

Time 371

Outside Of Time

Chapter 371: Unfriendly Land

After this battle ended, Xu Qing's name completely spread throughout the Eight Sects Alliance, stirring up the 137 sects.

Saintly Star could fight against the Heavenly Palace Golden Core. Back then, he had suppressed the eldest highness of the Seven Blood Eyes because the eldest highness had just broken through and had come out of seclusion early before forming the complete first Heavenly Palace.

Xu Qing was completely different. He suppressed a Golden Core cultivator who had a Heavenly Palace.

In the entire Yinghuang Province, very few people could do this.

Moreover, Xu Qing hadn't reached his limits yet. He had only lit three balls of life fire.

This caused the attitudes of the Eight Sects Alliance's disciples to change immediately. Although there were people who were still hostile, most of them began to develop reverence. Most of them were female disciples.

In the captain's eyes, Xu Qing's appearance was a trump card that surpassed his cultivation base.

Regardless of the commotion in the outside world, Xu Qing didn't leave his building after the battle. He spent the entire day meditating and cultivating, trying to get more understanding of his two life lanterns.

Old Master Seventh had told him that the battle with Sima Ru was actually a transaction between the Sima Clan and the Seven Blood Eyes.

At the same time, after the details of the Seven Blood Eyes joining the alliance were completed, the choice of address was also provided.

This was a secret. Even the attendees did not know of it. It was all up to Old Master Seventh.

As such... the captain, Xu Qing, and the third highness were naturally the first to know.

Xu Qing had another goal in this trip to the Yinghuang Province. Zhang San had entrusted it to him excitedly, asking Xu Qing to inform him of the new sect location immediately. This involved great benefits.

For example, purchasing land around the new site or even inside. According to Zhang San, this kind of thing was an extremely rare opportunity.

Zhang San clearly felt that the captain was unreliable, so he repeatedly reminded Xu Qing not to forget.

As such, after Xu Qing learned of the location, he immediately informed Zhang San. Zhang San was also a capable person. He spared no expense and relied on many teleportations to rush over. He only had time to greet Xu Qing and the captain before he started getting busy.

Third Senior Brother was also busy. He had already begun to make arrangements without batting an eyelid.

The highnesses of the other peaks who knew about this also understood the importance of this news. They no longer continued with their challenges and tried their best to earn money through this news.

As such, the news naturally couldn't be kept. It spread in the alliance, causing the prices of the places around the address chosen by the Seven Blood Eyes to inflate.

The people from the various sects of the Alliance also got involved and bought properties. In any case, according to the discussion, the Alliance would take responsibility for the fees for this relocation to show their sincerity. Of course, everyone understood that they couldn't take this too far.

They had to know when to stop.

Otherwise, if the Seven Blood Eyes had another discussion and changed the location, everyone who invested in this would suffer a huge loss.

The Alliance wasn't too petty. After all, the greatest benefit was still their internal members. This could be considered a tacit distribution by the various sects. Hence, they allowed this news to spread for a day and closed the notarization of the transactions of properties in the main city.

After that, the first wave of teleportation of the Seven Blood Eyes began.

The first to arrive were more than half of the Sixth Peak's disciples. Because the Nanhua Continent was their base and couldn't be given up, there were naturally some left behind. Hence, only 60% of the disciples followed Lord Sixth here.

At the same time, he brought along the Sixth Peak.

They wanted to build a huge city on the new sect's address. This was an enormous project. Not only did it require cultivators to complete it, but it also required the help of mortals. Only then could the process be sped up.

Very soon, the second and third waves of teleportation were carried out one after another. Almost every day, a large number of Seven Blood Eyes disciples and mortals were teleported over and joined the construction of the city.

The location chosen by the Seven Blood Eyes was the far end of the Immortal Enrichment River's tributary. It was connected to the original Seven Sects Alliance by eight large bridges. Each bridge could allow a hundred carriages to travel side by side.

On the other side was a wasteland. One could see the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain Range in the distance.

The shape of the city was also confirmed. It would not be square like in the Nanhua Continent.

Looking from a high altitude, it seemed to be a huge eye.

One end was connected to the Forbidden Sea, and the other was connected to the Alliance's city through the bridges. Moreover, a small river that contained the Immortal Enrichment River snaked through the Seven Blood Eyes' city and flowed into the sea.

The location of the pupil of this eye would be the location of the seven peaks of the Seven Blood Eyes in the future. The surroundings were filled with cities and the port area was still managed by the Seventh Peak.

Due to the construction of the sect and the city, Xu Qing couldn't immerse himself in cultivation. As a highness of the Seventh Peak, he had too many things to participate in.

For example, at this moment, as the prototype of the new city was built, the Seven Blood Eyes launched a large-scale teleportation. This time, they wanted to teleport a large number of commoners and more disciples over.

Just the advance inspection of the teleportation array took almost a day and was only completed at dusk. The disciples of the various peaks from the Seven Blood Eyes also rose into the air and checked their surroundings warily.

There were too many mortals in this wave of teleportation. As the mortals were the main contributors to the Seven Blood Eyes' economy, the Seven Blood Eyes was extremely protective of them. Hence, Xu Qing was arranged to guard a direction.

The captain and Third Senior Brother were with him.

The three of them stood in the air. On one side was the new city of the Seven Blood Eyes. The array formation was slowly activated there and on the other side was a large wasteland.

Although there were huge city walls and array formations that separated the wasteland from the Alliance, when viewed from the sky, the Yinghuang Province was actually even more cruel compared to the Nanhuang Continent.

Moreover, the location chosen by the Seven Blood Eyes was close to the direction of the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain. Hence, the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain was very clear in Xu Qing's eyes. It was a black mountain range that looked like the corpse of a humongous beast.

One large black mountain after another and the treacherous forests formed the end of the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain that touched the sea. Looking into the distance, mountains stretched endlessly.

"The other side of the mountain is where the Three Spirits Suppression Mountain's force is located." The captain stood beside Xu Qing and spoke leisurely as he ate an apple.

Xu Qing nodded. Just as he was watching, the array formation in the main city behind him was activated. Vast teleportation energy fluctuations spread in all directions and a shocking light illuminated the sky.

A violent wind blew into his face and the ground trembled as figures suddenly appeared in the teleportation array in the main city. There were hundreds of thousands of them densely packed together. From a high altitude, they looked like ants that were scattering in all directions. Everyone who arrived had excited and uneasy expressions.

To them, this place was unfamiliar but it was also the start of a better future.

As the light flickered and the crowd surged, most of the disciples inside rose into the air. There were also disciples in charge of order in the surroundings who began to make arrangements.

Xu Qing was also completely focused as he stared in all directions. At this moment, in the direction of the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain in the distance, the sky changed color and there were faint pink clouds churning in the sky.

The pressure inside was astonishing, causing lightning to form and spread out in all directions.

This scene attracted the attention of the Seven Blood Eyes. Xue Lianzi's huge face appeared in the sky and stared into the distance.

Xu Qing also looked over. Very soon, he saw a shocking scene!

There were thousands of refugees. They seemed to be a nonhuman race from a small country in Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain. All of them were as skinny as firewood and their expressions were filled with horror and despair as they ran with all their might.

However, at the next instant, the pink clouds in the sky flew above them. This pink color was strange, like rouge or the color of minced meat. It transformed into a large mouth that directly swallowed the ground.

In the blink of an eye, all the refugees entered the mouth. The sound of chewing echoed and blood splattered down.

A peerless ferocity spread out from it.

When Xu Qing's eyes narrowed, the pink fog churned and transformed into a huge figure that took shape in the clouds.

This figure was a thousand feet tall. One could see that it was a woman with an extremely beautiful appearance. Her facial features were perfect and one could see streams of light flowing in her beautiful eyes.

Her nose protruded out which caused her entire face to look very three-dimensional.

As the woman rapidly approached the Seven Blood Eyes, one could see that her skin had leopard-like stripes. Her waist was thin, her teeth were white, and she had two jade earrings on her ears. As she moved forward, they produced a crisp sound.

Her clothes were extremely exquisite.

She wore a spirit pearl jade robe with at least ten thousand pearls on it. Every pearl shone brightly and contained dense spiritual energy. The jade cloth also emitted a fragrance that spread over a large distance.

What was even more astonishing was that there was a phoenix feather pattern embroidered on the chest area of the dress with a strand of hair.

This pattern emitted boundless light and contained astonishing divinity.

This woman clearly loved beauty. As she moved forward, she held a mirror in her hand and looked at her skin color after eating. When she got close to the Seven Blood Eyes, Xue Lianzi, who was in the sky, spoke gloomily.

"Stop!"

His voice was like heavenly lightning, rumbling through the world. The woman in the pink clouds lifted her head and glanced at the new city of the Seven Blood Eyes before looking at Xue Lianzi. She smiled disdainfully.

"Seven Blood Eyes? Your Taboo is a little interesting." With that, she stretched her back, revealing her beautiful waist and luxurious dress. With a sway, the pink clouds changed directions and returned to the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain.

This scene caused Xu Qing's pupils to contract. He could sense the other party's terrifying cultivation base.

"This is the Three Spirits Suppression Mountain that rears 137 small countries as food on the other side of the mountain. They eat the beings living there alive, creating hell on earth. Many are furious at them but are extremely wary as well. This is the third spirit, the Spirit Venerable Nether Fairy," Third Senior Brother said softly.

"Three Spirits Suppression Mountain. The second spirit is called the Spirit Venerable Sun Execution, and the first spirit is the Spirit Venerable Embryonic Light. These three are all at the Nihility Realm. As one of the six major forces in the Yinghuang Province, their strength is unfathomable."

"They saw that we chose this location and came to take us down a notch."

Third Senior Brother's low voice rang in the air. Xu Qing then looked at the endless mountain in the distance. He could sense the cruelty of the Yinghuang Province. Even though the singing and dancing in the alliance seemed to show peace and harmony, this world wasn't like this.

It was filled with danger and cruelty. This was a world where if you didn't kill others, others would eat you.

However, at this moment, the sound of someone gulping suddenly rang out beside Xu Qing.

The captain's eyes stared fixedly in the direction the Spirit Venerable Nether Fairy had left in.

"Every bead is a thousand-year-old pearl with spiritual charm. The jade was even refined into threads using the rare divine power of the immortal jade scripture. This is an immortal jade robe with astonishing immortal Qi. If I could eat it, the benefits would be endless."

"There's also that phoenix feather embroidered with hair. Its divinity is too strong!"

"Good clothes, my good clothes!!" The captain's breathing was hurried and he kept swallowing. The light in his eyes was unprecedented.

[Outside Of Time](#)

Chapter 372: Dangerous Land

Before coming to the Alliance, Xu Qing had seen an introduction to Three Spirits Suppression Mountain in the sect's dossier.

The mountain that was a million kilometers long was like a mountain of corpses or a forest of bones.

The skin was like the carpet on it and the hair was like fur that turned the ground black.

Countless pieces of flesh and skin had rotted there.

There were also bones that piled up like a tree and their heads became fruits on the tree. They weren't dead and would continue to wail in pain. Their dripping blood quenched the thirst of the fiends that passed by them.

It was a literal hell on earth with corpses and blood everywhere.

There were 137 countries of both humans and nonhuman races in its territory. They were all food.

Eat a country and make another country.

This was the description of the Three Spirits Suppression Mountain in the Seven Blood Eyes' dossier.

This dangerous land was adjacent to the Eight Sects Alliance and was also by the sea, only separated by the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain Range.

Xu Qing knew why the sect had chosen this location. On one hand, the Alliance could be considered one body. Although this place was the closest to the Suppression Mountain, both sides were major forces of the Yinghuang Province. If the other party attacked here, it would undoubtedly be a war.

On the other hand, this place was the closest to the tributary of the Immortal Enrichment River. The spiritual energy here was dense and under the invisible nourishment, it could cleanse the anomalous substances in the Seven Blood Eyes' disciples' bodies at all times.

At the same time, the benefits of diverting the river here and passing through the entire Seven Blood Eyes' city were also the greatest. This was because when the two were combined, it could cause the new city of the Seven Blood Eyes to be filled with a dense spiritual energy at all times.

Moreover, the tributary of the Immortal Enrichment River belonged to the Alliance. According to the agreement, the river channel split from this tributary was considered the Seven Blood Eyes Sect's assets.

The value of this city area of the Seven Blood Eyes had only increased greatly recently. Before the tributary had arrived, this place was worthless.

However, these were only Xu Qing's guesses. He hadn't attended the meeting during this period of time and couldn't participate in the high-level discussions between the sect masters and ancestors. Hence, he had no idea what the true reason was.

However, he was extremely vigilant against the Three Spirits Suppression Mountain. This scene also made him realize once again that there was no paradise in this world. The peace on the surface was built with strength and it wasn't foolproof. If he let himself be immersed in this paradise and didn't strengthen himself, he would become someone else's food sooner or later.

"Even things like sunrise and sunset might suddenly change, let alone peace." Xu Qing retracted his gaze from the direction of the Three Spirits Suppression Mountain. He felt that he was still too weak.

"When the sect's new city is constructed, I have to learn a divine art from Master. I have to become stronger!" Determination appeared in Xu Qing's eyes. He took a deep breath and continued to guard the surroundings.

Just like that, days passed. The main city of the Seven Blood Eyes changed every day. The streets, buildings, and array formations were quickly built under the efforts of the Seven Blood Eyes' disciples and mortals.

More and more disciples and mortals were teleported over, causing the originally empty city to be filled with liveliness.

The seven mountain peaks of the Seven Blood Eyes also arrived one after another and were placed in the middle of the city. As for the base in the Nanhuang Continent, the Seven Blood Eyes naturally wouldn't give it up. They relocated seven mountains from the Truth Mountain Range again and covered them with array formations.

Moreover, they left a portion of the disciples to guard it. Although it wasn't as powerful as before, as the Seven Blood Eyes was an upper sect now, no faction in the Forbidden Sea or the Nanhuang Continent would dare to provoke them for the time being.

Everything proceeded smoothly.

As one of the Eight Sects Alliances, some positions in the Seven Blood Eyes had to be blended. Only then could they better become members of the Alliance. For example, the Seven Blood Eyes didn't have a sect master in the past.

Now it did.

There was no dispute about choosing Old Master Seventh to become the sect master of the Seven Blood Eyes, and the successor was his Dao companion, Ding Xue's aunt.

The position of the elders had also been adjusted to that of a Dao Protector. Only after their cultivation reached Nascent Soul could they be called an elder, like the cultivation realms of the current peak lords.

The structure of the Seven Blood Eyes was clear from this. They hoped that all the peak lords could step into the Spirit Repository Realm in the future.

As the positions were adjusted, most of the matter after joining the alliance was completed. There were still a lot of things to do and everyone in the Seven Blood Eyes was busy.

Everyone had one or two fixed mission requirements.

However, the sect didn't squeeze out the daily cultivation time of the disciples. They guaranteed the cultivation time of the disciples, and to continue with the fast completion of all the matters in the sect, they took out a large number of resources as rewards for additional tasks.

This kind of thing where one could obtain resources without fighting to the death made everyone incomparably enthusiastic.

Xu Qing also received his second fixed mission. He needed to cast spells with a few fellow disciples in the port area and push out some of the Forbidden Sea that was filled with anomalous substances outside the port. This would make it easier for the other disciples to reclaim land and build a harbor.

Xu Qing had suppressed the scene when he came ashore and also the dominating battle with Sima Ru.

This made him have a halo just like Saintly Star back then.

Although the alliance hadn't announced it yet, everyone understood that he was already the number one heaven's chosen of this generation of the Eight Sects Alliance. Hence, in the liberal Alliance, there were naturally many curious people.

Xu Qing arrived at the port area and cast a spell with the other disciples; the seawater rumbled and rolled back. As it spread out in a large area, one could see many disciples of the various sects of the Alliance watching from afar.

To them, the integration of the Seven Blood Eyes was already a major event of the Alliance, so they naturally had to come and take a look.

Most of them were female disciples. When they saw Xu Qing, their eyes lit up and they let out an uproar.

The Seven Blood Eyes' disciples were used to this scene and didn't find it strange. It had been like this for the past few days. While they sighed with emotion in their minds, they would occasionally glance at Xu Qing, who was calmly casting a spell in the air.

Xu Qing ignored the gazes and focused on casting the spell.

He discovered that the sect missions actually contained training parts.

For example, right now, as he circulated the Sea Transformation Art, he could clearly sense the pressure from the Forbidden Sea. This made him have to push back the seawater at all times to keep it from moving in again.

This involved the stability and tenacity of magic power.

The pressure of the seawater was like a huge grinding stone that could be used to temper one's body.

With this discovery and understanding, Xu Qing naturally became even more serious.

While he was cultivating here, Ding Xue arrived.

She wore a plain green dress with cloud patterns and her beautiful hair was tied into a ponytail. She carried a jade tassel sword on her back and looked valiant and heroic. Her figure looked graceful as her dress fluttered in the sea breeze. Her red face and innocent gaze made her even more charming.

She walked over with a hint of curiosity in her gaze. She first sized up the female disciples who were looking at her Brother Xu Qing in the distance and smiled lightly. When Xu Qing finished casting the spell and sat down to regulate his breathing, she walked to his side.

"Brother Xu Qing."

Xu Qing opened his eyes and glanced at Ding Xue before nodding.

"Brother Xu Qing, I've learned a lot about herbs recently and refined a bottle of Hundred Spirit Herb Liquid. I feel like its flavor is okay but I am not sure if the medicinal effects are up to par or not..." At this point, Ding Xue noticed that Xu Qing was frowning slightly, so she continued to speak.

"Brother Xu Qing, my uncle-in-law is too busy, and so is my aunt. Grandpa isn't seeing anyone either, so I can only beg Brother Xu Qing. Brother Xu Qing, if you have time, can you give Xue'er some pointers?"

Ding Xue had a delicate and naive appearance. Her voice was soft and melodious. There was also a hint of coquettishness in it.

When Xu Qing heard Ding Xue mention the three people, he could only nod silently.

Ding Xue's eyes were filled with joy. She took out a pill bottle and handed over a spirit ticket that was worth a lot.

Glancing at the spirit ticket, the unhappiness in Xu Qing's heart from being disturbed during his cultivation dissipated a little. He picked up the pill bottle and glanced at it. With his understanding of plants and vegetation, he could tell at a glance if it was poisonous. After that, he drank it in one gulp.

After tasting it, Xu Qing calmly spoke.

"Not bad."

Ding Xue was very happy when she heard this but she knew her limits. After saying a few simple words, she elegantly turned and left. Her gaze swept past the female disciples of the Alliance who were looking over and she snorted inwardly.

"A group of coquettish b*tches dares to think of snatching Brother Xu Qing from me? They are far away and can't hear the specific conversation. What they see is that I walked over and gave Brother Xu Qing the pill liquid and Brother Xu Qing drank it."

"This is a declaration of dominion!"

"However, these people aren't an issue. I also got rid of Gu Muqing for now. Now that she's in closed-door cultivation to break through to the Foundation Building realm, my greatest enemy now is Yanyan!" Thinking of Yanyan, Ding Xue gritted her teeth and was thinking about how to deal with her when Zhao Zhongheng rushed over anxiously from afar.

He was also an extraordinary person. Even though Xu Qing was like the sun at noon, he still didn't give up on Ding Xue at all. He felt like Ding Xue would one day look behind and the person waiting for her would be him at the edge of that light.

Zhao Zhongheng was moved by his own thoughts and his gaze became even more determined.

Xu Qing noticed this scene. He was no longer ignorant about the matters between men and women like when he first entered the sect when he only knew that there was a feather tent in the scavenger campsite and many people would go there often.

Now that he had grown up, he could more or less see some of it from Huang Yan and his Third Senior Brother. However, he still felt that this matter wasn't that attractive.

Hence, he didn't bother with it and continued to cultivate and push the sea.

Several days later, as the harbor was built, Xu Qing no longer accepted missions. Instead, he transmitted his voice to Old Master Seventh.

"Master, I want to understand why some of the Alliance's heaven's chosens are stuck at the four fires and aren't advancing to the Heavenly Palace. Also... I feel that my spells are a little lacking. Master, please enlighten me."

"Come to the mountain." A moment later, Old Master Seventh's voice echoed in Xu Qing's mind.

Xu Qing's spirits were lifted and his eyes revealed anticipation as he headed straight for the mountain.

Among the seven mountain peaks of the Seven Blood Eyes, Old Master Seventh still chose the Seventh Peak to build the Sect Master Hall. Xu Qing had just arrived at the top of the mountain when he saw Ding Xue's aunt, Old Master Seventh's Dao companion, walking out of the Sect Master Hall with anger.

"Greetings, Madam-Master." Xu Qing hurriedly bowed.

Madam-Master stopped in her tracks and looked at Xu Qing, her expression softening.

"Little Fourth, you're quite good. Ding Xue told me that you're serious in your cultivation and your character is even more outstanding. You're very considerate to her. Even though she's willful sometimes, you never refuse her small requests and treat her gently as usual. You're a good child, unlike someone who has lived for so long but hasn't said a gentle word in his life. He deserves to be alone!"

Madam-Master was clearly angry. After saying that, she threw a purple bottle to Xu Qing.

"This is the Thousand Spirit Nourishing Pill. I can't be bothered to give it to your master in person."

With that, Madam-Master left.

Xu Qing had a strange expression on his face. He looked at the medicine bottle in his hand. When he entered the Sect Master Hall, he saw that Old Master Seventh's expression was a little tired but he was still painting on the wall. What he was painting was the map of the Yinghuang Province.

On this map, there was a location that caused Xu Qing's gaze to freeze. That was the main river of the Immortal Enrichment River that was extremely far away on the other side of the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain.

Over there, Old Master Seventh drew a person sitting cross-legged and meditating!

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[Outside Of Time](#)

Chapter 373: Old Master Seventh Imparts Techniques

Other than Old Master Seventh, who was painting, Xu Qing was the only one in the hall.

The servant wasn't around.

"Are you curious why I drew a meditating person on the Nanyue Ghost Mountain?"

Old Master Seventh looked at Xu Qing.

Xu Qing nodded.

"This place is the key to the Yinghuang Province. When you reach four fires, I'll bring you there. That place might be your place of fortune."

Old Master Seventh didn't explain too much. His gaze landed on the medicine bottle in Xu Qing's hand. With a wave of his hand, the medicine bottle flew to his hand. He took a sip and put it away before sitting at the side of the chessboard.

"Come and sit." Old Master Seventh waved at Xu Qing.

Xu Qing obediently moved closer and sat on the other side of the chessboard.

"Do you know how to play chess?" Old Master Seventh asked.

Xu Qing shook his head.

"I'll teach you." Old Master Seventh picked up a chess piece and placed it in a corner of the chessboard. Xu Qing thought about it and also placed the chess piece in another corner.

"Chess is like life. It's also a manifestation of a person's temperament. For example, I've never lost in chess in my life. Do you know why?" Old Master Seventh placed another piece and calmly spoke.

Xu Qing shook his head and put down a piece as well.

"I play my chess piece not by looking at the current situation, but the whole situation. Many people actually know this and want to do it. However, they often don't have enough opportunities and aptitude, so they can't do it. They can only leave with regrets."

"The reason why those 120 magic aperture disciples from the seven sects are staying at the four fires is because they have the mind to see the whole situation."

"They want to open the 121st magic aperture!" Old Master Seventh placed his chess piece and said softly.

Xu Qing fell into deep thought. This was similar to his judgment after sensing 120 magic apertures when he was at the Foundation Building realm. At that time, he felt that there might still be more magic apertures after 120.

Old Master Seventh seemed to have seen through Xu Qing's thoughts and smiled.

"After 120 magic apertures, there's only one magic aperture. Just this one 121st aperture can form a life fire. However, the difficulty of opening it is so great that it exceeds imagination. It can only be obtained by a great opportunity. Moreover, outsiders can't help. You can only rely on yourself."

"As for the difficulty, it's not in opening it but finding its location."

"In the history of the Yinghuang Province, those who opened the 121st magic aperture experienced great danger. At the instant of life and death, they found the location of the 121st magic aperture and

opened it. Moreover, according to records and deductions, the location of 121st magic aperture is different in everyone, so there's no point in referencing the past records."

Xu Qing remained silent. After a long time, he put down the chess piece and spoke softly.

"Master, what are the benefits of five fires?"

"The benefits will be displayed at the moment you advance to the Heavenly Palace Golden Core." Old Master Seventh smiled.

"You should have heard of this saying 'Igniting the life fires, illuminating the Heavenly Palace'. The Heavenly Palace here... is the key to the Golden Core."

"The Golden Core cultivators have their own limits. This limit is reflected by their life fires. Three fires illuminate six palaces. This is the ultimate limit of disciples with passable aptitude."

"In other words, those with three balls of life fire can illuminate six Heavenly Palaces. After they are completely nurtured and illuminated, and their Golden Core is put in, they will be at their peak state. However, in reality, this is only the base." Old Master Seventh paused for a moment as he waited for Xu Qing to digest it.

Xu Qing fell into deep thought and asked.

"Thirty-six fire combat strength?"

"You can think of it that way." Old Master Seventh nodded.

"The reason why it's called the base is because there's life fog above the six palaces and some Heavenly Palaces in the life fog. Because of the fog, it's difficult for even outstanding talents to illuminate the Heavenly Palace in the fog. Only four fires can illuminate the Seventh Palace."

"Don't look at just one additional palace. Seven palaces suppressing six palaces is the same as you suppressing five fires with your six fires strength."

"Therefore, those cultivators who already possess four fires desire to open the 121st magic aperture and form five fires. This is because five fires can illuminate eight palaces. The higher the limit, the greater their achievements in the end!"

Old Master Seventh's voice rang in Xu Qing's ears. After Xu Qing silently pondered, he nodded.

"As for the life lantern, you might have experienced it yourself. In reality, its value can't be displayed much at the Foundation Building realm. Only at Golden Core can some of its abilities be displayed."

"The moment someone with a life lantern breaks through and steps into the Golden Core realm, the life lantern can directly open a Heavenly Palace in the life fog. There's no need to nurture it or slowly temper it. It will be instantly opened. The life lantern will transform into a life core that is similar to a Golden Core and will stay in it."

"With your aptitude, if you reach the limit and open 121 magic apertures, you will have ten Heavenly Palaces!" Old Master Seventh cast a deep glance at Xu Qing.

"Now, do you know the value of the life lantern to Golden Core cultivators?"

Xu Qing's expression changed slightly. After hearing so much from Old Master Seventh, this was the only time his expression changed. In reality, he had made some analysis and had some guesses previously. Now that they were confirmed by Old Master Seventh, he became even more solemn.

An intense sense of danger rose in his heart. This sense of danger naturally didn't come from Old Master Seventh but from unknown malice that all the Golden Core cultivators he would encounter in the future would have toward him.

"Are you afraid?" Old Master Seventh smiled.

"I'm afraid," Xu Qing said honestly.

"Then what are you going to do?" Old Master Seventh asked with interest.

Xu Qing took a deep breath and slowly calmed down. This matter couldn't be changed. If he wanted to avoid it, he could only form the fourth life fire as soon as possible and do his best to form the fifth life fire. If he couldn't do it, he wouldn't force it. He had to break through to the Golden Core Realm as soon as possible.

Once he broke through to the Golden Core realm, he would instantly possess two complete Heavenly Palaces. Only then would he be able to barely handle the situation along with his poison.

However, Xu Qing felt that these thoughts were only long-term plans. He fell silent and secretly glanced at Old Master Seventh. He recalled that after his battle with Saintly Star, Old Master Seventh had reprimanded him for not bringing the seniors brother and sister. Hence, he spoke softly.

"Master, save me."

Old Master Seventh laughed. He was very satisfied with this answer and pointed at the top of Xu Qing's head.

"Don't refuse to wear the Purple Heaven Infinite Crown I gave you earlier. That's the Nascent Soul protection that I am giving you!" As he spoke, Old Master Seventh waved his hand and five balls of light flew out of his sleeve. He flicked one of the balls of light and it dissipated into a jade slip that flew toward Xu Qing.

"The usage method is included in it. You can ponder over it later."

Xu Qing took it and his heart raced as he looked at the other four balls of light.

Old Master Seventh flicked again and the second ball of light rapidly approached Xu Qing. After Xu Qing grabbed it, the light dissipated and transformed into a palm-sized rag doll.

This rag doll was like a living creature. Its eyes instantly darted around before it stared fixedly at Xu Qing. It opened its mouth, revealing sharp teeth as it struggled in Xu Qing's hand, as though it was dissatisfied that it had been grabbed.

"This is a Life Substituting Ghost Baby. It's considered an extremely bizarre creature. It was born with three lives. After you form a blood bond with it, it can help you block three deaths. It's fine if you're in the sect, but remember to bring it with you when you go out."

Xu Qing's heart thumped wildly as he grabbed this Life Substituting Ghost Baby tightly. Perhaps it was because he grabbed too tightly, the ghost baby let out a cry and its struggle became increasingly intense.

Xu Qing didn't bother with it. He looked at the other three balls of light. The three balls of light were reflected in his pupils, it was unknown if the light were dazzling or Xu Qing's eyes were shining.

In short, it was very bright.

Old Master Seventh was in a good mood and smiled.

"It's difficult to impart an emperor-level cultivation art to outsiders and I can't teach you either. You have to figure out how to advance yourself. I can only tell you that once an emperor-level cultivation art advances, its might will be even more terrifying. The fastest way to advance it is to devour the essence, qi, and spirit refined by others' emperor-level cultivation arts. Of course... if it's of cultivators who cultivate the same emperor-level cultivation art, the effect will be the best."

Xu Qing's eyes narrowed.

"You're too weak now and the Alliance Leader isn't narrow minded. You have to weigh the Seven Blood Eyes' background and the benefits you will obtain by making a move. Therefore, you still don't have to worry about this threat."

Xu Qing nodded. The image of Saintly Star's Miemeng appeared in his mind and he suddenly yearned for more. After that, he looked eagerly at the three balls of light beside Old Master Seventh.

"Saintly Star said that your weakness is your lack of spells and techniques. It was because you didn't have a master then. Every one of my disciples' cultivation arts and divine arts are different. I specially collected, organized, chose, and custom-made the arts for them."

As Old Master Seventh spoke, he flicked the third ball of light toward Xu Qing.

This light wasn't a material object but a mark that landed between Xu Qing's brows and directly imprinted itself in his mind. It transformed into waves of bell-like sounds that echoed in his sea of consciousness.

At the same time, Old Master Seventh's voice seemed to be synchronized with the voice in Xu Qing's mind.

"The first technique I'm imparting to you is a spell called the Nine-Layers Howling Sea. This spell transforms into the sea and the power of each wave continues to increase, finally forming a terrifying tsunami."

Xu Qing drew in a deep breath as a strange glint appeared in his eyes. Scenes of this spell appeared in his mind.

The scene was incomparably vast. With a wave of the hand, the sea manifested and waves rose. They contained the power of the furious sea and swept through everything.

"The second technique I'll impart to you is a bizarre art called... the Mystic Nether Curse!" Old Master Seventh waved his hand and the fourth light transformed into a mark that also imprinted itself between Xu Qing's brows.

This time around, what formed wasn't a rumbling sound but a sinister cold wind that blew into every inch of Xu Qing's flesh and blood, causing his breath to turn into fog.

In Xu Qing's perception, he seemed to see an extremely withered finger that carried endless strangeness stretching out from a huge black vortex, suppressing and killing everything.

"This Mystic Nether Curse was created after I studied the Mystic Nether Finger and combined it with other knowledge."

"And the last thing I am teaching you... isn't a spell or a bizarre art, but a secret technique of mine!"

"I saw that you like to use your fists in battle. This secret technique is extremely suitable for you. It's called Under the Nine Springs."

"After it's unleashed, as long as someone is hit by your eight punches, your ninth punch will definitely shatter one of their magic apertures. Even the Golden Core needs the light of life fire and the power of the magic apertures. This is their foundation!"

"This method is extremely domineering and sinister. You have to use it carefully."

"Once it's used, shattering a person's foundation isn't a problem. However, if they are still alive in the end and spread this matter, it won't be easy for you to use this method to scheme against others in the future. This is the important point."

Old Master Seventh spoke softly. With a flick of his right hand, the fifth ball of light headed straight for Xu Qing's forehead.

"Up until now, no one knows that I use this secret technique."

"I have only imparted it to you. This isn't being biased but your three senior brothers and sister have different styles."

"So, you have to use it carefully."

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[Outside Of Time](#)

Chapter 374: Sword Holder

Xu Qing left the Sect Master Hall.

The instant he walked out of the Sect Master Hall, he immediately took out the Purple Heaven Infinite Crown from his storage bag and wore it.

Previously, he only felt that this item wasn't ordinary and even the captain was envious. Now that he knew its uses and understood how to use it, Xu Qing didn't want to wait any longer. After putting it on, he immediately performed a series of hand seals. Immediately, this very dazzling Purple Heaven Infinite Crown slowly dimmed and in the end, it became invisible.

Even his divine sense couldn't sense it.

Xu Qing was satisfied.

He returned to his residence. As a highness, he had a cave abode on the Seventh Peak. However, Xu Qing was used to living on the sea. Although he no longer had a magic ship, he still temporarily stayed in a guesthouse in the port area.

He was waiting for Zhang San to finish his work.

After returning to the guest house, Xu Qing first checked the arrangements in the surroundings. After confirming that no one had arrived during the time he was away, he sat down and familiarized himself with the three techniques Old Master Seventh had taught him.

"The spell is very powerful. I need to be familiar with it to use it properly."

"It's the same for the bizarre art. I have to find a place with no one around and give it a try."

"As for the secret technique..." Xu Qing sensed the imprint in his mind and a strange glint flashed in his eyes. This technique was extremely terrifying. He had never heard of the existence of a secret technique before.

"I wonder if there were any secret techniques among the spells Saintly Star displayed when he fought with me." Xu Qing recalled and felt that there was a high chance that there weren't any. Even if there were, it couldn't be compared to this Under the Nine Springs.

"Nine punches to shatter a magic aperture. This secret technique is most useful when the enemy is evenly matched."

At the thought of this, Xu Qing tried his best to imitate it in his mind. A day later, other than studying and nurturing the three techniques in his mind, Xu Qing also dripped a drop of his blood on the Life Substituting Ghost Baby.

The moment it landed, the rolling eyes of the ghost baby suddenly paused. It slowly yawned and fell into a deep sleep.

Xu Qing carefully kept it close to his body. An incomparable sense of satisfaction surged in his mind. After that, he fell into deep thought.

"The protection of the Infinite Crown can already block most life-and-death crises for me. Even then, it is only the first level of protection. If I encounter a huge danger that can destroy the Infinite Crown, I have the Life Substituting Ghost Baby. This is the second level."

"However, this is still not enough." Xu Qing thought about it and stood up. He then changed into ordinary clothes and left the Seven Blood Eyes' city to head to the adjacent Heavenly Treasure Sect's city area.

After searching there, Xu Qing finally found what he wanted.

Disorder teleportation talisman.

This item couldn't be bought in the Seven Blood Eyes but the Alliance had it, especially in some large shops of the Heavenly Treasure Sect. However, the price was extremely high.

Xu Qing endured his heartache and bought three.

"The first level of danger, the Infinite Crown, will block most crises. The second level, Life Substituting Ghost Baby. If I face an irresistible force, the moment the ghost baby dies in my place, the disorder teleportation talisman might produce a miraculous effect."

After buying the talismans, Xu Qing returned to the Seven Blood Eyes' city. He walked on the streets and looked at the buildings that had been built on a large scale in the surroundings. Xu Qing was deeply impressed by the construction speed of the Seven Blood Eyes. Just as he was walking around, he received a voice transmission from Zhang San.

"Xu Qing, I've finished my sect mission here. Come over when you're free. The captain and Huang Yan are also here. Also, someone left a letter for you and asked me to pass it to you."

Xu Qing was curious when he heard this. Hence, he changed his direction and went to the new location of the Transportation Department where Zhang San was. When he arrived, he saw over a hundred huge warehouses there from afar. Compared to the Seven Blood Eyes' Transportation Department, their scale was much larger.

Zhang San was still squatting on the goods. The captain was also squatting there and eating an apple. In front of them was Huang Yan, who was carefully reminding Zhang San.

Huang Yan was holding the merfolk lantern he had bought from Xu Qing.

They were all familiar faces.

When the three of them saw Xu Qing, they waved at him.

The captain chuckled, Zhang San's eyes gleamed, and Huang Yan patted his stomach. His gaze swept across Xu Qing and a satisfied smile appeared on his face.

"Xu Qing, I heard that you have two life lanterns now. Haha, congratulations." Huang Yan smiled happily.

"I made a calculation. A certain someone took some good stuff from Master a few days ago. Come, come, come. Little Qing, let me take a look. Senior Brother will help you appraise them. Don't be fooled by the old man." The captain coughed and spoke to Xu Qing.

Xu Qing ignored the captain. After he smiled at Huang Yan, his gaze landed on Zhang San and he told him about building the magic ship.

"Destroyed again? Did you see the sense of participation that I designed?" Zhang San wasn't surprised that Xu Qing's magic ship was destroyed. Instead, he asked another question excitedly.

Xu Qing recalled and shook his head.

"This can't be, was the design wrong?" Zhang San was a little depressed. After some thought, he decided to make it easier to activate this time. He then took out a letter from his pocket and handed it to Xu Qing.

"Back then, there was someone called Li Zimei in the same batch as you. Do you remember her? Later on, I transferred her to the Transportation Department. This girl was really hardworking and serious." Zhang San sighed with emotion.

"When the three heaven's chosens from the Grand Affairs Immortal Sect were in the Seven Blood Eyes, they accidentally saw her. Later on, for some reason, they talked to the sect and took her away when they left. They said that her physique is suitable for cultivating the techniques of the Grand Affairs Immortal Sect."

Under the captain's curiosity and Huang Yan's gaze, Xu Qing placed the letter in his storage bag without taking a look. The image of the young girl outside the restaurant who was scolded by the staff because she wanted to pack the food away appeared in his mind. She was so ashamed that her entire body was trembling.

Huang Yan saw that it was getting late, so he reminded Zhang San again.

"Senior Brother Zhang San, you have to help me forge it properly. It's going to be the 3,344th day since Senior Sister and I met. I don't dare to give too expensive an item. Senior Sister will think too much, so I can only give this. Help me transfer the fire in this lantern to the hairpin. I want to give this item to Senior Sister as a gift."

Zhang San patted his chest and ensured that there would be no problem. Huang Yan sighed.

"Sigh, why do you think the Seven Blood Eyes came to this lousy place? Nanhuang Continent is so good, right, Xu Qing? Why don't we return to the Nanhuang Continent? I will persuade Senior Sister to return too."

When Xu Qing heard this, he pondered seriously. The captain also sighed and finished the apple in his hand before taking out a pear.

"Speaking of the Nanhuang Continent, I feel sad. I had a big plan previously and prepared for it for a long time. I didn't hesitate to transfer to the Intelligence Department to find information. I was just on the verge of doing it. Sigh, forget it, forget it. I will just consider that Flame Phoenix's luck is good."

"Your big plan is related to the Flame Phoenix? What did you want to do?" Huang Yan, who was about to leave, was curious.

Xu Qing also looked over.

The captain coughed.

"I originally planned to go to the Flame Phoenix's nest to get something. What a pity, but I have a new plan now."

Huang Yan cast a deep glance at the captain and decided not to leave. It was as though he wanted to see what the captain would say next.

The captain looked around and spoke to Xu Qing and the other two in a low voice.

"Do you know about Sword Holder?"

Zhang San was at a loss, and so was Xu Qing. Back then, Saintly Star had muttered to himself, so this was the first time he was hearing about it. Huang Yan blinked and revealed a blank expression.

The captain glanced at Huang Yan suspiciously. He felt that this fatty's performance was a little wrong but he didn't think too much about it and whispered.

"The Sword Holder is the title of the members of one of the human race's Upper Mystic Five Ministries, the Sword Holding Ministry. Its headquarters is located in the large region of the Imperial Capital. There are seven palaces in seven counties and each palace is divided into several courts. There is a Sword Holding Court in the Yinghuang Province."

"If you can join the Sword Holding Court and become a Sword Holder, you won't be restricted by the sect's laws. As long as you don't betray the human race, it's fine if you betray anything. To put it bluntly, if you become a Sword Holder, you'll be superior to others in the human race. You will be working for the Sovereign and get huge benefits. Although Ancient Sovereign Mystic Nether went to the Holy Land, the sovereign's might still exists. This banner of the human race still has the power to intimidate the foreign races."

"If you become a Sword Holder, you can directly capture whoever you don't like or put them on the wanted list. This is different from the sect's wanted list. This is the human race's wanted list."

"If you don't like Soaring Cloud Ancestor, just make him wanted! If it is a person of foreign race, you can directly kill them and no one would dare to touch you. Touching you is equivalent to killing a government official and losing their head."

"Moreover, after becoming a Sword Holder, one can also cultivate the Mystic Nether's secret magic. It's said that it's very powerful. In the past, someone used the secret magic and almost killed the Flame Phoenix with a single sword strike."

Huang Yan was stunned.

Xu Qing's expression was as calm as ever. He was already used to the captain's deliberately mystifying way of speaking.

Seeing Xu Qing's expression, the captain raised his brows.

"Little Qing, I recently heard that Saintly Star isn't dead. I don't know what secret magic the Soaring Cloud Ancestor used but he seemed to have paid a huge price. The Alliance Leader took action and finally saved him. I'm not sure if there are any hidden damages but I found out that his will didn't collapse. He's in seclusion now and wants to break through to the fifth life fire!"

When Xu Qing heard this, his expression was still calm but a cold glint flashed in his eyes.

"If you become a Sword Holder, you will just have to send an edict and Saintly Star will start trembling!"

"My plan is to become a Sword Holder!" After the captain finished eating the pear, he took out a tangerine, peeled it, and took a bite before speaking.

"This way, when we do big things in the future, I'll punish whoever dares to cripple me again on behalf of the human race."

"How can we become a Sword Holder?" Zhang San was tempted.

"The selection of the Sword Holders is extremely strict. They choose the best of the best and there are only five spots every ten years. Calculating the time, this time's selection isn't far away. The Sword Holding Court is at the Absolute Beginning Separation Pillar. I'll be preparing for it and tell you guys when the time comes." After the captain finished speaking, he stood up and patted his butt before waving at Xu Qing and the other two and left the Transportation Department.

Huang Yan also left. After Xu Qing discussed with Zhang San about the magic ship, he left at sunset.

At the same time, in the Soaring Cloud Sword Sect, in a secret place covered by countless array formations, there was a huge blood pool.

Inhuman cries came from the blood pool. These shrill and pained shouts could be heard day and night.

There were eight huge ancient swords erected around the blood pool.

On each ancient sword, there was a person sitting cross-legged. There were men and women and they didn't look young. Their cultivation bases emitted the energy fluctuations of Nascent Souls.

They worked together to activate the ancient swords, causing the swords to emit streams of sword qi that transformed into a net of sword qi that suppressed the blood pool. On the large net, there was a huge Golden Crow phantom that was absorbing the blood pool.

An old man floated at the side. He was the Soaring Cloud Ancestor.

He looked at the blood pool below. His expression was ugly but at the same time, his heart ached as he muttered softly.

"Grandson, hold on a little longer. The poison that that b*stard poisoned you with is quite special. Grandpa has tried his best but it's useless. Even maintaining your vitality has reached my limit. Only by borrowing the phantom of the Alliance Leader's emperor-level cultivation art and infusing dense vitality in your body, causing it to vaporize the poison at all times, can the poison in your body be balanced."

"However, because of this, it can be seen that the fortune that that commoner experienced isn't small. Grandson, your name Saintly Star represents light. You were born with a natural phenomenon and are destined to walk the path of the ancient sovereign. You can't give up. You have to persevere and take back the glory that belongs to you. Everything he has will belong to you!"

There was a skeleton-like person in the blood pool. Less than 30% of its flesh and skin were left. Its wails became increasingly inhuman, but there was madness in its eyes.

"Xu Qing, I will kill you!!"

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[Outside Of Time](#)

Chapter 375: The Youth Under the Mask (1)

The main city of the Seven Blood Eyes was finally completed.

Following the waves after waves of teleportation, although the population of the entire city wasn't as high as in the Nanhuan Continent, there were a large number of disciples from the other 137 sects of the Alliance. They were naturally very interested in the new city.

Regardless of whether they were here to do business, shop, or make friends, this new main city was bustling and lively.

There were also adjustments to the members of the various departments. Huang Yan was still in the Pilotage Department.

His beloved Second Senior Sister held the deputy post of the Patrol Department. This was also in line with Second Senior Sister's personality. With her around, the criminals would be intimidated to a certain extent.

There were also some departments that were synchronized with the other sects of the Alliance.

For example, the Commerce Department.

Other than the strength of the higher-ups and Taboo magic treasures, there was another very important factor that determined the strength of a faction. That was wealth.

This principle was common no matter where it was.

The appearance of the Commerce Department was only logical. It was in charge of the entire Seven Blood Eyes' internal and foreign businesses. Old Master Seventh had personally appointed his third disciple as the deputy head of this department.

As for Xu Qing and the captain, Old Master Seventh knew that the two of them had a good relationship, so he sent them together to the most important department after the Seven Blood Eyes merged into the Alliance.

Special Security Department.

This name was a little different from the customs of the Nanhuan Continent. It was filled with the flavor of the Alliance. Its full name was Special Security and Protection Administrative Office.

This Special Security Department wasn't only in the Seven Blood Eyes. The other seven sects also had it. It was a single entity and needed to be allocated by the headquarters. There were a lot of things that they were responsible for, be it internally or externally. The Department Director was Lord Sixth.

One of the deputy directors was the captain, and the other was Xu Qing.

Lord Sixth usually didn't care about the department affairs. His authority was delegated and completely handed over to Xu Qing and the captain.

The location of the department was also built near the eight bridges. Overall, it looked like a triangle with a hundred or so buildings inside. Each building was independent with a small courtyard but was also integrated with the department's structure.

There were also several small departments. More than 3,000 disciples from the various peaks of the Seven Blood Eyes were arranged to take up positions here. Half of them were former members of the Homicide Department, and the little mute was among them.

On the way here after receiving the appointment, Xu Qing thought of how he was going to be in the same department as the captain again. Hence, he bought some apples from a fruit stall on the way.

When he continued forward and passed by a newly opened immortal pool, he even saw an acquaintance.

It was Xu Xiaohui.

After noticing Xu Qing, Xu Xiaohui greeted him happily and even gave him a jade slip.

"Senior Brother Xu, this immortal pool is a side business I opened with a good friend. You can come over when you're free. Take this jade slip. There's no charge."

Xu Qing nodded. His gaze then landed on the other woman behind Xu Xiaohui. That was her informant.

Xu Qing was the one who asked his informant to pay for Xu Xiaohui's shop.

In this world, Xu Qing felt that very few people knew how to repay kindness. Although Xu Xiaohui's cultivation and aptitude were poor, her character had good points. He felt that if he could help, he would do so.

Hence, after receiving the jade slip, Xu Qing left and arrived at the entrance of the Special Security Department.

"Greetings, Director!"

The members of the Special Security Department at the door greeted respectfully with fanaticism in their eyes. They were all former members of the Homicide Department.

Xu Qing nodded and walked into the Special Security Department. On the way, he saw many familiar faces. He even saw Ding Xiaohai.

Ding Xiaohai, who had wanted to become a core disciple back then and had successfully obtained it after the competition on the merfolk islands and advanced to the Foundation Building realm, revealed a complicated expression the moment he saw Xu Qing.

He looked at Xu Qing and lowered his head, bowing deeply.

"Greetings, Director."

Xu Qing glanced at Ding Xiaohai. The other party's aptitude was indeed extraordinary. Now, he already had a ball of life fire and had opened about 40 magic apertures. It wasn't easy to do this in a few years.

However, Xu Qing didn't like him. When he saw this person, Xu Qing thought of Zhou Qingpeng. However, everyone had their own way of living. Hence, he retracted his gaze and walked into the distance.

Ding Xiaohai fell silent. He looked at the departing Xu Qing and sighed inwardly. He knew about Zhou Qingpeng but he didn't feel that he had done anything wrong.

In this chaotic world, the first thing everyone had to consider was naturally themselves.

Xu Qing went all the way to the center of the Special Security Department and saw the captain there.

The captain was constantly checking the dossiers. From time to time, he would issue decrees and arrange for the branches of the department to deal with various things. He looked very busy.

Seeing this scene, Xu Qing felt that the captain was actually very suitable for doing these jobs. He took out the bag of apples he had bought on the way and placed it on the captain's table. He then sat down at the side and closed his eyes to cultivate.

A long time later, the captain lifted his head and took a bite of the apple. He glanced at Xu Qing, who was cultivating, and felt unhappy. He was prepared to make Xu Qing do the few most difficult things. He let out a cough.

"Deputy Xu!"

Xu Qing opened his eyes.

"Eldest Senior Brother, do you still want more apples?" As Xu Qing spoke, he took out two more and placed them on the table.

The captain looked at the apples and then at Xu Qing. His expression became solemn.

"Don't give me that. Little Qing, you've learned bad things!"

Xu Qing thought about it and took out a jade slip, placing it on the table.

"What is this?" The captain was surprised.

Outside Of Time

Chapter 376: The Youth Under the Mask (2)

"On the way here, I saw an immortal pool opened nearby. I thought of how Eldest Senior Brother liked to soak in the pool, so I applied for this jade slip that can give you a 20% discount." Xu Qing looked into the captain's eyes and said seriously.

When the captain heard this, a smile appeared on his face and the dissatisfaction instantly disappeared.

He felt very comfortable.

He felt that although Xu Qing had learned bad things, it also meant that he was more sensible and knew how to curry favor with his senior brother. Hence, he couldn't pettily allocate the most difficult tasks to his junior brother.

"Forget it. There are too many things to do in this Special Security Department. I originally planned to let you deal with the conflicts with the other sects of the Alliance, but with your personality, you will probably just kill them. I guess I will handle it."

"You'll be in charge of the transfer of benefits and rights between the sect and the Alliance. This is a leisurely task." As he spoke, the captain flipped through the dossiers and took out one, handing it to Xu Qing.

"Urge and safeguard the transfer of authority of the alliance's array formation and connect to my Seven Blood Eyes' array formation. The people from the Third Peak have communicated with them many times about this, but the Alliance's Array Formation Department has been delaying it."

Xu Qing took the dossier. He indeed didn't want to spend time on these things and wanted time to study poison.

Xu Qing held the dossier and was about to leave when the captain spoke.

"Also, there's a notice from the Alliance Headquarters that it'll be our turn to patrol the river soon. The eight sects take turns for this river patrol mission. At that time, if there are no problems, we can slip away."

Xu Qing nodded and left the department.

He wasn't alone. He brought a hundred department members and the disciples in charge of array formations from the Third Peak and headed straight for the Alliance's Array Formation Department located in the Great Expansion Dao Palace.

On the way, he asked the disciples of the Third Peak about the reason for the delay.

"Senior Brother Xu, this matter was already discussed by the higher-ups. However, the people below are dragging their feet, especially the people from the Soaring Cloud Sword Sect. They didn't even arrive many times, so the handover couldn't be completed."

The disciple in charge of this sighed.

"Soaring Cloud Sword Sect?" Xu Qing narrowed his eyes. Very soon, they arrived at the Array Formation Department.

Xu Qing submitted the dossier and waited for a long time before he saw the people in charge of array formations from the other sects slowly arriving. However, after seeing Xu Qing's figure, the expressions of these people changed and their footsteps clearly quickened.

"We greet Senior Brother Xu Qing!"

"Senior Brother Xu Qing, we didn't know you were here and made you wait. Otherwise, we would have rushed over quickly."

Xu Qing's reputation was now extremely great in the Eight Sects Alliance and his name was filled with deterrence. However, he didn't reprimand them. Instead, his gaze swept across the disciples of these sects and saw that the Soaring Cloud Sword Sect was missing.

The transfer of authority of the array formation required the other seven sects to arrive together. If any one of them was missing, the transfer would keep on being delayed.

"Senior Brother Xu, if the Soaring Cloud Sword Sect doesn't come, we probably won't be able to continue today too..." Because the Spirit Dawn Valley and the Heavenly Treasure Sect's ancestors were on good terms with Xue Lianzi, the relationship between the three sects was very harmonious. At this moment, the Spirit Dawn Valley's female disciple in charge of this matter spoke softly. Her beautiful eyes looked at Xu Qing's face brightly.

Xu Qing nodded and summoned a team member beside him, handing him a jade slip.

"Send this item to the Soaring Cloud Sword Sect and give it to Chu Yunfeng. Tell him to finish this matter as soon as possible. Otherwise, I'll go and ask him to settle the account after today."

Chu Yunfeng was the person who claimed to be Saintly Star's Junior Brother and had been suppressed by Xu Qing in the Seven Blood Eyes.

After giving the instructions, Xu Qing sat cross-legged at the side and waited silently. The others also saw this and looked at each other, and decided to wait.

Very soon, this jade slip reached Chu Yunfeng in the Soaring Cloud Sword Sect. The moment he saw the jade slip, Chu Yunfeng's eyes turned red.

"Poison Demon Xu Qing, you're going too far!"

"You want me to work for you with just a jade slip? Dream on!"

Chu Yunfeng snorted coldly and threw the jade slip to the side, ignoring it. However, an hour later, he still opened his eyes and looked at the sky outside. The day... was about to pass.

He sent a voice transmission to the Array Formation Department of the Soaring Cloud Sword Sect with grievance and berated them.

As one of the heaven's chosen of the Soaring Cloud Sword Sect, his words had some might. Very soon, the disciples of the Soaring Cloud Sword Sect's Array Formation Department arrived at the headquarters with ashen faces.

The transfer of authority of the array formation proceeded smoothly.

By the time this matter was dealt with, it was already dusk.

The dusk today was a little different from usual. The sky was covered in red clouds that looked like they were on fire. It was beautiful but also revealed a hint of blood. It was as though someone had used blood to paint in the sky to perform for the gods.

Xu Qing walked on the road illuminated by the red clouds. On the way back to the Seven Blood Eyes' main city, he looked at the red clouds in the sky. For some reason, he recalled the dream he had that night before he came to the Wanggu Continent.

At the same time, in the Yinghuang Province, far away from the Eight Sects Alliance, in the direction of the Absolute Beginning Separation Pillar, there was a swamp.

Although the surroundings weren't a forbidden zone, it was still filled with dense anomalous substances. It could be considered a place of death.

In the center of the swamp was a depression with a lot of water. There was a stone forest here and pieces of long black rocks rose from the swamp's water.

The red glow in the distant sky shone on the surface of the water, causing this place to be dyed red.

There were also two figures who were dyed red.

One of these two figures was kneeling and the other was sitting at the edge of the tallest rock. One of his legs was hanging down and the other was on the stone. His body was leaning back and he supported himself with one hand as he looked at the red clouds in the sky.

The two of them were wearing masks. The pattern of this mask was shocking. It was half of the god's face in the sky!

However, the eyes weren't closed but opened.

At the locations of the eyes were these two people's gazes.

"Lord, I've already given up on the Night Dove Organization in the Nanhuang Continent according to your instructions. I got them to go to the Seven Blood Eyes and used Seven Blood Eyes to get them killed."

"Bai Li's death is also related to the Seven Blood Eyes. He died at the hands of the Sixth Peak's Peak Lord."

The person kneeling spoke in a low voice.

His voice was filled with respect and his eyes were filled with fanaticism. Even though he was the leader of Night Dove, with just a word from the other party, he gave up on Night Dove members and huge benefits. He could die for the person sitting on the rock in front of him.

"There are also two small fries who participated in that battle. This subordinate has recorded the scene."

"After the Seven Blood Eyes joined the alliance and the Seven Sects Alliance changed to the Eight Sects Alliance, someone in the alliance contacted me and said that he wanted to join Illuminate. He also invited us to go over and watch his blood performance. He said that this performance will definitely make us hold him in high regards."

After Night Dove spoke, the place fell silent.

After a long time, the person who was looking at the sky slowly turned his head in the direction of the Forbidden Sea where the Alliance was located and let out an elusive laugh.

"Then let's go take a look. We can also give the Seven Blood Eyes a meeting gift."

The person who spoke should be a youth. His voice sounded very young and didn't have the slightest hint of age.

Night Dove's figure was blurry, as though he had transformed into a secret treasure that hid in the void and disappeared from this place.

After a long time, the red glow in the sky gradually faded. When the bright moon appeared in the sky, the youth who was looking at the sky looked at the increasingly clear bright moon and muttered softly.

"The sect my brother is in... I haven't seen you in eleven years, right? This is the fetter of this life."

The youth chuckled meaningfully.

[Outside Of Time](#)

Chapter 377: Purple Mystic Fairy

Xu Qing walked on the eighth bridge that led to the Seven Blood Eyes. Under the bridge was a river with dense immortal Qi flowing past.

The red glow on the bridge gradually faded.

Xu Qing looked at the slowly approaching night sky and the bright moon. He gradually retracted his gaze and walked back to the Seven Blood Eyes' main city to visit Zhang San.

On the way back, he received Zhang San's voice transmission, informing him that the magic ship had been built.

Xu Qing wasn't used to living without a magic ship. Hence, even though night had fallen, he still went to look for Zhang San immediately.

In the courtyard of Zhang San's Transportation Department, Xu Qing saw his magic ship.

The 6,000-foot-long ship was a shocking sight. It looked similar but also different from before. The difference was more reflected at the bow and stern.

The bow of the ship was no longer a sea lizard but a huge face with no facial features, like a black iron mask.

As for the stern part, it was obvious that the huge ship that the Seven Blood Eyes had set sail in had given Zhang San inspiration as he designed nine tails.

Although they were much smaller, each of the tails was filled with array formations and possessed different powers.

The eight sails were also increased to 16. Not only were there more, but they were also larger.

"Xu Qing, your magic ship has already reached the limit of the magic ship level. It's basically a half-step magic warship."

"All the techniques I researched were used on this. Not only does it have the ability to move underwater, but it can also be stored as a mask." Zhang San stood on the magic ship. Although he looked tired, his tone was still arrogant.

Xu Qing solemnly cupped his fists and bowed deeply to Zhang San.

"Although the expenditure this time is incomparably huge, the profits from the Nanhuang Continent's port are enough to support it."

"Other than that, I also specially developed the power of self-destruction for it. To be honest with you, my focus was on how to increase its might after it self-destructs."

"After my adjustments, your magic ship can withstand many self-destructions. There are a total of three layers of hull inside for you to self-destruct a few times." As Zhang San spoke, he glanced at Xu Qing.

When Xu Qing heard this, he listened even more seriously.

"There's quite a lot of divinity in it and it's filled with a good power source. Once it's fully activated, ordinary three-fire combat strength won't be able to destroy it at all."

"The only thing it lacks now is a soul, so I left the faceless mask bow."

"As for souls, there's already an introduction in the sect's cultivation art. I know that you cultivate the Fiendish Fire Soul Devouring Art. I also cultivate it. Do you still remember the description in the cultivation art that when cultivated to the large success stage, it can suppress a wisp of the enemy's soul in every magic aperture?"

"After reaching large success, when you suppress the enemy souls in all of your magic apertures, you can gather them together and transfer them into the magic ship, forming the soul and advancing it to a magic warship!"

Zhang San's eyes gleamed intensely.

"This is the first ship I built that's infinitely close to a magic warship. Xu Qing, when you detonate it later, remember to pick up some debris when you clean up the battlefield. Don't just discard them. If you bring them back, I'll be able to better understand my shortcomings." Zhang San looked at Xu Qing.

Xu Qing was also shocked by the magic ship Zhang San had made. When he heard this, he nodded heavily. He felt that what Zhang San said made sense, so he communicated with Zhang San about the details and bade farewell.

After watching Xu Qing leave, Zhang San yawned. Exhaustion surfaced on his face even more. During this period of time, in order to build Xu Qing's magic ship, he didn't rest much.

On one hand, it was because of their friendship. On the other hand, Zhang San's heart was itching. He really hoped that the magic ship he built would reveal the sense of participation he had designed after Xu Qing detonated the ship.

"Last time, it was because my techniques weren't mature enough. It won't be the same this time." Zhang San was smug. He smoked his pipe as he went back to rest.

Xu Qing left in satisfaction. He felt that Zhang San shouldn't be in the Transportation Department. His skills had already reached a considerable level.

However, it was obvious that Zhang San was very satisfied with his current life. Although his cultivation progress was slow, Xu Qing could sense Zhang San's satisfaction. It was as though to him, as long as Xu Qing and the captain became stronger and stronger, he would have nothing to worry about.

"If there's a chance, I will repay you heavily!"

Xu Qing mumbled and went to the port.

He had already chosen a berth for himself during the early stages of the new city's construction. After he put down the magic ship, Xu Qing stepped onto it with a sway of his body and activated the concealment before entering the cabin.

Looking at his surroundings, everything was no different from the magic ship from before.

Xu Qing sat down. As the boat swayed slightly, his heart slowly calmed down from the influence of the dream.

He meditated for a long time until late at night and ended the day's cultivation. He checked the batch of little black bugs that had eaten the immortal jelly and discovered that they were still sleeping. He then began to study the spell and arts Old Master Seventh had taught him.

Xu Qing was very serious and hardworking when it came to cultivation.

Just like that, time flowed by and very soon, three days passed.

During these three days, Xu Qing didn't leave the magic ship or go to the Special Security Department. He was completely immersed in his cultivation and research of cultivation techniques. His 102nd magic aperture also began to loosen.

On the third night, Xu Qing, who was meditating, slowly opened his eyes. He helplessly stood up and walked out of the cabin, looking out of the ship in the night.

The captain was squatting there and throwing an apple at Xu Qing's magic ship.

Because of the protective barrier and the captain's strange power, the apple didn't shatter when it came into contact with the protective barrier but bounced back.

After it landed in his hand, he took a bite and threw it out again, looking very amused. After noticing Xu Qing walking out, the captain waved his hand.

"Little Qing, are you busy tonight?"

Xu Qing glanced at the half-eaten apple in the captain's hand and nodded.

"Yes."

"It's good that you're free. Come with me to do a small thing. I've been short of money recently and plan to sell that Idiot Huang's finger to him. We've already discussed it and he is going to get money. The transaction will be tonight," the captain said in a low voice.

"Come with me. I accompanied you when you returned to your hometown some time ago." The captain coughed.

Xu Qing walked out of the magic ship and asked after reaching the shore.

"Where are you going to do the transaction?"

"At the base of the Mystic Nether Sect's mountain." When the captain saw that Xu Qing had agreed, he stood up happily and gave Xu Qing an apple. He then put his arm around Xu Qing's shoulder and spoke mysteriously.

"Little Qing, you are really my good brother. When Old Third heard my words, he instantly ran away. Don't worry, Eldest Senior Brother dotes on you. I've been thinking about a big plan recently. When the time comes, we'll go together."

"Aren't you afraid that this is a trap?" Xu Qing asked.

The captain's eyes revealed excitement as he whispered.

"I'm looking forward to it."

"Besides, since you are coming with me, if something really happens, the old man will definitely come. If it's just me, he probably won't be bothered." The captain blinked.

Xu Qing cast a deep glance at the captain and nodded.

Very soon, the two of them took advantage of the darkness and left the port, heading straight for the city area of the Mystic Nether Sect. They moved very fast. At midnight, they arrived at the base of the mountain where the captain and Huang Yikun had agreed to meet.

There was a pavilion there and not far away was the Mystic Nether Sect's mountain.

In the darkness, the mountain of the Mystic Nether Sect seemed to tower into the clouds. Although there were lights here and there, it was still pitch-black overall. There was a statue at the top of the mountain. Against the backdrop of the moon, the outline of the statue was very clear.

It was a statue of the Ancient Sovereign Mystic Nether. It stood on the mountain peak and looked in the direction of the Forbidden Sea.

Even though there was some distance, Xu Qing could still sense the terrifying pressure emitted by the statue. Clearly, this item was extraordinary.

The entire Mystic Nether Sect's mountain gave Xu Qing a feeling of mystery.

After all, the Seventh Peak was a branch of the Mystic Nether Sect back then. Their cultivation arts had common points. The current Alliance Leader was also from the Mystic Nether Sect and was the senior brother of this generation's Mystic Nether Sect's ancestor.

As for the ancestor of this generation, Xu Qing had taken a look at them from afar in the Seven Blood Eyes back then. However, they were covered up and he couldn't see their appearance clearly.

The captain squatted at the side and spoke in a low voice.

"Calculating the time, Idiot Huang should be here soon."

Xu Qing retracted his gaze and waited with the captain.

Time slowly passed. Fifteen minutes passed, but Huang Yikun was still nowhere in sight. The captain frowned. When he took out a jade slip and transmitted his voice to ask, they didn't notice that a figure was moving over in the sky from outside the Alliance.

This figure was extremely fast and silently walked into the Alliance's array formation. With a step, they arrived outside the Mystic Nether Sect's mountain. Just as they were about to step on the mountain, they seemed to have noticed Xu Qing and the captain. This figure paused in the sky and lowered their head to look over.

After this pause, their appearance was revealed.

She was an extremely gorgeous woman.

Her long black hair was draped behind her back and was gently held by a pink ribbon. She wore a purple starry dress that shone brightly. There was fog around her that made her look like a fairy from the heavens.

This woman had a pale-white oval face and a lithe waist. Her two curved brows seemed to be knitted but weren't. Her eyes seemed to be filled with joy but weren't. At first glance, she looked like a young girl, but upon closer inspection, her eyes held extreme depth.

It was as though there was nothing in this world that she didn't know. It was as though with a single action of yours, she would know your intentions. She had experienced all your experiences and the life you never had.

At that moment, her gaze landed at the base of the mountain and on Xu Qing. She chuckled and walked over.

One step in the air and she reached the base of the mountain. As she arrived, an indescribably vast pressure spread out from her body, causing the expressions of Xu Qing and the captain to change drastically. Just as they were about to retreat, a soft voice appeared.

"Don't move."

It was just a sentence but it was like a law. The captain's body trembled and he recognized that the other party was the ancestor of the Mystic Nether Sect, her Daoist name was Purple Mystic Fairy.

Xu Qing didn't know her identity but his mind trembled violently and he couldn't move his body at all. He could only watch as the gorgeous woman ignored the captain and approached him.

That delicate face revealed soul-stirring and mature beauty. The lines of the Dao mark in her eyes flowed out one after another, revealing the meaning of a hunter seeing prey.

Amidst Xu Qing's extreme nervousness, the woman's gaze landed on Xu Qing's eyes and slowly slid down to his mouth, collarbone, chest, and abdomen.

Her gaze was like silk, elegant and slow.

Finally, she lifted Xu Qing's chin and breathed.

"Little kid, we meet again. You came to the Mystic Nether Sect so late at night. Are you lost?"

Outside Of Time

Chapter 378: Amorous

The woman's voice was coquettish with a hint of demonic charm. At first glance, it sounded like an oriole leaving the valley and the cry of a phoenix. It was crisp, clear, and mellow.

It was filled with temptation.

Xu Qing's entire body trembled and his scalp went numb. He couldn't move at all.

He could only let the woman lift his chin. At the same time, he saw the rays of light flowing in the other party's teasing eyes.

He was a little stunned and extremely tense. The surroundings were filled with a strange fragrance.

It was the fragrance of the woman in front of him.

This fragrance caused Xu Qing's heartbeat to race unprecedentedly.

This experience was unprecedented in his life.

It was a life-and-death crisis and also a feeling that he couldn't express clearly. It was as though he had become a delicious snack that was being tasted by someone.

He felt this even more because of the other party's cultivation base and the way she was looking at him like a hunter looking at their prey.

The captain took a deep breath.

'Huang Yikun, you bastard. Isn't it just a Mystic Nether Finger? You actually f*cking called your ancestor!!' The captain's breathing was hurried. However, on second thought, this wasn't right. Even if Huang Yikun was a heaven's chosen, it was impossible for him to make his ancestor personally come and make things difficult for the two of them unless he was like Saintly Star and was the grandson of the ancestor.

However, according to what he knew, this was clearly not the case.

He quickly calmed down and carefully sized up the peerless woman. He noticed the other party's posture and recalled the other party's words just now. His eyes suddenly widened as a bold guess surfaced in his mind, turning into a clap of thunder that rumbled and exploded.

'What the f*ck, what the f*ck, what the f*ck!' The captain quickly closed his eyes and pretended not to see it. However, waves of emotions surged in his mind.

'Little Qing's face... is too fatal!'

At the same time, two figures were rushing over towards the base of the mountain. One of them was Huang Yikun, and the other person looked a little similar to Huang Yikun but older.

The two of them were rapidly approaching this place.

"Brother, you must help me get justice today. They broke all five fingers. They're extremely cruel and infuriating!!" Huang Yikun gritted his teeth as he sped.

"Don't worry. As your big brother... Hmm?"

Beside Huang Yikun was his big brother, Huang Lingfei. He was a Golden Core. As they neared the base, he was halfway through his sentence when his eyes suddenly widened.

His footsteps instantly stopped as he looked at the scene in the distance in disbelief.

What he saw was his ancestor lifting Xu Qing's chin as though she was flirting with him.

Moreover, the eldest highness of the Seventh Peak had closed his eyes and didn't dare to look at the ancestor and Xu Qing. However, the shock on his face was what Huang Lingfei was feeling right now.

Huang Lingfei gasped. Huang Yikun, who was beside him, clearly reacted a little slower and was still shouting.

"And that Xu Qing, Brother, help me go..."

Their arrival attracted the captain's attention. He opened his eyes and looked over. At the same time, the exceedingly beautiful woman swept her gaze across Xu Qing. She lowered her hand and turned to look at Huang Lingfei and Huang Yikun.

Huang Lingfei's mind rumbled. He suddenly turned around and slapped his younger brother's head, knocking Huang Yikun unconscious.

"Help you my ass!" Huang Lingfei roared inwardly. He thought to himself that there was something wrong with his brother's brain. Otherwise, he wouldn't have been arranged to go to the Seven Blood Eyes previously.

One had to know that none of the others went.

He was the only one who foolishly went.

It was fine if he went and it was fine if he lost his fingers. Now, he almost killed him as well.

Huang Lingfei's mind shook. He couldn't forget the scene he had seen just now. He kept cursing Huang Yikun in his mind, thinking to himself, 'Of all people, why did you provoke the person the ancestor likes?'

"Why are the two of you here?" The gorgeous woman turned and looked at Huang Lingfei.

Huang Lingfei shuddered and didn't hesitate at all. He grabbed Huang Yikun, who had fainted from his slap, and quickly approached. He threw his brother to the ground and knelt down, speaking loudly.

"Ancestor, disciple had an appointment with Xu... Fellow Daoist! It's because my younger brother is insensible and offended Fellow Daoist Xu. I brought him here today to apologize."

Huang Lingfei was extremely nervous. He paused for a moment earlier because he didn't know if he should call Xu Qing Junior Brother or Senior Brother. No matter what he said, it didn't look good. What if the ancestor misunderstood? However, his reaction was also very fast and he quickly thought of the address 'Fellow Daoist'.

After saying that, he looked at Xu Qing with a sincere expression.

"Fellow Daoist Xu Qing, my brother is a fool."

At the side, Huang Yikun was regaining his senses because of the fall and revealed a confused expression. He could faintly hear his brother's voice in the surroundings. However, before he could completely wake up, Huang Lingfei instantly slapped him and he fainted again.

"Fellow Daoist Xu Qing, please don't be offended." Huang Lingfei's forehead was covered in sweat. After saying that, his heart raced and he didn't dare to get up.

The gorgeous woman standing in front of Xu Qing smiled. She didn't say anything and took a step forward, walking into the sky.

At that moment, the moonlight scattered down, complementing her enchanting figure like a blooming violet. When it landed on her snow-white skin, it was as though it had transformed into a heavenly veil.

This caused this mature and beautiful woman to emit peerless magnificence. She paused in the air and turned her head slightly to look at the ground as she chuckled.

"Little friend, you're welcome to come to the Mystic Nether Sect anytime."

She was in the sky, with the moon behind her. Under the illumination of the bright light, it was as though violet and orchids were blooming. Her slender waist and jade ribbons moved in the sky. The scene was like a fairy had come from the nine heavens and looked back with a smile that surpassed the brilliance of the stars.

The laughter was still echoing but she had already left.

As the Mystic Nether Sect's ancestor left, Xu Qing's body instantly regained mobility. He suddenly retreated and panted roughly. He had heard the other party's words and knew the identity of this person who made him feel horror. At this moment, his mind was in turmoil and he couldn't calm down.

The captain at the side was the same.

Huang Lingfei was the same.

The three of them fell silent. Huang Yikun, who had fainted, naturally didn't make any sound.

After a long time, the captain coughed.

"Um... are we still trading?"

Huang Lingfei took a deep breath. At this moment, he had recovered a little from the shock earlier. He quickly shook his head and cupped his fists toward Xu Qing and the captain. He then grabbed his younger brother and hurriedly left this place.

He was extremely worried as he wondered if he had seen something he shouldn't have seen, if he had disturbed the ancestor's good time... At the thought of this, he became even more uneasy.

Xu Qing still had lingering fear. The captain hurriedly called him to leave. It was only when he returned to the main city of the Seven Blood Eyes that the captain let out a long breath of relief.

"How could we encounter the Mystic Nether Sect's ancestor, Purple Mystic Fairy!"

Xu Qing didn't say anything. For some reason, the scene earlier kept appearing in his mind, especially the eyes of Purple Mystic Fairy. This caused Xu Qing's breathing to instinctively become hurried. This was the first time in his life that he felt such an emotion.

"Little Qing, thank you for what happened today!" The captain let out a long sigh.

"Purple Mystic Fairy, I know about her. It is said that when this Purple Mystic Fairy was young, her name shook the entire Yinghuang Province and she had countless admirers. Although she has never had any Dao companions, there are countless rumors about her."

"She must have sensed the two of us just now and took a fancy to me. After that, she lifted your chin to attract my attention. Little Qing, you've suffered." The captain patted Xu Qing's shoulder without blushing.

"Eldest Senior Brother, eat more pomelos in the future!" Xu Qing glanced at the captain.

"Why?" The captain was stunned.

Xu Qing didn't explain. He walked to his berth at the harbor and leaped onto the magic ship.

The captain coughed. Seeing that Xu Qing had left, he couldn't suppress the shock in his heart anymore and it surfaced again. However, he quickly thought about Xu Qing's words before he left.

"Why eat more pomelos?"

At the same time, on the magic ship, Xu Qing walked into the cabin. He scattered more poison in the surroundings and activated a few more layers of defense. Only then did he let out a long breath. After he sat down, he began to analyze what had happened today.

This matter was too strange. Xu Qing had never encountered or thought of it before. However, his first feeling was that there must be a reason for this abnormality.

"There must be a reason for the words and actions of an ancestor who has cultivated to that level. Did this Purple Mystic Fairy see something wrong with me? She should be from the same era as Master. Or is it because I'm Master's disciple?"

Xu Qing silently pondered for a long time, but he still couldn't find the reason. Hence, he took out a voice transmission jade slip and transmitted his voice to his master, telling him everything. He also secretly asked about his master's relationship with Purple Mystic Fairy.

On the other end of the jade slip, Old Master Seventh fell silent.

A long time later, Old Master Seventh's voice calmly rang out.

"Back then, that Purple Mystic Fairy pursued me fanatically, but was ruthlessly rejected by me more than 300 times. It's understandable that she thought of me when she saw you. Don't spread this matter. It's all in the past."

"I still have something on. Let's not talk about it for now."

Xu Qing was puzzled.

He felt that his master's reply was a little... similar to what the captain had said previously.

At that moment, in the hall at the top of the Mystic Nether Sect's mountain. Purple Mystic Fairy was sitting on a futon, and lazily stretched her beautiful and slender waist. She took the cloud snow lotus-seed soup brewed with a hundred flowers morning dew that the old female servant brought over and took a sip. She suddenly frowned and turned her to the side.

The old woman stood there motionlessly, as though her body was fixed. Even her expression was still. A figure walked over from the void behind her.

This figure wore a green robe and his long hair draped over his shoulders. He looked like an elegant middle-aged man.

There were stars circulating in his eyes. Upon closer inspection, there were layers behind the stars that extended into the depths of his eyes. There were at least ten thousand layers.

This caused his eyes to possess astonishing power. When one looked at them, they would involuntarily sink into them.

It was the Alliance Leader of the Eight Sects Alliance.

"Junior Sister, you don't have much time left. Have you thought about your answer to me?" The Alliance Leader calmly spoke.

"You come to ask every month, but I refuse you every time. Can you cut it out?" Purple Mystic Fairy frowned and said coldly.

"Why do you refuse? Are you still looking for someone with light in their heart? In this chaotic world, such a person doesn't exist. Even if such a person does exist, after coming into contact with the cruel and evil world a few times, they will be changed by this world until the light dims and won't meet your requirements."

"You only need to agree to let me plant my divine sense and you can borrow my strength to make up for the last Dao thread you lack. It will allow your Shattering Thousand Dao to reach perfection and you will have hope of breaking through to the second stage."

"If you want to find a vessel, go find someone else. Outsiders don't know your personality but I know it very well." Purple Mystic Fairy calmly spoke, not giving in at all.

The Alliance Leader took a deep look at the peerless beauty in front of him and smiled.

"Junior Sister, you don't have much lifespan left. I'll ask you again next month." With that, the Alliance Leader transformed into starlight which then dissipated into thin air.

The old woman at the side returned to normal. She had no idea about what had happened earlier.

Only Purple Mystic Fairy put down the lotus seed soup and frowned.

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[Outside Of Time](#)

Chapter 379: Miserable World

Xu Qing was a little puzzled by Old Master Seventh's reply. However, he only felt that something was amiss and wasn't very clear about the details.

However, Xu Qing felt that it was still better to keep a respectful distance from Purple Mystic Fairy. He decided not to approach the Mystic Nether Sect's mountain in the future.

With this thought in mind, Xu Qing closed his eyes and began to meditate.

However, for some reason, he felt slightly uneasy.

Hence, Xu Qing opened his eyes and took out the book on herbs and plants that Grandmaster Bai had given him. After flipping through it for more than an hour, his heart completely calmed down.

Just like that, half a month passed in the blink of an eye.

In this half a month, other than cultivating, Xu Qing also obtained some water from the Immortal Enrichment River to wash away the Taboo fragment he had obtained from Sima Ling.

However, this Taboo fragment itself could emit anomalous substances, so the cleansing effect of the river water was average.

After Xu Qing thought about it, he still wasn't at ease with the shadow. Hence, he didn't let it absorb it. Instead, he continued to wash it with the river water. Even though the effect was ordinary, it was still better than doing nothing.

As everything in the entire main city progressed in an orderly manner, the Seven Blood Eyes' Special Security Department welcomed their first mission.

Patrol the tributary of the Immortal Enrichment River.

This tributary was extremely long. The river course went from the Minor Affairs Sect to the Eight Sects Alliance, running through almost half of the Yinghuang Prefecture.

The patrolling team had to move along the river toward the upper reaches of the tributary. While checking the quality of the river water, the main point was to intimidate the thieves. And if there were any water diversions, they had to destroy the parties involved.

After all, the river was long and passed by countless sects and small countries. If they didn't patrol, after the river was cut off layer by layer, the portion that reached the Eight Sects Alliance would be reduced on a large scale.

Hence, river patrolling was an important duty.

The Special Security Departments of the eight sects of the Eight Sects Alliance were in charge of this and they carried this duty in rotation. Now, it was the Seven Blood Eyes' turn.

Xu Qing also planned to go out and take a look at the Yinghuang Province. However, he had a cautious personality, so he asked Old Master Seventh first.

Old Master Seventh gave the go-ahead and gave Xu Qing a jade slip that concealed his identity.

After obtaining the jade slip, Xu Qing felt much more at ease.

He concealed his appearance, changed his clothes, and even used an aura-changing magic artifact. This morning, he and the captain led 700 to 800 disciples of the sect on 20 large ships and set off from the Eight Sects Alliance.

The 20 large ships sailed out of the Eight Sects Alliance's city in a majestic manner and followed the river course.

The width of this Immortal Enrichment River's tributary was extremely wide. The higher one went, the more it became like this. Gradually, a heaven-reaching river appeared in front of Xu Qing.

The river was surging and rumbling loudly.

The immortal Qi was dense.

In the morning, one could see the fog filled with energy rising above the river. One sniff of it could make one feel relaxed and happy.

This river was more than 100,000 feet wide and felt like an ocean. The large ships had to travel side by side with a large gap between them before they could investigate both sides.

The Diamond Sect's ancestor really liked this place. After expressing his desire to Xu Qing, Xu Qing took out the black iron stick, allowing the Diamond Sect's ancestor to cultivate here.

The shadow was strange. Even such an environment didn't affect it at all. Under the sunlight, a portion of it spread to the river.

Sometimes, when some of the spirit fish in the river got close to the shadow, they would be instantly devoured. Every time this happened, the shadow would transmit satisfied emotions.

"Immortal Qi can also be absorbed?" Xu Qing sensed it.

"What a good Immortal Enrichment River!" While Xu Qing was deep in thought, the captain at the side looked in all directions and sighed with emotion.

"No wonder the Eight Sects Alliance spared no expense and risked offending the Grand Affairs Immortal Sect to destroy the Minor Affairs Sect's dam and let this river enter the alliance."

"I wonder how vast and shocking the source of this ancient river is. We cultivators must make a trip there in our lives and see that scenery. If we can also become Sword Holders, our lives will not have been in vain." The captain placed his hands behind his back and his hair fluttered in the wind. His voice was filled with fascination.

Xu Qing glanced at the captain in surprise. From the time they set off in the morning until now, a long time had passed but he hadn't seen the captain eat an apple. At this moment, his words made Xu Qing feel even stranger.

These words didn't look like something the captain could say.

Hence, Xu Qing took out an apple and nodded after taking a bite.

He recalled that ever since the incident with the Mystic Nether Sect last time, the captain seemed to have been stimulated. The two of them had only met a few times after that. Every time he saw the captain, Xu Qing felt as though he was looking at Wu Jianwu.

This was especially clear today.

Other than not reciting poems.

"Eldest Senior Brother, do you want to eat an apple?" Xu Qing asked.

"Do you think Senior Brother only knows how to eat?" The captain turned his head and cast a meaningful glance at Xu Qing as he calmly spoke.

When Xu Qing heard this, he took out an apple and threw it over.

The captain instinctively caught it.

Xu Qing was silent.

The captain fell silent.

A long time later, the two of them squatted at the bow of the boat and ate together.

As he ate, the captain sighed.

"Why do you think Purple Mystic Fairy treated you like that? How am I inferior? I'm not bad either... I investigated later. When Purple Mystic Fairy was young, she was extremely famous in the Yinghuang Province. Her beauty was widely renowned. Moreover, the malicious rumors about her were mostly spread by her pursuers after failing to get her."

Xu Qing didn't say anything. He looked into the distance at the two shores and the description of the two sides of the Immortal Enrichment Ancient River appeared in his mind.

On one side was the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain Range formed by a hundred thousand mountains. It was a black mass that was like the spine of a giant beast with no end in sight. There were demons, ghosts, bizarre entities, rogue cultivators, and countless sects inside. It was a chaotic mess and extremely cruel like hell on earth.

On the other side was the endless wasteland. The density of anomalous substances was high, and dead trees were everywhere. There were also countless small countries. Every small country often had to worship or rely on some cultivators and forces to survive.

Xu Qing pondered over the content of the file. After the captain finished eating the apple, he took out another one and took a bite. Just as he was about to speak, he suddenly looked into the distance.

Xu Qing also lifted his head.

At the same time, their voice transmission jade slips transmitted the information sent by the disciples who had gone ahead to examine.

"There are mortals residing by the river in front."

Due to the distance, the disciples on the large ships at the back couldn't see the scene in the distance. However, in Xu Qing and the captain's eyes, everything in the distance was clearly visible.

After seeing it clearly, their expressions became complicated.

Xu Qing saw a large number of mortal refugees. There were old and young, men and women. Most of them were greenish-black, meaning that the anomalous substances in them were extremely dense and they weren't far from mutation.

They were as skinny as skeletons and their eyes were listless. There were even some who had difficulty walking and could only slowly move forward with the help of their friends or families.

There were hundreds of these people gathered on the shore, forming a long line. They were using the river water to wash their bodies.

They were using the immortal Qi of the water to maintain their exhausted lifespan.

There were even some whose bodies were rotting and lying on the shore. Some people filled stone bowls with river water and slowly fed them.

There were also a few crying children in the crowd. It was as though the cleansing of the water caused them to feel unbearable pain.

This miserable scene was just a small part of the myriad beings and this world.

After seeing the Alliance's ships, horror appeared in the eyes of these mortals and they trembled.

Xu Qing looked at all of this and spoke softly.

"Send some medicinal pills over."

"Yes!" The disciples from the Special Security Department following behind him immediately flew over with his men and distributed the low-level medicinal pills they had prepared before they set off to these suffering people.

"There's not much we can do. This is the way of the world, and our human race is in a serious state of internal strife." The captain sighed.

"I know." Xu Qing retracted his gaze and looked into the distance.

"If I can help, I'll help."

The captain cast a deep glance at Xu Qing. After that, he waved his hand and dozens of spirit fish flew out of the river and landed on the shore.

The effects of these spirit fishes on dissipating anomalous substances was faster than the river water.

"Little Qing, maybe this is why the old man likes you and why I'm willing to come into contact with you." The captain patted Xu Qing's shoulder.

Xu Qing didn't speak.

Time slowly passed and the voyage continued. In the blink of an eye, half a month passed.

In the past half a month, they saw many miserable people as before on the shores. Xu Qing saw mortals, rogue cultivators, other races, and small countries.

They were all cleansing their anomalous substances on the riverbank. Every one of them was very miserable, and there were many disabled people. Moreover, most of them clearly showed mutations.

Although this river course that was forcefully opened by the Eight Sects Alliance benefited the Eight Sects Alliance, it also helped the countless small countries and races near the river, allowing them to have a trace of hope in their painful lives.

The Eight Sects Alliance tacitly agreed to this. As long as they didn't divert the river, they wouldn't stop them. They silently allowed those who were suffering on the way to come here to obtain life.

Xu Qing and the others distributed the low-level medicinal pills as they passed by these people. This action was different from other sects. This was what Old Master Seventh had instructed before they set off.

This voyage lasted for a very long time and Xu Qing also began to cultivate. Only the captain couldn't sit still. Sometimes, he would fish and sometimes go ashore. Occasionally, he would capture some small beasts and bring them back.

On this day, the probing ships ahead sent them a message. They had encountered something they didn't know how to deal with.

Xu Qing got up from his cultivation. When he walked out of the cabin, he saw the captain standing at the bow of the ship, looking into the distance.

"This is the first time we've encountered such a situation. If they were cultivators, I would have directly killed them. However, that's not the case."

"The entire small country of about 40,000 to 50,000 people is moving the river water together... They are also digging a river channel..."

When Xu Qing heard the captain's words, he walked to the bow and looked over as well.

There were tens of thousands of people pushing wooden-wheeled carts on the distant shore, transporting buckets of river water away. The people who did these things were all sallow-faced and skinny paupers. There were also some mortal soldiers in the surroundings who were berating and flogging them.

There were also some who were digging up the ground, diverting the river water.

The convoy continued to spread toward a small country in the distance.

After Xu Qing swept his gaze over, his eyes suddenly narrowed as he looked at those sallow and skinny people again.

At that moment, under the illumination of the setting sun, long shadows were drawn out under the feet of these people. These shadows looked normal but under Xu Qing's gaze, it seemed like... they were all missing an ear.

Left ear.

Xu Qing's eyes narrowed.

Outside Of Time

Chapter 380: There Must Be a Reason for the Abnormality

It was very difficult for others to notice such details. Only Xu Qing would pay attention to the shadows of others because of the strangeness of his shadow.

The instant Xu Qing looked over, his shadow immediately emitted excitement.

"Similar... type... devour..."

This time around, there was no need for the Diamond Sect's ancestor to translate. Xu Qing already understood what the shadow wanted to express. His eyes narrowed slightly.

After a long time, he slowly spoke.

"There must be a reason for this abnormality."

"This is especially so for the water diversion matter. It doesn't seem like they are really going to divert it. It seems more like it's to attract our attention."

When the captain saw this scene, he smiled and gave the order.

"A call for help? Interesting. Men, bring the king of this small country here and ask him about the reason. This feels a little fishy. It's not like they don't know the rules of the alliance's tacit approval."

Not long later, as rays of light approached, the Seven Blood Eyes' disciples brought a fat old man in a yellow robe to the ship. The instant he arrived, the old man's body trembled and he knelt down with a plop.

"Immortals, please save my small country!!"

As the king cried, Xu Qing and the captain gradually learned of the reason.

This small country was called Chiri Country.

Its founder was a Foundation Building cultivator of a small sect. Because he had no hope of breaking through, he moved here and formed a family. After that, he gathered refugees and the place gradually became a small country.

Life was usually difficult but under the protection of a small sect that worshiped the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain, they were able to live in safety. Coupled with food that contained anomalous substances, they could still carry on with their lives.

Although most of their lifespans were short, in this world, there was nothing else they could ask for.

However, all of this changed with the appearance of the tributary of the Immortal Enrichment River.

The source of the change was the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain. The chaotic forces there were already fighting daily.

The appearance of the tributary led them to expanding their territories. A month ago, the small sect that had provided them with protection was destroyed by three nonhuman rogue cultivators.

After the sect was killed and its members eaten, these three nonhuman rogue cultivators occupied this place.

Because they revered Three Spirits Suppression Mountain, they called themselves the Little Three Spirits and demanded all the nearby small countries to send a large amount of river water in exchange for peace.

If they couldn't deliver the quantity within the specified time, they would go to that country and eat a thousand people. In the end, the country would either be devoured or would deliver enough river water.

These Little Three Spirits had clearly learned of the tacit agreement of the Eight Sects Alliance to the human race. That was why they made such a demand.

After all, the Eight Sects Alliance wouldn't stop mortals from collecting water.

They required a large amount of river water, but they didn't dare to divert the water. Hence, they came up with such a plan.

"We've already passed the deadline. Those Little Three Spirits come here every day to eat a thousand people and leave in the morning. If the amount of river water isn't enough tomorrow, they'll come again. I have no choice but to divert the water to attract the attention of the immortals." The king was also a cultivator but he was only at the Qi Condensation Realm. At this moment, his voice was trembling.

Xu Qing's previous guess was correct. Diverting the water was their way of saving themselves.

At that moment, his gaze was deep as he glanced at the king's shadow on the deck under the setting sun.

The left ear of the other party's shadow was also gone.

Whether deliberately or not, the king was tilting his head slightly and due to the angle, it was even harder for others to see the missing left ear on his shadow clearly.

Only those who were looking for it could see the details of the shadow the instant the king bowed.

"Little Three Spirits?" The captain narrowed his eyes. Xu Qing's gaze was deep. The two of them were experienced, and the captain was even more shrewd. He could naturally tell if what the king said was true or false.

In Xu Qing's opinion, what the king said was true but it was obvious that the other party was hiding something.

However, they didn't make a decision immediately. Instead, after asking about the location of the Little Three Spirits, they arranged for some disciples to go investigate. After waiting for a few hours, the disciples returned with news. The captain smiled and looked at Xu Qing.

"The strongest are three two-fires Foundation Building cultivators?" The captain pressed his right hand on the ship. After opening the ship's array formation, an invisible ripple spread out and instantly swept in all directions.

The range was extremely large and the captain had adjusted it to the designated area. After relying on the array formation to investigate again and confirming that there were no Golden Core cultivators in the designated area, he nodded.

"The alliance's detection array formation is indeed very useful. Xu Qing, why don't we send some people to destroy those Little Three Spirits?" As he spoke, the captain arranged for the Seven Blood Eyes disciples behind him to go over and deal with this matter.

Xu Qing suddenly spoke.

"Eldest Senior Brother, I'll go with them."

The captain glanced at Xu Qing with a spurious smile but didn't ask further. He then nodded.

"Do you need me to come?"

"It's not convenient." Xu Qing thought about it and shook his head. He didn't plan to deliberately hide it.

Moreover, Xu Qing felt that even if the captain didn't notice it now, he would still be able to see some clues when he recalled it later.

After all, one could never underestimate anyone.

Rather than the captain making wild guesses later, it was better to directly tell him that this was his secret.

Xu Qing's judgment wasn't wrong. After the captain heard Xu Qing's words, his smile was deep and he didn't ask further.

Xu Qing's body swayed and he soared into the air, summoning a hundred Seven Blood Eyes disciples. The group of them headed straight for the distant Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain.

Even though he repeatedly confirmed that there was not going to be any issues, Xu Qing's personality still made him summon more people.

Looking at Xu Qing's back view, the captain's eyes revealed satisfaction.

"Little Qing indeed doesn't treat me as an outsider. In that case, I won't be overly curious. Everyone has their own secrets."

The captain took out an apple and glanced at the shadow under the trembling king's feet and the missing left ear. He chuckled and called for the fleet to stop sailing, waiting for Xu Qing to return.

At that moment, in the air above the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain, Xu Qing was whistling over with more than a hundred Seven Blood Eyes disciples from the various peaks.

30% of these team members were at the Perfected Qi Condensation Realm and the rest were at the Foundation Building Realm.

Those who could join the Special Security Department were naturally not ordinary people. They selected the best among the best. Although most of them hadn't formed their life fire, there were about 20 people with one ball of life fire. There were six people with two fires and one with three fires.

The little mute was among them. His cultivation was at the Perfected Qi Condensation Realm but his ferocity was extremely great. When he fought, he didn't care about his life. Among Qi Condensation cultivators, he could already be considered an outstanding talent.

With such a scale, unless they encountered a Golden Core with two palaces or more, they would be able to sweep through the enemies.

As he got closer, the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain was clearly reflected in Xu Qing's eyes. There were countless mountains in this mountain range and it was filled with dense forests. Under the illumination of the dusk, the forests seemed to be hiding demons and monsters.

The sunlight wasn't even able to pass through the trees to the ground, causing it to be pitch-black.

Some of the ground was muddy, and some had cracks that hid countless dangers and bizarre entities.

As soon as he got close, Xu Qing heard the bizarre fluctuations made by the dense forest in the distance. This fluctuation was very far away and wasn't the target of his trip. However, Xu Qing only glanced at it and a malicious intent instantly rose from that direction, enveloping the surroundings of Xu Qing and the others.

Xu Qing's expression was as calm as ever. The shadow under his feet grinned.

Almost at the instant its mouth split open, the malice formed by the bizarre entity instantly disappeared. It was as though it was shocked and disappeared without a trace.

Xu Qing continued to fly toward his destination. Gradually, a stench spread out from the dense forest of the black mountain. One could see the heads of many humanoid beasts and nonhuman races hanging on the trees here. Blood dripped onto the rotting bones under the trees.

There were also swamps on the ground formed from the blood and flesh.

Everything was imitating the acts of the Three Spirits Suppression Mountain. Xu Qing frowned and coldly looked at the middle of the mountain in the distance. There was a large cave there and the commotion from there spread in the wind.

There were some malevolent-looking nonhumans carrying charred human and beast corpses as they walked into the cave.

This scene caused Xu Qing's eyes to turn increasingly cold as he calmly spoke.

"Kill. Other than the main culprits, don't leave a single one alive!"

"Yes!" After the hundred-odd disciples behind him spoke in unison, they transformed into rainbows that headed straight ahead and instantly arrived at the entrance of the cave.

The nonhumans carrying the food were shocked. Before they could make a sound, their heads had already flown up into the air.

The person who attacked was the little mute. He held a dagger in his hand and licked the blood from the dagger. He then crouched down and moved forward at an extremely fast speed, heading straight for the cave.

The others also rushed in. In an instant, furious roars rang out from the cave, and shouts and cries echoed.

Xu Qing was expressionless as he walked over step by step. The black iron stick floated beside him and his shadow spread out on the ground.

As Xu Qing stepped into the cave which was now filled with corpses.

Occasionally, the Diamond Sect's ancestor would let out a sinister laugh and control the iron stick to penetrate the corpses. Every time this happened, the penetrated corpse would scream and die completely.

Clearly, they were pretending to be dead.

The shadow didn't bother with these people who were pretending to be dead. It emitted an intense desire and pointed the way, bringing Xu Qing deeper into the cave.

As the sounds of fighting in front of him disappeared, Xu Qing walked to the deepest part of the cave.

There was a huge space here. One could see a ten-foot-long hole above from which the night sky was visible.

There were a large number of shattered tables, food, and corpses of nonhumans on the ground.

All the disciples of the Special Security Department were here. They captured more than 20 nonhumans alive and made them kneel.

Fear appeared in the eyes of these nonhumans. Among them, three had two balls of life fire and were heavily injured. They looked at Xu Qing who was walking toward them in fear.

"Upper Sect, we..." The one who spoke was a cultivator with flames as hair and scales all over his body. He was also one of the Little Three Spirits.

Xu Qing didn't bother with him and waved his hand. Before the nonhuman could finish speaking, his head exploded.

This scene caused the other subdued nonhumans to gasp in fear. They were extremely afraid and didn't dare to speak.

Xu Qing also didn't speak. His calm gaze swept past the shadows of these nonhumans one by one and finally gathered on a nonhuman with wings on his back.

This nonhuman was also one of the Little Three Spirits.

He trembled as he looked at Xu Qing. Just as he was about to speak, his expression suddenly distorted. Somehow, he broke free from the restraints and stood up, fleeing straight for the cave exit above.

His speed was extremely fast.

However, his eyes revealed disbelief and horror. It was as though what controlled his body was no longer his own will.

It wasn't Xu Qing's shadow either.

It was the shadow of the nonhuman himself!