

## **When God 961**

### Chapter 961 Infernal Overlord

The Burning Heaven Demon King's twisted double face sneered grotesquely, while his two hands formed seals simultaneously, releasing a flame similar to a tornado, encircling the Forbidden Light.

The Forbidden Light got caught within the tornado and affected by it, deviating from its original trajectory. It flew past the Burning Heaven Demon King, crashing into the lava lake alongside the tornado, causing the entire lake to erupt like a fountain. The underground space was like a rain of lava, with lava spraying everywhere, crashing onto the stone ceiling and falling back down.

Li Xiu and the Burning Heaven Demon King exchanged attacks continuously, neither gaining an advantage. The Demon King's Light of the Doomsday Furnace was in no way inferior to the Forbidden Light, with an endless array of skills and techniques.

The battle between the two Divine Positions wreaked havoc on the underground space and lava lake, yet Li Xiu still did not gain any advantage.

Li Xiu was not alarmed but glad; the stronger the Burning Heaven Demon King, the higher its grade must be, and its Divine Position Gemstone was bound to be exceptional. If he could ascend to the Divine Position with its gemstone, the Light of Truth obtained would be even stronger.

But killing the Burning Heaven Demon King was quite the hassle.

Among the Seven Great Taboo Cannons, Li Xiu had already used five types but couldn't overcome the Burning Heaven Demon King. Only the No Killing and No Sacrifice skills remained unused.

The Light of the Doomsday Furnace could melt all things and lights; the Forbidden Light was truly difficult to suppress against such Light of Truth. There was no advantage in attribute interaction.

"Then I'll have to use Spiritual Sense." Li Xiu's eyes glittered with spiritual brilliance, with a white vertical eye appearing on his forehead.

The Burning Heaven Demon King, who was staring at Li Xiu, suddenly went blank, his body motionless, as if frozen in place.

"Now's the time." Li Xiu activated the Forbidden Cannon again, simultaneously initiating The Seventh Great Taboo No Sacrifice.

A vivid red spiral beam shot out, directly striking the dazed Burning Heaven Demon King's head.

Originally, the ability of the No Sacrifice shot was to seal the opponent's special powers, but when applied to the Forbidden Light, it enhanced the Forbidden Light's power, turning it into the strongest attack skill of the Forbidden Light.

The enhanced Forbidden Light struck the Burning Heaven Demon King's face, immediately causing a terrifying explosion of light.

Amidst the mushroom cloud-like light explosion, the massive figure of the Burning Heaven Demon King began to fall into the lava.

Boom!

The Burning Heaven Demon King's body fell into the lava lake, creating a hundred-foot-high wave of lava.

"Did I take him down?" Li Xiu watched the continuously upheaving lava lake but didn't rush in to check if the Burning Heaven Demon King was defeated.

Splash!

The lava lake suddenly churned as the Burning Heaven Demon King's body burst out again. Those two bizarre faces now looked like two sunken broken iron pans, with features indistinguishable.

"Even that couldn't blow its head off?" Li Xiu felt surprised; even the Forbidden Light reinforced by the No Sacrifice bullet couldn't blast the Burning Heaven Demon King's skull, its physical sturdiness truly terrifying.

Though not quite matching Guan Jinghao's Fallen God state, still the strongest among the demon spirits Li Xiu had ever seen.

The Burning Heaven Demon King seemed thoroughly enraged; his black iron-like body surfaced with golden-red light patterns akin to lava.

The golden-red light patterns spread rapidly across his body, making it look as if his body was hollowed by the patterns. The entire physique resembled a giant Demon God Furnace, emanating immense heat that melted everything near him. Even the surrounding lava turned to ashes from the high temperature.

Lava-like liquid surged from the light patterns, filling his sunken faces. The liquid twisted and deformed, then quickly solidified, restoring the Demon King's two faces.

The irate Burning Heaven Demon King fixed his burning lava-like eyes onto Li Xiu, four palms clasped together, emitting infinite golden-red light.

That light irradiated the entire underground space; anything touched by it either disintegrated into ashes or melted into iron-like liquid.

The stone ceiling melted under the light, transforming into lava that continuously dripped down.

The flowers on Li Xiu's Flower Armor began melting under the light, with the outer layer turning into red liquid, showing signs of melting on the Forbidden Cannon too.

At this moment, the Burning Heaven Demon King truly exhibited the demeanor of a world-burning Demon King, his power staggering.

"The Light of the Doomsday Furnace is indeed too strong." Li Xiu was increasingly impressed, yet his hands didn't idle.

He had long known the Burning Heaven Demon King possessed this ability, thus reactivated the Forbidden Cannon. But this time, it was not to shoot the Burning Heaven Demon King with Forbidden Light.

The light patterns on the Forbidden Cannon lit up circle by circle, but different from before, they spread inward from the barrel.

The Forbidden Cannon transformed into a gigantic vacuum cleaner, sucking in the nearby Light of the Doomsday Furnace.

As a vast amount of Light of the Doomsday Furnace was absorbed, the artillery body of the Forbidden Cannon glowed increasingly bright. Before long, the entire cannon appeared like red-hot iron, radiating splendid brilliance.

"Truly terrifying!" Li Xiu noticed the Forbidden Cannon's barrel beginning to melt. Even after employing Super Bottle Suction to utilize the Light of the Doomsday Furnace instead of confronting it directly, it still could barely contain the light, and the cannon's body began melting from the inside.

"Let's have another go, then." Li Xiu's white vertical eye opened again, plunging the Burning Heaven Demon King into an Illusion Realm, causing him to freeze in place.

"The Seventh Great Taboo No Killing!" Seizing the moment the Burning Heaven Demon King was stunned, the Forbidden Cannon erupted with incomparable splendor.

A massive beam merging gold, red, and orange burst forth, its colors as exquisite as a lotus.

The Burning Heaven Demon King had no chance to dodge, being struck directly in the chest by the beam. Light exploded, flames of light blossomed, submerging the Demon King in the dazzling hues of the beam.

Chapter 962: Ice Breaking Wall

This cannon contains the powers of the Forbidden Light, No-Kill, and Apocalypse Furnace, striking the Heaven-Burning Great Demon King, causing it to let out an agonizing roar.

Though its body didn't suffer too much damage, the light energy within was blasted out directly by this cannon.

Boundless red light flames were instantly blasted out from the Heaven-Burning Great Demon King's body, forming a red shadow in its wake resembling the Heaven-Burning Great Demon King.

These red light flames, after being expelled from the Heaven-Burning Great Demon King's body, immediately converged at a point, transforming into a Talent Gemstone in an instant.

The Heaven-Burning Great Demon King's body fell into the lava; although it didn't die, there was no light energy left within it to use. Without the sustenance of light energy, it was too weak to fly through the air.

The No-Kill Forbidden Cannon is considered the most insidious of the seven Great Taboo Cannons' abilities. If it takes effect, it can directly blast out the light energy, transforming into an item that a demon spirit should condense after death.

This means that it can take away the item the demon spirit transforms into without killing it.

Li Xiu flew swiftly to grab the Talent Gemstone while firing another cannon shot at the Heaven-Burning Great Demon King lying in the lava.

Without the defense of light energy, the Heaven-Burning Great Demon King's body was directly exploded by the Forbidden Light. Li Xiu reached out and grabbed from the fragmented pieces, a Divine Position Gemstone extracted from it.

Aside from the Divine Position Gemstone, there was nothing else. Generally, after the demon spirit dies, there is a Demon Core; however, since the Demon Core is the core where the light energy is concentrated, it had already been shattered and blasted out by the cannon shot, hence it could no longer exist.

The Divine Position Gemstone is condensed from the Truth Attribute and is not merely light energy, so it was not destroyed. Understanding the characteristics of the Divine Position Gemstone was why Li Xiu used the No-Kill Forbidden Cannon to blast it; otherwise, he wouldn't have used such a ruthless skill.

"The strength disparity of the Mutated Divine Position Demon Spirit is indeed large. Compared to the Mutated Demon Spirit killed before, the Heaven-Burning Great Demon King is much stronger. If I hadn't used Spiritual Power to control it, it wouldn't be easy to kill." Li Xiu flew toward the entrance of the Underworld. When he left the River of Flames and returned to the front of the Trial Gate, he saw A Fei waiting for him at the entrance.

"Did you get it?" A Fei asked.

"Got it," Li Xiu nodded.

"That's good then." A Fei didn't ask any more questions and left to do his own things.

Li Xiu didn't return; he went straight to another Trial Gate to kill the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast. This time, he didn't need A Fei's help.

Before entering the Trial Gate, Li Xiu used the exploded Talent Gemstone from the Heaven-Burning Great Demon King.

Heaven-Burning Demon Body (Divine Position Talent): Immunity to fire-type light energy damage.

Although simply explained in a few words, it's more useful than any complex introduction. With the Heaven-Burning Demon Body, Li Xiu can be immune to fire-type light energy damage; practical.

The trial of the Gate of the Shadow Spirit is simple for Li Xiu; he just needs to endure in the cold environment for a while to pass the trial.

Li Xiu himself possesses the Ice Heart skill to resist cold and the Ice Ashes skill to transform cold force for personal use; such a trial is just free points for him.

Arriving at the familiar stone table, he saw an ice crystal-like button placed on the stone table. Li Xiu reached out and took it directly, without giving the Longevity Lamp a chance to be verbose.

E-level Shining Quality Contract, with a quality of only 0.6, Li Xiu doesn't even bother to look at what abilities it has.

Following the Longevity Lamp into the darkness, soon Li Xiu appeared in an Ice City.

This Ice City looks extremely magnificent, like a castle made of crystals. However, its proportions are much larger than that of a human castle. Standing in the Ice City, Li Xiu feels like he has entered a giant's castle.

Li Xiu didn't have the mood to take a stroll in the Ice City, directly exiting through the city gates and arriving at an ice field.

From afar, he saw a herd of snow cattle foraging in the snowfield; these snow cattle don't even have Super Spirit levels, so Li Xiu had no intention of wasting time on them, stepping on the Fire Lotus Sword to fly away, heading into the distance.

From afar, he saw an Ice Peak towering over the ice field, where Li Xiu landed at the front of the Ice Peak, gazing at the peak ahead.

The peak is a thousand meters high, with three sides steep and blade-like, only one side forming a slope with thick white snow accumulated.

Li Xiu used Ice Ashes, upon stepping onto the snow slope, immediately feeling heat continuously transmitting into his body, warming his body.

Evidently, due to the cold air on the Ice Peak being far beyond that on the outside, it suddenly felt warm.

After walking a short distance, Li Xiu saw several protruding snow pillars beside him. He reached out and brushed off the snow accumulated on the pillars, revealing trial takers frozen into ice sculptures within.

These are trial takers previously mistaken for the Ice Peak, frozen here, typically no one retrieves their bodies.

There are quite a few frozen trial takers like these on the Ice Peak, and besides trial takers, there are some large protrusions. Li Xiu brushed away some snow to discover frozen demon spirits.

Walking all the way up, there are many larger and smaller snow accumulations protruding, but Li Xiu had no mood to check them one by one; he didn't even know what was frozen inside.

Li Xiu's body grew increasingly hot, as if inside a furnace, feeling slightly scalding.

Chapter 963: Ice Breaking Barrier\_2

If it were before, Li Xiu would not be using the Ice Ashes at this point, opting instead to pause for a while, wait for the absorbed heat to be converted, and then continue using the Ice Ashes.

Now, with the Heaven-Burning Demon Body, there's no need for such trouble. Such heat doesn't pose a challenge to the Heaven-Burning Demon Body.

After passing the halfway point, the frozen snow pillars became much fewer. Only Spirit Forging Level experts could withstand the extreme cold and make it to this point.

From the size of the snow pillars, it's clear that they're not freezing human Trial Takers inside.

"Trial Takers coming here is one thing, but why are these Demon Spirits climbing the mountain too?" Li Xiu knew from records that many frozen Demon Spirits lay here, but didn't know why they were frozen.

The Ice Peak is supposed to host only the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, where Divine Position Demon Spirits are found. Ordinary Demon Spirits should steer clear, so why are these Demon Spirits daring to tread this mountain?

The further he went up, the fewer frozen snow pillars there were, and near the summit, they were entirely gone.

The heat converted from the Ice Ashes reached an astounding level, enough to melt steel by this point.

However, Li Xiu reached the summit effortlessly, thanks to the powerful immunity of the Heaven-Burning Demon Body.

Upon reaching the summit, Li Xiu discovered a pile of snow atop it.

"A creature actually reached the summit; could it be a Divine Creature?" Li Xiu mused in surprise.

It wasn't easy for him to reach the summit even with the Ice Heart, Ice Ashes, and Heaven-Burning Demon Body, so the idea that a creature had made it there piqued his curiosity.

Li Xiu examined the snow pile, which was only half a person's height, a height unlikely for a human Trial Taker.

He cleared the snow pile away and was surprised to find a human Trial Taker inside.

The human Trial Taker was sitting cross-legged on the ground, explaining why it appeared so short.

"It really is a Trial Taker!" Li Xiu studied the person, slightly astonished.

That was a middle-aged man dressed in a long white robe, appearing quite upright and giving off a righteous aura.

His facial expression looked calm, lacking the typical despair and helplessness seen in Trial Takers on the brink of death.

"Who is this person? I've never heard of him before." Li Xiu recalled the records of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast and found no mention of a human Trial Taker on the summit.

"It's odd. For a Trial Taker to make it here, even if they're not of Divine Position, they must be a pinnacle Spirit Forging Level figure. How could such a person die here without someone to attend to their remains?" Li Xiu found it peculiar.

"To meet here is fate. I'll move you before I lure out the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast. A fierce battle might affect you, which wouldn't be ideal." Li Xiu picked up the person's body and headed down the snowy slope.

He walked until he reached halfway down the mountain, where he set the person down.

"Rest here for a while. Once I've killed the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, I'll come back to find you a safe resting place." With that, Li Xiu turned to head back to the summit.

He indeed planned to return and bury the human Trial Taker's body and possibly examine the Demon Spirits' bodies for valuable items.

There should be several Spirit Forging Level Demon Spirits frozen here, and their Demon Cores would be a considerable wealth, which Li Xiu wouldn't let go to waste.

"Young man, you're not experienced enough to kill the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast." A suddenly heard an aged voice from behind him as he began to walk.

Li Xiu stopped, slightly startled, and turned around to see the middle-aged man once thought to be an ice sculpture, opening his eyes and looking at him.

"So you weren't dead?" Li Xiu was at a loss, wondering why the man hadn't spoken when he moved him earlier.

"I was quietly cultivating, and here you are moving me without a word, yet you ask why I'm not dead?" said the middle-aged man without any expression.

Despite looking middle-aged, his voice sounded as old as a man nearing his end, very peculiar.

"It was indeed my mistake. May I ask your name?" Li Xiu bowed slightly, apologizing.

"Modao Cang." The middle-aged man pronounced his name with pride, as if his name alone was worth being proud of.

Unfortunately, Li Xiu had never heard the name and, after pondering, asked, "Are you from the Mo Family?"

"You've never heard of my name?" The middle-aged man glared at him, as if not knowing his name was unimaginable.

"Ahem, I honestly haven't." Li Xiu admitted.

Modao Cang's eye twitched slightly, snorting, "No wonder you dared to come here alone. Truly, ignorance is fearless."

"If you have nothing else, I'll be on my way." Li Xiu didn't wish to waste time talking with Modao Cang. He had limited time and needed to kill the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast to obtain its Divine Position Gemstone, pushing up the Evil Spirit Token to Divine Position.

"Hold on, what's your name?" Modao Cang suddenly called after Li Xiu.

Chapter 964: Ice Breaking Wall (Part 3)

"Li Xiu," Li Xiu stopped and answered.

"How can a member of the Li Family be so reckless? Although you possess the Ice Cold Immunity Technique, that Ice Bone Demon Spirit isn't something you can touch. For Li Chengtian's sake, I can't just watch a young Li Family member go to his death," Modao Cang said.

"Who is Li Chengtian?" Li Xiu wondered, having never heard of such a person.

"You're part of the Li Family, yet you don't even know Li Chengtian?" Modao Cang was somewhat astonished.

"I think you misunderstood. I am not part of the Li Family in Changshengtian; I'm just coincidentally named Li," Li Xiu explained.

Upon hearing this, Modao Cang was even more astonished: "You're not part of the Li Family, yet you've managed to cultivate to such a level; that is indeed rare."

After a pause, Modao Cang said, "It's not easy to reach this level in your cultivation. That Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast is no ordinary Divine Position Demon Spirit. Your Ice Cold Immunity talent is useless against its Light of Truth; don't go sacrificing your life."

Seeing that Modao Cang was genuinely well-intentioned, Li Xiu responded, "Since I'm here, I have some assurance; I have to give it a try before I can give up."

"It's good that young people have an adventurous spirit, but losing your life for it isn't ideal," Modao Cang pondered for a moment, then suddenly reached out and threw something to Li Xiu. "Take this with you; it might save your life when you're in peril."

Li Xiu caught the item to find it was a fist-sized red orb. The orb was crystal-like and jade-like, with red smoke flowing inside. Although it didn't seem too dazzling nor had strong Light Energy fluctuations, upon holding it, Li Xiu immediately felt no chill enveloping him.

"Thank you." Li Xiu accepted it, put the orb into his bosom, and then headed towards the mountaintop.

Watching Li Xiu's departing back, Modao Cang murmured to himself: "After so many years away from Changshengtian, I didn't expect such a young and powerful figure to emerge, not from the Eight Great Families. Has Li Boyang changed his ways?"

Watching Li Xiu climb the mountaintop and disappear from sight, Modao Cang's pupils widened, filling his entire eyes, revealing scenes he shouldn't ordinarily see, depicting Li Xiu's form at the mountaintop.

"A young Trial Taker reaching this level is rare indeed. It'd be a pity if he fell here; maybe I should give him a hand. I wonder how many such Trial Takers my Mo Family has produced, and how many have reached Divine Position Level," Modao Cang murmured.

After reaching the mountaintop again, Li Xiu arrived at the other side of the peak and looked down.

The mountain wall appeared like a knife edge, smooth as a mirror; even snowflakes couldn't stay upon it. The glacier, frozen for countless years, surged upward, but once near Li Xiu, it dissipated instantly.

Li Xiu was greatly surprised; clearly, it was the effect of the orb Modao Cang gave him. Unexpectedly, it had such a strong function, most likely a Divine Position Level contract, although he didn't know if it was Modao Cang's Life Contract or Parasitic Contract.

Li Xiu didn't linger on the thought, summoning the Fire Lotus Sword and directly riding it into the air.

Though he could have flown straight up, he climbed to test the cold's intensity and observe the Trial Takers and demon spirits encased in ice.

Riding the Fire Lotus Sword into the sky, he examined the ice wall before him. Through the thousand-meter-thick wall, a figure seemed frozen within, its silhouette appearing and disappearing, akin to a dragon in clouds, an elusive creature, vast and magnificent.

That was the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast he sought, reputedly trapped within the Ice Peak for a millennium, never emerging. To kill it, the ice wall must first be broken.

Li Xiu willed his Fire Lotus Sword, which unleashed a series of fiery sword lights towards the ice wall, relentlessly striking it.

"A decent Fire Sword Contract, but far from breaking the ice wall; it's no ordinary glacier," Modao Cang muttered with a smile.

As expected, the Fire Lotus Sword lights shattered against the ice wall without leaving a trace.

Realizing ordinary attacks couldn't damage the ice wall, Li Xiu halted the Fire Lotus Sword's assault.

Instead of using the Forbidden Spear immediately, Li Xiu summoned the Jedi Knight, who had been nourished with ample resources to reach the Spirit Forging Level.

Despite abundant resources, time was too short for the Jedi Knight to advance to its second form.

Surrounded by intense red light, the Jedi Knight wielded two red-glowing swords, a faint red ghostly shadow entwining, floating in midair, violently slashing the ice wall.

The Sword Light Slashes upon the ice wall left no mark.

Li Xiu was unperturbed; the Jedi Knight combined its swords into one, using the Unrivaled National Hero skill, unleashing a mighty red blade light upon the ice wall.

Within the red blade light, phantom demons seemed to roar.

Thunk!

The blade light struck, causing snow atop the peak to slide, yet still left no mark.

Watching, Modao Cang shook his head silently: "Though powerful, with top-tier contracts and spirits for the Spirit Forging Level, he doesn't even qualify to lure the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast out. Seems I needn't intervene."

As he pondered, he saw Li Xiu retract the Jedi Knight, summoning something else.

"That's..." Upon seeing clearly, Modao Cang's eyes widened.

Li Xiu wielding the Forbidden Cannon, fired an orange-red Forbidden Light directly at the ice wall.

Boom!

The orange-red beam penetrated the ice wall, blasting into the Ice Peak.

"Divine Position Level... That kid is actually at Divine Position Level," Modao Cang was shocked, incredulous.

Chapter 965: Slaying the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast

The Forbidden Cannon pierced through the ice wall and disappeared within it.

Then came the rumbling noise, the sound of cracking was heard continuously from the ice wall as chunks of giant ice fell from it.

The entire ice wall collapsed rapidly, revealing the true form of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast.

Its whole body seemed like pure diamond, the scales covering it resembled countless diamond facets, shimmering with dazzling luster.

The Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast looked like a diamond Divine Dragon, radiating an icy aura throughout.

The reason why the ice wall was so sturdy was merely due to the icy aura emanating from its body.

With the ice wall shattered, the statue-like body of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast finally stirred, lifting its head from the glacier.

That head also resembled a dragon head, but on its forehead, there was a vertical eye, and above it sprouted a pair of dragon horns like ice cones or deer antlers.

Between the horns, there was a strange oval human face, yet this face lacked features, with grooves at the eyes, nose, and mouth positions.

Through its flawless, diamond-like transparent body, one could see a snowy white spine extending from the skull to the tail end, crystalline like jade, with wisps of mist swirling around it.

The Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast raised its head and opened its pupil-less cold eyes, gazing chillingly at Li Xiu in the sky.

The next second, the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast opened its mouth, a surge of cold air spewed forth, instantly crystallizing the moisture in the air into icy snowflakes.

Snowflakes filled the sky, carried by the cold current towards Li Xiu, enveloping him from all directions, leaving no room to dodge.

The Flower Armor on Li Xiu's body emanated Divine Light, the orange-red Forbidden Light touched the cold stream like petals.

In a mere instant, the previously vibrant Flower Armor and blooming Forbidden Light were frozen in place, even the Forbidden Cannon was covered by a thick layer of ice, resembling an ice sculpture.

As Li Xiu was frozen, the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast completely flew out of the ice wall, hovering in the sky, overlooking Li Xiu like an ice statue, seemingly ready to lower its head and swallow Li Xiu into its dragon mouth at any moment.

Crack! Crack!

After the cold current passed, the ice layer on Li Xiu's body suddenly cracked, pieces of ice fell off, and Li Xiu emerged from Ice Breaking.

Seeing this scene, Modao Cang nodded silently: "For someone of this age to achieve such feats is indeed remarkable, though the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast surpasses ordinary Divine Positions. Relying on my Fire Cloud Bead for survival is quite decent, could this kid be Li Boyang's secret son?"

In Modao Cang's view, Li Xiu had realized the might of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, survived thanks to the Fire Cloud Bead, and should understand to advance or retreat wisely, to leave quickly was the logical move.

But Li Xiu's subsequent actions surprised Modao Cang.

Upon emerging from Ice Breaking, Li Xiu didn't leave as expected nor immediately attack the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, but instead did something that made him widen his eyes.

Li Xiu reached out, took out the Fire Cloud Bead given by Modao Cang, and casually tossed it, letting it fall near Modao Cang.

"Is this young man so meticulous? Returning the Fire Cloud Bead before escaping? Without the Fire Cloud Bead to protect him from the Frozen Power of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, can he really escape?" Modao Cang grew increasingly baffled.

Yet, Li Xiu did not intend to flee. After tossing away the Fire Cloud Bead, he hefted the Forbidden Cannon, aimed it once more at the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast.

The spiral Light Pattern on the cannon barrel flickered, slowly accumulating Light Energy, seemingly preparing for a full-force strike against the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast.

"This young man is overly confident, but he's quite spirited, suits my temperament. Never know, I might have to give my old bones a workout." Modao Cang slowly stood up, stretching as if performing radio calisthenics.

Boom!

The Forbidden Cannon fired a beam of light, the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast's eyes burst forth with icy light, meeting the orange-red light beam head-on.

The icy light and the orange-red light beam collided in mid-air, continuously canceling and clashing with each other.

"To compete with the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast in light energy, you've really thought this through." Modao Cang couldn't help but chuckle wryly.

The Light Energy of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast is exceptionally potent, unmatched by ordinary Divine Positions. Though its light energy isn't very aggressive, its endurance is top-tier among Divine Positions.

Moreover, the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast hasn't yet utilized the true Light of Truth.

Though the current icy light can be considered the Light of Truth, it isn't in its complete state.

From Modao Cang's understanding, the Light of Truth of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast is divided into Third Realms, and this is merely the First Realm of Frozen Light.

With the ongoing confrontation between Forbidden Light and Frozen Light, both rapidly shattered and worn out.

Strangely, although Frozen Light shattered, the shattered Frozen Light caused the surrounding temperature to drop significantly, and keep dropping.

After a brief duration, the area's temperature became frighteningly low, even Spirit Casting Level experts entering this zone would instantly be frozen into blocks of ice.

Modao Cang initially believed Li Xiu couldn't last long, but was surprised to find Li Xiu not only showed no sign of freezing but instead exuded heat, as if he were steaming in a sauna.

"His ice skills are somewhat impressive, capable of transforming this level of cold force into his own energy... Only, the transformed energy is excessive... generating substantial heat... His body likely won't sustain for long... Even if he won't freeze to death, he might be steamed to death by the heat..." Now Modao Cang understood why Li Xiu returned the Fire Cloud Bead; it hindered the transformation of the cold force, hence he tossed it back.

Chapter 966: Slaying the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast (Part 2)

Unexpectedly for Modao Cang, as more and more cold energy was transformed by Li Xiu, the heat on his body grew more intense, but he seemed largely unaffected.

"Interesting, this young man does have some skills. Have the young people of Longevity City reached this level now? I really want to go back and see how far the Mo Family has progressed." Modao Cang

abandoned his previous plan and continued to watch the direct confrontation of Light Energy between a man and a demon spirit.

Li Xiu directly injected the energy transformed from Ice Ashes into the Forbidden Cannon, making the Forbidden Light it emitted stronger and stronger, faintly showing signs of suppressing the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast.

The Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast seemed irritated, and the vertical eye on its forehead suddenly opened.

That vertical eye emitted a chilling aura, exuding a bizarre glow. The icy light that originally shot from its two eyes suddenly became as clear as diamonds and no longer emitted cold air.

From a distance, it seemed that the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast's eyes were emitting not icy light but two flawless diamond pillars.

Modao Cang became alert. He noticed that the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast had used the second level of Extreme Freeze Light, causing the power of Light of Truth to surge. Li Xiu would probably not be able to withstand it, which meant he would have to intervene.

As Modao Cang expected, once the Extreme Freeze Light appeared, Li Xiu's Forbidden Light was immediately forced back.

Seeing the Extreme Freeze Light rapidly advancing, in the blink of an eye, it had pressed against the muzzle of the Forbidden Cannon, with the Forbidden Light being confined within the cannon's chamber, unable to shoot out.

The muzzle had already begun to freeze, making the situation look quite grim.

Modao Cang was about to step forward when he suddenly saw the Light Pattern on the Forbidden Cannon reverse, directly absorbing the Extreme Freeze Light.

"What is this maneuver?" Modao Cang was wide-eyed with surprise, realizing that Li Xiu was devouring the Extreme Freeze Light.

Previously, Li Xiu's ability to convert cold energy for his use was already surprising but still within reason.

After all, that involved absorbing fragmented cold energy and slowly converting it, something Modao Cang could roughly understand how to manage.

However, for Li Xiu to directly absorb the Extreme Freeze Light in the middle of a clash without any buffering left Modao Cang baffled about how he could withstand and transform such intense Extreme Freeze Light.

According to Modao Cang's observation, Li Xiu's Light of Truth was relatively low-level, likely having just recently ascended to the Divine Position.

With this level of Light of Truth, even if he used all his power to protect himself, the absorbed Extreme Freeze Light would likely freeze him.

Yet, there were no signs of Li Xiu being encased in ice; the heat around him surged, and the red-orange Light of Truth became increasingly strong.

"What kind of skill is this?" Modao Cang couldn't help but be a bit shocked. He had to admit that at Li Xiu's level, he could not achieve what Li Xiu was now doing.

For Li Xiu, this was just the beginning.

The Super Bottle Suction frantically absorbed the Extreme Freeze Light, utilizing the Ice Heart talent, Ice Ashes, and the Heaven-Burning Demon Body to frantically transform it.

As time passed second by second, Modao Cang watching from the side was getting a bit nervous too, feeling that this young man was even more reckless and formidable than he was in his youth.

"What kind of monster is this? Has Li Boyang been kicked by a donkey, become brain-damaged, and loosened the restrictions on the Trial Takers of Longevity City..." Modao Cang had a pressing desire to

immediately return to Longevity City to see what it had become, wondering if the streets were now full of Divine Position Testers.

The Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, seeing that the Extreme Freeze Light still couldn't freeze the human in front, its eyes filled with killing intent, and the face-like exoskeleton on its head emitted a strange glow, with the snow-white spine sections lighting up with that eerie glow.

As the face-like exoskeleton became more transparent, the Extreme Freeze Light it emitted changed again.

It's indescribable what kind of light it was at this point; the original Extreme Freeze Light seemed crystal-clear, almost without impurities.

But now the Light of Truth didn't appear as clear anymore.

Not that the Light of Truth weakened or became impure, but the Light of Truth now appeared to be lower in resolution.

Li Xiu pondered repeatedly and could only describe it as if the previous Extreme Freeze Light was akin to a high-resolution screen where the naked eye couldn't see the pixels.

Now the Light of Truth seemed like a low-resolution screen where pixel-like things formed the Light of Truth.

No, it wasn't pixel-like anymore; it was like a transparent mosaic that formed the light, an indescribable strangeness.

Under that bizarre Light of Truth, everything was instantaneously frozen, as if even space itself had become solidified.

"Youngster, let this old man... assist... you... one..." Modao Cang's face changed slightly, and he appeared behind Li Xiu in a flash, understanding all too well the terror of the Light of Absolute Stillness.

Under that intense Extreme Freeze Light, all particles would be frozen, motion would stop, and a living person would instantly become a dead one as soon as touched by the Light of Absolute Stillness, which meant this young man was as good as dead.

Before finishing his words, at the moment Modao Cang intended to lend Li Xiu a hand, the Forbidden Cannon erupted with a terrifying light first.

The vivid red Light Energy at the muzzle seemed ready to burst, the beam it emitted far thicker than the muzzle itself, and Li Xiu's body, due to the sheer power of the shot, was pushed backward from the recoil.

Chapter 967: Slaying the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast (3)

Standing right behind Li Xiu, Modao Cang had absolutely no idea this would happen, completely unprepared, he was directly knocked into by Li Xiu's back, and the two flew backward into the air together.

The beam immediately collided with the Light of Absolute Stillness, and the parts in contact were instantly frozen in mid-air, with the rear parts quickly freezing as well.

As Li Xiu retreated, the vivid light beam from the cannon muzzle continuously froze in mid-air, hanging like a bright red rainbow.

Seeing the Light of Absolute Stillness reaching the cannon muzzle, with the Forbidden Light outside it entirely frozen and the cannon soon facing the same fate, Li Xiu remained unfazed.

"Now's the time!" Li Xiu roared, leaning back to use Modao Cang as a pivot to halt his retreat, stabilizing the cannon and firing a second shot.

Modao Cang, with good intentions, didn't expect Li Xiu to do such a thing, using him as a springboard while unprepared. He accelerated from Li Xiu's leverage, crashing into an iceberg and leaving a human-shaped dent.

Now Modao Cang felt like swearing, coming to aid only to be used as a meat shield.

Li Xiu's Forbidden Cannon fired a second Forbidden Light, which struck the first Forbidden Light frozen by the Light of Absolute Stillness.

Though both beams were Forbidden Light, they still had some differences.

The first Forbidden Light utilized by Li Xiu was the Immortal Forbidden Light, an almost indestructible force.

The Light of Absolute Stillness could freeze it but not destroy it.

Generally, the Light of Truth, once frozen by the Light of Absolute Stillness, easily shattered, which was one of its characteristics.

The Immortal Forbidden Light, however, wouldn't break easily.

For the second Forbidden Light, Li Xiu enhanced it with all the absorbed Light Energy, using the Undedicated Forbidden Light.

Li Xiu had not utilized the absorbed Light Energy in the Immortal Forbidden Light, but he unleashed all of it in the Undedicated Forbidden Light.

The Undedicated Forbidden Light slammed like a giant hammer against the frozen Immortal Forbidden Light.

The rainbow-like Immortal Forbidden Light, receiving such a heavy blow, spun and sped towards the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast.

The Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast had never seen such a maneuver, instinctively trying to freeze the incoming Immortal Forbidden Light with the Light of Absolute Stillness without processing it completely.

But the Immortal Forbidden Light was already frozen by the Light of Absolute Stillness, surrounded by it.

The Light of Absolute Stillness couldn't affect itself, and under its protection, like a high-speed javelin, it pierced through the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast's eye.

Crack!

The Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast's eye was penetrated, and the rainbow-like Immortal Forbidden Light pierced through its skull, lodging within, causing it to howl in pain skyward.

Li Xiu carried the Forbidden Cannon, bombarding the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, continuous beams of Forbidden Light striking its unprotected body.

Though the subsequent Forbidden Lights didn't shatter the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, they left several deep pits, crushing its external ice scales and cracking the crystalline body, exposing the snow-white spine inside.

The Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, in pain, retaliated wildly, beams of ice light bursting haphazardly from its claws.

Li Xiu danced nimbly in the air stepping on the Fire Lotus Sword, evading those stray ice lights, as the Forbidden Spear returned to its Gatling state, light bullets pouring like torrential rain into the wounds of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast.

Raindrop-like light bullets shot into the wounds of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, hitting its snow-white vertebrae and skull.

The Seventh Great Taboo Cannons could only be used seven times briefly, yet in Gatling mode, though not firing the Light of Truth, the Seventh Great Taboo Light Bullets could bombard infinitely.

One Seventh Great Taboo Light Bullet might not affect the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast much, but in numbers, they held some effect.

Moreover, Li Xiu had already broken open its body, directly shooting light bullets into it.

The wounded Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast fought back wildly but couldn't touch Li Xiu at all; Li Xiu rode the sword into the sky, charging straight for the top of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast.

The Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast emitted the Light of Absolute Stillness from its lone eye but couldn't aim properly, slipping past Li Xiu.

Li Xiu wielded his sword in the air, leaping at the last moment towards the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast, hands gripping a streak of violet light, stabbing fiercely at the humanoid exoskeleton atop its head.

The Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast tried to evade, yet its body disobeyed, moving forward instead of backward.

Crack!

Li Xiu slammed heavily atop it, the Longevity Treasure Chopsticks stabbing into the humanoid exoskeleton, shattering it.

The humanoid exoskeleton, like glass, shattered into fragments, falling from the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast's head.

With the shattering of the humanoid exoskeleton, the three eyes of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast immediately turned lifeless, and its body crashed to the icy glacier.

A massive crash resounded as the surrounding ice ground collapsed into a debris of ice blocks.

Amid the ruins, strands of ice light rose, gathering at one point.

Modao Cang struggled free from the glacier, staring dumbfounded at the scene for half a moment, even forgetting his previous urges to curse Li Xiu.

"This kid... really killed the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast..." Modao Cang's expression turned bizarre as he watched Li Xiu hovering above the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast's corpse.

## Chapter 968: Fireworks World

The light energy that spilled out from the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast's corpse gathered around an Undying Flame Bullet, and soon that bullet transformed into a ring. The diamond-like body turned dusky like earth, with not even a hint of cold air.

Li Xiu reached out to grab the ring, then smashed the head of the Ice Bone Yin Spirit Beast and found the Divine Position Crystal.

Unfortunately, the light energy from the Demon Core had already been absorbed by the Undying Flame Bullet, leaving one less Divine Position Demon Core.

"Li Xiu, are you really not from the Li Family?" Modao Cang fell behind Li Xiu and asked while scrutinizing him.

"The Li Family is definitely the Li Family, but not the one from Longevity City." Li Xiu found Modao Cang's question a bit amusing. Doesn't that mean besides the Li Family from Longevity City, others with the surname Li aren't human?

"So, you're a descendant of Li Boyang?" Modao Cang asked again.

"No, I'm just an ordinary person with the surname Li, and had no connection with the people from Longevity Heaven before joining." Li Xiu had to explain in detail.

He didn't want to waste time on such pointless conversations; now that both mutated Divine Position Crystals were in hand, he needed to quickly find a place to let the Evil Spirit Token ascend to the Divine Position.

Who would've thought, after hearing Li Xiu's explanation, Modao Cang wasn't disappointed, but rather overjoyed, asking even more eagerly: "So, you're from the Longevity Group Six?"

"No, I'm from the Longevity Group Seven." Li Xiu had to patiently answer.

After all, Modao Cang first gave him the Fire Cloud Bead that could ward off cold, and later tried to save him; he was indeed a good man, and Li Xiu was always patient with good people.

"Longevity Group Seven? Has Longevity Heaven formed a new group?" Modao Cang quickly understood what Li Xiu meant.

"Yes, I'm part of the Seventh Group, the Technician Group." Li Xiu said.

Modao Cang was greatly pleased as he listened; it didn't matter if Li Xiu was in the Seventh Group or any other group, if the young people from the Longevity Group are already this strong, then wouldn't the Mo Family be even stronger?

"Li Xiu, could you tell me, how many Divine Positions does the Mo Family have now?" Modao Cang quickly asked.

"You must have been away from Longevity Heaven for many years, right?" Li Xiu wasn't a fool; from Modao Cang's words, he already understood the situation.

"Indeed, it's been years since I returned." Modao Cang nodded in response.

Li Xiu pondered for a moment and said: "How many Divine Positions the Mo Family has, I really don't know."

"How can you not know? Could it be that my Mo Family has so many Divine Positions that outsiders can't figure out how many they actually have?" Modao Cang considered this possibility.

Li Xiu replied with a strange expression: "That's possible, but I've never heard of the Mo Family having a Divine Position, nor have I seen one before. You are the first Divine Position I've seen from the Mo Family."

"How can that be possible? You mustn't lie to me." Modao Cang was stunned by his words.

"I don't like lying, nor do I have a reason to lie to you. If you don't believe me, go back to Longevity Heaven and you'll naturally find out the truth." Li Xiu had to say.

"Even the Longevity Group Six has produced a Divine Position, how could my Mo Family be so lacking, not even having a single Divine Position?" Modao Cang couldn't accept this answer; it seemed he thought of something else and quickly asked: "Could it be that my Mo Family has undergone some major upheaval, and is no longer among the big families?"

"That's not the case; the Mo Family is still one of the Four Great Families." Li Xiu replied.

"The Four Great Families?" Modao Cang was stunned again upon hearing this, and after realizing it, he quickly asked: "Who are the current Four Great Families?"

"Sun, Mo, Li, Han."

"Only these four families are left?" Modao Cang's expression grew more complex as he sighed and asked: "And among the current Four Great Families, how many Divine Positions are there?"

"If it's only what I've heard, then it should be just you." Li Xiu had previously thought that the Four Great Families probably didn't have any true Divine Positions, but after meeting Modao Cang, he was no longer certain.

"The Four Great Families don't have a single Divine Position, how did you ascend to the Divine Position? Longevity Group Six... no... How many Divine Positions are there in Longevity Group Seven?" Modao Cang asked with widened eyes.

"It seems the only Divine Position I know of is just me." Li Xiu said, pointing at his nose.

This time, Modao Cang was not surprised, but his expression became somewhat indecisive: "Li Boyang is indeed that Li Boyang, are you sure you're not a descendant of Li Boyang?"

"I'm very sure about that; the chairman indeed has descendants, but it's not me." Li Xiu said.

"That's strange, even the Four Great Families and Longevity Group Seven don't have anyone who can ascend to the Divine Position, how did you ascend?" Modao Cang stared at Li Xiu.

"Maybe because I'm rather lucky." Li Xiu said self-deprecatingly.

He was indeed quite lucky; if he didn't have inherently strong Spiritual Sense, if Bai Qiuyi hadn't guided him to become a Trial Taker, and if the chairman hadn't invited him to join Longevity Heaven, he certainly wouldn't have ascended so quickly.

"Lucky, I've never heard of anyone ascending to the Divine Position purely by luck." Modao Cang frowned and continued: "Was it Li Boyang who helped you ascend to the Divine Position?"

"In a way, yes; he provided me with a lot of Divine Position Demon Spirit materials."

"Just the Divine Position Demon Spirit materials?" Modao Cang looked skeptical.

"Yes."

"He didn't help you kill a Divine Position Demon Spirit, or give you a Divine Position Gemstone?" Modao Cang persisted in asking.

"No." Li Xiu shook his head.

"Just by relying on Divine Position Demon Spirit materials, being able to slay a Demon Spirit to obtain a Divine Position Gemstone and ascend to the Divine Position on your own, you're right, you are indeed very fortunate." Modao Cang sighed.

Chapter 969: Fireworks World (Part 2)

At this moment, Modao Cang felt somewhat disheartened, with none of his earlier enthusiasm.

He saw Li Xiu, so young yet already such a formidable Divine Position, and thought that since Eternal Heaven had lifted its restrictions, the Mo Family might have produced many Divine Positions. To his dismay, they had none.

"You have asked me so many questions, may I ask you a few?" Li Xiu wasn't in a hurry to leave, looking at Modao Cang as he spoke.

"What do you want to ask?" Modao Cang had lost interest.

"You are the Divine Position of the Mo Family, why don't you return there? If you do, the Mo Family will surely become the leader among the Four Great Families." Li Xiu said.

"You're thinking too simply. If I could return to Eternal Heaven, those old fellows from the other families could as well. Who leads the Four Great Families remains uncertain." Modao Cang replied.

Li Xiu paused: "Do you mean that the other three families also have Divine Position Level Trial Takers like you residing in the Land of Trial?"

"It's not just the other three families; it should be the other seven... great... families..." As Modao Cang said this, something seemed to occur to him. His expression changed suddenly, and he asked Li Xiu urgently, "You said the current families are Sun, Mo, Li, and Han?"

"Yes, is there a problem with that?" Li Xiu faintly guessed something.

Without answering Li Xiu, Modao Cang's face showed anger: "Damn you, Li Boyang! If you've gone to such extremes, I will not rest with you."

"Li Xiu, come with me." With that, Modao Cang flew into the air and stood suspended like a celestial being moving upon clouds.

"I have a few things..." Li Xiu's words were interrupted.

"Do you not want to know why Divine Positions like me cannot return to Eternal Heaven? Right now, apart from Li Boyang, you are the only Divine Position; perhaps we are your cautionary tales." Modao Cang said slowly.

Li Xiu was indeed moved, hesitated for a moment, then flew up on the Fire Lotus Sword.

"Your sword is too slow; let me take you." Modao Cang summoned a rhino-like demon spirit and mounted it, gesturing for Li Xiu to join him.

Li Xiu sat on the rhino-like demon spirit's back, which let out a long roar, then sped off at full gallop. Its body was enveloped in a bullet-shaped Light Shield of Divine Light, protecting them as it accelerated through the sky.

"Divine Position Demon Spirit!" Today, Li Xiu witnessed something remarkable: Modao Cang's mount was of Divine Position Level.

The rhino demon spirit moved incredibly fast, like lightning, like light. The scenery below flashed past rapidly, blurring and becoming indistinct, and in the blink of an eye, they had traveled countless miles.

The scenery shifted quickly, and when the demon spirit stopped, they were no longer in the land of ice and snow.

Before them was a dilapidated Ancient City; many sections of its walls had collapsed, with an eerie absence of life and light.

Modao Cang's expression grew darker as he faced the Ancient City, shouting outside its gates: "Old deaf man, are you there...?"

Modao Cang called out three times, but there was no response from within the Ancient City; instead, they heard creaking sounds, as if countless bamboo segments were breaking.

Modao Cang's face was as dark as could be, watching the Ancient City silently.

Li Xiu also watched the Ancient City, and before long saw a flood of Skeleton Demon Spirits pouring out like waves.

Most Skeleton Demon Spirits were low-level insignificance, but among them were quite a few high-level demon spirits.

Due to their overwhelming quantity, they seemed endless as waves, and even with a small percentage of high-level demon spirits, their numbers were considerable.

Li Xiu only glanced briefly and already spotted several Light Base demon spirits, saw two or three Spirit Casting, which was only a part of the tide flooding out. Who knows how many demon spirits there were in the advancing army of skeletons, perhaps even more Divine Position Demon Spirits.

Flying up on the Fire Lotus Sword, Li Xiu immediately saw within the enormous Ancient City, skeleton demon spirits were densely packed as far as the eye could see, as numerous as an endless ocean, including many dazzling high-level demon spirits.

Li Xiu even spotted a Divine Position Level Bone Dragon emerging from the ruins, its Bone Wings shimmering with eerie light, ready to soar skyward.

"There's simply too many Skeleton Demon Spirits here!" Even Li Xiu felt a tinge of fear seeing this tidal wave of demon spirits.

With so many demon spirits, even if they stood still for him to slay, it would take him a long while. Not to mention within were Divine Position demon spirits, and their exact number was uncertain.

No matter how skilled one is, it's hard to grasp thousands of hands, nor mention hands numbering tens of thousands; Li Xiu didn't wish to risk getting trapped, about to call Modao Cang to retreat. But he saw Modao Cang vent his fury with a grand gesture.

An ancient green brick emitted mysterious Divine Light, soaring into the sky, and Li Xiu witnessed a scene that would remain unforgettable.

Countless green bricks fell from high above, resembling the collapse of celestial palaces, with numerous Immortal Palace green bricks crashing onto the Mortal World.

The falling green bricks smashed upon the Skeleton Demon Spirits, one after another, crushing countless Skeleton Demon Spirits into fragments, as if an invisible Celestial Immortal Force was walling them, enclosing those wave-like Skeleton Demon Spirits within masonry.

#### Chapter 970: Fireworks World (Part 3)

One by one, the green ancient walls rose, filled with white bones. Whether it was ordinary demon spirits, Light Base, Spirit Casting, or even the Divine Position Level Bone Dragons, all were firmly built into the wall by those cyan bricks.

In a moment, the once dilapidated Ancient City was suddenly covered by a flowing immortal light, transforming into the Cyan Brick Immortal City, but the countless white bones within the walls made the observers shiver.

When that piece of cyan brick returned to Modao Cang's sleeve, the Cyan Brick Immortal City also disappeared. The sound of crashing echoed incessantly, the ancient city already razed to the ground, leaving behind a landscape covered with bone fragments, demon cores, and various talent gemstones, skill rings, and more...

Li Xiu was somewhat astonished; one blow to annihilate the city, crushing countless demon spirits, even the Divine Position Level Bone Dragons died silently without any opportunity for the Light of Truth to illuminate. The terrifying strength of Modao Cang was indeed frightening.

"Old Deaf Man, you truly are dead... Li Boyang, Li Boyang... You are truly ruthless... When people leave, the tea cools... Is there no sentiment left at all?" Modao Cang seemed completely uninterested in the demon cores and various items scattered on the ground, only bowing his head and murmuring to himself.

Li Xiu could roughly guess what was happening. It was probable that the former eight great families all had Divine Position Level beings, but for reasons unknown, these divine figures left Longevity City, remaining in the Demon Spirit Realm.

As the years passed, some families' Divine Position Level elders perished in the Land of Trial, and their families were subsequently expelled from the ranks of greatness within Longevity City.

Of course, all these are just conclusions Li Xiu derived from Modao Cang's few words. If his guesses were correct, then the Divine Position Level elders of the Sun, Han, Li, and Mo families should still be alive.

"Could it be that the Li Family has already declined to such a degree, yet hasn't been expelled from the ranks of greatness; whereas the Wan Chao Family's strength has far surpassed that of today's Li Family, yet still cannot enter the ranks of greatness. Now I understand the root cause." Li Xiu felt that his conjecture was likely correct.

"Do you want to know why I cannot return to Longevity City?" After a long time, Modao Cang said somewhat despondently, gazing at the Ancient City that had been razed to the ground.

Li Xiu didn't speak, just nodded.

"Then you must first hear a story," Modao Cang slowly narrated, "It was a chaotic era, where founders of various thoughts and schools emerged like bamboo shoots after a spring rain, a time of unmatched prosperity, hard to see in the span of ages."

"Among them, the eight most excellent founders of schools mysteriously disappeared from the world. People thought they had already died, but unknown to them, in fact, they hadn't died. They were visited by the same powerful visitor at different points in time and were taken away to an unimaginable world..."

"Were they forcibly taken?" asked Li Xiu.

"You could say so, or not," Modao Cang said with a sigh, "Those eight school founders were exceptionally talented, once-in-a-millennium prodigies. However, after being visited by that person, they were all ensnared by the visitor's incredible knowledge and thinking, and then the person revealed to them the existence of that world and the secret of immortality, stirring their curiosity and longing, wishing to know if such a world truly existed."

"Those eight founders of schools, should be the founders of the eight great families, right?" Li Xiu sighed.

Modao Cang nodded slightly, "Those eight gradually experienced that incredible world and obtained the secret of immortality, then became deeply entangled, unable to extricate themselves and had no desire to return to mundane life, bringing their friends and family over, continuously following that person's teachings until one day, that person gathered the eight and disclosed a secret that they found hard to accept."

"What secret?" Li Xiu couldn't help his heart from speeding up.

"Every bit of energy they plundered from this world was pushing it toward destruction," Modao Cang said slowly.

"What do you mean?" Li Xiu seemed to understand, yet didn't.

"They didn't understand at the time either. The visitor mentioned a term, 'fireworks world,'" Modao Cang said, "He likened the world to a firework being set off, unlike the previous understanding of endless cycles of regeneration, according to his theory, this world's energy was akin to fireworks, not infinite. Once the firework burnt out, this seemingly radiant fireworks world would cease to exist as well. And the energy we seized from this world was like fuel within the fireworks; the more we seize, the stronger we become, the faster the world's destruction."

"Such a metaphor is quite unorthodox, hard to believe," Li Xiu frowned.

"Not only you disbelieve, they too didn't believe initially, until the visitor showed them something," Modao Cang's eyes unexpectedly revealed a trace of fear.

"What was it?" Li Xiu was intensely curious.

"Firework ashes," Modao Cang said word by word.

"Firework ashes?" Li Xiu contemplated what those four words might signify, yet found it hard to imagine.

Modao Cang didn't explain, just continued, "They saw it, and feared it; hence, they made an agreement with that person that in this limited fireworks world, only those who have the potential to leap beyond this fireworks world have the right to these finite resources."

Li Xiu now finally understood why the Divine Position Level Trial Takers of Longevity City were so few, it turned out to be under intentional control.

"If this truly is a fireworks world, how could anyone possibly leap beyond this world?" Li Xiu frowned.

"He gave us an answer: direction," Modao Cang slowly stated.