I have to snatch this Law Soil from you. But don't worry, my friend, I will compensate you for it."

Ning Cheng's killing intent dissipated quite a bit after hearing this round-faced fat cultivator's words. If this fellow had just grabbed it and left, Ning Cheng would have killed him immediately.

"Let's do this then, you divide that clump of Law Soil into two halves, and we each take one half of it." Ning Cheng's tone also eased a bit.

This round-faced person, called Peng Shan, showed a pitiful expression, "My friend, if this were possible, I would have already done it. One could break down Law Soil's clumps into chunks, but its value would take a huge hit once separated. Moreover, it would become less conducive for the growth of Dao Fruit Trees. For example, this clump of Law Soil in my hand, if halved, would be worth less than a tenth of its original value."

You said you needed the Law Soil urgently, and you even wanted to swallow it alone. Don't even think about it.

Seeing Ning Cheng's expressions turning cold, Peng Shan quickly took out a piece of Law Soil that wasn't much larger than a nail and said, "I will give you this small piece of Law Soil. Moreover, I'll even give you 5,000 points, plus 50,000 spirit crystals. I'll even promise you a favour. How about that?"

But even after Peng Shan stated his conditions, Ning Cheng still didn't say anything. Seeing this, Peng Shan had no choice but to continue, "You may not know me, but I'm from Flaming Feather Spirit Mountain. In the future, if you find yourself in trouble, you can use this favour to ask me for help. You at least know about Flaming Feather Spirit Mountain, right? That's one of the three Grand Essence's Spirit Mountains."

While speaking, Peng Shan even took out a jade card and shook it in his hands.

Ning Cheng shook his head and said, "Flaming Feather Spirit Mountain, huh. I haven't heard of it....."

Peng Shan suddenly felt discouraged. How could there still be people who didn't know about his Flaming Feather Spirit Mountain? If any other person heard that he came from the Flaming Feather Spirit Mountain, they would have immediately shot him with jealous and envious stares.

However, Ning Cheng's next words lit up Peng Shan's eyes, "However, I agree to your terms."

When Peng Shan heard it, he immediately put the jade card in his hand and the clump of Law Soil about a big nail's size into a ring. After putting another 50,000 spirit crystals in the ring, he then sent it to Ning Cheng. "Many thanks, my friend. Remember, my name is Peng Shan. But how do I address this friend?"

Ning Cheng took out a black card and said, "My name is Ning Cheng. Do you want to give me the points now?"

"Brother Ning spoke correctly. I will give you the points." Peng Shan took out his Quest Card. It wasn't much better than Ning Cheng's card. Just a white card, about a grade higher.

Point exchanges required both owner's consent. Otherwise, even if you snatch someone's point card, you wouldn't be able to siphon away that person's points. When Ning Cheng saw Peng Shan start

transferring the points to him, he also saw that Peng Shan's card only seemed to have 5,000 points. Seeing this, it made him feel a little more optimistic about Peng Shan.

This fellow only had 5,000 points. If he had more, he might have even offered him more points.

After assigning the 5,000 points to Ning Cheng, Peng Shan looked delighted, "Brother Ning, many thanks for this. Since I obtained what I came here for, I have to go back. By the way, this is for you."

After speaking, Peng Shan took out a white ball, "This is the treasure that helped me snatch that clump of Law Soil. Even if you found clumps of Law Soil later, if you have this thing, you can snatch away the other person's Law Soil quickly. I don't need it anymore, so I decided to give it to Brother Ning."

Ning Cheng already knew that Peng Shan used some unusual means to snatch that clump of Law Soil, and now Peng Shan came up with such a thing.

Ning Cheng smiled and refused Peng Shan's gift. He didn't want such a thing anyway.

"Okay, Brother Ning truly is an outstanding individual. I'll take my leave now. In the future, if Brother Ning needs any help from me, just remember to go to the Flaming Feather Spirit Mountain to find me." After Peng Shan gave Ning Cheng a thumbs up, his body flashed, and he escaped from the ground.

Seeing Peng Shan leaving, Ning Cheng also quickly left his location. He didn't rush out of the ground but kept moving even further below.

The only one reason why he agreed to transact with Peng Shan, apart from Peng Shan's good impression. It was because he suspected that he already had this Law Soil on him.

The edges inside the Mysterious Yellow Bead seemed to contain this kind of Law Soil. He didn't care about it before and hadn't even thought about it until he came into contact with that clump of Law Soil.

The Mysterious Yellow Bead still needed one item to complete it; therefore, the laws in the marginal areas inside it continued to condense, grow and fuse without a balance. In any case, asking for points wasn't much of a big deal for him. After recalling this, he didn't even need to look for Law Soil in this place. If needed, he could just dig out some of the soil from the edges inside the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

Therefore, what Ning Cheng urgently wanted to do was to enter the Mysterious Yellow Bead. He wanted to see if the soil inside the Mysterious Yellow Bead was indeed the Law Soil or not. If it were Law Soil, then it would mean he hit the jackpot.

Ning Cheng dived to the farthest depths he could reach, and after nearly half a day, when he couldn't dive deeper any more, he finally stopped.

Reaching that depth, Ning Cheng then began arranging a Concealment Array. Once he finished setting up the Concealment Array, he then took out the drop of Weak Water. He wanted to use Weak Water's drop to cover up the Mysterious Yellow Bead's remaining aura.

Only after making sure that he didn't overlook anything within the arrangement did Ning Cheng enter the Mysterious Yellow Bead. He then went straight to the Mysterious Yellow Bead's edge.

The Mysterious Yellow Bead no longer looked as if it only contained a yellow mist within it. After gathering four different kinds of origin, the Mysterious Yellow Bead seemed to have gained various auras that seem to give it a unique life force. The original scenery devoid of colour had started to grow colourful. He could even see the outlines of mountains and rivers.

The Mysterious Yellow Bead had already recognised Ning Cheng as its master. Therefore, Ning Cheng could easily walk within the Mysterious Yellow Bead. In fact, with just a thought, he reached the edge of the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

Ning Cheng took out the nail-sized Law Soil he got from Peng Shan and then dug out some of the soil from the Mysterious Yellow Bead's edge. Although the two clumps contained different law auras, he realised that the soil dug out from the Mysterious Yellow Bead's edge was indeed the Law Soil.

Ning Cheng slowly calmed down from the initial excitement and then put down the Law Soil he picked up from the Mysterious Yellow Bead. After confirming this once again with a different sample, he calmed down entirely.

He had to think about other issues. The first was that the Mysterious Yellow Bead has not yet fully formed its inner world. Once he dug out the Law Soil from the edges and brought it out, it might end up causing an unstoppable chain reaction. Second, if the Law Soil he dug out from the Mysterious Yellow Bead had differences from the Law Soil found outside, could the powerhouses sense it?

If someone suspected that he had a Good Fortune Treasure because of the Law Soil, he dug up; it no longer would be an issue of earning points.

After thinking about it for a long time, Ning Cheng decided to dig up some soil from the outside. He wanted to see if he could bring that clump of soil from outside into the Mysterious Yellow Bead and place it at the bead's edge. If he could transform this soil into Law Soil, then it would solve everything.

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Time passed by quickly, and Ning Cheng had remained within the Broken Land for almost three months. Three months ago, he had dug up many clumps of soils, both large and small. Ning Cheng successfully managed to bring them to the Mysterious Yellow Bead's edge before they got refined away. He then stayed within the Mysterious Yellow Bead, refining the Seven Bridges Realm Book, while waiting for soil clumps to transform into Law Soil.

After the Seven Bridges Realm Book collected the five bridges' spirit techniques, Ning Cheng no longer had to wander around cluelessly. In just three months, Ning Cheng had already refined more than ten restrictions of the Seven Bridges Realm Book. At that point, the book suddenly fell into Ning Cheng's Purple Palace[1].

Ning Cheng's Purple Palace already contained the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort and the Celestial River Flame. But as soon as the Seven Coloured Realm Book entered his Purple Palace, it immediately started to hover over the Celestial River Flame and the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort. From its looks, the grade of the Seven Bridges Realm Book far exceeded the Celestial River Spirit Flame.

Feeling delighted, Ning Cheng even forgot about the Law Soil waiting for inspection and immediately started to sense the First Bridge of Coping's spirit technique. In just half a day, he once again got caught up in an epiphany.

This time, the epiphany took a few months. But during this time, the Seven Bridges Realm Book's dao charm and Ning Cheng's thoughts fused and the hidden profile of the Seven Bridges Realm Book's Bridge of Coping started to grow sharp.

Ning Cheng felt a vague sense of control over something and suddenly stood up. At the same time, he raised his hand and gave a gentle wave.

A vaguely contoured stone arch bridge appeared in front of Ning Cheng, with a few words scribbled at the bridgehead, the First Bridge of Coping.

The bridge's dao charm formed into Yin Winds while blood tumbled below the bridge like a blood river. Moreover, a seemingly endless dao charm aura encircled the bridge, creating various scenes from one end to another. It was no longer an illusion, but a manifestation of reality. It felt as if anyone who saw this bridge would have no choice but to step up, without any possibility of backing off.

It was a path that every mortal must take, the First Bridge of Coping. Whether you were an immortal, a spirit, a demon, or a devil before, as long as you saw the First Bridge of Coping, you would turn back into a mortal.

No return from life, no retreat from death, once you enter, you never return.

No looking homewards, no hope for reincarnation, only the blood river to cleanse your sins.....