

The Quest 841

Chapter 841: Suppressing and Slaying

I had been locked by Divine Sense... dead?

Was there a high-level cultivator nearby?

How could this be?

Once Divine Sense locked on, a spell would follow.

Bald Eagle felt a premonition of danger.

What spell was coming?!

...

In less than a moment, that familiar, nauseating sensation of suffocation, akin to drowning, came over him.

Chains appeared on his body, imprisoned by the Water Prison.

Bald Eagle's pupils shrank in disbelief.

Water Prison Technique?!

"Was it that little ghost?!"

In a split second, Bald Eagle realized what had happened.

He had been tricked!

That little ghost had deceived him!

His Divine Sense was clearly strong enough to lock him down, his Water Prison Technique was clearly infallible!

But that little ghost, he had held back, he had gone easy on him!

His previous failures with the Water Prison Technique, unable to trap him, were just to make him complacent, to lower his guard, to make him think...

That his Divine Sense was inferior to his own, that his spells couldn't lock him down.

And then, at the most critical moment, at the juncture of life and death...

That was when he took things seriously, locking him down with his powerful Divine Sense, controlling him with an incredibly fast and precise Water Prison Technique.

Trapping him under the Five Elements aurora, teeming with surging Spiritual Power, overwhelmingly powerful.

Just like a venomous little snake.

Low-key, patient, dormant, then unexpectedly, it would bare its sinister fangs.

A bite not felt, yet once it stings, it could claim your life!

So despicable!

So shameless!

Bald Eagle was burning with rage, nearly vomiting blood, and also shocked to his core.

How could this little ghost have such a powerful Divine Sense?

He had been in Qian State for so long, yet this was the first time he was “ambushed” by a kid’s Divine Sense.

This was the first, and most likely the last...

Bald Eagle looked at the skies filled with auroral light, his expression grave as never before.

He didn’t know why this spell possessed such terrifying power, but he knew, if he didn’t escape, he would undoubtedly die under the aurora light.

The Formation Patterns on Bald Eagle’s scalp suddenly lit up, a ghastly green and glaring.

It seemed as if he had activated the full power of the Four Symbols Formation, his scalp unable to bear the burden, beginning to split open, blood seeping out, running down from his head.

Bald Eagle’s face was stained with blood, a picture of distress and ferocity.

He was ready for a desperate struggle.

With his full power triggered, Bald Eagle’s flesh and demonic power fused to the extreme, his body almost contorting out of shape, as if the demonic power was rampaging uncontrollably within.

Bald Eagle, turned into something neither human nor demon.

But his demonic power grew even more frenzied.

As the demonic power surged and his body contorted, the Water Prison Technique was instantly torn apart, the Spiritual Power disintegrated, turning into droplets and vanishing into nothingness.

Bald Eagle regained his freedom, let out a sinister laugh, and tried to flee again.

Just then, in Mo Hua’s eyes, the eerie black fog churned relentlessly.

Double images emerged in the pupils.

His Tricky Calculation reached its zenith, Divine Sense circulating to the extreme.

Mo Hua's Divine Sense locked onto Bald Eagle once again.

In less than a moment, as Mo Hua's Spiritual Power shifted, another Water Prison Technique was condensed, locking Bald Eagle in place once more with pinpoint accuracy.

In that instant, Bald Eagle's face went deathly pale, showing terror.

This time, he clearly felt it.

Such Divine Sense...

Contained an innocent yet icy intent to kill.

Although his realm was not higher than Sixteen Patterns, there was an overpowering dominance.

He could even lock down someone of a higher order, making escape impossible.

Incredible, powerful and resilient, it had an unfathomable depth and an ever-changing sense of mystery...

This was simply not a 'human's' Divine Sense!

Bald Eagle's pupils trembled violently.

That little ghost... what was he, human or ghost, or...

An Evil God?

Did his body also house something like the Divine Lord... an outside god?

Was he not human himself, but merely a flesh host for an outside god?

Bald Eagle strained to turn his head, but there was no sight of Mo Hua—had he not sensed his Divine Sense, he might not even know how or by whom he had died...

The aurora approached, the sharp Gold Series Spiritual Power slicing through his skin and flesh.

His right limb had been disintegrated by Spiritual Power, revealing stark white bones.

Even the bones were slowly eroding.

Bald Eagle's face showed despair, then transcendence and piety.

His voice hoarse and deep, he whispered:

"Undying through myriad calamities, the Wild God does not perish

"All things must return, the soul goes back

But before he could finish, he was swallowed up by the Five Elements aurora.

The Golden Light spread, the Spiritual Power sharp as blades, slicing his body to shreds.

Tiny wounds bled profusely, only for the blood to be instantly evaporated by the cutting power.

Bald Eagle instantly lost his life, collapsing to the ground, his death a ghastly sight not fit for eyes.

And the aurora that filled the sky fell to the ground, grinding the forest to splinters and the rocks to dust.

Even the clouds and miasma were scattered.

The gold Spiritual Power still lingered in the mountains, like shredded sunlight, beautiful yet deadly.

Ouyang Feng and the others were shocked.

"He really... killed him

Such power in that spell!

That it could actually, in a single move, subdue Bald Eagle, who had been strengthened by a demonic formation and had a formidable physical body...

While everyone was still stunned, suddenly a Fireball Technique flew past before their eyes and headed far away, exploding on the already dead Bald Eagle's corpse.

With a loud boom.

Bald Eagle's corpse was blasted into the air, landing on the ground, rolling before coming to a still and silent stop.

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Obviously, he was completely dead.

The crowd opened their mouths but couldn't find the words. They all turned their heads to look at Mo Hua, who was using the Fireball Technique to "whip the corpse."

Mo Hua blinked matter-of-factly and said,

"He was a bad guy, I'm just making sure he's really dead with an extra stab."

Although Mo Hua was sure in his heart that this Bald Eagle was probably dead for good, as his Divine Sense no longer detected any breath of life, his Spiritual Power was chaotic and gradually dissipating.

But better safe than sorry.

...

A few more Fireballs wouldn't hurt, just to be sure.

And it's better to be cautious than to have regrets.

This Bald Eagle, with lots of tricks up his sleeve and tough skin, was pretty hard to deal with.

Mo Hua felt the itch to throw a few more Fireballs, but seeing everyone silently watching him, he felt somewhat embarrassed and said,

"How about you guys give it a go? I've already done my part

...

Shangguan Xu, wounded from the battle, looked at Mo Hua and sighed silently in his heart.

This Junior Brother Mo's behavior was nowhere close to how Auntie had described it, completely different, in fact...

He remembered how, before he was admitted, Auntie had warned him repeatedly about how naive and kind-hearted Junior Brother Mo was, devoid of any cunning...

His cultivation wasn't high, his physical body was weak, all he knew was a bit of Formation, fights would definitely be his disadvantage, he could be easily bullied, and he needed to be looked after...

He almost believed it...

Now, seeing how cunning...

No, how clever Junior Brother was, effortlessly surviving a melee fight at the Qi Foundation Middle Stage.

Even the fierce and cunning Bald Eagle was played by his Concealment Technique, toyed with his Water Prison Technique, and even “whipped” posthumously by his Fireball Technique...

Shangguan Xu sighed.

The other new disciples from worldly families at Taixu Gate were as green as lambs.

He didn’t believe that any of his fellow disciples could bully his Junior Brother.

Or rather, it was not certain who would bully whom...

Ouyang Feng and the other two had a peculiar look in their eyes when they saw Mo Hua.

Especially Murong Caiyun, who was extremely surprised.

He didn’t expect the disciple he had picked up along the way to be this...

Inclined towards Concealment Technique, proficient in Formation, sharp in perception, and those unimaginable methods of Drawing Ground into Formation.

And that extremely rare Ultimate Formation with Five Elements Amplification...

Aside from the weak ability in direct confrontations, in other aspects, he was almost absurdly strong.

And that Water Prison Technique was too fast, and too accurate.

Although Bald Eagle died under his Five Elements Radiant Jue, at the end of the day, he actually died due to those two continuous, powerless but extremely tricky Water Prison Techniques...

Seeing everyone looking at him, Mo Hua felt a bit guilty and said,

"Senior brothers and sisters, it's getting late, let's collect the Storage Bags, gather the spoils, and prepare to head back

Ouyang Feng and the others were startled by his words.

Murong Caiyun looked at Mo Hua with an even stranger expression.

"Junior brother, do you... often do this kind of thing?"

Killing people and then collecting their Storage Bags, how come he looked... so skilled at it?

Mo Hua instinctively nodded, then quickly shook his head, saying,

"I'm not skilled, not skilled, this kind of dangerous affair, it's the first time I've encountered it

Murong Caiyun sighed helplessly.

The others exchanged wry smiles.

But indeed, time was not on their side, they had been through a tough battle, their Spiritual Power was largely depleted, and some were injured, so it was time to pack up and prepare to return.

Before returning, they had to clear the battlefield and collect the spoils of war.

To avoid omissions, they worked together to clear up, and while the others' moods were relaxed, they couldn't help but feel a bit weary. Only Mo Hua was full of energy.

Collecting Storage Bags!

He loved doing that!

But Formation work was still more important.

First, he dismantled the nearby Formations.

He “confiscated” the Spirit Stones that powered the Formation eyes, then checked the Formation Pivots and Formation Patterns to see if there was any Formation knowledge he hadn’t learned. If there was, he carefully noted it down.

Even a wise man can make a mistake.

With so many Formation Masters in the world, there was always someone who knew something he didn’t.

One must learn to draw on the strengths of others and broaden one’s views.

Moreover, Bald Eagle’s level in Formation was obviously strong, although the types of Formations he specialized in were somewhat biased.

After dismantling the Formations, Mo Hua went to check the cave.

Clearly, this was a temporary resting place for the group of Sin Cultivators, there were some signs of life and some simple stove Formations.

Apart from that, there were also some monster beast skeletons.

They were small and didn’t look like they came from large creatures, more like the radius and ulna bones of hawks or falcons.

Around the nearby rocks, there were also some brownish feathers.

Monster beasts... eagles...

Mo Hua frowned.

He then thought of the Eagle Pattern Formation on Bald Eagle's head.

"Four Symbols Formation... related to monster beasts

"But what exactly is this relationship?"

"How were the Four Symbols Formations built and how did they use the monster beasts to draw them?"

"By drawing demonic power through the Four Symbols Formations to strengthen the body... wouldn't that turn them into half-demons?"

Just like Bald Eagle in his final moments...

By excessively activating the Formation, drawing demonic power, causing all the flesh and blood in his body to be assimilated by demonic power, losing humanity, becoming a half-human half-demon creature...

If he learned the Four Symbols Formation, would he also turn into that?

Mo Hua thought about it and felt a bit scared.

He was quite happy with how things were now...

He didn't really want to turn into a "little monster."

If he became that kind of half-human half-demon strange creature, how could he face his parents, and his little junior sister in the future?

He must be more careful.

After deliberating, Mo Hua searched around, but still found no other traces of Formations, no books, Jade Slips, or Formation Patterns.

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He swept with his Divine Sense and peered with Calculation, but found no trace.

"It seems we can only wait to search Bald Eagle's body later

Soon enough, everyone gathered their findings, bringing all the Storage Bags together.

People like Ouyang Feng, who came from Noble Clans, didn't care much for many items and were sloppy in their search, picking only a few conspicuous things.

Mo Hua was different; he searched meticulously.

Anything the slightest bit odd, he collected, laying it out before him, piling up a small heap.

...

Now the entire cave area was clean, as if locusts had swept through.

Shangguan Xu said, "Junior Brother, most of these... seem pretty useless

"Just in case," Mo Hua replied, "in case there were any Formation, any Formation Patterns left behind, checking them now could lead us to any fish that escaped the net."

"Alright then

They realized that this Junior Brother was quite fixated on Formations, truly not letting even the smallest clue slip by...

Then they began to deal with the spoils of the battle.

Mo Hua indeed managed to extract some fragmented Formation Patterns from these odds and ends.

It was unclear where they were from, but Mo Hua carefully noted each one down.

And that was it.

The rest were Spirit Stones, Spiritual Artifacts, Pills, and other common things that Cultivators would have.

Some books and Jade Slips were also nothing out of the ordinary.

Murong Caiyun took charge of these.

The Spirit Stones were evenly divided among the group.

These Sin Cultivators had done many evil deeds; the Spirit Stones they carried amounted to quite a sum.

But this was only for Mo Hua.

For Murong Caiyun and the others, being from Noble Clans, they were not short of Spirit Stones, so their expressions were unchanged when they received their share.

Among the group, only Mo Hua's face broke into a smile, very pleased.

Twenty-three thousand Spirit Stones!

Enough for his own use for a very, very long time.

Indeed, in Qian State where Spirit Stones were spent plentifully, one could also “earn” a lot.

Mo Hua gleefully stored away the Spirit Stones.

The remaining items could not be divided so easily.

Moreover, they were all illegally obtained and difficult to handle.

As was customary, they had to be handed over to the Taoist Court first, recorded in the ledger, then converted into Merit Points, which everyone could then distribute according to the situation.

For Sect Disciples, Merit Points were more important than Spirit Stones.

These items were soon tallied and dealt with.

But Mo Hua was somewhat disappointed.

Whether it was the items he collected individually or those the group gathered together, there were only fragmented Formation Patterns, no complete, official Four Symbols Formation Diagrams.

Especially the Formation that Bald Eagle had painted on his bald head.

As the sky grew dark and the mountain winds turned piercingly cold.

Everyone got ready to leave, and Mo Hua thought it over before delicately expressing his request.

"Senior Sister Murong, could I take a look at the Formation on Bald Eagle's head?"

Bald Eagle's corpse had been enclosed in a simple coffin for preservation.

This was to be submitted to the Taoist Court to claim the bounty and exchange for Merit Points.

Mo Hua didn't get a chance to examine the Formation on his head in detail.

Murong Caiyun frowned slightly, weighing her words:

"You... know what Formation that is, right?"

Mo Hua nodded, "It should be a Four Symbols Formation."

Murong Caiyun sighed, "This should... not be ordinary, or rather, not a normal Four Symbols Formation

"Even if a Four Symbols Formation used Beast Patterns, it wouldn't be this bizarre and ferocious

"Otherwise, the entire category of Four Symbols Formations would be classified as 'Evil Formations' or 'Demon Formations' and completely banned by the Taoist Court."

"This Four Symbols Formation of Bald Eagle, blended with demonic power, fused with flesh and blood, likely involved some unorthodox techniques

"Junior Brother, it's best not to learn it

"Mmm, mmm." Mo Hua nodded but still said, "I'm not learning it, just want to research it a bit, to 'critique' it

Critique...

This Junior Brother really had a way with words...

Murong Caiyun still hesitated.

Then Mo Hua said, "I mainly want to take it back to show Elder Master Xun."

Mo Hua brought up "Elder Master Xun" again.

This tactic proved effective.

As soon as Murong Caiyun heard Elder Master Xun, her expression paused, then relaxed slightly, and she slowly nodded, saying:

"Since that's the case, then take a look

So the group reopened the coffin that had sealed the Bald Eagle.

Due to excessively absorbing the Four Symbols Formation, his demonic power expanded, his flesh morphed, and after being suppressed to death by Taixu Gate's Superior Technique, the Five Elements Radiant Jue, his remains were also struck by a Fireball Technique by Mo Hua.

Therefore, his corpse hardly resembled a human anymore.

However, the Formation Patterns on his body remained intact, as if...

Mo Hua felt a stirring within.

Did they have their own "life"?

Life...

Mo Hua shuddered at the thought and concentrated on examining this Formation...

This Four Symbols Formation did not seem "painted" on but more like it parasitically attached itself.

The Formation itself was incredibly stable. Even with the overuse and having endured a powerful Spell, it maintained the patterns and the Formation Pivot's structure unchanged.

Mo Hua took out paper and brush, gave it some thought, and then began to observe and record.

After nearly half an hour, he had completely documented the Formation Diagram of the Four Symbols Formation from the Bald Eagle's head.

Murong Caiyun and the others waited patiently by his side.

It wasn't until Mo Hua finished recording the Formation and stowed away the Formation Diagram that the group got up and hurried through the night to reach Diancang City.

To prevent complications, they first went to the Taoist Court, turned in the Bald Eagle's remains, and briefly explained the cause and effect.

Of course, they only slightly touched on the details of how the Bald Eagle was killed, the related Spells and Formations; after all, the Taoist Court would not inquire too closely into the specifics of the Cultivator's techniques and heritage.

What followed was the responsibility of the Taoist Court.

How to inventory the ill-gotten gains, how to calculate Merit Points, how to publicly condemn the dead Bald Eagle.

Moreover, although the Bald Eagle was dead and his remains delivered to the Taoist Court, several Sin Cultivators under him, also with notorious records, had case files in the Taoist Court.

These Sin Cultivators died on Mount Diancang.

The Enforcement Leader from the Taoist Court would need to go collect the remains, check them against the wanted list, close each case accordingly, and possibly calculate some Merit Points.

These matters would be handled one by one by the Taoist Court.

As for Mo Hua and his companions, their task was now complete.

After concluding the matter, everyone rested temporarily in an inn in Diancang City to rest and would return to Taixu Gate the following morning.

Despite a day of toil, Mo Hua still practiced Formation techniques at the Taoist Stele all night.

The practice focused on common Formations, aimed at enhancing his Divine Sense.

As for the Four Symbols Formation, to avoid any accidents, Mo Hua planned to study it carefully after returning to the Sect.

If there were any problems, Elder Master Xun would be there to take care of them.

Waking up the next day, everyone was in high spirits and decided to stay half a day longer to relax a little.

Mo Hua also felt the opportunity was too good to pass up, so he followed his senior brothers and sisters, freeloading on food and drinks, played around Diancang City for half a day, and bought some novel things.

In the afternoon, they were set to start their journey back to the Sect.

Before leaving, Murong Caiyun and Ouyang Feng went to the Taoist Court in Diancang City once more to handle some simple procedures and added some details to their account of events, thus formally concluding their assignment.

When they returned, Murong Caiyun was carrying a Storage Bag, marked with the seal of the Taoist Court.

Opening the Storage Bag, Murong Caiyun said, "This is what the Taoist Court gave back

"It's also from the possessions of those few Sin Cultivators under Bald Eagle, but they are of no use, couldn't be converted into Merit Points, so they were returned to us

"Take a look and take whatever you want

Murong Caiyun turned over items one by one, including some common Pills, some damaged Spiritual Artifacts, and some calligraphy and paintings...

Indeed, none of them were particularly valuable.

Suddenly, Mo Hua, with a keen eye, spotted a Token.

He quickly asked, "Senior Sister Murong, what is this Token for?"

Murong Caiyun looked and hesitated,

"This seems to be... a Letter Token

"A Letter Token?"

Murong Caiyun nodded, "It's used by Cultivators to pass written messages to one another, similar to our Sect Token, but much cruder in function

Mo Hua was puzzled, "This was also on Bald Eagle and his people? Why didn't I find it before

Murong Caiyun smiled,

"Searching is something the Taoist Court is much more experienced in. There are methods only they know; it's normal that we couldn't find it

Mo Hua nodded and asked further, "Then, is there any important information in this Letter Token?"

Murong Caiyun slightly extended her Divine Sense to check, then shook her head, "It looks like a fairly ordinary Letter Token, nothing special, and the text inside has been wiped clean

Mo Hua was surprised, "Wiped clean?"

Murong Caiyun nodded, "Now, it's blank; there's nothing left

"It's just unclear whether the message was wiped by Bald Eagle just before he died or by the Taoist Court

Mo Hua's eyes lit up, and he said with anticipation,

"Senior Sister, could I have this Token to play with?"

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"Here, play with this..."

Murong Caiyun, listening to these childish words, was somewhat caught between laughter and tears.

A Letter Token wasn't for playing with.

However, since Mo Hua insisted, she didn't refuse.

The items in these Storage Bags were meant for everyone to take what they needed.

An empty Letter Token was of no use to her.

"Alright then."

Murong Caiyun handed over the blank Letter Token, made of white jade and with its contents already erased, to Mo Hua.

"Thank you, Senior Sister!"

Mo Hua happily accepted it, treating it like a "treasure" and tucked it away.

Murong Caiyun smiled wistfully, shaking her head slightly.

The rest of the items were simply divided up among everyone.

Since they were merely leftovers "picked" by the Taoist Court, and were not valuable, Murong Caiyun would give them to whoever asked.

After the last bit of the spoils was divided, the group made their leisurely return to the sect.

The journey there had been rushed, but the return trip was significantly more relaxed.

Murong Caiyun had hired a carriage spacious and luxurious, filled with the aroma of rain mist incense, lined with mink blankets and with plush cushions, making for a comfortable ride.

Mo Hua, looking at the resplendent carriage, guessed that Senior Sister Murong must come from a wealthy family.

He looked ahead.

The horses pulling the carriage were four tall and majestic Spirit Horses.

These were Second Grade Spirit Horses, specially bred by cultivators for drawing carriages.

The four Spirit Horses were imposing.

Mo Hua couldn't help but think of "Big White."

When he used to travel with his Master along with Old Kui, Junior Brother and Junior Sister, they had traversed mountains and rivers, and the white horse pulling their carriage was "Big White."

The name Big White was given by Mo Hua himself.

He guessed it must have liked it.

Whenever he called it Big White, it would affectionately nuzzle against him.

As for Big White's original name, something with clouds, something Dragon Steed, was quite a mouthful, and Mo Hua hadn't really kept it in mind.

"I wonder how Big White's breed compares with these large horses, which one is a bit better?"

Mo Hua muttered to himself silently.

White clouds drifted by, horse hooves trotted leisurely.

Past events, like mountain scenes, passed by in flashes of light, fleeting before his eyes.

Walking along, Mo Hua suddenly felt a sense of loss and a sourness in his heart.

Those companions who had been with him for so long were suddenly no longer by his side.

And yet he had to, alone, keep moving forward.

He must, keep moving forward...

In Mo Hua's eyes, there was a glimmer of loneliness mixed with a hint of determination.

"Junior Brother..."

A soft and clear voice called Mo Hua back from his thoughts.

Murong Caiyun gently asked, "Are you troubled?"

"Not at all..."

Mo Hua shook his head.

Hua Qianqian suddenly covered her mouth, laughing and teasingly said:

"Could it be that you've got someone on your mind, thinking about some pretty Junior Sister, perhaps..."

Mo Hua's cheeks turned a faint red as he denied,

"It's not!"

The others looked at him, slightly startled.

Thinking back on the battle with Bald Eagle, where Mo Hua was skilled in concealment, proficient in Formation, trapping enemies with the Water Prison Technique, attacking the corpse with Fireball.

And at the critical moment, he dealt a covert, decisive blow with the Water Prison Technique, leading to the death of the cunning and vicious Bald Eagle. His actions...

Not only were meticulous and calm,

But also carried a childlike yet decisive ruthlessness.

Despite appearing kind and cute, there was also a sense of incongruity, with a fathomless Divine Sense that was elusive.

Thus, along the way, even though everyone acted normally, they all felt a bit wary at heart.

But now, talking about a "crush," "Junior Sisters," and such...

Mo Hua's pale cheeks had suddenly turned red, the blush subtly accentuating his fair lips and teeth, his eyes and brows as if painted.

There was also a hint of shyness and awkwardness.

He simply looked like an innocent and bashful Junior Brother.

Everyone's heart eased at the sight, and they couldn't help but smile.

Mo Hua saw everyone looking at him with a smile, his face growing redder as he argued,

"Really, it's not!"

"Okay, okay..."

"You don't believe me?"

"We believe, we believe..."

"Then why are you still laughing?"

...

The atmosphere inside the carriage became much more cheerful...

...

On the main road of Qian State.

The carriage continued non-stop, and despite feeling a bit slow, the four large horses trotted briskly, and the actual speed was not slow at all.

Around evening, the carriage entered the Qian Xue State Boundary.

Ouyang Feng, a Tai'a Sect disciple, and Hua Qianqian, a Hundred Flower Valley disciple, would need to disembark along the way.

"Senior Sister Murong, Junior Sister Qianqian, Junior Brother Shangguan, Junior Brother Mo..."

Ouyang Feng listed everyone's names one by one in a formal and polite manner before bowing and saying,

"I'll take my leave now, if there's a chance to meet on a mission in the future..."

Everyone bowed their goodbyes as well.

Ouyang Feng gave Mo Hua a final glance, hesitated for a moment, but still spoke up,

"Junior Brother Mo, when you're free, come visit our Tai'a Sect. We can enjoy the scenic views and exchange insights on cultivation. I would be happy to play host..."

"Thank you, Senior Brother Feng!" Mo Hua was thrilled and nodded continuously,

"Definitely, definitely!"

Next was Hua Qianqian.

She was wearing a Brocade Hundred Flowers Robe, elegant in appearance. Though she seemed quiet and reticent, that was only because she wasn't acquainted.

Once familiar, she was surprisingly lively.

After bidding farewell to everyone, she specifically said to Mo Hua, "Junior Brother, you should also come and visit our Hundred Flower Valley when you have the time..."

Mo Hua paused, "Hundred Flower Valley... isn't that all female cultivators? Men aren't allowed in, right?"

Hua Qianqian smirked mischievously, "We'll find you a skirt of a female disciple to wear, apply some rouge, put on a little makeup, and dress you up as a 'little beauty.' Then naturally, you can enter."

Mo Hua was somewhat annoyed and firmly stated,

"I certainly will not!"

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He was a full-grown man, how could he possibly wear women's clothing?!

This was preposterous!

When Hua Qianqian saw Mo Hua fuming, she laughed even more joyfully.

After laughing for a while, she set her gaze upon Mo Hua, as if envisioning him in the Brocade Hundred Flowers Robe, looking stunningly beautiful. As he moved, his eyes glimmered with expectation, his face full of anticipation.

Mo Hua felt a chill run down his spine and quickly distanced himself from her, seeking refuge beside Murong Caiyun.

Murong Caiyun sighed helplessly.

After Hua Qianqian got off the carriage, she waved at everyone from afar before turning and walking toward the lush and ever-spring-like Hundred Flower Valley.

Afterward, the carriage traveled a bit further before returning to Taixu Gate.

Murong Caiyun was a senior to Mo Hua and lived in the Female Disciples' Residence, so she bid them farewell first:

"Junior Brother Shangguan, Junior Brother Mo, I'll be leaving now. Once the Taoist Court has finished tallying the Merit Points, I'll transfer them to your Taixu Tokens."

Mo Hua and Shangguan Xu bowed in thanks.

Mo Hua thought for a moment before whispering, "Senior Sister Murong..."

Murong Caiyun looked puzzled, "Is there something wrong?"

Mo Hua then shared his carefully conceived plan he had mulled over the entire journey:

"Next time you take on a mission, Senior Sister, should you encounter a need for stealth and reconnaissance, laying or breaking Formations, trapping enemies with spells, or if there's a situation that requires the amplification of Five Elements Spell..."

"Would you consider bringing me along?"

Taixu Gate's reward missions had numerous restrictions.

Especially for newcomers like Mo Hua, with low cultivation and little experience, the requirements were even higher.

Without taking on missions, one couldn't earn Merit Points.

Therefore, Mo Hua had to figure out a way to join Murong Caiyun in "mixing" in missions.

Murong Caiyun was startled, "Do you... need Merit Points that badly?"

Mo Hua nodded, "I need to earn Merit Points to exchange for Formations."

"But..." Murong Caiyun frowned, "Elder Master Xun has many Formations, doesn't he?"

"Elder Master Xun said I can't violate the Sect's rules. He wants me to be self-reliant, to earn Merit Points myself, and exchange for Formations myself..." Mo Hua explained.

However, he didn't mention that Elder Master Xun had only allowed him to take 'beginner' missions.

Such dangerous pursuits and assassination missions—Elder Master Xun hadn't even considered that Mo Hua would take them on, let alone complete them...

Murong Caiyun nodded slightly.

Indeed, without rules, there can be no circle. Even if she favored a disciple, she couldn't break the rules of the Sect.

This was indeed Elder Master Xun's way of handling matters.

"However, these matters are very..."

Murong Caiyun initially wanted to say "very dangerous," but thinking back to Bald Eagle's tragic death, she suddenly realized...

Dangerous indeed it was.

But as to who the "danger" applied to, that was less certain...

At least for now, Mo Hua was safe and sound, while Bald Eagle was thoroughly chilled in death...

Murong Caiyun's eyes twinkled, and her thoughts churned.

This mission was indeed very perilous.

Bald Eagle's abilities were not to be underestimated.

Especially with the strange Four Symbols Formation tattooed on his head, which, when broken, would merge his flesh with demonic power, increasing his strength tremendously, almost on par with a Foundation Establishment Late Stage Cultivator.

Among the Sin Cultivators and Demon Cultivators she had pursued over the years, few were as powerful as Bald Eagle.

Moreover, Bald Eagle was an expert in Formations.

Without Mo Hua, they might not have made it back safely.

In contrast, Mo Hua was clever and quick-witted, adept in stealth and formations, and possessed strong Divine Sense.

It would have been impossible for Mo Hua alone to kill Bald Eagle.

But if it were about escaping from Bald Eagle's clutches, Mo Hua would have likely found it quite easy.

So, speaking of danger.

The most dangerous was Bald Eagle, the one targeted and then killed by Mo Hua.

Next, themselves.

And Mo Hua would be the last to be in danger...

Murong Caiyun nodded, "Alright!"

Mo Hua was also thrilled, "Thank you, Senior Sister Murong!"

He didn't expect Senior Sister Murong to agree so readily.

Shangguan Xu, standing by, was also surprised.

He thought that for such dangerous matters, Senior Sister Murong would certainly refuse, or at least hesitate a few times.

Murong Caiyun looked at Mo Hua and smiled warmly.

But she kept the most important reason hidden deep in her heart.

The Ultimate Formation...

A Formation that could amplify the Five Elements' Spiritual Power!

Such an Ultimate Formation was extremely rare and seldom seen.

And she had hardly heard of any Foundation Establishment Disciple in the entire Qian Xue State Boundary who could master such a powerful and functional Formation.

This kind of Formation was close to the Innate Origin of the Five Elements.

That feeling of Spiritual Power boiling, spells advancing, might transforming, suppressing Evil Demons and slaughtering far and wide—once experienced, was irresistible.

That sky of dazzling, beautiful, and yet dangerous Five Elements radiance.

Even now, thinking back on it sent Murong Caiyun's heart racing.

Murong Caiyun couldn't help but look at Mo Hua, her eyes shining as if beholding a rare, precious Innate Spirit Treasure that could enhance the power of spells.

"What a pity, I can't carry it around with me..."

Murong Caiyun thought regretfully.

Mo Hua felt that Senior Sister Murong's gaze was somewhat strange and showed a puzzled look...

After exchanging a few pleasantries, Murong Caiyun left as well.

Mo Hua and Shangguan Xu headed toward the Disciple's Residence, chatting about this and that along the way, such as which Elder had the worst temper, which dining hall tasted the best...

In the mountains, there was also some "game," like the golden-feathered chickens raised by the Elder in the back mountain, which could be roasted and were delicious, but don't leave behind any traces...

Because it was forbidden for Elders to privately calculate a disciple's karma.

So occasionally, if you stole a chicken and roasted it,

They couldn't calculate, and thus wouldn't know who the "culprit" was...

Chapter 846: Nightmare (3)

But if you left evidence and the elder straightforwardly "reasoned" it out, you would be in big trouble...

Shangguan Xu said a lot, and Mo Hua's eyes were opened wide.

These were the experiences summed up by the senior brothers!

Mo Hua firmly remembered them.

When it was time to part, Shangguan Xu remembered something and said,

"You can visit the Shangguan Family sometime, my aunt is at home, she's been thinking about you, worried about whether you've been... at the Sect..."

Shangguan Xu's expression became a bit subtle, "...whether you've been 'bullied'... she always instructs me to take more care of you..."

Mo Hua responded with a smile, "Aunt Wan is really kind!"

Then he became a bit puzzled and asked,

"The Shangguan Family... where is it?"

He hadn't seen the Shangguan Family's estate until now.

It seemed absent in the Qian Xue Academic World.

In Qingzhou City, Aunt Wan had taken him to places owned by the Gu Family.

Shangguan Xu patted his forehead and apologized,

"I forgot to tell you, the ancestral home of the Shangguan family is quite far from the Qian Xue State Boundary. The Shangguan family members, when they come to the Qian Xue State Boundary, usually stay with the Gu Family..."

"The Gu Family is also a major clan, historically intermarried with the Shangguan Family, with profound connections. They are quite close, and it wouldn't be too much to say they are as close as if they were from the same branch..."

"Aunt brought Yu Er to temporarily rest at the Gu Family's estate in Qingzhou City. If you have time, you might head there to see them..."

Mo Hua nodded, but suddenly he frowned, "Resting?"

Shangguan Xu's gaze turned slightly serious, he hesitated for a moment and then sighed,

"Yu Er has been... somewhat unwell..."

"Unwell?"

Shangguan Xu nodded and hesitated for a moment. He seemed reluctant to continue, but considering that Mo Hua was the one who saved Yu Er's life, he decided to share,

"Yu Er has... occasionally been having nightmares..."

Mo Hua was taken aback, frowning, "Nightmares?"

"Yes," Shangguan Xu sighed, "I'm not sure about the details. Uncle Yi and Aunt Wan have sought both karma and a Pill Master to diagnose, but they found nothing..."

"Moreover, Yu Er cannot leave Qingzhou City..."

"As soon as he leaves Qingzhou City, the nightmares intensify. Sometimes, even a nap during the day could trigger terrifying nightmares with his body trembling and drenched in cold sweat..."

Shangguan Xu frowned with concern.

Mo Hua felt pained too and asked,

"Has Yu Er been like this since he was a child?"

Shangguan Xu contemplated for a moment and then shook his head, "I'm not sure about that. Yu Er's identity is unique. We, the children of the legitimate lineage, avoid probing into his childhood to prevent conflicts..."

Avoiding conflicts...

Mo Hua thought about it and roughly understood.

Within the noble clans, interests were substantial, hence sometimes familial affection became detached.

Kind intentions could easily be twisted...

Shangguan Xu sighed again, continuing, "I don't know much about Yu Er's childhood, but ever since the last time..."

Shangguan Xu paused, looked around to ensure nobody was listening, then lowered his voice and sighed,

"After he was 'kidnapped,' whatever he went through has worsened his nightmares... and they have become increasingly severe..."

"Aunt is heartbroken and worried sick."

"And sometimes, when Yu Er experiences nightmares, half awake, he repeatedly mentions your name..."

"It may be the bond formed since you saved him, a feeling of closeness that keeps him recalling you..."

"Aunt also hopes that when you have time, you could visit Yu Er..."

"But since you've just joined the Sect and your foundation isn't solid yet, she didn't want to distract you from your cultivation by mentioning it..."

...

Shangguan Xu looked helpless.

Mo Hua's expression grew focused as he nodded,

"Alright, I'll visit Yu Er when I have time!"

Shangguan Xu sighed in relief, "Thank you for that."

Mo Hua smiled, then reminded,

"Senior Brother Xu, you should also take care of your health."

Shangguan Xu was momentarily stunned, then warmed by the gesture and nodded, "Thank you, junior brother."

After parting ways, Mo Hua returned to the Disciple's Residence, laid on the table, and silently pondered.

"Yu Er... nightmares..."

"Cannot leave Qingzhou City..."

"Kidnapped..."

Mo Hua frowned, sensing something odd.

But he couldn't figure anything out at the moment.

Mo Hua sighed.

He really liked Yu Er, a child so pure and kind, and Aunt Wan had been very kind to him too. Now that Yu Er was tormented by nightmares, Mo Hua felt uneasy.

But his vacation time for this period was already used up.

Mo Hua thought for a bit, then decided he would make time during his next break to visit the Gu Family in Qingzhou City.

Chapter 847: Thunder Pattern

Mo Hua had made up his mind; the next day was just another normal day of classes.

After finishing the Tao Cultivation class, he attended an Alchemy class and an Artifact Refining class, and finally sat in on a Sword Cultivation class.

Sword Cultivation was not a subject Mo Hua was required to take.

He was a Spiritual Cultivator, specializing in Spells.

Moreover, Sword Weapons were expensive, and he could not afford them.

Nevertheless, adhering to the principle of "knowing one's enemy and oneself leads to victory in every battle," an understanding was still needed.

More importantly, Mo Hua was constantly preoccupied with the mysterious "Taixu Divine Thought Transforming Sword True Jue" that he had vaguely "calculated" from obscure causes, bearing only a name.

True Sword technique was beyond his reach.

However, the "Divine Thought into Sword" might be a feasible study.

"Divine Thought into Sword," as the name suggests, involves both "Divine Thought" and "Swordsmanship" and should be related to both.

Thus, any class on "Sword Cultivation" that Mo Hua had time for, he would try to attend.

He learned the basics of Sword Cultivation.

While keeping an eye out for any clues about the "Divine Thought into Sword True Jue."

Simultaneously, he studied the pros and cons of Sword Cultivation, silently pondering how he would deal with a Sword Cultivator if he ever encountered one.

However, perhaps because he was just a beginner, the Sword Cultivation classes were very basic.

Mo Hua had listened for several months but had only grasped the basics; he could not even condense Sword Qi, let alone truly control a sword...

Meanwhile, he had also heard from the Sword Cultivation Elder about many famous Sword techniques of the Taixu Gate:

Such as "Taixu Separating Fire Sword Jue," "Taixu Eryi Sword Technique," "Taixu Returning to One Sword Form," and so on.

But no one had ever mentioned a single word about the "Taixu Divine Thought Transforming Sword True Jue"...

He wondered if this Divine Thought Sword Transformation Technique was too obscure, too difficult, or perhaps too ancient and had been lost...

Mo Hua sighed, resolved to patiently search.

Time was on his side, and as long as he kept at it, he would eventually find some clues about this Sword technique.

Furthermore, there was the Downcast Mountain God in the desolate temple on the barren mountain.

Lord Yellow Mountain...

Mo Hua nodded.

When the day came for him to take a task that passed by that barren mountain, he planned to seek it out and inquire.

Currently, he had classes to attend and had no time to search...

The last class in the afternoon was on Formation, and Elder Master Xun had slacked off again.

As the "Junior Brother," Mo Hua had no choice but to diligently substitute for Elder Master Xun.

After finishing the class, his day's lessons were over.

Mo Hua returned to Disciple's Residence, and with some free time, began to study the somewhat eerie Four Symbols Formation imprinted from the bald head of Sin Cultivator "Bald Eagle."

Four Symbols Formation!

"There's a new formation to learn..."

Mo Hua's spirits were lifted, his eyes sparkling.

Moreover, this formation was not "new" in the general sense.

The Four Symbols Formation was a truly novel type of formation method, independent of the Five Elements and Eight Trigrams.

However, it might carry a hint of eeriness and peril.

Inside Disciple's Residence, the light from the bright open flame lamp was bright and warm.

The room was modest but clean and tidy.

Mo Hua lay over the table, setting the Formation Paper and preparing the ink and brush, and began to study the Four Symbols Monster Pattern Formation he had copied...

This formation had peculiar Patterns.

The Formation Pivot was simple, but the Formation Patterns were complex.

Unlike the Five Elements and Eight Trigrams Patterns, which were restrained and austere, profound and orderly,

The Patterns of this formation were drawn like the forms of Monster Beasts, the brushstrokes pictorial, resembling eagles and falcons, claws and teeth exposed, wild and rampant.

It was both novel and eerie.

However, once a formation was dismantled, only the Patterns remained.

As long as one's Taoist Heart was pure, there was nothing to fear.

Mo Hua began to deconstruct the formation, analyze the Formation Pivot, dissect the Patterns, akin to the Butcher's Skill in Dissecting Ox, removing the bones and flesh, seeing nothing but the cow.

His Heavenly Secret Calculation grew more skillful; the more adept he became at such analyses, the more thorough his understanding of this type of formation method.

Soon, Mo Hua had dismantled it.

A Four Symbols Formation was dismantled into more than ten, independent Four Symbols Pattern Variations.

Mo Hua examined the Patterns but couldn't help scratching his head:

"Something's not right..."

These Patterns, upon closer inspection, did not resemble Four Symbols Patterns at all.

They were vastly different from what Elder Master Xun had taught him.

Or rather, they only looked like Four Symbols Patterns...

But upon actual "studying" or "learning," they greatly differed from typical Four Symbols Patterns.

"Formation Pattern Variations?"

Mo Hua frowned.

That was the only explanation he could think of.

Elder Master Xun had taught him the basic, simple, introductory Four Symbols Patterns.

They were like enlightenment tools.

But the Four Symbols Formation on Bald Eagle's head resembled a more advanced form of Patterns, containing complex changes and specifically used to integrate demonic power and strengthen lethality.

Beast Patterns, close to monsters, could easily cause one to lose humanity...

Mo Hua was somewhat wary, but after some thought, decided to spend some time learning it.

Without trying it out and personally drawing it several times, he could not comprehend the secrets of the formation.

If he noticed any signs of "Demonization" or straying into madness, he would stop.

While copying, Mo Hua performed calculations and, after two hours, had roughly learned the basics of the Four Symbols Eagle Pattern Formation.

The Four Symbols Eagle Pattern Formation consisted of only fourteen Patterns.

Mo Hua drew it on paper, then furrowed his brow again.

"It's useless..."

The Patterns were clearly drawn on the paper, identical to those on Bald Eagle's head, and even the extremely fine details on the Patterns, resembling feathers and teeth, he had perfectly replicated.

Chapter 848: Thunder Pattern (2)

But after injecting Spiritual Power, this Formation showed no response at all.

In the Divine Sense vision of Mo Hua, this Formation possessed only a shape but lacked spirit and the flowing trajectories of Formation power.

"What's still missing..."

But what could be missing?

Demonic power?

Where would he obtain demonic power?

Surely he couldn't cease being a "human" and study the Demonic Arts of the Demon Gate, cultivating through bloodshed like the Monster Beasts, feeding on Cultivators to nurture demonic power...

Mo Hua shook his head.

This Formation was temporarily useless...

But soon after, Mo Hua grew curious again.

He remembered that Bald Eagle, who hadn't practiced Demon Techniques either and whose Spiritual Power was normal. Why could he draw such an eerie Four Symbols Formation?

Or fundamentally speaking, what was the Four Symbols Formation actually used for?

Mo Hua stroked his chin, pondering carefully...

The Five Elements and Eight Trigrams possess a clear system, controlling natural forces like metal, wood, water, fire, earth, wind, rain, thunder, and lightning—the forces of nature from heaven and earth.

What about the Four Symbols?

It couldn't just be for controlling demonic power, could it?

If it involved controlling demonic power, wouldn't one risk being eroded by it, leading to "deviation" in cultivation?

Mo Hua always felt that he was still overlooking something...

He compared the Four Symbols Monster Pattern and Eagle Pattern that Elder Master Xun had taught him with the basic, standard Four Symbols Array Patterns.

Mo Hua, using Heavenly Secret Calculation, peered into the origins of the Patterns and independently deduced various changes in the Patterns.

Suddenly, Mo Hua was startled, his gaze sharpened.

In the Divine Sense Calculation, after several evolutions and comparisons of these two types of Patterns, they suddenly overlapped.

The overlapping parts revealed some more originative Patterns!

In a flash, Mo Hua realized something.

The Four Symbols Array Patterns taught by Elder Master Xun were "Beast Patterns."

And the Four Symbols Array Pattern on Bald Eagle's head was a "Monster Pattern."

Monsters and beasts were not entirely the same, but they shared the same origin.

Similarly, Monster Patterns and Beast Patterns differed in form but their fundamental Patterns were the same.

This meant that both Four Symbols Monster Patterns and Four Symbols Beast Patterns were built upon a more foundational and basic Four Symbols Array Pattern.

Beneath the basics, there were yet deeper basics.

Both Monster Patterns and Beast Patterns were fundamental variations of a more underlying "Four Symbols Array Pattern."

Thus, they were all Four Symbols Formations, yet distinctly different.

"So that's how it is..."

With a revitalized spirit, Mo Hua began to carefully compare, cautiously deducing the shared, basic Four Symbols Array Patterns through the overlapping trajectories in the Divine Sense Calculation.

One by one, the Patterns were re-deduced, compared, and deciphered by Mo Hua, and drawn onto paper...

More than half an hour later, Mo Hua finally finished calculating.

He lined up these more basic, universal Four Symbols Array Patterns one by one, scrutinizing them.

These Patterns were somewhat more abstract than the "Eagle Pattern" or "Beast Pattern."

They resembled something more like...

Chains or cages...

As he continued looking, Mo Hua suddenly widened his eyes, his heart stirred.

These Patterns...

He had seen them before!

Mo Hua quickly opened his Storage Bag and rummaged through it to find several wooden boards at the bottom, carved with extremely similar Patterns.

Although the strokes were slightly different, and there were many discrepancies in the Patterns.

But with his rich experience, Mo Hua could tell at a glance that these two types of Patterns indeed originated from the same lineage of Formation.

These wooden boards were...

Mo Hua muttered with a focused gaze:

"Yu Er..."

At that inn, when he rescued Yu Er from the kidnappers, Yu Er was locked in a box that was painted with a Formation.

These boards were from the box that had confined Yu Er.

The Formation on the boards had also trapped Yu Er, isolating her aura and perception, that strange "Lock" type of Formation.

Mo Hua had thoroughly grasped some secrets through Heavenly Secret Tricky Calculation and Heavenly Secret Calculation, grasping some of the "life and death" relations, thus unlocking the Formation Lock.

But it was more of a guess combined with what he borrowed, knowing the manifestations, but not the reasons behind them.

The fundamental principles of the Formations, Mo Hua actually knew nothing about.

Having joined the Sect later, with many lessons and unable to divert his attention elsewhere, Mo Hua gradually forgot these Patterns.

He had not expected that now, by a strange twist of fate, he would again encounter the "Lock Formation" Patterns...

But his understanding of these Patterns ended here.

Because it was not a complete lineage, Mo Hua could only probe to this extent.

He must find a way to acquire more of the same type of Four Symbols Formation or Four Symbols Array Patterns...

Mo Hua furrowed his brows, his thoughts whirling rapidly.

Four Symbols Beast Patterns...

Four Symbols Monster Patterns, Sin Cultivator Bald Eagle...

Unknown Lock Formation at the fundamental level, Yu Er...

Human traffickers, Boss Jiang...

Mo Hua remembered that the wanted notice issued by the Taoist Court contained Bald Eagle's crimes:

"Forcefully harvested female disciples, committed murder, and also worked as a human trafficker, selling young Cultivators as 'food' to Demon Cultivators..."

Having been a "human trafficker"...

Mo Hua's thoughts shifted slightly.

Boss Jiang was a human trafficker, and so was Bald Eagle, selling Cultivators...

Did this mean that Bald Eagle and Boss Jiang's group might have had associations, either colluding in misdeeds together or even being part of the same gang altogether?

The wooden box belonging to Boss Jiang had a Lock type Four Symbols Formation, Bald Eagle's bald head had a Monster Pattern Four Symbols Formation...

Could it be that the Formations they used came from the same source?

A name suddenly popped into Mo Hua's mind:

Mr. Tu...

This Mr. Tu, mentioned by Boss Jiang, sounded very mysterious.

Chapter 849: Thunder Pattern (3)

Boss Jiang spoke with utmost respect and even some fear in his words.

"Those associated with Boss Jiang are likely not good people..."

"Calling him 'Gentleman' would mean he's not a brute, not a Body Cultivator, not a hands-on executioner..."

"He's either a Calculation master or a Formation Master, or possibly both?"

"Could this Four Symbols Formation be the creation of 'Mr. Tu'?"

...

Mo Hua nodded slightly, a clear goal gradually forming in his mind:

To capture this mysterious "Mr. Tu."

He was sure to possess the inheritance of the Four Symbols Formation, and it certainly wasn't just any ordinary inheritance.

This "locking class" Formation Pattern made Mo Hua feel it was incredibly profound, close to the deepest mysteries of the Four Symbols Formation, and it even had a hint of the 'Five Elements Source Pattern'...

Mo Hua couldn't help but lick his lips.

This Mr. Tu...

Was like a fat sheep!

If he could really capture him, not only could he shear this sheep, but he could even eat the meat, roast the ribs, and use the bones for soup!

Then there was Yu Er...

Their intentions towards Yu Er were definitely not benign.

He couldn't let them off.

However, this "Mr. Tu" likely had high Cultivation and substantial Array Formation Skill. Even his Calculation skills were probably sharp...

And he was hidden in the shadows, which meant he wouldn't be easy to expose...

"We need to find some clues, and plan this carefully..."

"If all else fails, report to the Taoist Court, and involve Taixu Gate, the Shangguan Family, and the Wenren Family, with Uncle Shangguan and Aunt Wan..."

Mo Hua counted on his fingers, realizing that he actually didn't need to act personally; there were plenty of "hired thugs."

He just needed to play smart and "pick up the pieces."

Mo Hua nodded, feeling this approach was safer.

"But how can I find this 'Mr. Tu'?"

Mo Hua went through everything that had happened after entering Qian State in his mind, realizing that clues about Mr. Tu were dismayingly scarce.

The most obvious was the "human trafficker."

Mo Hua silently thought, "It looks like my future Sect missions should specifically target these traffickers' bounties..."

"And there's also Boss Jiang, and Bald Eagle..."

"Though they are dead, their social connections are still there, and birds of a feather flock together; they're likely all Sin Cultivators wanted by the Taoist Court."

"Find these people, subject them to harsh interrogation... no, 'reform' them with Fireball Technique; once their conscience is awakened, they should tell me some truths..."

"And then there's..."

Mo Hua took out a jade token from his Storage Bag.

It was the Letter Token that had been in Bald Eagle's possession.

He had checked it, and it was clean, blank inside.

But being a Formation Master, he knew the principle of "from nothing comes something."

"Existence" can become "non-existence," and "non-existence" can also transform into "existence."

Furthermore, Uncle Zhang Lan had also warned him, "Rain leaves traces, geese leave sound, and a Cultivator, in anything they do, always leaves a mark..."

Invisibility doesn't mean non-existence.

Mo Hua planned to study and see if he could find any clues about Bald Eagle's connections from the Letter Token.

To see whom he had communicated with, what words he had conveyed.

...

For the next two days, Mo Hua spent his time studying the Letter Token, yet he made little progress.

He still knew nothing about the secrets within the Letter Token.

Mo Hua sighed.

Indeed, developing theories in isolation wasn't working...

His skills and experience in Array Formation weren't sufficient to quickly unravel the mysteries of an unfamiliar formation,

Even though he was skilled in both Tricky Calculation and Heavenly Secret Calculation.

However, he was now a Sect disciple at Taixu Gate, and it was time to learn and ask...

Mo Hua went to ask Elder Master Xun.

There were some questions that couldn't be asked.

Such as the Taixu Mind Transforming Sword True Art, or things related to Heavenly secret Tricky Calculation and Heavenly secret Calculation.

But asking about the "Letter Token," which didn't have significant Karma, should be fine.

Elder Master Xun was somewhat surprised and asked,

"Why are you suddenly asking about the 'Letter Token'?"

Mo Hua shyly replied, "I came from Little Immortal City in Li State and had never seen a Letter Token before, so I got curious..."

"I think the Letter Token must involve some basic Array Formation principles, but I've been pondering it for a few days without a clue, so I came to ask you, Elder..."

Elder Master Xun nodded slightly.

To be inquisitive and to seek knowledge.

To be curious about things, to reflect on one's thoughts.

To be able to ask humbly when in doubt.

Good...

Elder Master Xun was pleased.

As for the matter of the "Letter Token," although it was a bit early to teach him, giving him a few pointers in advance would help him be prepared, doubling the efficiency when he actually learned it...

Elder Master Xun thought to himself, then said,

"This kind of formation is complex, not suitable for your current learning, but since you're curious, I'll tell you some basic principles of Array Formation, just so you know..."

"But don't reach too high and waste too much effort, stick to learning the regular formations solidly step by step..."

"Right!"

Mo Hua nodded repeatedly.

Elder Master Xun then said, "The Letter Token is used for communication; the Array Formation involved is of the Eight Trigrams type, specifically the 'Zhen' series, also commonly known as the 'Thunder Pattern' formation..."

That was within Mo Hua's expectations.

Mo Hua thought for a moment, then asked, "Elder, is the Thunder Pattern related to 'Original Magnet'?"

Chapter 850: Thunder Pattern (4)

Elder Master Xun slightly nodded his head, "Indeed, but the so-called 'Original Magnet,' unlike the normal 'Thunder Pattern'..."

"The Letter Token involves a type of Formation Pattern that is not 'thunder' but rather 'electricity,' or more precisely, 'magnetic'..."

"Electric Patterns, or Magnetic Patterns, also fall under the category of the Eight Trigrams Zhen Series, but they are collectively referred to as 'Secondary Thunder Patterns.' This means they derive from the Eight Trigrams, possess the nature of thunder, but are weaker in power, secondary to the true thunder, and are Secondary Formation Patterns of Thunder Patterns..."

Mo Hua suddenly understood.

Secondary Thunder Patterns, Secondary Formation Patterns are also considered a type of Formation Pattern Variations.

Similar to variations based on the Four Symbols Monster Pattern and Four Symbols Beast Pattern.

Elder Master Xun said, "Secondary Thunder Patterns, when electricity transforms and produces magnetism, are similar to some Formation Method in the Golden Series that possess magnetic properties and functions of Si Nan, suitable for reconnaissance, induction, guidance, and messaging."

"They are a type of confidential Formation Pattern."

Mo Hua nodded, then couldn't help but ask,

"What about the real Thunder Pattern?"

Elder Master Xun's gaze became sharp, and his expression solemn:

"The real Thunder Pattern is too complex and too powerful; such Formation Methods are extremely difficult to control..."

"It embodies not only the 'Zhen Hexagram' but also incorporates numerous changes of the 'Qian Hexagram,' 'Kan Hexagram,' and 'Xun Hexagram'..."

"Hence, it is hard to comprehend, hard to control, and hard to layout."

"The real Thunder Formation is terrifyingly powerful and erases all things."

"That is the true thunder from the heavens..."

Elder Master Xun sighed, his eyes filled with reverence, "The Nine Heavens Thunder symbolizes the majestic heavenly might, annihilating evil and demons, penetrating heaven and earth, and is an evolution of the 'killing' path."

"Although the 'Thunder Pattern' numbers among the Eight Trigrams, it encompasses a multitude of Hexagram principles and is completely different from other Eight Trigrams methods."

"To wield the Thunder Pattern, one's Taoist Heart must be upright."

"Any slight evil or selfish thoughts, and one is prone to be backfired by the heavenly thunder, suffering 'divine punishment,' perishing under one's own Thunder Formation."

"Therefore, the inheritance of the Thunder Formation is extremely strict."

"In this world, the Noble Clans that truly possess the inheritance of the Thunder Pattern are few and far between."

Mo Hua was shocked; he thought of the Thunder Pattern he left on the Taoist Stele, which erased everything, deep in thought.

But he also noticed another piece of information in Elder Master Xun's words:

"A few and far between..."

Mo Hua's eyes shifted, "Meaning... there are still Noble Clans that inherit the Thunder Pattern?"

Elder Master Xun nodded, "There are, but these Noble Clans have mostly been struck by lightning, so they either abandoned their inheritance for development or secluded themselves, not involving themselves with the mundane world, adhering to their own hearts."

"The only one that has passed down the Thunder Pattern from generation to generation, with not a small power, is the Zheng Family from Zhen State."

"The Zheng Family?" Mo Hua was startled, "Zheng Fang's Clan?"

Zheng Fang...

Mo Hua remembered, among his fellow disciples, there was a straight-faced, somewhat honest, occasionally dazed disciple named Zheng Xuan.

The first time Elder Master Xun let him substitute teach, Zheng Fang had "tested" him using his family's secret Formation Method and allowed him to secretly learn a Formation Method.

Could that Formation Method have been the Thunder Formation?

Elder Master Xun seemed to guess Mo Hua's thoughts and slightly shook his head, "The Thunder Formation is not lightly passed on, even the legitimate lineage descendants of the Zheng Family the same..."

"Zheng Fang is still young and doesn't qualify to learn the inheritance of the Thunder Pattern; what he learned is at most some basic variations of the Secondary Thunder Formation..."

"Not just Zheng Fang, in the entire Qian Xue State Boundary, among the Zheng Family disciples who have joined various Sects, none are qualified to learn the Thunder Formation."

Mo Hua felt a bit regretful.

But upon reflection, it made sense. The Thunder Pattern was significant, and Zheng Fang, no matter how 'dumb,' wouldn't use such a Formation to 'test' him...

Unless he had been afflicted by Planting Devil in Taoist Heart, losing his senses.

Speaking of Planting Devil in Taoist Heart, he wouldn't know how to...

"In Qian Xue State Boundary, is there no one who knows the Thunder Formation?" Mo Hua curiously asked again.

"There are," Elder Master Xun said.

Mo Hua was stunned.

"In Qian Xue State Boundary, the only one with the inheritance of the 'Thunder Formation'..."

Elder Master Xun furrowed his brows, paused to recall for a moment, then slowly said, "Should be... Zheng Wanjun..."

"Zheng Wanjun?"

Mo Hua was puzzled.

He had never heard this name before.

Elder Master Xun slightly nodded, "He is one of the Elder Yuhua from the Four Great Sects, Qian Taoist Sect..."