

The Gate 941

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 941: Furnace Sand's Changes

Shui Yueke fell silent. If she didn't have a deep hatred, she would have definitely joined Yan Ji and Ning Cheng. But she couldn't, she wanted revenge, and for that, she had to find a place to shape her dao. One day, she would definitely find a way to fight against 9-Revolving Sacred Dao Pond to avenge her sister Shui Yuexin and her family.

"Senior Apprentice Sister Yan Ji, how about this. This place is still too close to 9-Revolving Sacred Dao Pond. Let's fly for a few months straight. If Ning Cheng still doesn't wake up by then, I'll look for a place to shape my dao." Shui Yueke quickly decided. If Ning Cheng couldn't wake up in a few months, then I'm afraid he wouldn't wake up at all.

Without people from 9-Revolving Sacred Dao Pond chasing after them, Yan Ji should be more than enough to care for Ning Cheng. But if the 9-Revolving Sacred Dao Sect decided to pursue Yan Ji or herself, even adding a few hundred of her would be of no help. She had to go shape her dao and reach Dao Sculpting Realm. Without shaping her dao, how could she even think of taking revenge for her sister?

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Furnace Sands. It wasn't an item but the name of a place.

Rumour has it that Furnace Sands got its name because a powerful Pill Sage had once used this place to refine pills. The Pill Sage ultimately failed the refinement, ruining the pills in the furnace due to underestimating the difficulty of refining those pills. Moreover, the materials in the furnace were all top-grade heavenly treasures, and this Pill Saint could no longer collect the materials to begin another refinement. As such, in a fit of rage, the Pill Sage smashed the entire furnace.

What's more, when the Pill Sage had started to refine the pills, he had absorbed more than 90% of the spirit aura from the surrounding area. Therefore, when he smashed the furnace, the terrifying temperatures scorched the area, turning it into an actual barren land.

Since then, this place had become devoid of spiritual plants and even normal life.

After countless years had passed, some life slowly returned to this place, and some low-level spiritual grasses started to appear. However, the spirit energy here still remained incredibly thin.

Therefore, cultivators who couldn't cultivate or be unable to advance slowly migrated to this place. Eventually, a settlement formed in this area. The people here all had low cultivation, and the settlement even had ordinary people with no cultivation.

In the Grand Essence Realm, having no cultivation meant certain death. As such, one would rarely find a place with ordinary people in the Grand Essence Realm. Let alone a place where ordinary people lived with cultivators with low cultivation.

Furnace Sands was one such place. However, most people here were descendants of cultivators who could not cultivate or raise their cultivation level.

If one looked at the entire Furnace Sands from above, it would look like a relatively large village with irregular misshapen buildings everywhere. Even the medicine shops, spiritual herb stores and weapon stalls looked humble. If a cultivator suddenly decided to come to Furnace Sands, he would never believe that such a place existed in the Grand Essence Realm. He would definitely think that this place was nothing more than one corner of the lowest level of a true cultivation interface.

But this place was indeed within the Grand Essence Realm, only at the edge of the Grand Essence Realm.

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The sun had already started to set in the west.

One could see many figures starting to return one after another from afar. These were primarily ordinary people and low-level cultivators who had ventured to the Black and White Mountains searching for cultivation resources.

Those with high cultivation levels usually didn't return every day but stayed in the Black and White Mountain Range, returning only once or twice a month for supplies.

A woman in grey came from afar, the gradually sloping sunset dragging her figure long. One could also see a sleeping figure secured to her by what looked like a string on her back.

Her hair looked a little dishevelled by the evening breeze, but the small locks of hair beside her veiled face added a little more softness to her beauty.

All the people who lived in Furnace Sands knew this woman in grey and knew Yan Ji's strength.

Yes, this woman in grey was none other than Yan Ji. Shui Yueke stayed with her for six months. But she had to leave to shape her dao. From then on, Yan Ji led Ning Cheng to a remote place till they arrived at Furnace Sands.

Furnace Sands lacked in spirit aura, which also meant that strong people would usually never come here. As such, this was the most suitable place to live for Yan Ji right now.

Counting up, Yan Ji had been in Furnace Sands for three years by now. And in these three years, she never left Ning Cheng alone. Even when she went to the Black and White Mountains searching for cultivation resources, she never put Ning Cheng down.

Thanks to that one Sacred Marrow Fruit, Yan Ji had advanced to the middle stage of Life and Death Realm, even in a place with barely any spirit aura.

In Furnace Sands, Yan Ji's cultivation wasn't the highest, but she definitely belonged to the strongest within Furnace Sands. As such, very few people came to provoke her. As for any unenlightened people that came over to trouble her, she didn't hesitate to kill them.

Yan Ji had travelled alone from the starry sky to the void, from one celestial river to another. Even coming to the Grand Essence Realm, she didn't rely on anyone for anything. With her own strength, Yan Ji had managed to reach the Live and Death Realm. She no longer kept count of the number of life and death experiences she had faced along the way. It also meant that she had a wealth of combat experience and wasn't afraid of cultivators of the same rank. Even those above her level, she wasn't scared to fight them.

Therefore, coming to a corner like Furnace Sands naturally wouldn't make her fear ordinary foot soldiers.

Initially, Yan Ji wanted to rush to the late-stage Life and Death Realm before leaving Black and White Mountain to search for an even more secluded area. However, she started to feel a faint fluctuation in Ning Cheng's aura. Moreover, this aura fluctuation was growing stronger and stronger with each passing day.

Not only were the aura fluctuations growing more substantial, but Ning Cheng's white hair had also started to turn grey. Some strands had even begun to return to their original black sheen.

Because of these changes, Yan Ji felt that there was a possibility that Ning Cheng would awaken at any moment. It was also why she brought Ning Cheng out of Black and White Mountain and to Furnace Sands.

Half of the Black and White Mountains was made out of black clay, and the other half out of white clay. This mountain range was only ten thousand miles away from Furnace Sands. Although there weren't many high-grade spirit grasses, it did contain some relatively strong high-grade demonic beasts because of its vastness.

Plus, the distance between Black and White Mountains and Furnace Sands wasn't too large either. Yet, there weren't any demonic beasts that ever came to Furnace Sands. Primarily because the spirit aura in Furnace Sands was just too scarce. So thin that even the lowest levelled demonic beasts wouldn't want to live here.

If Ning Cheng was about to wake up, he definitely couldn't continue to stay on her back. But Yan Ji was afraid that she couldn't care for Ning Cheng if something happened in the Black and White Mountains. Therefore, she decided to bring Ning Cheng back to Furnace Sand in a hurry.

As soon as she entered Furnace Sands, Yan Ji felt that something wasn't right. It had only been less than two months since she left Furnace Sands. But now, she saw a lot of unfamiliar faces. Moreover, their cultivation was also not low. She even saw several Eternal powerhouses. There were even a few who had cultivations beyond the Eternal Realm. She couldn't see their exact cultivation level, but she figured it should be at least at Dao Sculpting Realm.

Yan Ji started to regret coming out of the Black and White Mountains. However, she quickly realised that these people seemed to have come specifically for the Black and White Mountains. She saw a steady stream of people moving towards the mountain range, ignoring the fact that night was about to set in.

Yan Ji quickly lowered her head and walked into Furnace Sands.

In some of the better places at Furnace Sands' outskirts, the messy building had long since been razed, and in their place were some abode-type artefacts that looked much more luxurious. When she reached her own dwelling, Yan Ji found that hers had likewise been razed.

Yan Ji didn't dare ask what was going on and immediately sped up to leave the place. She let her spiritual consciousness sweep out and eventually found a group of people who lived in Furnace Sands all year round. Only then did she breathe a slight sigh of relief. These people had to move away from the original places because those outsiders had destroyed their dwellings. Some of them also looked sad.

Probably because those outsiders killed someone close to them. From the looks of it, there was no one strong enough to fight those outsiders.

“Uncle Yu? Why are there so many outsiders here?” Yan Ji quickened her pace and came to an old man within the crowd and asked with a quiet whisper.

Uncle Yu’s full name was Yu Caifeng, and he only had Celestial Gatherer cultivation. This was only because he had been born in Grand Essence Realm and used spirit aura to cultivate since the start. Otherwise, he most likely couldn’t even form a domain with his qualifications, let alone reach the Nirvana Realms.

Moreover, his life span was also about to reach its end. With Yu Caifeng’s ageing meridians and weak bones and living in a place with almost no spirit would, he would find it impossible to break through to the next realm.

Someone who hadn’t cultivated before and started using spirit aura would put them on a much higher standing than someone who began using spiritual aura. But spirit aura wasn’t all-powerful. Even though it would put you on a higher pedestal, it would lose its effect after reaching a certain level.

Yu Caifeng sighed and replied with a low voice, “I heard that a pill furnace had emerged in the Black and White Forest. It should be the same pill furnace left behind by that Pill Sage in the legends. From the looks of it, the pill furnace hadn’t shattered back then. Those outsiders came here to look for that pill furnace. I heard many of them say that the inside of that pill furnace is a world with many treasures.....”

Yu Caifeng sighed when he said this and continued, “It will be tough for us to survive here in peace from now on.”

After saying this, he lowered his head and no longer answered Yan Ji’s words.

Yan Ji’s heart sank. This was the last thing she wanted to see. She had long been satisfied in her heart as she led Ning Cheng here for a peaceful life. But these foreign powerhouses, if they were this hell-bent on searching for the lost Pill Sage’s pill furnace, could she continue to stay here?

Yan Ji looked back at Ning Cheng, who had still not woken up. She knew that she had to leave. The lotus jade piece on her was also gradually losing its effect. If no strong people came here, it wouldn’t be much of a problem. But if an expert much stronger than her did show up here and realised that she had a Heavenly Fragrance Body, it would turn into a disaster for her.

Just then, a sharp burst of light, filled with killing intent, blasted towards them. Yan Ji had ample experience when it came to life and death encounters. Therefore, the moment she sensed this killing intent, her skin only tingled a bit. At this time, Yan Ji simply didn’t have the time to think about anything else. She reflexively coalesced all of her celestial essence and turned into a shadow before vanishing from her spot.

“Boom....” Just as the light, filled with explosive killing intent, fell, Yan Ji’s spiritual consciousness swept out and saw that it was a sword light. This sword light had cleaved through the group of people she was just standing in. A mist of blood splashed up, and apart from some cultivators with more robust cultivation levels, most of them had disappeared under this sword light.

Yu Caifeng, who was still sighing in lament previously, had also disappeared. Apparently, fallen to this sword light.

The few who managed to survive immediately scattered like scurrying chickens, not even daring to look back or say anything.

Yan Ji quickly stimulated her celestial essence and used her best evasion technique to rush away. Facing such a ruthless person who killed without any reason, what else could one do but escape as quickly as possible?

“Brother Xiong, weren’t you the one who said that the Yin Yang Pill Furnace wasn’t in the Black and White Mountains, but in the Furnace Sands?” A man in a golden cultivator’s robe asked with a smirk, looking at another brocade-robed man beside him.

After asking, he then pointed to the huge gully that had just been split apart by the sword light. “That one sword strike should be more than enough. If there were any treasures below, there would definitely be some aura overflow. But the fact is that there is nothing but mud down there.”

It looked like that brocade-robed man had used a sword slash to see if there were any treasures down there. As for the hundreds of people that died as collateral, he didn’t even bother to mention them.

However, the man addressed as ‘Brother Xiong’ started in the direction where Yan Ji had fled and mumbled with a frown, “Why do I feel that something isn’t right here?”

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Chapter 942: If you don’t prove this dao, die-die-die

“Boom....” Shocking red pillars of flame erupted from the depths of the Black and White Mountains, followed by bursts of powerful spacial fluctuations.

The gold-robed man, who just spoke to the brocade-robed man called Brother Xiong, didn’t talk anymore. The next instant, they both sped up and rushed towards the source of those fluctuations.

It wasn’t just one fire pillar that had erupted, but ten. It had to do with the pill furnace; it might even be the furnace’s pill fire. Just think about it, how could a pill flame used by a pill sage be anything but extraordinary? If it indeed was the pill flame, wasting time here would be of no use.

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As Ruo Xi mentioned, although Ning Cheng appeared unconscious and didn’t breathe, he hadn’t fallen. Rather, his essence spirit remained in suspended animation within his purple palace. Moreover, his Sea of Consciousness also did not explode. Rather, the Burst Spirit Pill actually helped it expand even more.

The truth was, if Ning Cheng’s Sea of Consciousness hadn’t grown so tough during his cultivation, the Burst Spirit Pill would have completely ruined it in an instant. At that point, he couldn’t have even burned his essence blood or his longevity.

What kind of cultivators could take the Burst Spirit Pill? The minimum cultivation level required was at least the Dao Sculpting Realm. What cultivation level was Ning Cheng at? Even after experiencing a perfect transformation of his celestial essence, he was still, in essence, an Eternal cultivator.

Ning Cheng's essence spirit sat in suspended animation within his vast and still expanding Starry Sky Sea of Consciousness. At the same time, the Mysterious Yellow Bead continuously overflowed with Mysterious Yellow Origin, nourishing his broken meridians and damaged spirit roots. Even his essence blood and longevity were slowly recovering under the Mysterious Yellow Origin Aura's healing effects.

However, his Sea of Consciousness was still in mid-expansion and hadn't calmed down yet. It preserved Ning Cheng's essence spirit from collapsing and allowed it to have a place to stay. Unfortunately, it couldn't help Ning Cheng sober up entirely. On the contrary, his Sea of Consciousness siphoned off a significant portion of the overflowing Mysterious Yellow Origin Aura, so much so that Ning Cheng still couldn't wake up after a long time.

If Ning Cheng could heal, he would naturally not hesitate to use all of the Origin Aura to nourish his broken meridians. Unfortunately, Ning Cheng doesn't have conscious control over himself right now. He only had a vague sense of consciousness, obscured by a layer of mist that prevented him from observing his current situation clearly.

Ning Cheng's Mysterious Yellow Origin had four of the heaven and earth origin auras. Therefore, after a few years of repairing and nourishing Ning Cheng, the damage caused by Burst Spirit Pill had gradually started to recede.

His meridians had started to recover....

His spirit roots had started to recover.....

Ning Cheng's consciousness also started to clear up. A vague dao intent also gradually began to form around his essence spirit.

The Mysterious Yellow returns to origin; the origin condenses the cultivation method. The cultivation method gives birth to spirit techniques, and the spirit techniques derive the Grand Dao!

Grand Dao began to form, and dao charms gradually started to take shape.

My Dao, it relies on Mysterious Yellow Formless!

My Dao, it relies on the Origin of Creation!

My Dao, it is the Dao of Creation!

My Dao, it is the Dao of Origin!

If I have such a supreme opportunity, why should I worry about not reaching the Grand Dao? I do not need to seek dao fruits to shape my dao, and I do not need to suffer all these hardships to shape my dao. My dao resonates with the Mysterious Yellow and all the heavens and the earth with life.

Shape my dao through Mysterious Yellow, coalesce this dao charm, and my dao will be complete!

"Attached to the Mysterious Yellow, yin and yang intersect, myriad things mix and weave together, losing one's nature...."

"Start shaping the Dao, vow to start shaping the Dao! Vow to start shaping the Dao!! VOW TO START SHAPING THE DAO!!!"

A call that seemed to originate from the underworld echoed in Ning Cheng's vast and boundless Sea of Consciousness. If Ning Cheng's Sea of Consciousness wasn't so vast and infinite, Ning Cheng would have been unable to withstand this otherworldly call within his consciousness. He would have given in a long time ago.

However, his essence spirit sitting within his Sea of Consciousness vaguely realised something. That is, as long as he stood up now and followed this call and took the vow, this dao intent would become a reality. As long as his dao intent formed, the next moment, he could reconnect with his spiritual consciousness and regain his entire consciousness.

But even though Ning Cheng's consciousness was in the midst of chaos and not fully awake, Ning Cheng still felt that something was wrong with those vows. He wanted to reach Dao Sculpting by shaping his own dao, not through such a vow. What's more, this vow even gave him an uncomfortable thought.

That is, if he took this vow, he would forever be dependent on the Mysterious Yellow Bead. In any case, the Origin of Creation also existed because of it. But since when had he become dependent on the Mysterious Yellow Bead and on its Origin of Creation?

What about the dao he gained enlightenment on his own, the Dao of Returning to One? The Mysterious Yellow Bead was the one that had attached to him and not the other way round. At best, it only provided him with some cultivation assistance, everything else he had derived independently. Yet, at this time, it was directly interfering with proving his dao. What did this mean?

Unfortunately, Ning Cheng's spirit sense was still too weak, and his consciousness was still too chaotic at this time. As such, this kind of autonomous enlightenment only provided some little resistance.

He knew that as long as he swore with his essence spirit, he could immediately wake up as a Dao Sculpting powerhouse. But Ning Cheng somehow managed to forcibly hold back. This wasn't the dao he wanted, nor was it 'his' dao. Not only that, but he also vaguely sensed a hint of something wrong with it. There was something wrong with the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

Right at this moment, another call emerged that seemed to come from the depths of his soul. Ning Cheng immediately felt a life-ending sense from it.

"If you don't prove this dao, you will eventually become an ant!"

"If you don't prove this dao, you will die without a chance of rebirth!"

"If you don't prove this dao, die-die-die....."

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Ning Cheng's essence spirit sat frozen in his Sea of Consciousness. However, one could still see it slightly trembling. Even if more life-threatening dangers came his way, he didn't want to attain this kind of dao. This dao was very different from the dao he wanted and didn't even give him any semblance of connection or passion. Instead, he only sensed that it was full of death.

No, this is not my dao. Threatening me with death? Don't blame me for this is not my dao; I will not compromise or lower myself for it!

The Mysterious Yellow Bead belongs to me, and its existence also depends on me. The Origin of Creation might originate from the Mysterious Yellow Bead. But the remaining Origin Beads were all gathered by me. These origins already belong to me, so how could I 'let' myself rely on these items to prove my Dao?

My dao, I will condense it by myself!

My dao, it's the only one in heaven and earth!

My dao, it's not attached to any external object!

My dao, it's ALL THINGS RETURNING TO ONE!

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Ning Cheng's mind remained steadfast, and those words mysteriously started to power up his soul and heart. His soul grew stronger and stronger with each passing moment, while his thoughts grew more and more stubborn. Even if he didn't attain this dao, he would never obtain any other dao that went against this dao in his heart, even if he were to die.

Even if his consciousness was in chaos, even if his essence spirit was being swayed. He would never take that vow that made him dependent on Mysterious Yellow or anything else.

"Boom....." A raging power exploded in Ning Cheng's Mysterious Yellow Bead, shaking Ning Cheng's purple mansion with a violent roar.

Ning Cheng's body trembled for a moment, and his essence spirit started growing weaker.

At this moment, Ning Cheng couldn't release his spirit sense, but the consciousness of Ning Cheng's essence spirit turned even clearer. Ning Cheng, whose consciousness was still in a chaotic blur, was unwilling to prove that dao through such an oath. Therefore, this explosion sobered him up and made his will even firmer.

He couldn't release his spiritual consciousness outwardly. But at this moment, his consciousness had complete control of his purple mansion and Sea of Consciousness. Therefore, Ning Cheng no longer cared that he only had half a Wood Origin Bead. He immediately threw the half Wood Origin Bead into the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

A power that he couldn't control suddenly manifested in the Mysterious Yellow Bead. If not for his strong willpower, he would have almost followed that oath from before and attached himself to the Mysterious Yellow Bead to prove his dao.

As soon as the Wood Origin Bead landed in the Mysterious Yellow Bead, endless Wood Origin Aura spread out. This wood origin aura coalesced with the rest of the origin auras and instantly transformed into unlimited verdant colours.

Initially, the Mysterious Yellow Bead looked subdued, but it instantly took on additional colours after the wood origin's transformation.

The mountains were no longer a dull yellow colour and the ground also no longer was a hazy shade of yellow.

The ground's colour started to turn into its natural brown hue, the mountains began to grow verdant, breezes began to form, and the seas began to roar.....

It was as if spring had suddenly arrived and the whole world transformed into something magical. The five elements started to come together and gave birth to all kinds of life. Even his severely injured spirit roots had begun to recover even more rapidly. Perhaps in the next moment, he would be able to open his eyes and once again gain a lively aura.

Ning Cheng felt shocked as he felt everything through his spirit sense. He never expected the Wood Origin Bead to condense such a complete Mysterious Yellow World even when incomplete.

Every corner of the Mysterious Yellow Bead became overly explicit in his consciousness. He could now see and observe every speck of dirt within it through his spirit sense.

A strand of consciousness also started to condense within the depths of his soul. Was this the Mysterious Yellow Bead's complete acquiescence in recognising him as its master? He carefully observed it but didn't sense anything wrong with it.

But then, in the next moment, he clearly understood the function of the entire Mysterious Yellow Bead. Even if he took it out and held it in his hand, no one would recognise it as the Mysterious Yellow Bead. The Mysterious Yellow Aura had now fully merged into the Mysterious Yellow Bead and no longer spilt out.

The Mysterious Yellow Bead had begun to form a world, an entirely new world that never existed before today. Ning Cheng could feel that in the Mysterious Yellow Bead, a sun, a few moons and plenty of stars had also started forming. It wasn't an imitation, but a real sun, real moons, and real stars.

Similarly, he knew that at this moment, he could now plant any spiritual grasses and place anything within the Mysterious Yellow Bead. He no longer needed to set up the Minor Five-Elements Formation.

However, the only thing he couldn't do was bring living beings like him into the Mysterious Yellow Bead. In other words, he could bring in everything except people into the Mysterious Yellow Bead. It was mainly because the Mysterious Yellow Bead was still missing a part of Wood Origin Bead. It prevented it from becoming complete.

Ning Cheng suddenly thought of the voice that had compelled and even threatened him with death to prove his dao. The Mysterious Yellow Bead was a Good Fortune Treasure, so how could it have such a will in it?

When Ning Cheng thought of this, his spirit sense spread throughout the Mysterious Yellow Bead. Almost the instant Ning Cheng moved his spirit sense, he found a wisp of spirit soul in a remote corner of the Mysterious Yellow Bead. The spirit soul looked like it would collapse at any moment, yet it still stared at Ning Cheng with a deathly glare through a pair of cloudy eyes. It looked like it wanted to swallow Ning Cheng in one gulp and eat him up.

Ning Cheng's essence spirit winced. He never imagined that another spirit soul could exist in his Mysterious Yellow Bead apart from him.

From the looks of it, it was this spirit soul that wanted to sway him to prove that dao just now. The Mysterious Yellow Bead was a Good Fortune Treasure, so it naturally wouldn't compel him. Which

meant that this spirit soul most likely belonged to one of the previous owners of the Mysterious Yellow Bead. This fellow had clearly fallen, yet he still had a trace of his consciousness left in the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

If he listened to those words and attached himself to the Mysterious Yellow Bead to prove his dao. In the future, even if he took control of the Mysterious Yellow Bead, he would still be a servant under that fellow.

Ning Cheng's essence spirit couldn't help but break out in cold sweats as he thought of this possibility. What he did just now was a little too dangerous. If not for his willpower, and if this spirit soul wasn't so weak, his efforts up to this day would have been nothing more than a dowry for others.

When Ning Cheng figured this out, he became furious to the extreme and an order reverberated within his True Spirit World, "Chasing Bull, come out and swallow this trash soul for me."

Chasing Bull originally was just an essence spirit, and it loved to devour other souls. Only later on did it obtain the body of a Wind Seeking Heavenly Bull. As such, it no longer chose to eat souls using his essence spirit, but mainly because there were no delicious souls to devour. Since this wisp of spirit soul resided in the Mysterious Yellow Bead, it was bound to be extraordinary. Even if it was just a wisp of the actual spirit soul, it was still delicious enough for Chasing Bull to have a good time.

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Chapter 943: The remnant soul in Mysterious Yellow Bead

With Ning Cheng's consciousness in a state of chaos, Chasing Bull couldn't get Ning Cheng's permission to come outside. He had no choice but to stay in fear within the True Spirit World as he didn't know what happened to Ning Cheng or if Ning Cheng could survive.

Chasing Bull had followed Ning Cheng for a long time. He naturally knew Ning Cheng's True Spirit World sat within a Minor 5-Elements Formation inside the Mysterious Yellow Bead. If Ning Cheng didn't reinforce the Minor 5-Elements Formation every few years, the True Spirit World would eventually get refined into nothingness by the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

Still living in fear, Chasing Bull suddenly received Ning Cheng's order. He didn't even give it a single thought and immediately rushed out of the True Spirit World. Even if Chasing Bull had poor cultivation, he quickly realised that the laws in the 'world' he appeared in were countless times more powerful than the True Spirit World.

Yes, this is the Mysterious Yellow World. The fact that he had appeared in the Mysterious Yellow World without anything happening to him meant that his master had completed the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

"Stupid cow, still not devouring that garbage spirit soul." Seeing Chasing Bull stunned and looking dumb, Ning Cheng bellowed angrily.

Even if this wisp of spirit soul within the Mysterious Yellow Bead had no strength, Ning Cheng would never remain comfortable as long as it remained within the bead.

It was as if an outsider hid in his home. It would be a strange thing if he could live comfortably with that knowledge in mind. What's more, this soul sliver had grasped the most opportune time, invading his consciousness at his weakest moment. It even tried to force him to shape a Dao that wasn't suitable for

him. If not for the current situation, even if this remnant soul was ten thousand times stronger, he could have destroyed it at will.

Plus, not only did this soul sliver grasp the most opportune timing, even its concealing skill was beyond the reach of ordinary people. This soul sliver could have finished him off in the Mysterious Yellow Bead when his cultivation was still shallow, and there would have been nothing he could do.

If he let this soul sliver live, Ning Cheng would never be able to sleep in peace. Plus, he could vaguely perceive that this soul sliver came from a mighty expert, so powerful that he couldn't even imagine.

If Ning Cheng had known that this half Wood Origin Bead could make the Mysterious Yellow Bead fully recognise him as its master, he would have thrown it in a long time ago.

Chasing Bull received Ning Cheng's order and hurriedly said, "Yes, master. I will immediately go and eat this tonic."

Even though Ning Cheng was so weak that he couldn't even take control of his body. His essence spirit could still control the Mysterious Yellow Bead. On the other hand, the remnant soul was countless times weaker than Ning Cheng's essence spirit, now that the bead had fully recognised him as its master. As such, it had no power to resist in Ning Cheng's territory at all.

"Wait-wait..... I have a great opportunity to tell you. It doesn't matter if you kill me, but I have to tell you about this opportunity before you kill me. Otherwise, I wouldn't feel at ease even if I died. This opportunity would allow you to become the master of this universe. Even your favoured beast will be able to dominate all the sacred beasts in the world...." The soul sliver screamed out as Chasing Bull rushed towards it to devour it.

Without even opening his mouth, Chasing Bull stopped. Then, he glanced at Ning Cheng with a questioning expression. This broken soul's words had truly tempted him and made him hesitate to devour it.

Ning Cheng swept an expressionless glance at Chasing Bull and said in a faint voice, "You can retreat."

Chasing Bull retreated with joy. Even he couldn't help but feel admiration about his wise choice of stopping. Moreover, his master also seemed interested in this grand opportunity just as much as he did.

After Chasing Bull retreated, Ning Cheng's essence spirit suddenly appeared in front of this remnant soul.

This remnant soul had a look in its eyes that seemed to want to recount many things. It even opened its mouth slightly, waiting for Ning Cheng to ask about it.

However, Ning Cheng didn't ask anything, and he didn't even say anything. Instead, he opened his mouth and spat out a flame.

As soon as the Celestial River Flame appeared, it instantly wrapped up this remnant soul. The next moment, a harsh, shrill cry emerged. The remnant soul burned into flying ash under Ning Cheng's Celestial River Flame and dissipated without a trace.

Ning Cheng's entire consciousness cleared up the moment this soul wisp dispersed. In fact, his consciousness became even more perceptive. Everything had finally come under control, and he no longer had any blind spots within his consciousness.

Ning Cheng let out a soft sigh as he guessed a few things after killing the remnant soul. When he was in the Mysterious Yellow Starland, he had gone to the Sacred Light Mountain, where he encountered a voice that tried to force him to worship it. After the failed attempt, a giant golden hand had appeared, almost managing to finish him off.

Fortunately, he managed to repel that giant golden hand with the help of the hope-powered jade seal. Once the golden hand disappeared, the owner of the golden hand left behind a few threatening words, "I will return to take the Mysterious Yellow Bead. An ant like you isn't worthy of possessing such treasures....."

This remnant soul in his Mysterious Yellow Bead gave him the same feeling as the owner of that giant golden hand. That bastard wasn't only a ruthless person but also someone with a cunning mind. If his injuries were a bit worse or if he still waited to find the other half of the Wood Origin Bead to perfect the Mysterious Yellow Bead, he might have been screwed.

Most likely, that wisp of remnant soul had awakened after that encounter at the Mysterious Yellow Sacred Temple or was planted inside it at that time. It hadn't been long since then, but it had already grown powerful enough to interfere with his Dao enlightenment. If he gave this remnant soul some more time, how far would it have developed? The Mysterious Yellow Bead was his. So, even after he got severely injured, his essence spirit would automatically start to heal under the effects of the Mysterious Yellow Bead. But with such a ticking time bomb around inside of him, Ning Cheng would have no idea when it would explode and consume him.

But, more importantly, this person was able to hide a wisp of remnant soul in the Mysterious Yellow Bead without the notice of its master. It showed how terrifying this person's mind and methods were. Fortunately, the difference in strength within his consciousness was simply too significant, allowing him to have the last laugh. As for having this wisp of a remnant soul speak about that great opportunity, Ning Cheng didn't even think about it. If there truly was such a shockingly great opportunity, he believed that this remnant soul would not tell him about it in detail.

He had played this kind of delaying tactic far too many times in his life, so how could he fall for it? Whether there was one or not, he would have never given this residual soul the chance to speak.

After killing this wisp of residual soul, Ning Cheng let out a long breath. He now felt finally free of that vague worry that something was wrong.

"Master....." Chasing Bull cried out a little fearfully when it saw Ning Cheng use the Celestial River to destroy that wisp of remnant soul without even asking. He had decided to stop and seek the opinion of his master and had never thought that it would make him so angry. Otherwise, how could he have given up on the chance to devour such a high-quality soul?

Ning Cheng swept a glance at Chasing Bull and said in a light one, "I will erase your consciousness and memories about me and this place. You can go out and survive on your own. I'd rather not raise a beast like you anyway, so let's just get it over with."

As soon as Chasing Bull heard Ning Cheng's words, he knew that he was finished. He understood that his master was a careful person and that he truly was angry with his actions. Without even thinking about it, he knelt down and cried with a snotty nose and tear-filled eyes, "Master, please forgive me this time. I will even eat shit if master asks me to at any time. I won't hesitate for even half a second. I will never be confused by the words of shit that others say and will definitely take master's words as the heavenly truth."

Ning Cheng gave a cold snort, "If I didn't still have some ability, I might have been sold out by you and that remnant soul in conjunction. Do you think I didn't hear what that remnant soul said? If I really didn't want you to eat that remnant soul, would I have told you to come out only to stop you? Idiot."

Chasing Bull kept nodding his head, not daring to speak up for even half a second.

"Get yourself a rope and tie your hooves. You're grounded for three months. Next time, I won't let it slide and will kill you immediately." Ning Cheng rebuked.

When Chasing Bull heard Ning Cheng not chasing him away, he immediately made many incessant promises. He even kept vigorously nodding his head.

"I'm going to start recovering my meridians, fusing my Sea of Consciousness, and restoring my essence spirit. Clean up the things here." Ning Cheng grunted and turned away.

The truth was, there was a more important reason why he didn't allow Chasing Bull to devour that wisp of remnant soul. He simply didn't want Chasing Bull to eat that remnant soul. It wasn't just because Ning Cheng was scared of the remnant soul. But he was very much afraid of one particular scenario. That is, instead of finishing off the other party, he might just end up helping that remnant soul take over Chasing Bull's body.

It was also precisely because of this fear that Ning Cheng used the Celestial River to finish that remnant soul.

"Huh, master, there is a dead tree here. No, this tree isn't dead....." Chasing Bull's surprised voice sounded out before Ning Cheng's essence spirit walked back to the purple mansion.

As soon as Chasing Bull said that, Ning Cheng quickly zoomed in on that huge ancient tree. This old tree had fallen diagonally on the ground. Half its visible body had already withered, while most of its remaining half was buried. If one didn't pay close attention while looking at it, this ancient tree wouldn't stand out at all. However, once he started looking at it closely, Ning Cheng felt a powerful dao rhythm coming from this withering ancient tree.

Ning Cheng had obtained a dao fruit tree before. But compared to that tree, didn't the dao rhythm of this ancient tree feel ten thousand times more powerful?

Ning Cheng instantly understood that this tree was already present in the Mysterious Yellow Bead before it came to him. Ning Cheng turned to Chasing Bull, who stood quietly at one side, "You're responsible for planting this tree up again. As for your punishment, I'll put it off for now. If you behave well, I will forget about it; if not, I will double it."

"Yes, master." Hearing Ning Cheng's words, Chasing Bull felt delighted. Initially, just the thought of being tied to a spot for three months made him shudder. Now, he had casually stumbled upon a tree, and

master had removed the punishment for the time being. He had to behave in a way that left master speechless; that was the only way he could escape from that three months of torment.

.....

The moment Ning Cheng burned a wisp of his remnant soul, deep within a mountain range countless planes away from the Grand Essence Realm, an angry screech rang out. "A little gnat dares to burn my remnant soul, I will never let you go, ah....."

However, Ning Cheng didn't know any of this. It had nothing to do with him anymore. At this moment, he once again sat gazing at his Sea of Consciousness, restoring his meridians and fusing his essence spirit back together. He now had a clear consciousness, and although he still couldn't release his spirit sense outwards, he could still use it to bolster his recovery. At the very least, he could now heal several dozen times faster than before.

.....

Deep within the Black and White Mountain Range, pillars of fire kept exploding out from the ground, each reaching ten thousand feet in height. One could see several strong people surrounding these pillars of fire. Several more experts could also be seen rushing towards this area from distant locations, adding to the already increasing numbers. However, the flames here were too powerful. As such, no matter who came over, whether ordinary cultivators or holy emperors, they could only gather around and watch.

"This is a top-level heavenly flame, definitely left behind by that pill sage from back then." Someone in the crowd pointed to the flames and said.

"Do you even need to say that? There's still a faint pill fragrance within this flame; everyone can tell that it's a pill flame left behind by that pill sage." Someone immediately responded with disdain.

"Fragrance? Heavenly Fragrance..... That woman....." A man in brocade robes murmured subconsciously after hearing about the pill fragrance. Suddenly, he seemed to have understood something. He quickly composed himself and instantly rushed out of the crowd, frantically rushing towards Furnace Sands.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 944: The Scramble

Seeing this brocade-robed man rushing out, the gold-robed man standing beside him frowned a little. He couldn't understand his companion's actions. At this time, everyone was in a hurry to come here, but he actually rushed out from this place.

"What is Mu Yuxiong doing?" The gold-robed man asked in confusion. He knew that fellow's character better than anyone else here. Mu Yuxiong would never willingly suffer a loss. The pill sage's furnace hadn't appeared yet, so what forced him to rush out like that?

Someone obviously overheard the brocade-robed man's murmurings before he left. Now that the gold-robed man asked, the cultivator who heard him laughed and said, "He wants a woman. Right, he said something about heavenly fragrance, then that woman, and then ran out. Hehe, it looks like that woman is more important to him than the heavenly flame and the pill sage's pill furnace....."

The replying cultivator's words abruptly stalled halfway through. Heavenly fragrance, that woman, could it be a woman with the Heavenly Fragrance Body? It didn't matter if everyone knew of Mu Yuxiong's perverted nature. Facing the temptation of the pill sage's pill furnace and heavenly flame, if a Heavenly Fragrance Body truly appeared, anyone would leave this place without a second thought.

Although the pill sage's pill furnace and the heavenly flame he used for alchemy were here, there were quite a few strong people here already. In other words, it was just a matter of too many people and too little meat. There was even a good chance that they might not obtain anything.

But if a woman with a Heavenly Fragrance Body did appear, wouldn't it be a heaven-sent opportunity? In other words, it was just like a pie falling from the sky; such an opportunity was something almost impossible to even dream of.

A woman with a Heavenly Fragrance Body would be equivalent to countless dao fruits. It would make it easier to advance to the next level and prove their Dao more leisurely. Even if they found her dead, or even in parts for the matter, it would still mean an unaccountable fortune.

In just a few moments, the surrounding cultivations connected the dots.

Then, dozens of silhouettes rushed out, following the direction Mu Yuxiong had left. They might not have enough power to snatch the pill furnace, but for grabbing a woman with the Heavenly Fragrance Body..... Even if they couldn't, so what? As long as they could obtain a cup of her blood during the scuffle, it would mean a massive fortune.

.....

Ning Cheng's cultivation had long since reached the full circle of the Eternal Realm. He had even perfectly integrated the five elemental origins of the Mysterious Yellow Pearl with the help of his injured essence spirit. As such, his spiritual roots and meridians' healing speed had also accelerated by several folds. Therefore, his essence spirit could now, theoretically, go beyond the limits of his physical body.

After his purple mansion fused into the Mysterious Yellow Bead, the origin aura's dao rhythm helped the dao rhythm of Ning Cheng's essence spirit flow more smoothly and freely. Eventually, the dao rhythm produced vague but substantial chants around his essence spirit.

The dao rhythm's chants grew from faint to clear and transformed into continuous dao patterns surrounding Ning Cheng's essence spirit. The aura from these dao patterns kept washing over his essence spirit over and over again. Ning Cheng's essence spirit, which sat in his Sea of Consciousness with its eyes closed, started to grow more and more solid under the continuous effects of the dao patterns. Moreover, as it grew more substantial, the bubbling essence qi within his essence spirit started to overflow. It felt as if his essence spirit was about to form a physical body.

As the dao rhythm continually produced chants, Ning Cheng felt his essence spirit's strength soaring frantically. At this point, Ning Cheng suddenly had an inexplicable thought in his heart. His essence spirit was too fragile to withstand this kind of dao rhythm tempering, which meant he needed a stronger essence spirit. Perhaps one day, his essence spirit could be capable of fighting against enemies by itself.

Ning Cheng just thought about it when his essence spirit began to crack open, and a burst of tearing pain came through.

Ning Cheng was a body refining cultivator and had experienced many painful experiences. But all that pain wasn't even a tenth of the pain he felt when his essence spirit started to crack open, and it felt like ten thousand ants eating at his still-beating heart.

With his essence spirit still cracking apart and convulsing, his fleshy body also started to tremble uncontrollably. Had his body not reach the peak of Starry Sky Body, it might have already collapsed under this ghastly pain.

"All things in heaven and earth, if they want to go up one level, have to fuse countless things into one. Nirvana for a cultivator is the re-gathering of the scattered insights; nirvana for the Sea of Consciousness is to make the Sea of Consciousness free of impurities and transform it into one whole. Today, the spirit essence reached perfection, but the physical body and essence spirit remain separate. The essence spirit can also experience nirvana and shape the dao....."

A dao rhythm aura manifested within Ning Cheng's consciousness. Ning Cheng immediately understood what his essence spirit wanted to do. Rather, it moved instinctively, wanting to achieve nirvana and rise from the ashes.

The tearing pain made Ning Cheng unable to think why his essence spirit would act independently or achieve nirvana. He simply had no energy left to even think about it. Rather, all of his energy got sucked out to power the dao rhythm tempering, to let his essence spirit undergo nirvana and allow it to rise from the ashes.

The origin aura of the Mysterious Yellow Bead and the dao rhythms that surrounded Ning Cheng continuously washed over Ning Cheng's cracking essence spirit. It healed and tempered Ning Cheng's essence spirit before cracking open once again. This cycle went on so many times that Ning Cheng had lost count.

Fortunately, after one particular cycle, a golden glow invisible to the naked eyes started to spread out around Ning Cheng's essence spirit. Then, a moment later, Ning Cheng's essence spirit slowly began to stand up within his Sea of Consciousness.

As his essence spirit grew more solid, Ning Cheng's essence spirit stepped out with a single step. Then, forming arcane gestures within its hands, his essence spirit started to chant:

"A man involved in Dao, involved in heaven and earth, must unite billions, and only then know success. The man's spirit, bound by flesh and blood, must still surpass the physical body. Billions are blind to the truth of Dao, not from a lack of will, but from their own inability! My Dao, with the nirvana of essence spirit, stands above billions of lives!"

"The spirit is born from the Dao, and the form is born from the essence. This is the law of heaven and earth, but nirvana of essence spirit is no more than the rhythm of the Dao!"

"My Dao, it's formed by the nirvana of essence spirit!"

"My Dao, it's opened by me!"

"My Dao, it's all things returning to one!"

"My Dao, it's stepping on top of all Dao!"

.....

Rolling dao rhythms drummed around Ning Cheng's essence spirit as if the world itself was tossing and turning. Just the sound itself was astonishing. Ning Cheng's entire Starry Sky Sea of Consciousness filled up with these rolling dao rhythms. But this roaring primarily came from the dao rhythms' chants.

The rolling dao rhythms grew more condensed, and even if Ning Cheng had a Starry Sky Sea of Consciousness, he couldn't stop the spread of these dao rhythms. As these dao rhythms grew stronger and stronger, Ning Cheng's essence spirit also grew more solid. It felt that these dao rhythms would eventually rush out of Ning Cheng's Sea of Consciousness.

.....

Yan Ji felt a little worried as she untied Ning Cheng from her back and hugged him in her arms.

She had felt something wrong even before Ning Cheng started trembling. But now, it looked as if every muscle in Ning Cheng's body was spasming at the same time. It seemed as if someone held a knife and continuously cut strips of flesh from his body.

Feeling the pain radiating out from Ning Cheng's body, Yan Ji felt like someone stabbed a knife through her heart. She wanted to transfer all the pain from Ning Cheng's body to herself or share a part of it to reduce Ning Cheng's discomfort.

Fortunately, after half an hour in such a state, Ning Cheng's painful convulsions finally settled down. Yan Ji also wiped off the sweat from her face, feeling slightly relieved.

She picked up Ning Cheng once again and was about to place him on her back and continue escaping when a swift shadow suddenly appeared in front of her.

When Yan Ji saw this figure, her heart trembled. She had seen this brocade-robed man before, standing next to the gold-robed man back then. That golden-robed man had killed over a hundred innocent cultivators with a single move.

"Hahaha, remember, from now on, your man's name is Mu Yuxiong....." The man in brocade robes opened his mouth and laughed loudly when he saw Yan Ji. He once again perceived the same faint scent; it came from the woman in front of him.

With his eyes, how could he not see that the woman in front of him was still a virgin? Seeing that Yan Ji had a veil on her face, he didn't even think about it and raised his hand to grab Yan Ji.

Even if Yan Ji looked ugly, he wouldn't care. But deep down in his heart, he naturally hoped that this woman with the Heavenly Fragrance Body would have a pretty appearance. After all, as long as this woman lived, she would have to accompany him forever.

When Yan Ji saw the other party's hand reaching out to her, she quickly flew back and retreated. It's just that her cultivation was too poor. Against Mu Yuxiong, who had already stepped into the Dao Confirming Realm, her little bit of cultivation didn't amount to anything. Unfortunately, with the other party deliberately moving to restrict her movement, she couldn't fully move away in time.

“Bang.” With a loud explosion, the veil on Yan Ji’s face turned into shreds and dissipated into thin air. The lotus-imprinted jade piece on her chest had already started to lose effect, but that explosive force caused a crack to appear on it.

The jade piece engraved with a lotus flower already couldn’t block Yan Ji’s Heavenly Fragrance Body. But with this additional crack, an extraordinarily faint but fresh fragrance started to waft out of her. An ordinary person wouldn’t notice it, but one could immediately sense this fragrant scent as a cultivator.

Mu Yuxiong stared at Yan Ji in a daze. He had never expected that Yan Ji would be so stunningly beautiful. Even if he had seen many beautiful women before, he still felt shocked by Yan Ji’s appearance. It took him a while before he noticed the faint, fragrant scent from her body.

Yes, it really was a Heavenly Fragrance Body. A woman with such a stunning Heavenly Fragrance Body had actually appeared in front of him. Even though it actually happened, Mu Yuxiong still couldn’t believe his eyes.

He quickly reacted without thinking and went forward to grab Yan Ji. As for the pill sage’s pill furnace and the pill flame in the Black and White Mountains, whoever liked to have them can have them. It wasn’t that he didn’t want them, but he didn’t have the energy to compete against others for those things right now. But with the Heavenly Fragrance Body in front of him, hehe...

“Boom.....” A fierce essence qi suddenly blasted over and collided with Mu Yuxiong’s hand. It immediately pushed away Mu Yuxiong’s hand from grabbing at Yan Ji.

“Gu Jintan, what’s the meaning of this?” Mu Yuxiong looked at a gold-robed man in front of him with a hateful voice. Not too long ago, they had partnered up to go to the Black and White Mountain Range. Not much time had passed, but the once-allied cultivator had turned into a rival.

The golden-robed man simply ignored Mu Yuxiong. After stopping Mu Yuxiong, he likewise went to grab Yan Ji.

When things came to such a point, how could Mu Yuxiong not know that Gu Jintan also knew that this woman had a Heavenly Fragrance Body? He also stopped talking nonsense and took out his weapon, and blocked Gu Jintan.

Even though the two didn’t directly strike at Yan Ji, the aftermath of their clash still caused Yan Ji to fly backwards. She even spurted several mouthfuls of blood and suffered severe internal injuries.

Yan Ji tightly wrapped her arms around Ning Cheng and her eyes filled with despair. By this time, she had already seen more than ten people rushing this way and understood that they had come for her Heavenly Fragrance Body.

In just a few breaths, the area around her became a scene of carnage. The cultivators who came over fought each other furiously to snatch Yan Ji. Every time someone tried to grab Yan Ji, various attacks would immediately drown that person.

These attacks might not severely injure or kill the cultivators wanting to grab Yan Ji, but they definitely wounded Yan Ji. None of the cultivators who had come to catch her wished to save her; they all wanted to take Yan Ji away for their own cultivation. Therefore, since they had to deal with the others first, they naturally didn’t care about Yan Ji’s life and death, as her every body part was worth a fortune.

An incense stick later, Yan Ji's bones started to shatter under the continuous aftershocks of the gruesome battles.

Suddenly two streaks rushed over and struck Yan Ji's already battered body, forcing Yan Ji to spurt out another mouthful of blood. She looked down at Ning Cheng and couldn't help but mutter, "If that's the case, let's go together."

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 945: Ning Cheng sculpts his Dao.

Yan Ji immediately sensed something wrong. She could feel an incomparably pure aura coming from Ning Cheng's body, and it felt as if a supreme dao rhythm flowed through him.

Immediately afterwards, she saw Ning Cheng's eyes trembling slightly once again. Was he about to wake up? However, Yan Ji didn't feel any joy from sensing these changes in Ning Cheng. Instead, she felt a sense of desolation and even despair.

If Ning Cheng woke up earlier before she fell into this mess, she would have been the happiest. But now, she couldn't feel any joy at all. She knew that as soon as Ning Cheng woke up, people here would immediately kill him.

If alone, she could have committed suicide if pushed to the limits, but she couldn't bear to drag Ning Cheng down with her.

"Boom...." As Yan Ji hesitated on what to do, two more aftershocks from the chaotic battles blasted onto her body.

The violent force immediately swept Yan Ji into the air. She spurted another mouthful of blood before falling at the foot of a hill. The shockwaves punctured her lungs, making it that she could no longer breathe. But even then, she still clung to Ning Cheng. She even tried to shield Ning Cheng with whatever part of her body she could move.

Slightly salty blood flowed into Ning Cheng, and Ning Cheng suddenly stood up. However, his eyes had still not opened yet.

His dao intent was still in the process of forming, and he didn't even know that Yan Ji had fainted right at his feet. He didn't even know that dozens of cultivators were still fighting a bloody battle all around him. At this moment, his entire being was immersed in the formation of his dao rhythm.

"Heaven and earth consist of the mysterious yellow, the universe and the great desolace. The mysterious yellow created the origins; the origins gave birth to all things. Everything has a Dao; the Daos form the laws of nature, form the laws of chaos, form the suns, the moons and the stars. Heaven and earth remain desolate, but my Dao will returning it to one....."

Rolling dao patterns formed out of thin air and spread out around Ning Cheng's body. Then, a heavenly dao-like dao rhythm started to sound out as if coming from the heavens beyond. All the cultivators still in mid-fight heard this dao rhythm. They couldn't help but stop fighting and listen to this heavenly dao-like sound that seemed to originate from the world itself.....

The dao rhythm went from simple to complicated, and then from complicated to simple again.....

All of them could feel this dao rhythm; some even sat down on their knees to feel this dao rhythm that they felt belonged to the heavenly dao.

“Between the opening of heaven and earth, there existed the aura of the mysterious yellow. Then came the universe and the great desolate. The mysterious yellow carried with it the vitality that coalesced into various origins. These origins, in turn, gave birth to all living beings. All living beings formed their own dao, but these Dao are still contained within heaven and earth. They are contained within the bounds of nature itself.”

“Dao coalesced from the primal chaos aura, formed the laws of heaven and earth, which then shaped the suns, the moons, and the stars, filling the universe with starry skies. The worlds came into existence in silence and do not depend on anything for their survival. My own grand dao also exists between this heaven and earth. But my grand dao goes against the tide, letting all things return to one.....”

As the aura of dao rhythm spread out, it was as if heaven and earth had suddenly split. First, however, the aura grew more and more astonishing, which transformed into a majestic momentum.

More and more cultivators came over because of this spreading heaven and earth dao rhythm. Some cultivators even sat gazing at the ground, trying to understand the dao rhythm. But even more, they began to realise what Ning Cheng was doing.

“He’s sculpting his dao; he’s actually sculpting his dao in this place!?”

“That’s not right; his aura already seems to be that of a Dao Sculpting Holy Emperor.....”

After understanding that Ning Cheng was trying to shape his dao, some greedy cultivators immediately took out their weapons and blasted at Ning Cheng. Since Ning Cheng had chosen to shape his dao here, he must have dao fruits on him, and at the very least, he must have numerous treasures on him.

When a cultivator was shaping his dao, his defences would be at their weakest. Therefore, striking him at his most vulnerable point would undoubtedly mean a much greater chance of success.

It wasn’t just one cultivator who understood this point. And in just a moment, more and more cultivators rushed up at Ning Cheng with weapons.

It was just that the dao rhythm around Ning Cheng’s body continuously grew stronger and stronger. As a result, it managed to block the incoming attacks from the artefacts; some even got blasted away by Ning Cheng’s dao rhythm.

With the dao rhythm still in mid-formation, the dao rhythm chants continued uninterrupted. And the vast aura rolled up by the dao rhythm continued to grow more and more majestic and grand.

After the dao rhythm around Ning Cheng blasted away several cultivators who attacked him, Ning Cheng suddenly opened his eyes. It felt as if the cultivators attacking him were nothing more than air in Ning Cheng’s eyes. At this moment, his gaze seemed to reach far into the vast and endless void, and a dragon-like chant came out of his mouth:

“When I sculpt my Dao, I’m not bound by heaven and earth!”

“When I sculpt my Dao, I will rise above the laws of heaven and earth!”

“When I sculpt my Dao, my mysterious yellow will return to one!”

“When I sculpt my Dao, I will step on top of all tribulations!”

“When I sculpt my Dao, the laws will reform, spirit techniques will reshape!”

“When I sculpt my Dao.....”

“When I sculpt my Dao.....”

.....

As Ning Cheng chanted out his dao rhythm, the dao rhythm of heaven and earth started to roll, just like a raging tide. The spirit aura here was nearly non-existent. Yet, amid the rolling dao rhythms, an endless spirit aura started pouring in as if it was water being sucked by a giant whale.

Golden ripples made out of various dao rhythms started to form and surround Ning Cheng’s body. As more dao rhythms rolled over, the golden waves around him transformed into a golden glow. Suddenly, the golden light shot out in all directions. Powered by the aura of the dao rhythms, it completely obscured this part of the universe.

All the cultivators who came here froze in shock. Was this a chant of a Dao Sculpting cultivator? What kind of Dao was this? Not only were the chants so astonishingly majestic, but even the tone of dao enlightenment was so arrogant. Daring to be unbound from heaven and earth, daring to step above all tribulations, override the laws, reshape the rules, and recreate spirit techniques?

Sunset’s Dusk, None-to-depend-on, Time Wheel, Seven Bridges Spirit Technique.....

Spear intent, axe intent, law-related spirit techniques.....

Dao of Pills, Dao of Formations, Dao of Artefacts, even the barely touched Dao of Talismans.....

Five-coloured Star Splitting Arrow, Celestial River, Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, Seven Bridges Realm Book.....

By the end, even the Mysterious Yellow Bead appeared amidst the golden glow of the dao rhythms.....

These spirit techniques, artefacts, and dao intents were like memories that kept coalescing out within these golden dao rhythms.

If one said that the sound of Ning Cheng’s dao attestation shocked everyone, then Ning Cheng’s golden dao rhythms turned everyone’s eyes red.

“That’s the heavenly fire, Celestial River Flame, but also the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort. That one, the one that transformed from black to colourless and resting on the multicoloured longbow, it’s actually the Five-coloured Star Splitter Arrow.....”

“Oh heavens, I can’t believe I saw the Seven Bridges Realm Book.....”

All the cultivators went crazy. Yan Ji’s Heavenly Fragrance Body already made them fight each other to death. But the silhouettes of the spirit techniques and artefacts that Ning Cheng’s dao attestation coalesced drove them insane.

Even if Ning Cheng's dao rhythm grew more powerful, no one was willing to wait any longer. At this moment, almost every cultivator swarmed towards Ning Cheng.

No wonder this cultivator created such a huge commotion in shaping his dao. No wonder this cultivator had a golden light protecting him while sculpting his dao. It was because he had so many heaven-defying treasures and had so many terrific opportunities. If these opportunities had appeared on them, they could do the same.

Thousands of attacks blasted towards Ning Cheng. Although the golden light produced by Ning Cheng's dao rhythm was powerful, it couldn't withstand the combined attacks of so many powerful people.

However, because of these attacks, the coalescing dao rhythm came together instantly at this moment. The next instant, Ning Cheng let out a roar and the golden dao rhythm around him dissipated immediately.

"My Returning to One Dao, complete!"

A burst of clouds appeared out of thin air in the sky, and these clouds quickly converged around Ning Cheng's body. The next instant, the aura from Ning Cheng's body started to rise uncontrollably, growing exponentially powerful with each passing moment.

"Boom....." Ning Cheng's dao rhythm finally took shape, and he successfully stepped into the Dao Sculpting Realm. At the exact moment, the incoming attacks also disappeared along with the dao rhythm protection around him.

"Yan Ji?" The first thing Ning Cheng saw wasn't the cultivators surrounding him and attacking him in desperation. Rather, he saw Yan Ji lying at his feet, without any signs of breathing.

Yan Ji was covered in blood, with her life and death unknown. But Ning Cheng felt a fresh fragrance coming from her body. As a Dao Sculpting Pill Deity, how could Ning Cheng not know that this was the Heavenly Fragrance Body?

Even though Ning Cheng had woken up while coalescing his essence spirit, it didn't mean that he couldn't figure out what had happened. Most likely, Yan Ji had carried him all the way to this place to escape. But people ended up discovering her Heavenly Fragrance Body. In other words, these people had come here to snatch her.

Unfortunately, while people tried to snatch Yan Ji, he invariably stepped on a different path of dao sculpting than others. First, he started shaping his dao by letting his essence spirit go through nirvana. After that, his essence spirit fused with his physical body. Only then did he truly succeed in shaping his dao. But because of this different path, he woke up late. No, maybe he would have woken up even later.

Ning Cheng carefully picked up Yan Ji and fed her two pills. He understood that the blood that had flowed into his mouth earlier was Yan Ji's blood. If it wasn't Yan Ji's blood, he might have still been in a muddled state of confusion.

After sending the pills into Yan Ji's mouth, Ning Cheng's cold gaze swept over the surrounding cultivators. Apart from a single early-stage Dao Raising expert, there were eleven more Dao Sculpting cultivators. The rest were all at or below Eternal Realm.

“Hand over the woman in your hand and all your artefacts, and I will keep you safe.” The Dao Raising cultivator had come late. So, when he saw Ning Cheng awaken, he immediately crossed over the crowd’s heads and landed in front of Ning Cheng.

A Dao Raising expert had arrived here. Therefore, no matter how many cultivators were around, no one dared to stand up and oppose him.

Ning Cheng took a deep breath. He didn’t reply to this Dao Raising expert’s words. But instead, his spirit sense swept out, and a seven-page book appeared above his head.

“It truly is the Seven Bridges Realm Book....” A greedy voice rang out.

Ning Cheng finally spoke up with a slight chill in his tone, and his indifferent words rang out within everyone’s heart. “Since you came here, then don’t bother to leave.....”

The Dao Raising cultivator replied with disdain, “A mere gnat who just shaped his dao thinks he’s the master of heaven and earth. Die then.....”

As he spoke, this Dao Raising cultivator raised his two hands, and a red light suddenly emerged as it tore through space. Space started to visibly freeze under this red light.

Ning Cheng remained indifferent. Even if this light froze everything around him, he could still move freely. But without waiting for this red glow to spread out, Ning Cheng stepped forward with his left foot, waved his right hand, and said softly, “The First Bridge, Bridge of Coping.....”

The Seven Bridges Realm Book suspended over his head suddenly opened as if a gale had blown past it. A rolling yin wind suddenly rose out of thin air. Then, a pale white stone arch bridge emerged from the sky with a ‘clunk’. One could see five prominent dragon-shaped characters at the bridge’s head, “First Bridge, Bridge of Coping”.

Beneath this pale white arch bridge was a river of blood that looked real. The smell of blood filled the air, and the dozens of cultivators surrounding Ning Cheng couldn’t help but look at this pale white Bridge of Coping and the blood river running underneath it. Only astonishment plastered their faces.

“Arriving at the Bridge of Coping, why don’t you all go on your way.....” Ning Cheng’s voice boomed out with a rolling dao rhythm. His spirit essence had grown unknown times more powerful than when he had swallowed the Burst Spirit Pill and burned his essence blood and longevity. What’s more, at this moment, not only had his spirit essence grown strong, his dao rhythm was no longer at the Eternal level.

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

A low simple-minded voice emerged from the Bridge of Coping and began to fill the space. Hearing this voice, none of the cultivators standing just beyond the Bridge of Coping could stay still. They all started to cross onto it with confusion filling their minds and hearts.

After hesitating for a moment, even the Dao Raising expert also stepped onto the Bridge of Coping.

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Once the Eternal cultivators got onto the Bridge of Coping, they no longer needed Ning Cheng's encouragement. They directly jumped off the bridge to rush into the blood river. The yin winds billowing on the bridge even affected quite a few Dao Sculpting Holy Emperors. Therefore, they also walked off the bridge and into the blood river after a moment of confused hesitation.

A few Dao Sculpting cultivators came to their senses when they jumped down into the blood river. But they couldn't do anything but scream out in misery. On the other hand, Ning Cheng remained emotionless and wouldn't let any of them go just because they begged for mercy.

Disregarding that these people wanted to grab Yan Ji and forced her into a coma, his breakthrough had exposed almost his secrets. As such, Ning Cheng could never let these people live; if he spared even one of them, there was a good chance that Ning Cheng would end up besieged and torn to shreds in the next moment.

"I'm Mu Yuxiong of the Mu Clan. If you dare kill me....." Mu Yuxiong shouted frantically the moment he came to his senses.

A cold smile of disdain finally appeared at the corners of Ning Cheng's mouth. His light tone, devoid of any emotions, fell on Mu Yuxiong's ears the next moment. "I even dared to kill Man Huishan's son, Man Jiuren. So who the hell do you think your Mu Clan is?"

Shock appeared in Mu Yuxiong's eyes as he opened his mouth to shout, "You...."

Unfortunately, that was the end of his words as the rolling rivers of blood swept him away. The only thing one could see on his face was an endless sense of regret. He never imagined that he would end up forfeiting his little life in a small trash place like Furnace Sands.

After so many cultivators jumped off the Bridge of Coping, the first bridge of the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique became more solid. Ning Cheng, however, felt slightly overwhelmed and drained. Even if he had succeeded in achieving dao enlightenment, it wasn't an easy task for him to control the Bridge of Coping and kill so many cultivators at once. Especially when his dao rhythm hadn't stabilised yet.

The Dao Raising Holy Emperor kept hovering on the bridge while showing a struggling expression as if he wasn't willing to jump off. In the end, he even began to turn around, wanting to rush out of the Bridge of Coping.

Ning Cheng gave a cold snort, and his Sea of Consciousness stimulated the Seven Bridges Realm Book. The next moment, yin winds started rolling over like raging waves over a turbulent sea.

From underneath the bridge, a netherworld-like voice emerged once again, "No hope for a home, no reincarnation, only a river of blood to wash away the sins....."

The Dao Raising Holy Emperor's expression showed even more struggle. Ning Cheng frowned. He knew that the difference in strength between himself and his opponent was somewhat significant. Nevertheless, Ning Cheng wanted to force the Dao Raising Holy Emperor to jump into the blood river. In truth, without the incomparable Seven Bridges Spirit Technique, he wouldn't be able to trap this Dao Raising Holy Emperor.

Thinking of this, Ning Cheng no longer had the patience to wait. He rushed onto the Bridge of Coping and punched down at him. "Get the hell down."

The violent winds raked up by the fist completely scattered the surrounding yin winds., causing the concentrated spirit essence to rush towards this Dao Raising Holy Emperor like a tsunami. The Dao Raising Holy Emperor came to his senses in this instant. Unfortunately, he had no time to counteract and could only put his hands in front of him to block the punch.

“Boom.....” Spirit essence exploded on contact, shaking the pale white stone arch bridge incessantly.

A powerful backlash erupted, and Ning Cheng spurted out a mouthful of blood. However, that punch also managed to push the Dao Raising Holy Emperor out of the bridge. He fell into the rolling blood river, never making another sound.

Ning Cheng immediately raised his hand and put away the Bridge of Coping while feeling a little excited in his heart. Not long ago, he was still a mole who had to run away from Dao Sculpting cultivators. But now, he had blown away an early-stage Dao Raising expert into the river of blood with a single punch.

Although this punch had the help of the Bridge of Coping, it was still quite effective even without it. One must know that he had just shaped his dao and hadn’t even stabilised his dao rhythm or foundation yet.

In general, a Dao Sculpting Holy Emperor couldn’t take out a Dao Raising Holy Emperor. In theory, it was a feat hundred times tougher than an Eternal cultivator taking out a Dao Sculpting expert. But today, he did it. With the strength of a newly promoted Dao Sculpting Holy Emperor, he had finished off an early-stage Dao Raising Holy Emperor.

However, when Ning Cheng looked down and saw the silent Yan Ji in his arms, the elation he felt from his newfound power dissipated without a trace.

“9-Revolving-Sacred-Dao-Pond.....” Ning Cheng spat out these words one by one. But he also knew that if he hadn’t gone to the 9-Revolving Sacred Dao Pond to confirm something, he would have gained false enlightenment regarding Returning-to-one Dao.

Ning Cheng tilted his head up and roared, roared like an enraged beast emerging from the depths of insanity.

It was a long and intense roar to blow off the long-standing stagnation. Ning Cheng had waited and gone through countless hardships to prove his Returning-to-One Dao. The roar encompassed the feeling of opening an unprecedented path of shaping his dao from the essence spirit to the physical body. But more importantly, it was mainly for Yan Ji’s suffering.

A stirring spacial fluctuation came from afar, and Ning Cheng’s spiritual consciousness immediately swept over. Sky-rushing pillars of fire appeared in Ning Cheng’s spiritual consciousness along with countless cultivators surrounding the pillars of fire.

Pill flame and pill rhythm?

As a Dao Sculpting Pill Deity, Ning Cheng quickly realised some things from the dao rhythm surrounding the pillar of fire. For a pill flame to produce such an intense dao rhythm, it also hinted at the accomplishments of the alchemist who used this pill flame. He also understood that this particular alchemist had a deep understanding of the Dao of Alchemy. But more importantly, this type of dao rhythm would only come into existence after the alchemist used this pill flame to produce incalculable kinds of pills.

I can't miss out on such a pill flame. Ning Cheng thought and immediately decided to grab that pill flame.

Ning Cheng confirmed that Yan Ji had not fallen, but rather had fallen into a deep state of coma with her senses cut off from the world. Ning Cheng believed he wouldn't have any problem trying to save Yan Ji with his Alchemy level. Unfortunately, it would take up quite some time.

This pill flame seemed to have just obtained a dao rhythm. Still, if Ning Cheng got it, his Alchemy level would definitely go up by another step. In any case, the higher his Alchemy level, the more beneficial it would be for helping Yan Ji.

However, Ning Cheng didn't immediately head out. Instead, he removed the thin jade strip on Yan Ji's neck. The jade strip had a crack in it, but Ning Cheng understood with a glance that it was a pendant to cover up Yan Ji's Heavenly Fragrance Body.

Even though he couldn't refine such a pendant, he could at least repair it to its original state, considering his attainments in artefact refinement and dao of formations.

In half an incense stick worth of time, Ning Cheng finished repairing the jade piece. He put the jade piece back on Yan Ji's body before securing her to his back and rushing towards where he found the pill fire in the Black and White Mountain Range.

The number of cultivators who had left after Mu Yuxiong found Yan Ji's Heavenly Fragrance Body earlier were just a minority. Most of the cultivators stayed here observing the eruption of pill flame, waiting for it to calm down so that they could go and grab something.

Therefore, Ning Cheng's arrival here didn't attract anyone's attention at all. Ning Cheng was just another person for the cultivators next to this pill flame to compete against.

Was there a supreme pill furnace here? Ning Cheng noticed something as soon as he arrived. He had refined countless pills, so he naturally felt the aura of a pill furnace as soon as he arrived. Not only did he sense the aura of the pill furnace, but he also sensed that this pill flame was connected to the furnace's core.

The pill furnace that Ning Cheng had been using was the Traceless Furnace, which he considered a top-tier furnace. Unfortunately, once Ning Cheng started to refine spirit-grade pills, the Traceless Furnace could no longer keep up as it did earlier.

Ning Cheng could craft spirit-grade pill furnaces with his artefact-crafting skills. But it would take a long time for the furnace to reach Traceless's level, let alone go beyond it. Besides, his artefact-crafting level was only ordinary within the Grand Essence Realm and focussed solely on weapons.

Moreover, the most crucial characteristic of a pill furnace was its dao rhythm, which couldn't be reproduced through artefact-crafting. Rather, it was something that coalesced after refining pills with the furnace for a long time. Thus, the more pills one refined with it, the stronger the dao rhythm it would produce.

After sensing the fragrance and dao rhythm, many cultivators sat down on their knees and tried to comprehend it. However, many stared at the pillars of fire in front of them with greed. They all were

waiting for the flame to weaken. Once it happened, they would immediately rush in and try to snatch whatever they could.

“I just have some simple wishes. As long as I can obtain a bottle of spirit pills, I’ll be satisfied. As for Dao Pills, if there’s one.....”

“This pill furnace definitely is a spacial artefact; maybe it even contains some dao fruits inside. Otherwise, how could it produce such a pill fragrance? Now that the pill furnace and pill fire both appeared, it pretty much solidifies the legend of the pill sage of the Black and White Mountains.”

.....

The chatter around let Ning Cheng know that this place was the Black and White Mountains. And that this Black and White Mountains had formed because of a pill refining attempt. The pill sage used this furnace and flame to refine a batch of pills back then, but it failed, and he left in anger.

As soon as the words ‘pill sage’ came up, Ning Cheng immediately thought back to Pill Sage Min Kong. It’s just that he had never met Pill Sage Min Kong, nor had he received the legacy of Pill Sage Min Kong. However, the Emyrean Consciousness Transformation Pill derived from the jade strips left behind by Pill Sage Min Kong had benefited him immensely. Otherwise, even if he could come up with the recipe for the Emyrean Consciousness Transmutation Pill, it would have taken him more than a few decades. He couldn’t deny that he only managed to refine the Emyrean Consciousness Transmutation Pill so quickly because he stood on the shoulders of Pill Sage Min Kong’s experience.

Now another pill sage had appeared here, and one with a seemingly complete and untouched Alchemy heritage. It even included a pill furnace and pill flame. Considering all of it, Ning Cheng secretly determined in his heart to snatch this pill furnace.

His spiritual consciousness swept the surroundings and found three Dao Raising Holy Emperors. The rest were all below Dao Raising Realm, with quite a lot of Eternal cultivators.

The flame from the pill furnace still kept burning. However, everyone noticed that it was slowly weakening. Some anxious cultivators even secretly brought out their defensive artefacts, ready to rush down in one go once the time came.

Another half an hour passed before the pillar of flame finally weakened and started to go down. Although the temperature was still too terrifying, to the Dao Sculpting Holy Emperor here, this temperature wasn’t enough to hinder them.

Therefore, as soon as the pillars of fire started to die out, several figures rushed down. Then, with a few people leading the way, the rest of the cultivators at or above Dao Sculpting Realm rushed down one after another. Finally, Ning Cheng also followed the many Dao Sculpting experts and rushed into the flames below.

He had only taken out an ordinary defensive shield and didn’t use any of his other defensive treasures. With Ning Cheng’s current cultivation, the current temperature naturally couldn’t hurt him. Plus, he was also a body-refining cultivator with a perfected Starry Sky Body.

The reason he took out a shield was to not stand out from the crowd. After all, most of the cultivators here had to bring out powerful defensive artefacts to protect themselves. If he didn’t bring out one, it

would immediately attract the crowd's attention and indicate that the flames here had virtually no effect on him. After all, he wanted to snatch the pill furnace and the pill flame here, without drawing attention, if possible.

But more importantly, this defensive shield was to protect Yan Ji from the flames, as he couldn't put her in his True Spirit World or the Mysterious Yellow Bead.

By the time the many experts rushed below ground, the remnant flames had also died down. Ning Cheng followed after the many cultivators and, in just a minute, landed on a hard surface. To be exact, he landed on one of the feet of a colossal pill furnace.

Ning Cheng's gaze swept out and immediately noticed that the pill cauldron lay upside down on the ground. To Ning Cheng's surprise, this pill cauldron looked precisely like his Traceless Cauldron, not only in shape and design but also with five feet. Even the intricate carvings on the surface looked exactly the same as the ones on Traceless. In observing the furnace, he noticed several cultivators standing on the other feet and the faint pillars of flame surrounding each foot.

Some of the more astute people had started rushing towards the bottom of the furnace, where its mouth lay. If one wanted to obtain this pill furnace, one had to go through its mouth to reach its core before doing anything.

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Chapter 947 Eccentric names

Ning Cheng knew very well that he would have to refine this pill furnace if he wanted to take it away. He naturally couldn't refine such a pill furnace by standing on its bottom. In other words, he would also have to enter the inside, just like the other cultivators.

But it also carried significant risk. Once someone else managed to refine the pill furnace first, the others inside it would immediately turn into sacrifices for the one who refined it first.

After hesitating for just a moment, Ning Cheng also entered the inside. If he missed out on such a good pill furnace, who knows when he would get another such chance? Or even if he would ever get another opportunity?

When Ning Cheng rushed down from the furnace's foot, his spiritual consciousness saw two words etched at the bottom, 'No Furnace'.

Was that the name of this pill furnace? Ning Cheng couldn't help but feel a little dazed. This pill furnace looked astonishingly imposing, indicating an extraordinary origin. Yet, it actually had such a weird name, 'No Furnace'. If one only heard the words, one would have thought it to be a coal furnace.

But whether it was called 'No Furnace' or something else, it didn't matter. If he felt that the name of this furnace was weird, he could just change it once he obtained it. The most important thing right now was to grab the furnace before anyone else.

A few moments later, Ning Cheng arrived at the mouth of the pill furnace. This pill furnace was suspended a few feet above the ground but upside down, with the mouth facing the floor. It made it possible to enter it from all sides. But one would have to face an even more terrifying temperature inside.

Because of this, several cultivators began to hesitate after arriving here. After all, if they forcefully tried to go in, they would most likely fall in the furnace.

However, Ning Cheng didn't hesitate and directly rushed into the furnace through the inverted mouth. Since he decided to get it, he had to see it through quickly and promptly leave.

As soon as he entered the furnace, the rich furnace of pills and the terrifying temperatures came blasting together. Ning Cheng quickly brought out the Everlasting Blue Thunder City's projection to shield Yan Ji. The temperatures here didn't affect him, but it might make Yan Ji's condition even worse.

After taking out the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort, Ning Cheng didn't immediately charge upwards. This pill furnace was indeed a spacial treasure, and the space inside it was so large that it was as if someone had plucked the sky from outside and placed it inside here upside down.

As Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness swept out, forbidden restrictions and array formations appeared within it.

In just a dozen breaths, Ning Cheng couldn't help but feel slightly surprised. He had figured out the origin point of the dao rhythm here, and it was just diagonally across from him. In other words, he had to move from this side of the pill furnace to the side directly opposite to him; it was the only way to reach it.

Ning Cheng couldn't help but feel excited. Within this pill furnace, he, a Dao Sculpting Pill Deity, had a far stronger sense of pill rhythm compared to the average person. Perhaps others needed to slowly search the area to find the source of the dao rhythm, but he had easily sensed it.

Nine times out of ten, the source of the dao rhythm would also be the place from where one could refine the pill furnace.

Thinking of this, Ning Cheng immediately rushed over.

Ning Cheng wasn't the only cultivator who entered the pill furnace. Therefore, as he flew through the interior of the pill furnace, Ning Cheng brushed past a few cultivators from time to time. Many of them immediately noticed that the Everlasting Blue Thunder City protecting Ning Cheng was a mighty treasure. However, since this was still the interior of the pill furnace, and Ning Cheng's power felt beyond them, no one decided to act on their covetous intentions.

Most of the cultivators who came in had a preconceived notion that to refine the pill furnace, the fastest way would be to do so from the 'bottom' of the pill furnace. Therefore, cultivators who had reached the bottom of the furnace immediately took out their artefacts and weapons to guard them while trying to refine the furnace.

One also could see some scattered pills suspended in various parts of the furnace. However, these pills also had a layer of protection around them formed out of the pill furnace's restrictions. As such, they weren't affected by the fluctuating temperatures from the pill flame.

Many of the cultivators, who realised that they had a slim to none chance of refining the pill furnace or obtaining the pill flame, started to go for the pills scattered within it. Once someone found a top-grade spirit pill, these cultivators wouldn't hesitate to bring out their weapons and start a bloody fight.

Ning Cheng wasn't surprised at seeing these cultivators fighting. There were simply too few top-grade spirit pills here. Moreover, as more and more top-grade spirit pills were discovered, it wouldn't be a strange sight for people to try and grab them. However, Ning Cheng remained indifferent to them. His goal wasn't these pills but the pill flame and the pill furnace. So he definitely wouldn't waste time grabbing these pills, even if they were precious.

In less than a dozen breaths, Ning Cheng appeared at a corner of the pill furnace. He noticed an extremely powerful restriction here but also saw that someone had opened it.

Did someone go in already? Ning Cheng instantly realised something. Looks like there was another highly skilled alchemist here. From its looks, this person also sensed the dao rhythm originating from this place just like him. But more importantly, this person also seemed to have a profound understanding of array formations. In just a short time, this fellow had managed to break through the forbidden restriction here.

Ning Cheng didn't hesitate to take out several dozen array flags and arranged them around the forbidden restriction. This pill furnace's corner gave out a burst of clicking-like sounds in just a few moments, and a gap suddenly appeared. Ning Cheng quickly rushed into the opening while collecting the array flags.

A refreshing aroma suddenly washed over him, and Ning Cheng couldn't help but inhale deeply. But before he could regain his senses, a powerful killing intent blasted over from the side.

The Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort covering Ning Cheng automatically solidified, and lightning trails erupted from the Blue Thunder Fort.

"Boom-Boom-Boom....." Dozens of white knife lights slammed on the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort. Still, the Everlasting Blue Thunder Fort managed to neutralise all the knife lights with its lightning arcs.

Ning Cheng didn't even wait for the cultivator, who had snuck up on him, to make another move. Instead, the same instant the knife lights got neutralised, he took a step sideways and blasted out a fist.

A strange fluctuation spread out from Ning Cheng's fist, and the laws within the surroundings seemed to issue slight clicking-like noises. In the next instant, the laws within this area turned chaotic.

"Die." Ning Cheng's fist seemed to have reassembled the laws around it into a new law, and a raging spirit essence gathered at the tip of his fist in a blink of an eye.

Under this fist, time suddenly came to a stop, and even space seemed to have disappeared.

The cultivator who had attacked Ning Cheng felt horrified. If the laws around him had remained unchanged, he could have dodged this fist that had condensed the laws of time and space. Even if it contained immense power, it, at most, would have only grazed him.

But now, he found that his spirit techniques suddenly had a piece missing. A spirit technique just a bit short of being completed simply couldn't form under such chaotic laws.

"Boom.... Boom....." The fist covered with terrifying spirit essence made contact with the cultivator who had tried to sneak up on him. With a bloody explosion of gore and blood, the cultivator died under Ning Cheng's fist without even having the time to escape with his essence spirit.

Ning Cheng drew in a deep breath before looking at his fist. A late-stage Dao Sculpting cultivator had tried to attack him but ended up dead under his punch. Looks like the dao that he had sculpted was indeed completely different from ordinary dao. This also meant that his power was definitely not comparable to ordinary Dao Sculpting cultivators.

Only then did Ning Cheng have the chance to look around him. The area he stood in wasn't too big. It had a few jade strips neatly stored in a corner over a shelf and three pill furnaces placed together at another corner.

As an artefact-crafting master, Ning Cheng could see the difference between these three furnaces at a glance. The three furnaces were arranged from the weakest to the strongest, and each of them emitted bursts of different dao rhythms.

Ning Cheng walked over to the weakest one, and when his hand touched it, five large golden letters appeared on the furnace's body. 'Primal Chaos's First Furnace'

Ning Cheng felt a little dumbfounded. Although this pill furnace was a little stronger than his Traceless Furnace, to call it 'Primal Chaos's First Furnace' felt like a joke. He believed that he hadn't made a mistake with the evaluation. It was a rather ordinary pill furnace, at least when compared to the two pill furnaces next to it.

Shaking his head, Ning Cheng put away the 'Primal Chaos's First Furnace' into his ring. He then walked towards the second furnace, which was stronger and of better quality than the first. As soon as Ning Cheng stopped in front of this furnace, a few more large golden characters appeared on the furnace's body, 'World's Second Furnace'.

At this point, Ning Cheng wasn't even in the mood to think about it. He put this 'World's Second Furnace' directly into his ring and walked towards the third pill furnace.

Once again, five prominent characters appeared on the furnace's body, 'Can Only Be Called Third'.

Ning Cheng couldn't help but feel speechless. The best of the three pill furnaces here was named 'Can Only Be Called Third', and the worst was named 'Primal Chaos's First Furnace'. Together with the one outside named 'No Furnace', Ning Cheng realised that the owner of these furnaces was an eccentric fellow.

Ning Cheng threw all the three furnaces into his ring. But suddenly, the location where these three furnaces were in just a moment ago emitted a burst of fluctuations. An instant later, another forbidden restriction appeared in front of Ning Cheng. Ning Cheng stared at this forbidden restriction in shock and didn't move for a long time.

He wasn't shocked because of the sudden appearance of a forbidden restriction. Ning Cheng could easily create such a set-up. But what surprised him was what was inside the forbidden restriction. It was a fist-sized ball of lime green liquid suspended on top of a mini pill furnace. He had never seen anything like it.

Was it pill marrow? It took a while before Ning Cheng returned to his senses and muttered to himself. He didn't care much about the mini-pill furnace but instead stared at this lime green liquid.

Pill marrow wasn't a rare treasure per se, but its value was definitely not inferior to any rare treasure. Primarily because of its almost unobtainable trait and its non-consistent function.

Pill marrow only appeared in a pill furnace and only in top-quality furnaces used by top-tier pill masters. As a pill master continued refining batches after batches of pills, the essence of spirit herb would continue to coalesce in the furnace. Finally, a clump of pill marrow would gradually form in the furnace after many years of use.

Typically, this ball of essence would be the size of a dragon-eyed fruit and would sell for an extremely high price. An egg-sized ball of pill marrow would drive people crazy. But a fist-sized pill marrow it could potentially plunge the world into a bloodbath.

Ning Cheng felt overjoyed. Even if he couldn't refine a pill to revive Yan Ji, Yan Ji could still wake up with the help of this pill marrow.

After understanding that this was a pill marrow, Ning Cheng immediately rushed up. He tore open the restriction covering it and collected this ball of pill marrow into a jade box.

Although this pill marrow might be a treasure, Ning Cheng didn't dare give it to Yan Ji before figuring out the primary function. If the previous owner of this pill furnace primarily refined poisonous pills, this ball of pill marrow wouldn't be something that saved lives but hastened them.

After taking away the pill marrow, Ning Cheng then took a look at the small pill furnace. It also contained the exact two words on its body, 'No Furnace'.

Ning Cheng understood that this small furnace was the key to refine the large pill furnace outside. Thinking of the many cultivators rushing in to grab the furnace, Ning Cheng didn't hesitate and spat out a mouthful of essence blood onto the small pill furnace. The next moment, his majestic spiritual consciousness rushed inside to start refining it.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 948 Sunset's Dusk Vs Dao Raising

Ning Cheng's spiritual consciousness was simply too powerful. Therefore, with the addition of his essence blood, the refining speed accelerated to a breakneck pace. As a result, Ning Cheng refined the first layer of restrictions covering the small pill furnace in just an incense stick worth of time.

Suddenly, a message appeared in Ning Cheng's consciousness.

"Heaven and earth's sacred cauldron, the formless pill vessel, suited to be named neither!"

Ning Cheng stared at the small pill furnace in his hand in some amazement. Ning Cheng was a Dao Sculpting Pill Deity and a reasonably accomplished artificing master who could craft medium-grade spirit artefacts.

Ning Cheng already knew that this pill furnace was named 'No Furnace'. However, in all the time he had been refining pills and artefacts, he had never heard of a furnace that could refine both pills and artefacts.

Generally speaking, a furnace for refining pills and a furnace for refining artefacts were two completely different furnaces. Not only were the formations inscribed on the furnaces different, but even the means of using the two were also quite different.

It was because of this that Ning Cheng felt amazed. One had to know, he had never used an artefact furnace and controlled the crafting process solely using his spirit sense.

Ordinary cultivators who didn't have a strong spirit sense might not be able to do this, but to Ning Cheng, it wasn't much of a problem. Disregarding the low price, his spirit artefacts could sell so well in the Grand Essence Ruins, primarily because he didn't use an artefact furnace to craft them.

Artefacts crafted without using an artefact furnace had a bit more combat strength than those refined using an artefact furnace. Moreover, once someone took control of the artefact, one would find it easier to use it as the natural heaven and earth treasures. Something not available when crafting using an artefact furnace. This was mainly because artefact furnaces created finished products, while not using one created an almost-finished product. The cultivators could then customise and finish it according to their own needs and adjust it accordingly. This wasn't available for those crafted from artefact furnaces.

One could find other cultivators who could craft artefacts without an artefact furnace, but most could only craft low-level artefacts. Plus, they also wouldn't have such perfect control as Ning Cheng.

No Furnace could craft artefacts and refine pills, but Ning Cheng didn't feel any trace of artefact refinement in the furnace. In other words, this furnace hadn't been really used for crafting weapons. Instead, it should have been used as a pill furnace all along.

Ning Cheng didn't delve into it any further. But just as he raised his hand to put away the pill furnace, a flame as bright as snow appeared within Ning Cheng's spirit sense. This flame had hidden itself in another corner of the furnace; Ning Cheng hadn't noticed it till now because he hadn't fully refined the furnace yet.

Feeling a slightly familiar aura from it, Ning Cheng instantly understood that this pill flame was the same one that had formed the pillars of fire before. This flame currently lacked a master's control but wanted to use those pillars of fire to scare off the people coveting it. However, it backfired and caused more people to come and grab it.

But now, this white flame had almost run out of residual energy. And could only hide in the corner of the pill furnace.

Ning Cheng couldn't help but feel overjoyed. This kind of pill flame that possessed a dao rhythm and even rudimentary sentience was the primary thing that he lacked the most. He didn't hesitate to extend his spirit sense and quickly cover this white flame.

Ning Cheng had enough experience in refining flames because of the Celestial River. Moreover, the Celestial River Flame had followed him since it was just a spark, making Ning Cheng very skilled at controlling fire.

This white flame had already run out of energy, so Ning Cheng only had to spend a few minutes to bind it to him. Then, after another half an incense stick worth of time, Ning Cheng put the flame back on top

of the small pill furnace. He had already learned the name of this white flame, but it wasn't the one with the word 'snow' in it. Rather, it was called 'Nameless[3]'.

The Nameless flame matched the name 'No Furnace' furnace. As for the pill sage who left these two things behind, he definitely was an eccentric fellow with eccentric tastes.

As soon as Ning Cheng raised his hand, the large pill furnace above his head flew straight off the ground. In an instant, it turned into a shadow and disappeared into Ning Cheng's hand.

The moment Ning Cheng collected the pill furnace and pill flame, the many cultivators who wanted to grab it from the inside suddenly appeared in the huge pit and surrounded Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng shook his head. Looks like I still have a soft heart. If replaced with another person, he would have definitely finished all the cultivators in the pill furnace.

However, Ning Cheng didn't care. Even if he had the power to silence them, it wouldn't matter. There were still many cultivators who hadn't entered the furnace. Besides, he still had Yan Ji on his back, which meant he naturally couldn't silence the cultivators inside the furnace.

Moreover, although Ning Cheng had successfully stepped into the Dao Confirming Realm, the dao rhythm around him had already stabilised. A sign of an expert. In addition, Ning Cheng had also shown mercy by not killing all the cultivators in the pill furnace. Therefore, the cultivators that came out of the pill furnace surrounded Ning Cheng but didn't make any other moves.

Ning Cheng unhurriedly took out another medicinal pill and sent it into Yan Ji's mouth before sweeping a glance at the crowd surrounding him. A moment later, he spoke up in a calm tone, "If you all don't open up a path, I'll take it as if you intend to make a move against me."

Several Dao Sculpting and below Dao Sculpting cultivators hesitated a bit before slowly backing off after hearing Ning Cheng's words. A moment later, a Dao Raising Holy Emperor also started to back away.

In the end, only seven people didn't move and blocked Ning Cheng's path. Among these seven, there were also two Dao Raising Holy Emperors.

"Leave your pill furnace and pill flame, and I can let you live." A sturdy-looking early-stage Dao Raising Holy Emperor swept a glance at Yan Ji behind Ning Cheng and spoke up with an indifferent tone.

Ning Cheng didn't reply to his words but stared coldly at the remaining five Dao Sculpting Holy Emperors still surrounding him. "Are you surrounding me to send me to my death, or are you here to just lick the soles of others' feet?"

When these five Dao Sculpting cultivators heard Ning Cheng's ridicule, anger suddenly appeared on their faces. Those who could become Dao Sculpting experts were naturally not idiots. They understood Ning Cheng's words clearly; that is, even if you helped the two Dao Raising Holy Emperors kill me, you wouldn't get a thing. Moreover, you would also offend the two Dao Raising Holy Emperors if you dared to steal 'their' treasures.

In case these two Dao Raising Holy Emperors can't kill me, do you really think you can stop me?

Even if the two Dao Raising Holy Emperors could kill Ning Cheng. These five Dao Sculpting Holy Emperors understood at least one truth. That is, they wouldn't get even a shred of benefit in surrounding Ning Cheng. Instead, they would only be offending the two Dao Raising Holy Emperors.

As the first Dao Sculpting Holy Emperor retreated, the remaining four also retreated after a moment of hesitation. Everyone wanted good things. But they could only do so if they were sure of success. Otherwise, they wouldn't be grabbing treasures if they went up to compete but rather prove themselves as idiots.

"Having a mouth that can talk, huh. But unfortunately, I still won't let you go just like that. Let me advise you to drop the idea of running away before it's too late." After the five Dao Sculpting cultivators retreated, the other white-faced Dao Raising Holy Emperor stepped forward, blocking Ning Cheng's path.

Ning Cheng simply raised his hand, and a medium-grade spirit spear appeared above his head. He coldly looked at the two Dao Raising Holy Emperors trying to stop him and said, "I have no intention of leaving at all. But, facing those who want to rob me, I can't feel at ease until I kill you....."

"Die....." The early-stage Dao Raising Holy Emperor raised his hand and brought out a black-coloured bridge. The moment this bridge appeared, it immediately crossed through space and trapped Ning Cheng in a deadlock.

As for the other white-faced Dao Raising Holy Emperor, he simply took a step aside, revealing a plundering array that he had set up. He didn't even bother to make a move. All he had to do was block Ning Cheng's path so that Ning Cheng couldn't escape. Plus, he couldn't afford the loss of face if word got out that two Dao Raising Holy Emperors had teamed up against an early-stage Dao Sculpting cultivator.

As the Dao Raising Holy Emperor's domain pressed down furiously, it locked the space around Ning Cheng. The killing intent in it even disintegrated the soil around Ning Cheng's feet. A moment later, except for the narrow spot under Ning Cheng's feet, the surrounding area had turned into a semi-circular pit.

This early-stage Dao Raising cultivator wanted to suppress Ning Cheng's movements using his momentum and then slaughter him.

A Dao Raising Holy Emperor could indeed do this if facing any other Dao Sculpting cultivator. Unfortunately, the one he was facing wasn't an ordinary Dao Sculpting cultivator.

When Ning Cheng saw the black bridge appearing before him, he couldn't help but muse to himself. 'Daring to play with bridges in front of me?' It's just that he was concerned that his Seven Bridges hadn't yet been completed and that this strength was still too weak to control it fully. Otherwise, his First Bridge of Coping could have quickly finished off these two Dao Raising Holy Emperors. But even under such a situation, he could use the First Bridge of Coping to suppress that bridge-wielding person to death.

Unfortunately, he didn't want to use the Bridge of Coping here, not with so many people around. But so what?

The spear above Ning Cheng's head moved slightly, and untraceable dao rhythms started to spread out. Then, suddenly, following a bizarre trajectory, the spear shot out.

Spirit technique: Law Break, shatter the laws.....

The originally still-coalescing black bridge, with still-increasing momentum, quickly began to weaken once Ning Cheng's spear shot out. Not only did the black bridge weaken in strength, but even the momentum pressing down on Ning Cheng had also grown thinner. It felt as if the majestic killing intent within it had been washed away by water, turning it even weaker.

The sturdy early-stage Dao Raising cultivator felt the laws around him loosen. Space originally under his control also started to turn illusory. It felt as if he would lose control at any moment. The Dao Raising Holy Emperor felt startled at this development. He immediately started stimulating more of his spirit essence and spiritual consciousness.

Ning Cheng didn't even wait for the other party to regain control of the space around him. The next instant, his spear manifested several spear patterns and swept out; Sunset's Dusk.

If one said Ning Cheng's spirit technique before he shaped his dao was only in form and not in spirit. Then, after Ning Cheng shaped his dao, his Sunset's Twilight had also evolved from just a surface-level law-infused spirit technique it had been back then. It had now become an actual law-related spirit technique.

Ning Cheng's Law Break couldn't shatter the laws right now, but it could still weaken and throw the surrounding laws into chaos.

Under these chaotic laws, the strength of this early-stage Dao Raising cultivator's spirit technique had instantly decreased. At the same time, Ning Cheng's spear rolled out a new dao rhythm, and a huge round blood-like setting sun appeared before this Dao Raising Holy Emperor's eyes. Just underneath this setting sun was an endless ocean of lingering emotions.

Ning Cheng's Law Break had already affected this Dao Raising Holy Emperor. Therefore, facing this setting sun and the ocean beneath it, he actually thought about stepping into it.

No, this isn't real, but an illusion. The Dao Raising cultivator instantly came to his senses and roared. The long black bridge suddenly stopped dissolving and transformed into a cascade of blades.

The terrifying cascade of blades then came together into waves of blade shadows and blasted towards Ning Cheng. However, before these waves could reach Ning Cheng, the sharp killing intent within the blades had already cut bloody marks on Ning Cheng's body. From this, one could tell that once these blades reached Ning Cheng, even if Ning Cheng was a strong body refiner with a Starry Sky Body, the blades would still shred him to pieces.

But would Ning Cheng allow the opponent's blades to lock him in place? Or even shred him to pieces afterwards? Before these blades could even reach his body, his spear cut through space, appearing right in front of the Dao Raising Holy Emperor's glabella.

Spacial crossing. This Dao Raising Holy Emperor himself controlled a spacial spirit technique. So, naturally, he realised that what Ning Cheng used was a spacial crossing. It's just that under Law Break,

his spacial spirit technique couldn't even stop Ning Cheng's spacial spirit technique for even half a moment.

However, the Dao Raising Holy Emperor gave a cold snort, and the countless blades no longer rushed towards Ning Cheng. Instead, they rushed back towards him. But just when he was about to turn them into a huge blade shield, he felt everything around him suddenly stop.

His blades had stopped, space stopped flowing, and even time stopped as well.....

No, he could still see Ning Cheng's spear moving towards him. This thought had just risen in his mind when the spear landed on his glabella.

The sunset looked breathtaking at this moment, especially the moment before dusk. It was his last beautiful sight. But as the waning sun grew brighter and brighter, infinite longing for life suddenly welled up in his heart to live again. Unfortunately, it couldn't help him.

As Ning Cheng's spear passed through the Dao Raising Holy Emperor's glabella, he didn't even move as blood trickled down from his opponent's brow. He had once again gained a new epiphany. This was the actual spirit technique related to the Laws of Time. That's right. Sunset's Dusk was a technique that could theoretically stretch out a moment in time to infinity. However, with his understanding of the Laws of Time, he could only cause a momentary pause in time.

Fortunately, all he had to do was to pierce his spear into the opponent's brow during that momentary lull in time.

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 949 Alchemy Discourse

Ning Cheng's spear had pinned a Dao Raising Holy Emperor through his glabella, with blood still dripping down the spear's tip. However, Ning Cheng had his eyes closed and didn't move, seemingly contemplating something.

Nobody spoke. People even seemed to have forgotten how to breathe. More so for the Dao Raising Holy Emperor who had withdrawn earlier. He couldn't help but look at Ning Cheng in disbelief. It was true that he had retreated from the struggle because of his intuition about Ning Cheng's power. However, he also felt that Ning Cheng couldn't fight against the two Dao Raising Holy Emperors working together. But at the same time, he also knew that these two Dao Raising Holy Emperors couldn't prevent Ning Cheng from escaping.

Since they couldn't prevent Ning Cheng from escaping, why would he come forward to make a move? It wasn't his style to offend a promising Dao Sculpting expert for no reason at all. What's more, no one knew that he had already made quite a bit of harvest from the pill furnace's inside.

His intuition told him that Ning Cheng was a powerful person, but not this outrageously powerful. Ning Cheng had taken out an early-stage Dao Raising Emperor with a single move.

The white-faced Dao Raising Holy Emperor sensed something wrong when Ning Cheng cast the Law Break Spirit Technique. But when Ning Cheng's Sunset's Twilight came out and time began to stagnate, he knew that this Dao Raising Holy Emperor fighting against Ning Cheng was finished.

He didn't step in to help. Rather, even if he did, he couldn't have reversed the outcome.

While this white-faced Dao Raising Holy Emperor hesitated to move against Ning Cheng, Ning Cheng opened his eyes. Then, slightly shaking the spear in his hand, the Dao Raising Holy Emperor hanging on the opposite end fell to the ground. The next moment, this Dao Raising Holy Emperor's black bridge and storage ring disappeared into Ning Cheng's palm.

Ning Cheng didn't put away the spear and instead pointed the spear tip diagonally at the ground. He then took a step towards the white-faced Dao Raising Holy Emperor and spoke up in a calm tone, "It's your turn now. Don't worry, I'll let you make the first strike."

After advancing to the Dao Sculpting Realm, Ning Cheng used the Seven Bridges Spirit Technique to kill dozens of people. There was even a Dao Raising Holy Emperor among them.

Now Ning Cheng once again took out a Dao Raising Holy Emperor, allowing his Returning-to-one Dao to fuse even more. From these two experiences, Ning Cheng understood that the more battles he fought, the deeper his dao would merge and come together. But, at the same time, it would also help him improve his strength rapidly.

The white-faced Dao Raising cultivator gave a cold snort and replied with a faint voice, "This emperor does not care to fight you."

After saying that, this Dao Raising Holy Emperor's body started flashing, and his body started to quickly disappear. Perhaps he would have managed to make the escape if given another half a breath.

However, the spear in Ning Cheng's hand shot out a spear trace containing the Law Break Spirit Technique. It immediately disrupted the laws in the surrounding space.

The white-faced Dao Raising Holy Emperor, who was about to teleport, suddenly solidified. His facial expressions changed slightly as he understood that the escaping technique he used had failed.

Ning Cheng's body flickered, and with the help of his Twin Wings of the Heavenly Cloud, arrived right in front of this white-faced Dao Raising Holy Emperor. "What? Don't want to leave a little something for this father before leaving?"

This white-faced Dao Raising Holy Emperor's face turned even more ugly. He opened his hand, and a white silhouette appeared in front of him. It was a blade wheel, and before the blade wheel even powered up, the harsh tearing and killing aura from the white light created a sharp noise. It felt as if it could tear the space around it at any moment.

"What do you want?" The white-faced Dao Raising Holy Emperor's tone was cold, and his two eyes stared at Ning Cheng with a fierce glare.

He was at the middle-stage Dao Raising Realm and much more powerful than the early-stage Dao Raising cultivator Ning Cheng had just killed. However, he still didn't dare take the initiative to move against Ning Cheng. Especially when Ning Cheng could use that weird spirit technique. The spirit technique that Ning Cheng used seemed to disrupt and weaken the surrounding laws of heaven and earth. Once the laws weakened, or even if they got disrupted for a moment, his spirit techniques would immediately weaken.

He couldn't understand why Ning Cheng, a mere Dao Sculpting Holy Emperor, could influence the laws of heaven and earth. But he didn't dare to try. He didn't want to die at the hands of a Dao Sculpting Holy Emperor.

The spear in Ning Cheng's hand shook slightly, and a few spear traces emerged. Seeing the few spear traces spilling out, the white-faced Dao Raising Holy Emperor's domain immediately unfolded to block Ning Cheng's spear traces. At the same time, his body also tensed up, afraid that Ning Cheng would suddenly make a move.

Ning Cheng only showed a slight smile, "What do I want? Wasn't it you who wanted to stop me just now? Wasn't it you who spoke about me leaving behind the pill furnace and the pill flame?"

The white-faced cultivator's face paled. He very much didn't want to fight Ning Cheng. But he also didn't know how he should deal with Ning Cheng.

"I just lost ten million spirit crystals from the spirit technique I used. Take out the spirit crystals, or I won't stop." As Ning Cheng spoke, the spear traces around him started to double.

It was true that Ning Cheng currently lacked spirit crystals. But he had two reasons for wanting those ten million spirit crystals. First, Ning Cheng understood that the more he fought, the stronger it would make him. But more importantly, so many people here knew that he had taken away the pill furnace and the pill flame. If he didn't intimidate them enough, someone among the crowd would once again step forward to block his way.

The white-faced cultivator stared at Ning Cheng with hatred. But after hesitating for a while, he still took out a ring and threw it to Ning Cheng. Then, with a flash, his body disappeared from in front of Ning Cheng without a trace.

Ning Cheng grabbed the ring and swept it with his spiritual consciousness before throwing it into the True Spirit World. Having reached the Dao Sculpting Realm, he now felt that he had gained some control over his life and death. At the very least, Ning Cheng now had the strength to protect himself. Plus, he had just killed a Dao Raising expert and forced another Dao Raising expert to flee. So there should be no one else here who would be foolish enough to come to trouble him.

"This Senior, please wait for a moment....." Suddenly, a tall, young-looking man called out to Ning Cheng.

As soon as Ning Cheng saw this young man, he recognised him. He nodded and spoke with a smile, "So it's Brother Chi, and it's been a long time."

This man's name was Chi Zimin, and Ning Cheng had interacted with him before. He had met Chi Zimin when he had just entered the Boundary Essence Sea after arriving in Grand Essence Realm because of the None-to-depend-on Wine.

Chi Zimin was a pretty lively character. Moreover, Ning Cheng had learned many things about the Grand Essence Realm from his conversations with other people. Later, Chi Ximin even invited him to his Grand Essence Domain's Chi Clan. It's just that Ning Cheng didn't take Chi Ximin's offer and instead went to the Grand Essence Ruins with Nalan Ruxue.

“It’s really Brother Ning..... No, Senior Ning.....” Chi Ximin called out in surprise. He had already recognised Ning Cheng a long time ago, but he still couldn’t believe it. Compared to when he first arrived at the Grand Essence Sea, the Ning Cheng now had gained an even more unique aura. Chi Ximin came from a large clan, so he understood that this was the dao rhythm aura of a Dao Confirming expert.

When he first met Ning Cheng, his cultivation level was much higher than Ning Cheng. But now, Ning Cheng had already shaped his Dao while he still hovered at the full circle of the Eternal Realm. Thinking about it, nameless awe rose in Chi Zimin’s heart.

Ning Cheng took a step forward and patted Chi Zimin’s shoulder. “Brother Chi, you can still address me as before. Just call me Ning Cheng or Brother Ning.”

Chi Zimin had been roaming the outside world for many years, which meant that his experiences in interacting with people weren’t comparable to others coming from big clans. He could tell that Ning Cheng didn’t speak those words out of feigned politeness. Besides, addressing Ning Cheng with a more personal touch might even be a good thing for him.

“Then, I’ll take you up on the offer, Brother Ning.” Chi Zimin hurriedly clasped his fists and paused for a bit after finishing his sentence before continuing with a smile. “The spirit aura in this place is just too poor. If Brother Ning doesn’t have any urgent matters to attend to, please do consider coming to Thunder River as a guest.”

Ning Cheng spoke up apologetically. “My senior apprentice sister suffered some severe injuries, so I have to take her to find a place to heal. Once I take care of it, this Ning will definitely come to visit Brother Chi at Thunder River.”

Chi Zimin had also noticed Yan Ji and that she was severely injured and unconscious. It was another reason why he wanted to invite Ning Cheng to Thunder River. That way, he could ask his Chi Clan’s alchemy masters to help Ning Cheng in this matter. With Ning Cheng’s cultivation speed, he understood that he most likely was a genius that was hard to come by even in ten thousand years. So if his Chi Clan could rope in such a person, it would definitely be a valuable investment.

It’s just that Ning Cheng clearly stated that he didn’t want to go to his Chi Clan. So he couldn’t explicitly talk about helping Yan Ji to heal her injuries. If Yan Ji came with them, his Chi Clan’s alchemy masters could at least take a look. But on the flip side, if Ning Cheng went with him, and if they couldn’t come up with a solution, it would not only delay her healing, it might even end up offending Ning Cheng.

“Although my Chi Clan has a Dao Sculpting Pill Deity, I’m not sure if we can help in your senior apprentice sister’s case. But there’s another reason why I wanted to invite Brother Ning, and that is for the Grand Essence Realm’s Alchemy Discourse.” Chi Ziming gave out a vague response.

“Alchemy Discourse?” Ning Cheng asked in confusion.

Chi Zimin nodded, “The Alchemy Discourse is famous throughout the Grand Essence Realm and only held once every two hundred years. Brother Ning must know about the five Grand Realms, right? Although the Grand Essence Realm is one of the five Grand Realms, it’s still broken despite being one of the five. If you want to reach higher, you will have to go to the Grand Change Realm. But there are extremely few means to get to it. I only know that there is one such connection between the Alchemy Discourse and travelling to the Grand Change Realm. However, I’m not very clear as to how.”

Chi Zimin knew that Ning Cheng had obtained a pill furnace and a pill flame, and his Chi Clan had a Dao Sculpting Pill Deity. In other words, he wanted to invite Ning Cheng because he wanted to ask him about borrowing the pill flame.

When Ning Cheng heard Chi Zimin's words, he really felt a bit moved. However, he quickly refused, "Many thanks, Brother Xi, but I still can't go to your Chi Clan. I only say this because I killed Man Huishan's son, Man Jiuren, and if Man Huishan found that I'm related to your Chi Clan, it will only drag you all down with it."

"Ah....." Chi Zimin looked at Ning Cheng in a daze; Ning Cheng's words had utterly shocked him.

He had obviously heard about the death of Man Jiuren, but he hadn't paid much attention to this matter. Now that Ning Cheng said it, he quickly realised Ning Cheng's courage. If Ning Cheng truly killed Man Jiuren, he couldn't invite Ning Cheng to his Chi Clan. It would bring an untold disaster to his Chi Clan, and he would become an eternal sinner for his clan.

Seeing the shocked and somewhat embarrassed look on Chi Zimin's face, Ning Cheng only smiled. "Brother Chi, I'm leaving; we'll meet again later if fate decides."

"Fellow Daoist Ning Cheng, please wait for a moment." The previous Dao Raising Holy Emperor, who had withdrawn from the fight earlier, suddenly called out to Ning Cheng. He listened to the conversation between Ning Cheng and Chi Zimin from the side but didn't interrupt.

Ning Cheng stopped once again, cupped his fists towards this Dao Raising Holy Emperor and asked, "What does this fellow daoist want from me?"

After he had collected the pill furnace and the pill flame, three Dao Raising Holy Emperors had surrounded him. Of them, only this person didn't do anything to him, and in fact, was the one who had retreated earlier. So Ning Cheng had a bit of a good impression towards this Dao Raising Holy Emperor.

This Dao Raising Holy Emperor showed a smile and cupped his fists towards Ning Cheng. "My name is Jian Sanshan. Brother Ning's amazing strength has taken my breath away."

"Ah... you're the Dao Transformation Pill Deity, Three....."

The Dao Raising Holy Emperor showed a faint smile, "That's right, I'm who people refer to as Three Mountains. But I barely qualify as a Dao Transformation Pill Deity."

A Dao Transformation Pill Deity? Ning Cheng looked at Jian Sanshan in confusion. If the other party truly was a Dao Transformation Pill Deity, why had he not found the central refining location of No Furnace?

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 950 Joining Hands with Jian Sanshan

Hearing Jian Sanshan's admission, Chi Zimin was even more shocked. Who didn't know about Jian Sanshan's fame in the Grand Essence Realm? The Harmonious Heavenly Pill that Jian Sanshan developed was almost equivalent to a dao pill. A single Harmonious Heavenly Pill could give a Dao Transformation Holy Emperor a 20% higher chance of breaking out of Dao Confirming's first step and entering the Dao Essence Realm.

However, some reports said that the Harmonious Heavenly Pill wasn't perfect and had significant side effects. Rumours also stated that any Holy Emperor who used the Harmonious Heavenly Pill to advance to the Dao Essence Realm would forever stop at the Dao Essence Realm.

Regardless of the rumours, Jian Sanshan's reputation resounded throughout the Grand Essence Domain. It was also no secret that many Holy Emperors had asked him for the Harmonious Heavenly Pill. However, those who could get Jian Sanshan to refine the pills were very few and far between. Asking Jian Sanshan to refine a pill was as tricky as climbing three mountains with no end in sight. The reason why Jian Sanshan was called 'Three Mountains'.

"Three Mountains?" Ning Cheng repeated. He hadn't been in the Grand Essence Realm for long and had spent most of his time either cultivating or fleeing, so how could he know anything about Three Mountains?

Seeing that Ning Cheng didn't even know about Jian Sanshan, Chi Zimin hurriedly transmitted his voice to Ning Cheng. He told him about Jian Sanshan before bowing to Jian Sanshan, "Thunder River Chi Clan's Chi Zimin greets Senior Jian."

Jian Sanshan nodded to Chi Zimin and then turned his gaze towards Ning Cheng with a slight smile at the corners of his mouth.

No matter what pills Jian Sanshan could refine, Ning Cheng wasn't interested. He was just about to leave when he heard Jian Sanshan speak. "If I'm not mistaken, your senior apprentice sister must have undergone spiritual enhancement in the past before shattering her foundation. You should already know that healing such a condition is an almost impossible matter, especially after one's spiritual roots or foundation had already shattered once before. If she had cultivated a bit carefully, she could have ascended to a supreme height in the future. Alas....."

Ning Cheng himself was a Dao Sculpting Pill Deity, so he immediately understood that Jian Sanshan had a much better insight than him. He didn't care about this Harmonious Heavenly Pill, but he felt very concerned about Yan Ji's situation.

"I'm Ning Cheng, and I would like to ask Brother Jian to explain it to me." Ning Cheng immediately stopped and spoke.

Jian Sanshan didn't beat around the bush and stated it directly. "After your senior apprentice sister repaired her foundation, I don't know why but she only absorbed spirit aura dregs. After experiencing spiritual enhancement and repairing her foundation, she should have cultivated by absorbing spirit aura, and it would have produced the best effects....."

Ning Cheng felt shocked at those words. In an instant, he understood what had happened. Ning Cheng had been on Yan Ji's back for several years. However, his essence spirit had felt a foreign and rich spirit aura scouring his body from time to time. His body couldn't absorb spirit aura on its own, which meant that it was absorbed by Yan Ji and somehow got transferred to him.

In other words, the essence of the spirit aura that Yan Ji had absorbed got absorbed by him., while the remaining dregs got absorbed by Yan Ji. After understanding this, Ning Cheng felt even more guilty.

“With her foundation repaired, the most important thing for her should have been to absorb pure spirit aura to stabilise her foundation. Instead, she did the opposite, absorbing spirit aura dregs. Her repaired foundation ended up assimilating these dregs and filling up its gaps using those dregs. Although it allowed her cultivation level to advance by a level or two, she had, in fact, damaged her repaired foundation for the second time. An injury of such proportions is like water breaking through an already disintegrating dike, something almost impossible to recover from. I will be frank with you here; it’s pretty much the end of the line for her.” Speaking till here, Jian Sanshan shook his head with a sympathetic expression.

Ning Cheng’s mood immediately crashed, as if someone had plunged him into an icy cave. He didn’t even question Jian Sanshan’s evaluation and knew that Jian Sanshan’s knowledge surpassed his, at least in this regard.

Seeing Ning Cheng’s dumbfounded silence, Jian Sanshan spoke up once again. “Not all hope is lost though; I heard that the Great Spirit Pill Sect has a dao fruit called the Five-elements Heavenly Fruit. It’s primarily used to comprehend five elements’ spirit techniques by refining them into corresponding spirit pills. However, the Five-elements Heavenly Fruit also has another function: it can be taken directly to awaken a person’s slumbering spirit. In other words, this dao fruit can awaken your senior apprentice sister. However, it will only wake her up, not heal her or bring back her ability to cultivate in any way.”

“Many thanks, Brother Jian, for pointing it out.” Ning Cheng bowed. Jian Sanshan’s information was indeed crucial to him right now.

Jian Sanshan also returned the gesture with respect and said, “It’s just a mere trifle. However, I also want to remind Brother Ning that if you go to the Great Spirit Pill Sect like this, I’m afraid that you will not get the Five-elements Heavenly Fruit. Each and every one of those dao fruits is very important to the Great Spirit Pill Sect. Therefore, they will not casually be handed over to outsiders.”

Ning Cheng fell silent. He understood that even if he had become a Dao Sculpting Holy Emperor, he was ‘just’ a Dao Sculpting Pill Deity. Ning Cheng still couldn’t compete with the full might of many of the large sects in the Grand Essence Realm. In a head-on disagreement, he could potentially escape from a Dao Essence Holy Emperor using some posturing. But if the force behind that Holy Emperor called his bluff, he might not be able to escape unscathed, especially not with Yan Ji.

“Fortunately, I have a way to help Brother Ning reach the Great Spirit Pill Sect’s alchemy masters. However, if you want to exchange for the Five-elements Heavenly Fruit, it would have to depend on Brother Ning’s means.”

After Jian Sanshan finished speaking, he didn’t wait for Ning Cheng to speak and continued. “That friend of yours also spoke about attending the Grand Essence Domain’s Alchemy Discourse. I would also recommend attending it as people from the Great Spirit Pill Sect would definitely be at the Alchemy Discourse. In other words, Brother Ning, you will have a much better chance of striking a deal with them at the discourse.”

Ning Cheng understood that Jian Sanshan wouldn’t help him for no reason. So he looked at Jian Sanshan and spoke straight to the point, “Brother Jian. I’m not qualified to participate in this discourse; also, I’m quite lacking in alchemy. So how do you expect me to participate in the Alchemy Discourse?”

Jian Sanshan showed a faint smile. "If Brother Ning's alchemical talent was so poor, you wouldn't have obtained the famous No Furnace and that pill flame. To be able to find the central refining point of No Furnace and put it away in such a short time, you need to be at least a Dao Sculpting Pill Deity."

Ning Cheng's eyebrows twitched a little, and his tone turned calm, "Brother Jian is a Dao Transformation Pill Deity. So even if I refined No Furnace a step before you, I believe that Brother Jian obtained a harvest at least comparable to mine."

Ning Cheng had thought of this matter for a long time. That pill sage's heritage wouldn't just be the No Furnace and the Nameless Flame and would definitely involve more than those things. Moreover, this Dao Transformation Pill Deity had also sensed the focal refining point of No Furnace. But he didn't have the time to rush over and refine it, which meant that he must have found something of equivalent value or better.

Jian Sanshan replied with an equally calm tone, "It's just a matter of fate for each person. Besides, you might not want what I obtained even if I gave it to you, but it's incredibly vital to me. As for the pill furnace and the pill flame, I don't need them as I'm not used to changing what's mine. All in all, everyone gets what everyone requires."

After briefly unveiling the opportunity he just mentioned, Jian Sanshan's tone turned somewhat cautious. "The preliminary round for this Alchemy Discourse requires a two-person team. However, only those with the status of Pill Emperors and above can participate. I've always been alone and never got the chance to partner up with any of my peers. So I feel that it would be most appropriate to team up with Brother Ning. Therefore, if Brother Ning is willing, we can form a team to participate in the preliminary round. I believe that with Brother Ning Cheng's attainments in alchemy, you can definitely obtain at least a Pill Emperor's status card."

Only then did Ning Cheng understand what Jian Sanshan wanted. He replied with a faint smile, "Brother Jian feels so highly about me, but I'm still curious to know why Brother Jian chose me. Also, I had already mentioned that I killed Man Jiuren. So, does Brother Jian still want to team up with me while risking offending Man Huishan?"

Jian Sanshan laughed, "Maybe it was because Brother Ning obtained the No Furnace and the pill flame. Or the fact that Brother Ning didn't kill everyone inside the No Furnace after obtaining them. Those two things alone tell me that Brother Ning has high attainment in alchemy and is also a trustworthy character. As for Man Huishan, hehe, it's not like I went and messed with his Barbarian Dragon Clan. Plus, I believe that even if he saw us together, he wouldn't do anything to me. As for how he treats Brother Ning, that's between you and him."

Jian Sanshan was very straightforward in what he said. Although Ning Cheng guessed that the reason wasn't the primary one, he still felt satisfied. He nodded and said, "Good, in that case, I will go with Brother Jian to this Alchemy Discourse."

He had a Tier 8 Pill Emperor's identity tag on him, but it belonged to Ji He. Fortunately, they only cared about having an identity tag for the Alchemy Discourse, so it didn't matter who it belonged to.

When the two talked about cooperation, Chi Zimin respectfully offered Ning Cheng and Jian Sanshan a goodbye and left.

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The Alchemy Discourse took place in the Heaven Essence Sacred City, the number one sacred city within the Grand Essence Domain. Therefore, after reaching an agreement with Ning Cheng, Jian Sanshan took out an airship. Boarding the airship, they then flew towards Heaven Essence Sacred City.

Ning Cheng had been to the Heaven Essence Sacred City once before during the Grand Essence Great Meet that was also held there. It was also in that city that he had given ten bottles of Empyrean Consciousness Transmutation Pill to Star Stepping Tower's master in exchange for protection against Man Huishan.

Of course, Ning Cheng didn't think that he spent the ten bottles of Empyrean Consciousness Transmutation Pills in vain. If it wasn't for the Star Stepping Tower Master's promise, he couldn't have completed the spirit essence transformation in the Extraterritorial Spirit Spring. He also wouldn't have comprehended the Law Break Spirit Technique or successfully stepped into the Dao Sculpting Realm.

Now that he had a Dao Sculpting cultivation and a powerful spirit technique, he didn't have to disguise himself when going to the Heaven Essence Sacred City. Not to mention that Man Huishan might not have even come out yet; even if Man Huishan did come out, he wouldn't dare do anything to him. But, taking a step back, even if Man Huishan were to do something to him, he wasn't afraid.

He could already escape from Man Huishan's pursuit as an Eternal cultivator. But now, he was more than a thousand times stronger than he had been in the Eternal Realm.

"Brother Ning, if I'm not wrong, you should be Ji He, right? I heard that Dragon Emperor Man Huishan had chased you into the Land of Broken Laws and hasn't come out even now." Jian Sanshan and Ning Cheng stood side by side on the prow of the airship and spoke with a smile.

Man Huishan had long known that he, Ning Cheng, was Ji He. So now, when Jian Sanshan asked about it, Ning Cheng didn't hide it and admitted it directly. "That's right, I am Ji He."

"Then, the Empyrean Consciousness Transmutation Pills also came from you?" Jian Sanshan spoke with a slightly excited tone.

Ning Cheng also directly admitted, "Yes, the Empyrean Consciousness Transmutation Pill came out of research by me and another pill sage. Once we go through the preliminary round, I will give that formula to Brother Jian."

"Many thanks, Brother Ning. But I can't accept such a precious pill recipe." Jian Sanshan knew that he couldn't accept it, but he also couldn't refuse the temptation.

What kind of medicinal pill was the Empyrean Consciousness Transmutation Pill? It was a supreme spirit pill for expanding the Sea of Consciousness and cultivating spiritual consciousness. He couldn't find an excuse even if he wanted to refuse such a medicinal pill. He wasn't yet a person who had transcended everything. As for why Ning Cheng wanted to wait until after the preliminary round and then give him the pill recipe, Jian Sanshan also understood it very well.

Ning Cheng wanted to use this pill recipe to exchange with the Great Spirit Pill Sect for the Five-elements Heavenly Fruit. It would indeed be an excellent bargain for the Great Spirit Pill Sect.

Ning Cheng nodded with a smile but didn't say anything. What kind of a person was Jian Sanshan? A Dao Transformation Pill Deity. If someone said this Dao Transformation Pill Deity willingly brought him to the Alchemy Discourse because of his 'trustworthy' character, even Ning Cheng wouldn't believe it.

Now that Jian Sanshan talked about the Empyrean Consciousness Transmutation Pill, how could Ning Cheng not know what the other party meant? Perhaps to Jian Sanshan, all he needed was a few Empyrean Consciousness Transmutation Pills. So Ning Cheng might as well be 'generous' and give the recipe to him directly. In any case, without Divine Chalcedony, the Empyrean Consciousness Transmutation Pill's recipe was nothing but a piece of waste paper.