

## **World 1111**

### Chapter 1111: Breakthrough\_2

In the Eastern Wilderness, damage to the origin is basically incurable.

For instance, if one loses ten percent of their origin, even if their body recovers, a cultivator's spiritual power could only be restored to ninety percent.

The remaining ten percent would be irrecoverable.

Even if one's realm improved later on, and their spiritual power became stronger, the lost ten percent of the origin would never be regained.

Of course, it's not that there are absolutely no ways to deal with it.

Some precious heavenly and earthly treasures can repair the origin.

For example, the Three Lights Divine Water from Star Heaven Dao Sect is known to be omnipotent.

Another example is an alchemy recipe called "Sun Bathing" from the Sun Bathing Sea, which is specifically designed for situations of origin damage.

But for Xue Ting, both of these were precious items that were impossible to obtain.

"Being able to survive is already very fortunate for me. I have to thank Gu Shimai for this," she said.

However, Xue Ting seemed to accept her situation, or perhaps cultivators from the Tianhe Realm had already prepared for this when they first began cultivation.

In the Eastern Wilderness, cultivators who have not fought using their origin are few and far between.

“During this time, niece Xue, you should not use your spiritual power. Ming’er, take good care of her. Once I return, I’ll look into some relevant literature and see if there are other methods,”

Chen Mobai felt that the Immortal Gate definitely had a way, but he wasn’t a professional doctor and thus hesitated to make any guarantees.

Xue Ting naturally thanked him with a deep bow, and after Chen Mobai gestured for her to rise, he asked about Gu Yan.

“Shouldn’t you be in Rain Country?”

“Reporting to Sect Leader, because of the great battle in Cloud Dream Ze, brother Hong He recruited me. Since Yun Country’s sect does not have enough Foundation Establishment Practitioners, they sent me to guard the Green Light Island Market,”

Gu Yan replied truthfully. Compared to the three people, Zhou Wangshen, Hong He, and E Yun, the other three major Town Guard forces were indeed much weaker, and even the basic configuration of three Foundation Establishment Practitioners was not complete.

Because Rain Country is close to Yun Country, Hong He paid a bit more attention to protecting the sect’s island markets.

[Hmm, how are things going with the task I assigned to you?]

Chen Mobai used divine sense to transmit this question, and Gu Yan indicated that everything was recorded, but it was not appropriate for her to take it out in public.

“You all go ahead and eat; I have something to discuss with niece Gu,”

Chen Mobai spoke indifferently, then stood up first and headed towards the back attic. Gu Yan immediately rose to follow.

Their actions aroused the curiosity of everyone present, but because of Chen Mobai's profound authority, they dared not speculate and could only guess in their hearts.

"You've worked hard these years."

When only the two of them were left, Chen Mobai took the scroll that Gu Yan handed him. Upon opening it, he saw a detailed record of her seven years of observation of Hong He in Rain Country.

Though her cultivation level was not as high as Hong He's, armed with numerous Invisibility Talismans left by Chen Mobai, she had excellently completed the surveillance task.

"No abnormalities..."

After reading the scroll, Chen Mobai appeared somewhat surprised.

During these seven years under Gu Yan's surveillance, Hong He had not shown any traces of using demonic cultivation to advance his power.

"Yes, I swear on my Dao Heart!"

Gu Yan nodded gravely, assuring that what was recorded on the scroll was indeed what she had witnessed with her own eyes.

"Alright, let's leave it at that for now. After the impact of the demonic beast tide is over, you don't need to return to Rain Country. Apply to return to the sect directly; I will arrange the procedures,"

Since Hong He had not shown any traces of practicing demonic cultivation over the past seven years, Chen Mobai was willing to trust this talented individual from the sect.

However, demonic cultivation was still a major concern, so he needed one final verification.

To avoid the possibility of Gu Yan having been exposed, he first needed to call her back to the sect and put Hong He at ease.

“Yes, Sect Leader!”

Hearing that she could return to the sect, a smile also appeared on Gu Yan’s face.

When the pair returned to the front, Chen Mobai discovered that while he was away, not a single chopstick had been touched by the others.

With a slight shake of his head, he could only pick up his chopsticks and grab a piece of fish meat to eat...

After finishing the meal, Dong Xuanze from the Town Guard of Yun Country hurried over.

“Reporting to Sect Leader, Qi Cuizhen used the Teleportation Array to reach the mainland of Yun Country six months ago. However, she did not return to Snow-blowing Palace afterward but directly disappeared. She probably feared being held accountable by Kong Lingling if she went back, so she took off with the funds of the Snow-blowing Palace amassed at the Yun Meng Ze Market and vanished to a faraway place.”

Dong Xuanze had investigated the matter Chen Mobai had instructed, uncovering most of the details.

Xue Ting, who stood hand in hand with Zhuo Ming, became even paler upon hearing this. But the dim look in her eyes was replaced by a trace of light.

At least, it wasn’t the Sect that abandoned them.

“Hmm, write this matter into a document and send someone to deliver it to Snow-blowing Palace,” he said.

Chen Mobai had no fondness for traitors and after giving his instructions to Dong Xuanze, he did not linger there.

He took Zhuo Ming and the others, rode the Teleportation Array, and after a few flashes, they had already returned to Giant Tree Ridge.

After returning, he first summoned Yue Zutao to sort out various matters within the Sect. Then, he paid a visit to the Immortal Gate.

Using online consultation, he secured an appointment with a senior professor from the Imperial Medical Academy and shared the situation of Xue Ting's injury to her foundation.

Soon, he received a very detailed medical plan for nourishing and dietary healing.

“[Young lady, you are still young; don't overexert yourself at work. Good Deed Points can be earned slowly, but once Elemental Energy is damaged severely, it's not easy to recover from.]”

Since Chen Mobai posed as Xue Ting for the consultation, pretending to have an overwork-related injury, in the end, he received a word of advice from the senior professor.

Chen Mobai could only reply with a thank you and then log off to return to the Tianhe Realm.

He used the Heavenly Communication Device to call Zhuo Ming, and soon she arrived with Xue Ting.

“Rest and follow this plan for dietary healing. There may be a few ingredients and medications that Giant Tree Ridge doesn't have. Ming'er, use your own name to issue a task at Spirit Treasure Pavilion and help gather some for your niece Xue.”

Zhuo Ming naturally was willing to help a friend, and Xue Ting was extremely grateful.

After the two women left, Chen Mobai called over Jiang Zongheng.

“As your teacher, I am about to enter seclusion. You have travelled with me across the Eastern Desolation Plateau and fought against demonic beasts in Yun Meng Ze. Have you had any insights or confusions?”

Jiang Zongheng nodded, voicing some questions that he pondered over but could not find answers to.

Chen Mobai used his understanding to provide answers one by one, guiding him towards forming correct principles. For some uncertainties, he also secretly used Turtle Treasure to search in the Immortal Gate.

The difficulties that Jiang Zongheng thought were insurmountable were all addressed with answers fitting Chen Mobai’s intent on the vast network accumulated by millions in the Immortal Gate.

“Thank you for your guidance, Master! Your disciple has no more confusion!” he said.

After the guidance was complete, Chen Mobai also gave Jiang Zongheng a gourd of Longevity Tree Sap.

Chen Mobai asked, “What are your plans going forward?”

Jiang Zongheng replied, “Your disciple wishes to return home to visit my parents first, and then return to the Longevity Academy to teach and continue to deepen my knowledge.”

Chen Mobai: “When you go back to your hometown, you might want to visit the location of that loquat tree again. Even I can’t locate it; there must certainly be a mystery to it.”

Now that there was time, Chen Mobai wanted to enhance his own Spiritual Root, so he took out the twenty-four Grand Spells from the legacy space of the Longevity Sect.

The loquat tree Jiang Zongheng had consumed as a child was known by Chen Mobai to be beneficial to his Spiritual Root.

Jiang Zongheng naturally nodded in agreement.

Days passed by.

Xue Ting was recuperating in Zhuo Ming's Court Mountain and slowly felt the foundation that had been lost within her Dantian Qi Sea beginning to recover. She couldn't help feeling more grateful to Chen Mobai.

One day, while she was helping to feed the Green Cow, she suddenly sensed the spiritual energy of the entire Giant Tree Ridge converging towards a certain direction.

In Xiao Nanshan, two streaks of Spiritual Light flashed, and Zhuo Ming—who was farming—joined Luo Yixuan atop the mountain and flew into the sky together.

They both saw the Everlife Wood that the world's spiritual energy was rushing towards, and smiles of joy appeared on their faces.

"It seems that the Master's Cultivation Level has once again made a breakthrough!"

Chapter 1112: Seeing Qing Nu Again In the wooden hut, Chen Mobai slowly opened his eyes, feeling the more majestic Pure Yang Spiritual Power within his Dantian Qi Sea. Satisfied with his achievement of the Golden Core Third Layer, he nodded with contentment.

This time, he did not rely on the power of any elixir; the breakthrough came purely from his cultivation reaching the necessary point and then, through sitting meditation with focus, he broke through in one go.

Of course, although he attempted this, next to the meditation cushion on the ground were the Pure Yang Purple Qi and the Blood Spirit Pill, both of which could assist in breaking through barriers.

When it came to breaking through realms, Chen Mobai always spared no resources and would prepare all sorts of conditions to their fullest.

However, since the breakthrough happened naturally this time, it meant he saved these two precious spirit-breaking spiritual objects.

Among them, Chen Mobai did not mind if the Pure Yang Purple Qi were used.

After all, breaking through with the Pure Yang Scroll required using it, which was specifically included by the Yuanyang Ancestor. After all, Pure Yang cultivators needed to spend part of their time cultivating the Embodiment; if they were trapped by a bottleneck during realm breakthroughs, it would be basically impossible to successfully cultivate the Divine Transformation Technique.

The condensing of Pure Yang Purple Qi only requires cultivators of the scroll to harmonize with the essence of the purple qi at dawn each day; it does not take much time and does not delay the cultivation of spiritual power and the Embodiment.

It is for this reason that Pure Yang Purple Qi can only exert its full effect when used by the condenser themselves.

However, even with such spirit-aiding objects for breaking barriers, those who can cultivate the Pure Yang Scroll to the Nascent Soul Realm are still few and far between.

Because to condense a complete strand of Pure Yang Purple Qi, a considerable amount of time is also required.

In theory, one needs sixty years for the first layer of Golden Core.

But there's an advantage to Pure Yang Purple Qi; even if it's not a complete strand, it still has a barrier-breaking effect.

The last time Chen Mobai broke through to the Golden Core Second Layer, he used the strand of Pure Yang Purple Qi that he had condensed.

The strand he holds now was condensed by the Formless Puppet over the past five years after breaking through the realm, along with what was obtained this year under the guidance of Yin Qingmei with the Haotian Mirror.

According to the standards of the Immortal Gate, a strand is divided into ten parts.

Meaning approximately, it holds about one-tenth the effectiveness of a complete strand of Pure Yang Purple Qi.

Basically, all cultivators of the Pure Yang Scroll save up their Pure Yang Purple Qi until they have a complete strand, to use either at a major realm breakthrough or at critical bottlenecks moving from early to middle stages or from middle to later stages.

Because those who dare to cultivate the Pure Yang Scroll are definitely among the top talents of the Immortal Gate.

If they can't break through the minor realms on their own, they might as well switch to cultivating something like the Scorching Heaven Cultivation Technique earlier on.

However, Chen Mobai was well-aware of his own talent, so at every breakthrough, he would have all resources at hand, ready to consume at the first sign of failure, never being stingy.

So, that he managed to break through successfully this time without using the Pure Yang Purple Qi and the Blood Spirit Pill was a great surprise to him.

"Perhaps it's the result of accumulating over time," he figured.

But Chen Mobai still reminded himself he must not become arrogant; after all, it had been six years since his last breakthrough.

Even with his full-fledged Spiritual Root, Spiritual Body, and Spirit Vein conditions, he needed so long to break through, showing the difficulty of cultivating the Pure Yang Scroll.

Furthermore, what troubled Chen Mobai the most was still the Pure Yang Daoist Body.

Although he had broken through to the Golden Core Third Layer, his seven suns constitution was still just short of another upgrade to his Spiritual Root.

Even with the aid of Spirit Stones, his cultivation was still so difficult; one could imagine how the cultivators of the Pure Yang Scroll from the Immortal Gate struggle daily with their barely progressing Daoist Body.

No wonder, the Pure Yang Scroll, despite being the technique with the lowest threshold for Divine Transformation in the Immortal Gate, has few practitioners.

After his realm breakthrough, Chen Mobai took out a top-grade Spirit Stone and attempted to practice the Pure Yang Daoist Body.

After one cycle of cultivation, he discovered the speed had increased by one-fifth.

At this rate, in about half a year, his seven suns constitution would allow him to enhance his Fire Spirit Root by another 3 points.

The higher the realm, the faster the cultivation of the Pure Yang Daoist Body, but the further one progresses, the more difficult it becomes.

He needed to find a way to increase the speed of his progress.

With these thoughts in mind, Chen Mobai took out an elixir from his Storage Bag.

It was the “Golden Crow Sun-Chasing Elixir” from Han Tingfeng, which could significantly improve the efficiency of refining Fire Spiritual Power for a cultivator throughout a year.

Since it was an object from the Tianhe Realm, Chen Mobai dared not consume it.

He had no excuse to explain its origin before and did not let Qing Nu identify it, so it was almost forgotten in the Storage Bag.

Now that he had purchased the Void Blind Box, he could attribute it to that.

If the Golden Crow Sun-Chasing Elixir proved effective for him, Chen Mobai planned to consume it to quickly elevate his realm, which in turn would also accelerate the cultivation of his Pure Yang Daoist Body.

Furthermore, with the pill's effect lasting for a year, even if it caused pill poisoning, as long as Chen Mobai found a way to resolve it within a year, there would be no issue.

Consuming the elixir while resolving the pill poisoning would be perfect for not wasting his efforts in practicing the Flame Lighting Technique.

With the support of the Green Charm Spiritual Tea from Back to Sky Valley, the plan was foolproof.

Thinking this way, Chen Mobai left seclusion.

The signs of his cultivation level breakthrough—absorbing massive amounts of nature's spiritual energy—were visible throughout half of Giant Tree Ridge, so when Yue Zutao and others came over, they were the first to congratulate him.

Chapter 1113: Seeing Qing Nu Again\_2

After dealing with the sect affairs, Chen Mobai went to Little South Mountain.

Seven days later, Liu Wenbo, who was overseeing the operation of the Little South Mountain Shop, hurried back.

“Greetings, Master!”

“Hmm, there is a matter that requires a trip to Back to Sky Valley. Since it is a personal matter of mine, it is not appropriate to trouble the sect, so I can only trouble you.”

“Please instruct me, Master. It is my honor to serve you.”

Liu Wenbo was slightly surprised; Chen Mobai seldom actively assigned tasks. Since he had sworn fealty to the Little South Mountain lineage, such instances could be counted on one hand.

“You will visit Yan Shaoyin on my behalf and give him this letter.”

Chen Mobai wanted to exchange for the Green Charm Spiritual Tea tree. Although Yan Shaoyin said this Spiritual Tea needed to grow upon the Qi of Dragon Vein, with Zhuo Ming present, he still wanted to attempt to cultivate this kind of Spiritual Tea in Little South Mountain.

However, this Green Charm Spiritual Tea was incredibly precious, and he feared that Yan Shaoyin might not agree.

But Chen Mobai offered a condition that no alchemist could refuse.

In the letter that Liu Wenbo took, Chen Mobai listed a catalog of alchemy recipes he had downloaded in the Immortal Gate, comprising twenty different Rank-3 elixirs.

If Yan Shaoyin was willing to exchange a Rank-3 tea tree, Chen Mobai would let him choose any three from this list of alchemy recipes.

Regarding this, Chen Mobai had complete confidence.

Because among the catalog of his alchemy recipes, one was an Infant-Feeding Elixir from the three spirit medicines of the “Nascent Soul Formation” in the Immortal Gate!

As long as Yan Shaoyin wanted to form a Nascent Soul, he, as the number one alchemist in the Eastern Wilderness, would definitely not resist this temptation.

Naturally, the title of the alchemy recipe catalog that Chen Mobai provided was called “Longevity Elixir Scripture”.

He didn’t know if the Longevity Sect had it, but from now on, they would.

By cloaking it in the guise of the Longevity Sect, Yan Shaoyin would certainly be convinced.

To ensure its authenticity, Chen Mobai also included the Jade Return Pill in the list.

Of course, if Yan Shaoyin truly wanted to exchange the tea tree for the alchemy recipes, according to the rules of the Tianhe Realm, he would be the only one allowed to refine and use them.

After Liu Wenbo took the letter, he intended to head straight for the Teleportation Array to Back to Sky Valley but was called back by Chen Mobai.

It had been a long time since he and his disciples had gathered together. Since he had returned, Zhuo Ming had prepared a lot of delicious food.

After a year of training in Yun Meng Ze, Zhuo Ming’s culinary skills had improved greatly, already surpassing those of Chen Mobai.

As she was preparing the ingredients, Xue Ting and Luo Yixuan were also helping on the side, while Chen Mobai started to advise Liu Wenbo on his cultivation.

This eldest disciple of his had the most modest talent in his sect. Without any accidents, it was basically impossible for him to achieve Core Formation.

However, now that he had his master’s protection, there was a glimmer of hope.

After all, Liu Wenbo practiced the Mother Earth Cultivation Technique, and with the Liquid Gold Jade Elixir, his odds would be fifty percent.

This was quite delicate, so Chen Mobai instructed him to solidify his foundations as much as possible, and not to pursue a rapid increase in realm too eagerly.

Even if it took one or two hundred years, he must not rely on taking elixirs but instead naturally elevate the water and wood techniques of his cultivation to the level of Foundation Establishment Completion. Only then, he might be able to make the final leap.

Furthermore, if Chen Mobai's own realm advanced rapidly later on, he might have extra Pure Yang Purple Qi.

Although using this substance would be a great waste for others, it might just help Liu Wenbo to overcome the divide of Core Formation.

But, the saying goes that even with a 99% chance, there's still the possibility of failure.

If the eldest disciple really wanted to form his core, his own state of mind was also very important.

The master and disciple sat under the Immortal Peach Tree, drinking tea, one asking questions and the other giving answers, and before they knew it, half a day had passed.

By then, Zhuo Ming had used the open-air stove to cook more than a dozen dishes, calling them to come over.

Xue Ting brought the wine, and Luo Yixuan cut open the freshly steamed Clear Bamboo Spirit Rice, releasing a sweet fragrance that made even Chen Mobai feel refreshed.

"Eh, this Spirit Rice is completely different from what I've had before."

Liu Wenbo took a segment from Luo Yixuan, and after tasting it, he felt his Divine Sense slightly clarified, which made him slightly astonished.

“This is a new Rank-3 Spirit Rice that Ming’er has researched, somewhat like an upgrade to Jade Bamboo Spirit Rice.”

Chen Mobai said with a smile; Zhuo Ming had achieved Perfection of the Mother Qi of All Things, which had an effect similar to the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations.

All she needed to do was infuse her Mother Qi of All Things into the soil, and it could mimic the characteristics of every soil in the world. She could create the perfect Spirit Soil based on the Spirit Plant being sown, allowing it to root and sprout optimally.

For instance, the Green Charm Spiritual Tea required soil that had been soaked in the Qi of Dragon Vein to thrive, and Zhuo Ming’s Mother Qi of All Things could artificially create such soil.

That was precisely why Chen Mobai had asked Liu Wenbo to make the trip.

However, this was not omnipotent; since the Earth Mother Cultivation could only be cultivated up to Golden Core Perfection, the simulated Spirit Soil could at most be of Rank-3.

Furthermore, for someone like Zhuo Ming who was only at the middle stage of Foundation Establishment, artificially creating Rank-3 Spirit Soil would be too exhausting.

But Zhuo Ming herself thought of a method, which was to choose Spirit Soils with similar characteristics to transform. For example, modifying ordinary Rank-3 Spirit Soil to suit the planting of Green Charm Spiritual Tea would certainly be much easier than improving from Rank-1 Spirit Soil.

She also discovered that if she added the sap of Tai Sui or buried parts of its body during the transformation, it could save more than half of the spiritual power and time.

This discovery had indeed caused Tai Sui much suffering.

Now, it lay beside Chen Mobai’s feet, wriggling its significantly thinner body somewhat grievously.

“Shimei Zhuo is truly impressive.”

This was the first time in Liu Wenbo’s life that he had tasted Rank-3 Spirit Rice, and he sincerely expressed his admiration for Zhuo Ming.

By this time, he had calmly accepted that he was the most mediocre person within the Xiao Nanshan Lineage.

“It’s just a pity that Clear Bamboo Spirit Rice cannot be promoted on a large scale.”

Zhuo Ming, though, was still somewhat dissatisfied. These were the result of her modifying the Rank-3 Spirit Soil to best suit the growth of Clear Bamboo to cultivate the Rank-3 Spirit Rice.

What she wanted was to test a type of Spirit Rice that could grow in most Rank-3 Spirit Soils without being restricted by geographical location.

If she could really be successful and the yield exploded, then even the Foundation Establishment Practitioners within the sect could taste it.

In this way, it could benefit the future of the sect.

Chen Mobai was very satisfied with Zhuo Ming’s inheritance of his own farming will.

“Make good use of this fellow, and you’ll be successful very soon.”

Chen Mobai patted the Tai Sui by his feet and said, upon which the latter trembled and burrowed into the ground.

He knew that Zhuo Ming was on the right path, and now with the completion of Mother Qi of All Things, she was even more powerful.

After leaving Xiao Nanshan, Chen Mobai went back to the Immortal Gate.

Councilors of Kaiyuan Hall were required to return to Wangwu Cave Heaven every ten years to report on their duties.

Since his Core Formation, it had been just the tenth year for Chen Mobai.

He submitted an application for his duty report to Kaiyuan Hall, and on the third day, received an official reply granting permission.

Chen Mobai also took this opportunity to meet with Qing Women and let her help appraise the Golden Crow's Sun-Swallowing Elixir he held.

"Long time no see!"

The two met in a secluded private room, and when Qing Women entered, Chen Mobai showed a rare and genuinely warm smile on his face.

"Indeed, it's been almost ten years, hasn't it?"

Qing Women spoke with a hint of regret. As a member of the Sky-Mending Group, she could hardly leave the headquarters in Wangwu Cave Heaven.

And so was the case for Chen Mobai, as a councilor of Kaiyuan Hall, a Golden Core Master with the power to easily destroy a city. Though he held a high position and significant weight within the Immortal Gate, in reality, the restrictions on him were greater.

The last time the two met was in Red Sandstone City.

"I'm not even sure how the research on the Biyu Wutong is going,"

Chen Mobai started the conversation, as it wouldn't be right to ask Qing Women to appraise the elixir immediately upon meeting, as that would make him seem too utilitarian.

“I hear Elder Yuanxu found a very key piece of information, but I don’t dare to inquire about it actively.”

The Sky-Mending Group was considered one of the highest secret units in the Immortal Gate, privy to much information.

“How have you been recently?”

Chen Mobai didn’t dare to delve into matters concerning the Ascension Sect, and had to awkwardly change the subject again.

“I’m preparing for my Core Formation!”

Chapter 1114: The Foundation of the Heavenly Spiritual Root

“Are you in such a hurry? You could have waited until you have enough seniority before attempting Core Formation.”

Chen Mobai was surprised by Qing Nu’s words.

Although Heaven Spirit Root Cultivators have a fifty percent success rate in Core Formation even without Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine, precisely because of this, they should strive for excellence and aim to succeed on their first try.

Imperial Medical Academy had conducted research—Heaven Spirit Root Cultivators often found it easier to make breakthroughs because their Spiritual Roots contained a strand of Innate Qi of a specific attribute.

When Cultivators practiced corresponding Cultivation Techniques, this strand of Innate Qi would be continuously decoded.

When facing a bottleneck in their cultivation, this Innate Qi would release a little to help Cultivators comprehend the Dao’s rhythm and overcome the bottleneck.

If a Heaven Spirit Root Cultivator failed to break through, it would mean that most of the Innate Qi within them was already used up and merged.

Therefore, in all possible situations, Heaven Spirit Root Cultivators wouldn't rashly force their way through a bottleneck but instead would take Elixir or use time to cultivate, to prevent excessive depletion of that piece of Innate Qi within them.

Fine steel should be used on the cutting edge.

If possible, Heaven Spirit Root Cultivators hoped to use their strand of Innate Qi only during major realm breakthroughs.

If Qing Nu indeed used up all her foundation during Core Formation, then she would have no advantage compared to ordinary Cultivators during Nascent Soul Formation.

"There have been so many Heaven Spirit Roots in the history of Immortal Gate, and eighty to ninety percent of them have stopped at Perfect Core Formation. I think my own comprehension is average, and it's better not to aim too high."

Faced with Chen Mobai, Qing Nu also shared her true feelings.

Although resources were scarce on Immortal Gate's side, they had a basic affinity with Spiritual Roots, typically producing one Heaven Spirit Root every ten or twenty years or so.

With such a vast base, very few manage to form their Nascent Soul.

Because the strand of Innate Qi could increase the probability of successfully forming a Core by fifty percent, its effect on the Nascent Soul Formation was only equivalent to a kind of Nascent Soul Formation Spirit Medicine.

Thus, many Heaven Spirit Root Cultivators developed a kind of laissez-faire mindset.

They chose to use their foundation directly on the Core Formation stage, to enjoy the benefits as soon as possible.

“That’s not the way to look at it. For Core Formation, you could just wait out your seniority to get the Elixir. That way, when forming the Core, you would consume the Elixir’s power first, before starting to draw upon your Innate Qi, which could save a lot. And the Infant Binding Three Spirits Medicine is so precious that even I might not be able to queue up for it. Since you are a Heaven Spirit Root Cultivator, you really should not waste it.”

Chen Mobai started to earnestly and patiently persuade her, noting that Gongye Zhixu, after serving the people for so many years, had only managed to get an Infant-Feeding Elixir.

From birth, Qing Nu was as if she already possessed an Infant-Feeding Elixir.

“This...”

After hearing what Chen Mobai said, Qing Nu hesitated.

“Why are you so anxious to form your Core? Do you not want to stay in the Sky-Mending Group anymore?”

Chen Mobai could only think of this reason because after Core Formation, Qing Nu would become a council member of the Kaiyuan Hall—even if she were to be sidelined, she would be assigned a place to serve in an official capacity.

“There is that reason.”

Qing Nu nodded and then seemed to think of something. Her fair cheeks blushed as she slightly lowered her head.

[Actually, I want to be closer to you.]

“If that’s the case, I’ll try to send a message and see if Wen Ren Xuewei can use the reason of rehiring outstanding graduates to allow you to return to Jumang Academy as a Teaching Assistant.”

Chen Mobai also felt it was somewhat inappropriate for Qing Nu to be on her own in a place like the Sky-Mending Group, which was full of fierce individuals; he thought through his connections and came up with a solution.

“My identity is special, and doing so might bring unnecessary scrutiny to the Academy. Let’s forget it.”

Qing Nu shook her head, rejecting Chen Mobai’s proposal.

“I still hope you can show a bit more endurance—even exchanging for a single Water Primordial Golden Core Pill would be good. After all, among my friends, perhaps only you can accompany me on this journey. I don’t want to find myself all alone when it comes time for Nascent Soul Formation.”

Chen Mobai sighed and revealed some of his inner thoughts.

After hearing this, Qing Nu’s beautiful face showed a hint of emotion. Her already wavering determination immediately solidified.

“Alright, for our future, I will not draw upon my Innate Water Spirit Qi.”

Chen Mobai, feeling overjoyed upon hearing that Qing Nu had taken his advice, brightened up.

“But I still want to try forming the Core. Even if I fail, it can still serve as preparation for a real attempt later on.”

Qing Nu’s statement surprised Chen Mobai slightly. Attempting Core Formation without drawing on the foundation of her Heaven Spirit Root and without the aid of the Immortal Gate’s Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine was almost impossible to succeed.

In that case, the backlash from a failed Core Formation could result in a Cultivator being severely injured for a long time, or it might even cause a loss of their essence.

While the Immortal Gate's medical system could eventually restore one's health with slow care, such weakness lasting for several years, or even over a decade, was still a tormenting matter for any Cultivator.

"Why go to such lengths?"

Chen Mobai was at a loss. In the peaceful and prosperous times of the Immortal Gate, there was simply no need to push oneself so hard.

"Aren't I just learning from you?"

Qing Nu replied with a smile, rendering Chen Mobai speechless.

That was indeed how he presented himself in the Immortal Gate!

But he had the resources of the entire Divine Wood Sect as his backing; every time he was about to break through, his external conditions were maxed out.

It could only be said that many people only saw the surface of his genius and did not see the mountains of various resources and spiritual objects accumulated behind him.

"Just give it a try, and if it doesn't work, don't force it."

Qing Nu used herself as an example, so that was all Chen Mobai could advise. As long as she gave up quickly, the backlash from a failed Core Formation would be lighter, and she would recover faster.

"Mhm, I belong to the Sky-Mending Group Four, and I've simulated Core Formation failure innumerable times in medical training. With my authority, I can apply for a third-rank superior cultivation room, and I've prepared some elixirs for healing..."

Qing Nu began to discuss her arrangement for Core Formation.

In theory, she could apply to the Jumang Academy for a fourth-grade spirit vein, but this opportunity was available to each graduate only once. So, without intending to utilize the entirety of her foundation, she changed the location of her Core Formation to a cultivation room of the Sky-Mending Group, to avoid wasting the opportunity.

“I have a friend who is an expert in Spirit Gathering Arrays and can upgrade a third-rank superior spirit vein to fourth-grade in a short time. Give me a couple of days to arrange it.”

As he spoke, Chen Mobai made a phone call to Yunyang Bing. Since graduating, the latter had been carving the Daoist rhythms of mountains and rivers into his heart and mind at various places in the Immortal Gate. After hearing his request, without any hesitation, he agreed to send the necessary items as quickly as possible.

“Actually, the Sky-Mending Group also possesses similar things. The principle is to accumulate Spiritual Energy and then release it in a short burst to create an effect akin to a level-up. However, since Core Formation takes a long time, if it’s not well-controlled, it can lead to an insufficient supply of Spiritual Energy later on.”

Chen Mobai was so quick with the phone call that Qing Nu did not have a chance to interject, but she still shared what she knew afterward.

“Speaking of spiritual energy... I actually bought a Void Blind Box earlier and found some very interesting things in it, one of which is quite suitable for you.”

Chen Mobai quickly shifted the conversation to the real reason he had arranged to meet Qing Nu that day. He first took out the pail of pearls given to him by Nu Jiang.

Of course, if he were to take out all eighty-eight pearls, their value would be too frightening in the Immortal Gate.

After all, one pearl was equal to a top-grade spirit stone, which in terms of Good Deed Points would be a hundred million!

Chen Mobai was unreserved with Qing Nu, but after careful consideration, he cautiously took out just the eight surplus pearls.

“This is...!”

Girls indeed have little resistance to shiny objects. Upon seeing the lustrous, transparent pearls, Qing Nu couldn't help but reach out to touch them.

Next, she felt the pearls contained a massive amount of Spiritual Energy, akin to a vast sea.

What astonished her was that the Spiritual Energy was of the Water Attribute, which was best suited for her to absorb.

“It must be a spiritual object from a Sea Territory. I also found this elixir in the Void Blind Box, and I guess it belonged to a senior cultivator of Fire Attribute techniques, wanting to use the Water Spirit Qi in these pearls to balance the Fire and Water aspects...”

Chen Mobai had just taken out the Golden Crow Sun Swallowing Elixir, and before he could finish speaking, Qing Nu had already consciously taken the elixir and started to identify it.

“Indeed, it's specifically for Fire Attribute cultivators. The elixir hasn't been destroyed, despite its excessive toxicity, which suggests it was produced during wartime when resources were scarce and supervision was lax...”

Seeing Qing Nu begin to identify it, Chen Mobai immediately shared with her everything he knew about the effects of the Golden Crow Sun Swallowing Elixir.

The reason being that when he opened the Void Blind Box, the senior cultivator had also left a manual for the elixir.

Qing Nu trusted him unconditionally. Nodding at his words, she took out a hollow fine needle from her small bag and used a special technique to extract some of the medicinal powder, which she then put on her tongue with her finger.

Soon, Chen Mobai saw her complexion turn red, and she began to sweat profusely.

He was about to intervene, but Qing Nu stopped him. She explained that it was a normal reaction to testing medicine because it was a third-grade elixir, and since it countered her own cultivation technique with its Fire Attribute, her reaction was somewhat intense.

“I’ll be alright in a minute...”

Qing Nu said, but she couldn’t help holding the concerned Chen Mobai’s right hand, which was by her side.

Today, she wore a tight-fitting, low-cut long-sleeve top, revealing her snow-white delicate collarbones, and a black skirt below her slender waist. The slightly sheer black stockings outlined the graceful curves of her long legs. As sweat drenched her body and her clothes clung to her, Chen Mobai could clearly see her most genuine and graceful figure.

In terms of body proportions, Qing Nu was the most perfect among all the beauties Chen Mobai had encountered.

As sweat droplets slid down her beautiful face, Chen Mobai felt a hint of distress.

He hadn’t anticipated that identifying the Golden Crow Sun Swallowing Elixir would overheat Qing Nu. For Immortal Sect Disciples who were used to maintaining their most comfortable body temperature constantly, this was a moderate torment.

“It’s passed!”

About five minutes later, Qing Nu opened her eyes and showed a smile to the relieved Chen Mobai at her side.

Chapter 1115: Joyful Times

“The elixir’s effectiveness is fine, but the toxicity is too high.”

After Qing Nu made her assessment, Chen Mobai nodded with relief.

“Then, after I return to Yu Wood City, I’ll deal with this elixir.”

Qing Nu, thinking he meant to destroy it, nodded and handed the Golden Crow Sun-Swallowing Elixir back to Chen Mobai.

“Take these eight pearls; they can be useful when you’re forming your core.”

After taking the elixir, Chen Mobai handed over a tray of lustrous, smooth pearls to Qing Nu, who looked shocked.

“These are too precious, I can’t accept them!”

Even though Qing Nu was well-versed in the Sky-Mending Group, pearls worth eight hundred million Good Deed Points felt as heavy as mountains to her, and she shook her hands in refusal.

“If I give it to you, just take it. We don’t need to be so formal with each other.”

Seeing her shake her hands and step back, Chen Mobai immediately picked up the tray of pearls from the table and offered them to her.

Qing Nu instinctively wanted to dodge, but Chen Mobai caught her hand, and she, already drenched in sweat, immediately felt weak all over.

She let Chen Mobai stuff the tray of pearls into her hands.

“These pearls are the crystallization of Water Spirit Qi. If I were to use them, I’d have to go through a transformation process, which would be wasteful. You holding onto them will bring out their full potential.”

Upon hearing Chen Mobai’s words, Qing Nu blushed as she looked at the eight large pearls cradled in her hands, sweetness welling up in her eyes like never before.

This was a gift of eight hundred million Good Deed Points, and he had offered it to her without a second thought!

Who could resist such a gesture? Qing Nu’s mind raced with wild thoughts, even imagining post-marriage life and raising children together.

At that moment, Chen Mobai’s phone rang, and after a glance, he sent a message in reply.

Qing Nu, “What is it, something important?”

Chen Mobai, “Yes, Commissioner Wang Shuye heard I’ve come to Wangwu Cave Heaven and has invited me to dinner tonight.”

Qing Nu, “Then you should go ahead, I won’t keep you.”

Chen Mobai hesitated, then shook his head without getting up to leave.

“It’s still early for evening, and we haven’t seen each other in a long time. Since it’s a rare opportunity, I want to spend more time with you.”

Chen Mobai didn’t have many friends in the Immortal Gate, and Qing Nu was one of the few he truly trusted and confided in. A reunion after ten years wouldn’t do justice if they parted ways after just a morning together.

Qing Nu felt even sweeter inside upon hearing his words.

She raised her hand and cast a Cleaning Technique to tidy her sweat-soaked clothes and stockings, then straightened the edge of her skirt and sat down with a smile on her face.

However, watching this, Chen Mobai couldn't help but feel slightly disappointed.

Qing Nu, previously looking stunning with her clothing clinging to her figure, now only her stockings traced the shape of her legs, slightly diminishing her allure.

But she still looked quite pleasing to the eye.

Chen Mobai appreciated beauty, whether in people or objects.

So, whenever he interacted with Qing Nu, Yan Bingxuan, and others, he always felt very comfortable, as if his heart and mind were relaxed.

But mere physical beauty wasn't enough to intoxicate and delight him; a spiritual connection was even more crucial.

He and Qing Nu had grown together from obscurity, becoming people who understood each other the most within the Immortal Gate.

Ten years of separation hadn't made them feel estranged.

Soon, they moved from reminiscing about Red Sandstone City to discussing their own experiences in work and cultivation life.

Chen Mobai's life was rather monotonous, as he couldn't speak of matters regarding Tianhe Realm. His experiences at the Immortal Gate consisted of cultivation, making appearances at Qing Sang Academy, more cultivation, and reviewing Yu Wood City departments' budgets at year's end.

According to him, ninety-nine percent of his time was spent in cultivation.

“Only someone like you could endure the loneliness of prolonged cultivation. If I had your self-discipline and determination, maybe I would have reached Foundation Establishment Completion five years earlier,” Qing Nu said, reflecting on her own simple experiences of living in an apartment arranged by the Sky-Mending Group and conducting various biological and medicinal research experiments for the group.

Many experiments were confidential, but Chen Mobai, as a member of Kaiyuan Hall, had the duty to supervise the entire Immortal Gate and theoretically could be privy to some matters.

So Qing Nu picked out experiments that Chen Mobai would find interesting, without causing any confidentiality issues.

As they talked, Chen Mobai began asking about Alchemy.

With a basic understanding of Artifact Refining, his current foray into the Hundred Arts of Cultivation Immortal was Alchemy.

Thanks to the exceptional resources from the Eastern Wilderness and the almost inexhaustible supply of Spiritual Extracts, he had managed to refine the simplest Rank-1 Elixirs.

He had tried his hand at Rank-2 twice but failed both times.

This was a good opportunity to seek professional advice from Qing Nu, an expert in the field.

For Chen Mobai, Qing Nu was more than willing to share all she knew.

As they continued to chat, the day passed without them noticing.

When it was time to part, both felt reluctant.

Chen Mobai sighed at the too-short learning opportunity, while Qing Nu longed for more time together like this.

In the evening, Chen Mobai and Wang Shuye also had a great time talking.

Wang Shuye, “The Immortal Gate has prepared all materials needed for refining the Infant-Feeding Elixir, just waiting for the Fifth-Order Vermillion Fruit from the Daoist Academy to ripen.”

Chapter 1116: Joyful Times\_2

It wasn't the affairs of the household, the nation, or the world that the two Golden Core Masters discussed, but rather the path to Nascent Soul Formation at the Dance Tool Dao Academy.

Chen Mobai: “In that case, Vice Principal Duanmu is also preparing for Nascent Soul Formation.”

Wang Shuye: “Indeed, after waiting for three hundred years and using the Hugging Elixir Technique to lock in her peak essence and spirit, all for that Vermillion Fruit and Infant-Feeding Pill, I hope she succeeds. It would also blaze a trail for me.”

The Dance Tool Dao Academy offered two paths to Nascent Soul Formation. One was the path Duanmu Longrong took: Guarding the Treasure Trove for three hundred years in exchange for a fifth-order Vermillion Fruit and an Infant-Feeding Elixir.

The other path was like Wang Shuye's, representing the academy in one of the Three Great Halls of Xianmen, advocating for the academy, and serving the people in exchange for the three Nascent Soul Spirit Medicines, just like Gongye Zhixu.

The only difference was that while guarding the Treasure Trove for three hundred years guaranteed the attainment of Spiritual Objects necessary for Nascent Soul, including an additional Vermillion Fruit which was equivalent to the foundation of a Heavenly Spiritual Root.

But serving in the Immortal Sect didn't necessarily ensure acquisition.

Among the Immortal Sect, the order for distributing the Nascent Soul Spirit Medicine started with the Deputy Hall Masters of the Three Great Halls. Although Wang Shuye was the face of the Dance Tool Dao Academy, he was only ninth in rank among the entire Three Great Halls.

To obtain the Nascent Soul Spirit Medicine, it would not only take negotiations with the top ascendants but also for the eight people ahead of him to receive their share before it was his turn.

However, Wang Shuye's nearly two hundred years of waiting since graduating from the academy and taking public office had long solidified tacit agreements with all relevant personages within the Three Great Halls.

If the refining of the Infant-Feeding Pill succeeded without any surprises, he was likely to receive one.

It was for this reason he wanted to observe Duanmu Longrong's progress first, as she had reached the Perfection of Core Formation over a century ago and was considered one of the cultivators closest to the Nascent Soul stage within the Immortal Sect.

"I hope both Vice Principal Duanmu and Senior Wang succeed in their Nascent Soul Formation, strengthening the reputation of our Dao Academy."

This sentiment expressed by Chen Mobai came from the heart. After all, as a graduate of the Dance Tool Dao Academy, he had enjoyed many conveniences it offered over the years and naturally hoped for more Nascent Soul Superiors within the academy, which would fortify his backing!

"After us two, the academy will have to select those who will take our places. I've heard from your teacher that he doesn't seem too keen on guarding the Treasure Trove. What about you, any interest in taking over my position?"

Wang Shuye suddenly made a remark in a joking manner, which considerably stirred Chen Mobai's heart.

The man before him held the highest position from the Dance Tool Dao Academy among the Three Great Halls of Xianmen, just one step away from becoming the Vice Hall Master of Kaiyuan Hall.

Chen Mobai knew he was serious because among the Core Formation successors of the Dance Tool Dao Academy, he was the most outstanding.

Giving him the opportunity of Nascent Soul would most likely result in a new Nascent Soul Superior for the academy.

Compared to sitting in quietude in the Cave of Ten Thousand Treasures for three hundred years, the proposal from Wang Shuye was far more alluring.

After all, it was the dream he had cherished since his childhood!

If planned properly, given his background, becoming a Vice Hall Master of the Three Great Halls would pose no problem in the future.

To go even further, a Hall Master of the Three Great Halls must be a Nascent Soul Superior, which is a mandatory requirement!

“I... will think about it when I return!”

This time, Chen Mobai did not immediately refuse.

After hearing this, Wang Shuye’s eyes brightened, seemingly pleased.

He then chatted with Chen Mobai about interesting gossip only known within the Three Great Halls, like how Gongye Zhixu had previously attempted Nascent Soul Formation and failed, though it was uncertain if he had taken the Infant-Feeding Elixir.

Ye Yune was the daughter of Beiming Ascendant but she detested it when people used that fact to talk about her, as if she wished to prove that she could become Kaiyuan Hall’s Vice Hall Master on her own merits.

Gongsun Jielu, after her battle in the Red Sandstone City, earned the chance to gain insight into the Immortal Sect Sword Art, and ten years since, she showed no sign of coming out of seclusion, hinting that she might have truly comprehended something.

If she succeeded in mastering the Immortal Sect Sword Art, then no one could contend with her for the position of Vice Hall Master of the Dharma Hall.

“By the way, aren’t you a peerless Sword Cultivation Genius yourself? If you take over my role, you’ll soon have the chance to access the Flying Immortal Pavilion and study its secrets. With your aptitude, you’ll definitely grasp the essence of the Immortal Sect Sword Art, and in the future, with Principal Chengxuan’s guidance, you could meet Ancestor Baiguang on Wangxian Peak. Perhaps, if she takes a liking to your swordsmanship talent, she may even take you as her direct disciple in high spirits!”

Wang Shuye’s words made Chen Mobai even more tempted.

Following this path, he could become one of the most powerful individuals in the Immortal Sect in the shortest period.

He might even receive personal instruction on the Primordial Spirit-accompanied Sword from Ancestor Baiguang and have the potential to achieve Divinity Transformation fueled by the Immortal Sect Sword Art!

But all of these predicates were contingent on him being a genuine Sword Cultivation Genius!

If I am indeed elevated by the influence of the Dance Tool Dao Academy to comprehend the Immortal Sect Sword Art, and yet come away with nothing, won’t it just expose the sham that is my Deity Form?

That would truly be a resounding downfall!

Thinking this, Chen Mobai came back to his senses and resisted the temptation, resolving in his heart to refuse.

Of course, he wouldn't refuse on the spot, but after returning and completing his duty report in Yu Wood City, he would claim that after careful consideration, he preferred the feeling of being close to home and did not wish to serve.

After a long night's discussion with Wang Shuye, Chen Mobai went to the Kaiyuan Hall the next day to report on his duties.

Having already notified them in advance, he merely went through the motions, though there was a rotating member of the Kaiyuan Hall who asked about the situation when he crossed swords with the Master of Flower Bloom Courtyard. But as Chen Mobai was innocent, he had no reason to fear, and he told nothing but the truth.

Together with Lan Haitian and Gongsun Jieli, the three of them had joined forces, ultimately cutting down the Master of Flower Bloom Courtyard with great difficulty using the Purple Electric Sword!

After he had finished recounting these events, there were no other questions, and Chen Mobai's duty report passed easily.

"Respected Councilor Chen, you have seven days of vacation left in Wangwu Cave Heaven, please enjoy yourself."

Since a Golden Core Master cannot easily leave their assigned realm, this decennial duty report becomes a great opportunity for them to socialize and invite friends.

Chen Mobai also had several friends in Wangwu Cave Heaven, mostly from the Dance Tool Dao Academy.

After meeting with Sun Daoji and Chi Shicheng, Chen Mobai made another trip to the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains.

Zhongli Tianyu, who had long received the news, was waiting for him at the entrance.

Zhongli Yue, the Golden Core Master, personally cooked to entertain him, compelling Chen Mobai to join him for the feast.

After the meal, Chen Mobai and Zhongli Tianyu took a walk around the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains and then visited Yuanyang View.

Sima Xingyu was still there, and upon seeing Chen Mobai, his face showed complexity; but in the end, he sighed and paid his respects.

“Councilor Chen, please come in!”

Chen Mobai was already well-acquainted with Yuanyang View, and this time he could touch those Fourth-grade Magical Weapons openly and legitimately, as if he was a disciple of Pure Yang paying homage to the Yuanyang Ancestor.

Alas, to reduce the demand on spiritual energy, these magical weapons were all sealed in the deepest slumber, and although Chen Mobai found their Artifact Spirits, he dared not awaken them.

After striking the bell and entering tranquility to clarify his Divine Sense, Chen Mobai left Yuanyang View feeling refreshed and at ease with Zhongli Tianyu.

Before departing, he took a look at Ancestor Baiguang’s Fairy Mountain but, unfortunately, this time there was no little girl named Xiao Hei.

With a sense of regret, Chen Mobai left the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains.

He spent most of his remaining time with Qing Women, seeking her expertise on alchemy.

Fortunately, Qing Women, not having many friends, had saved up a lot of vacation time.

And Lan Haitian, obviously knowing who she was going to meet, swiftly approved her leave request with his signature.

When with Chen Mobai, Qing Women felt the warmth of sunshine piercing into her desolate and numb heart, a sense of relaxation and joy she had never felt before, which made her wish that time could forever stand still at this moment.

Unfortunately, happy times are always brief.

On the last day, Qing Women personally saw Chen Mobai off on his departing train.

“Do you like riding trains?”

Chen Mobai was escorted by the service staff to a private VIP waiting room, but someone was already there waiting for him.

“It’s rare to have the chance to go out, naturally I want to breathe in more of the outside air. Trains are slow, so that’s why I chose this mode of transport,” replied Chen Mobai.

After these words, Lan Haitian nodded, as if he believed what he heard.

“This is Elder Yuanxu and Peach Blossom Sage’s research on Biyu Wutong, would you like to take a look?” asked Lan Haitian, holding a file in his hands.

Chen Mobai, seeing the document in Lan Haitian’s hand, firmly shook his head!

“No, I do not wish to!”

Chapter 1117: The Mastermind Behind the Immortal Sprout Cultivation Plan Chen Mobai, after uttering those two words, turned and walked away.

He knew that Lan Haitian was an old hand at sweet-talking people, and following his rhythm was not an option. It was better to simply not listen at all.

“At the next Immortal Gate Assembly, the Head of Immortal Affairs has decided to retire, and the Righteous Law Hall Master will take his place. Then Narcissus will be appointed as Hall Master of the Dharma Hall, and Gongsun Jielu will become the Deputy Hall Master of the Dharma Hall,”

But as soon as Chen Mobai turned around, a sentence drifted over from behind him, catching his attention.

Men are inherently drawn to the game of governance, and changes in the highest ranks within the Immortal Gate were certainly intriguing. For Chen Mobai, who had dreamed of holding office since his youth, it was an itch he was dying to scratch, to learn more.

However, he remained resolute; he knew that if he turned around to ask, he would fall right into Lan Haitian’s trap. So, suppressing the temptation, he lifted his foot, pulled open the door, and prepared to leave.

“The man behind the Immortal Sprout cultivation project is none other than the Head of Immortal Affairs. While he is in office, we must speak respectfully of the revered one, but once he retires, those secret files that have been sealed can be revealed,”

“Isn’t he still in office? Why are you spilling the beans already!”

Upon hearing about the Immortal Sprout cultivation project related to Qing Nu, Chen Mobai finally lost his composure and couldn’t help but speak up. Outside was Lin Yin disguised as crew staff, a slender figure in a blue uniform with a flat chest, clearly on lookout duty for the two Golden Core Masters.

“Those within the power structures, they are very pragmatic. Once news breaks, we consider him already retired.”

As Lan Haitian spoke, his tone remained even. He saw Chen Mobai looking back and smiled, shaking the dossier he held in his hand.

With a bang!

Chen Mobai slammed the door he had opened, and Lin Yin outside executed a Seal Formula, setting up a Restriction to prevent sound from escaping.

“Speak up, what do you want me to do?”

“No, I just wanted to have a chat, to tell you some things that I couldn’t before,”

Chen Mobai had thought Lan Haitian would ask him to be his enforcer again, but the latter just shook his head, then passed the dossier in his hand over.

“Better state it clearly first, without any reason, I’m quite reluctant to look at what you’re giving me.”

Though he was concerned about Qing Nu and had stayed, Chen Mobai was still wary of Lan Haitian, even though they had faced life and death together in Red Sandstone City.

“Since that’s the case, I might as well be straightforward,” Lan Haitian said with a smile after hearing Chen Mobai’s words, and he laid the dossier open on the table between them. “According to the Portal’s estimates, there are about sixty-six years left until we can capture a Different World. By then, you, as a senior disciple of the Dance Tool Dao Academy, must know what will happen.”

Chen Mobai’s brows knit slightly, and he said four words: “Start a war!”

Lan Haitian: “The reason the Head of Immortal Affairs is retiring is not only because he is indeed getting old, but also because during the war, the Immortal Gate needs a stronger leader, and the Righteous Law Hall Master is very suitable.”

Lan Haitian: “Before the two worlds come into contact, we will definitely use the Portal to send a batch of Cultivators to the Different World to scout ahead. Then we’ll make plans according to the races, civilizations, resources, and so on that we find there. If it’s a barren land devoid of spirit, we’ll collect some samples and abandon it; if there are gentle races with whom we can communicate, it might turn into trade with resource exchanges; only if the resources are very abundant and the beings of the Different World are irascible and impossible to communicate with will we wage war.”

Lan Haitian: “However, no matter what, once contact is made with the Different World, the belligerents in the upper echelons will gain a lot of say. And they favor talented fighters like you the most.”

Lan Haitian: “My visit to see you isn’t of my own volition, but at the personal behest of the Righteous Law Hall Master, who has always thought highly of you and wants to invite you to join the Dharma Hall.”

Hearing this, Chen Mobai involuntarily widened his eyes.

He hadn’t realized he was so popular.

Wang Shuye wanted him to succeed him, and now even the future Sect Master, the current Righteous Law Hall Master, was inviting him.

“I’ll go back and think it over,”

Chen Mobai could only put him off with this response once more.

Lan Haitian did not continue, having said all he needed; his objective for coming today had been achieved.

“To tell you the truth, among our generation of young Golden Core Masters in the Immortal Gate, only you are the one I’m not sure I can win against. If you don’t enter service, it will be good for me as well,”

Lan Haitian said jokingly, pushing the dossier once again towards Chen Mobai.

“What’s inside?”

By now, Chen Mobai had gradually lowered his guard.

But he still did not take it.

“Both Peach Blossom Sage and Master Huakai have thoroughly investigated the corpses of Biyu Wutong and themselves, and they have discovered something astonishing,”

Seeing Chen Mobai remain so cautious, Lan Haitian proceeded to withdraw the papers inside the dossier right before him, then took out one covered with a photograph and laid it on the table.

Chen Mobai looked down, and his eyes instantly narrowed!

It was written that Peach Blossom Sage, after years of research, discovered that Biyu Wutong had once attempted a Level Up.

If a Fourth Grade Superior were to Level Up, it could only be to Rank-5!

In the entire Immortal Gate, Rank-5 Spirit Plants were few and far between, so rare that they were even more highly regarded than Nascent Soul Cultivators!

Chapter 1118: The Person Behind the Immortal Sprout Cultivation Plan\_2

“Did it fail?”

Chen Mobai asked, seeing that there were traces of an attempt at leveling up, but since the Biyu Wutong was still a Fourth Grade Superior, it likely meant that it hadn't succeeded.

“This is what's odd about Peach Blossom Sage. Logically speaking, for a Spirit Plant to level up, especially from Rank-4 to Rank-5, it needs such a vast amount of nature's spiritual energy that even draining several Nascent Soul Superiors wouldn't suffice. At the very least, a Fifth Grade Spirit Vein would be required.”

“And if the leveling up of a Spirit Plant fails, the backlash from insufficient spiritual energy would severely damage its vital energy. However, that Biyu Wutong doesn't show any signs of such damage.”

“Therefore, Peach Blossom Sage speculated that the Flower Bloom Courtyard must have some ancient secret techniques that allow a Spirit Plant to simulate the process of leveling up. But why would this master of the Evil Path hide in Red Sandstone City for so many years after disintegrating and reincarnating, helping the Biyu Wutong level up? This is the key issue that our Sky-Mending Group will investigate next.”

Having relayed half of the contents from the archives, Chen Mobai finally picked up the scattered papers on the table and slowly began to read them.

He soon came across the other half that hadn't been discussed yet.

These were the conclusions drawn by Elder Yuanxu after examining the corpse of Master Huakai.

“She disintegrated!?”

As Chen Mobai came to this conclusion, his eyes widened in disbelief, and he looked up at Lan Haitian.

“Although she did a lot to conceal her condition at the time of her death, making the Three Extremes Sage believe she was completely dead, Elder Yuanxu discovered through methods beyond medicine that Master Huakai's life fire had not extinguished and was still burning in this world.”

Lan Haitian said this with a sense of helplessness.

After Chen Mobai had slain Master Huakai with the Purple Electric Sword, he had secretly followed up with a strike from the Liu Yu Scripture for peace of mind.

Little did he know that this giant of the Evil Path had already disintegrated and escaped.

“Doesn't that mean I'm in great danger?”

Chen Mobai frowned, feeling a sudden urgency in his heart.

After all, Master Huakai was a giant of the Evil Path with the Nascent Soul Nature, a whole major realm higher than him.

“There’s no need to worry about that. After she disintegrated, it will take her at least a hundred years to return to her peak. Besides, we will be more careful in monitoring cultivators within the Immortal Gate who are preparing for Core Formation, and now that we are on guard, she won’t be able to escape the nets of the Immortal Gate’s Heavenly Curtain!”

Lan Haitian said this with full confidence.

“What if she forms her core outside of Di Yuan Star?”

Chen Mobai, however, considered another possibility, knowing that the Ascension Sect could take someone away from the Immortal Gate if they wanted to.

Yang Jing and Kong Feichen were prime examples.

“We’d have no way of dealing with that. However, the internal strife within the Ascension Sect is also very intense. If Master Huakai truly hasn’t returned to her peak when she goes back, it’s likely that her enemies will strike her before we do.”

Lan Haitian said this with a smile, revealing that as a group specialized in dealing with the Ascension Sect, they certainly had infiltrated the Heretical Cult.

Those giants of the Evil Path were all ruthless.

Especially the Hall Master of the Shrine of Life and Death and Shenyu Xuanzhu (Divine Control Pavilion Master), the former with a penchant for playing with corpses and the latter who likes to devour Divine Sense.

Lan Haitian even suspected that Master Huakai, in her Shi Qing reincarnation, had been hesitant to leave Di Yuan Star after forming her core, possibly because she feared returning to the Ascension Sect.

“But the safest option is for me to succeed in ‘Nascent Soul Formation’ within a hundred years, so even if Master Huakai truly returns to her peak, I’ll be able to slay her once more!”

After hearing this, Chen Mobai replied confidently in a manner befitting his reputation within the Immortal Gate.

“After this batch of Infant-Feeding Elixirs, it’s uncertain whether the Immortal Gate will be able to gather enough materials for the next batch of Infant Binding Three Spirits Medicine within a hundred years.”

Lan Haitian played the role of a realist.

“Isn’t it said that in a hundred years, the Immortal Gate will border with a Different World? The Immortal Gate could secure a large number of resources from that. Moreover, I feel that even without the Immortal Gate’s Three Spirit Medicines, I could still succeed in forming my nascent soul!”

The certainty and confidence in Chen Mobai’s words left Lan Haitian at a loss for how to respond.

He wouldn’t dare to be so presumptuous himself and would definitely wait for the Three Spirit Medicines before attempting ‘Nascent Soul Formation’.

“This is the Immortal Gate’s investigation report on the event in Red Sandstone City over the past decade. Since you’re involved, I came by to fill you in as well.”

Having said all this, Lan Haitian prepared to leave.

Of course, he left the archive materials on the table, not taking them with him.

They were meant for Chen Mobai anyway.

With a click, the door to the VIP room opened. Lan Haitian was about to step out when he seemed to remember something and turned back to Chen Mobai.

“Oh, right, now that Red Sandstone City is without Golden Core Masters in residence, if you wish to return to your hometown, you can make arrangements through Wang Shuye.”

“Isn’t Peach Blossom Sage researching the Biyu Wutong?”

Chen Mobai was certainly tempted by the prospect of a triumphant return, but he still considered the biggest obstacle.

If he was to spend a long time under the watchful eyes of Nascent Soul Superiors, he would be better off staying in Yu Wood City!

“This year, the Immortal Gate’s group of experts has already thoroughly studied the Biyu Wutong, and now only a small study group from Jumang Academy remains there to observe any subsequent changes. As for Peach Blossom Sage, he has not been in Red Sandstone City for the past five years already.”

Chapter 1119: The Person Behind the Immortal Sprout Cultivation Plan\_3

Chen Mobai, to avoid attracting attention and to avoid suspicion, stopped actively following the matter after he killed the Master of Flower Bloom Courtyard in Red Sandstone City.

He really didn’t know about the things Lan Haitian had mentioned.

“Thank you!”

At the top of Danxia Mountain, where Biyu Wutong resided, was a Rank-4 superior Spirit Vein, and moreover, it was a Fire Vein, which for Chen Mobai’s cultivation, would definitely be much better than remaining in Yu Wood City.

Therefore, he sincerely stood up and expressed his thanks to Lan Haitian.

“Let’s keep in touch more often, I’ve always regarded you as a friend,”

Lan Haitian said with a smile before leaving.

Lin Yin performed a slight bow towards Chen Mobai at the door and then closed the door of the VIP lounge.

Once he was alone, Chen Mobai sat on the sofa, picked up the files from the table, and started reading through each document carefully and thoroughly.

After he had read through all the contents, he organized them into a bundle and tucked it into his Domain.

Then he pondered for a while and made a call to Wang Shuye.

“Oh, I haven’t paid attention to this matter, but you’ve come to the right person if you want to transfer your residence from Yu Wood City to Red Sandstone City,”

As the second-in-command of the Kaiyuan Hall Rotating Committee, Wang Shuye was within his rights to manage matters like the relocation of council members’ residences.

“Thank you, Senior Wang!”

Upon hearing this, Chen Mobai immediately gave his thanks.

“The rules of Immortal Gate state that a councilor needs to wait twenty years before they can transfer residences, so you are still officially the councilor of Yu Wood City. However, I can propose that Red Sandstone City lacks a Golden Core Master and, having been a place of infiltration by the Heretical Cult, which has been purged several times, requires a councilor with a firm approach to hold the fort.”

“In such a troubled place, other councilors will certainly avoid it as much as they can. Then, I’ll get a member of the Rotational Committee, who is not from the Dance Tool Dao Academy, to suggest that since you are already stationed in the neighboring Yu Wood City, it would make sense to include Red Sandstone City under your jurisdiction as well, allowing you to control both cities.”

“I will inform the other members whose terms are ending and who qualify to be stationed in Red Sandstone City that the decision has already been made in your favor.”

“Once the proposal is passed, you will be able to smoothly take your position at Danxia Mountain. With the Rank-4 superior Spirit Vein there, your cultivation will progress more rapidly towards Golden Core Perfection.”

Wang Shuye lived up to his reputation as the spokesperson of Dance Tool Dao Academy at Immortal Gate; Chen Mobai had only shared his thoughts, and Wang had already taken care of everything from start to finish.

At this moment, Chen Mobai was extremely grateful that he performed well in the entrance exams and got into the Daoist Academy.

Without such connections, even if he truly had the Qualification of Divinity Transformation, he would still have to stay in Yu Wood City for the full twenty years before he could apply to be stationed in Red Sandstone City, and even then, it might not be approved by the Kaiyuan Hall.

After the call ended, Chen Mobai felt elated.

Just then, the time to board the train had arrived. He took the VIP passageway and went directly into his own luxurious private compartment without needing a ticket check.

On the third stop after the train had left Wangwu Cave Heaven, a friend who had arranged to meet him boarded the train.

Knock, knock, knock!

At the familiar sound of knocking, Chen Mobai saw a lady with an attractive figure standing at the door, wearing a sun hat and sunglasses covering half of her delicate face.

The one needing such a disguise was naturally the celebrity Meng Huang.

Today, she was wearing a soft yellow dress that fell above her knees, beneath which were a pair of snow-white, long, straight and shapely legs.

## Chapter 1120: Turbulence

This time, when Chen Mobai came over for his report, Meng Huang happened to be on a performance tour with a literary and art troupe in another city, which was quite an unfortunate coincidence.

However, there are always more solutions than difficulties.

After checking the tour itinerary, Meng Huang had Chen Mobai book this train ticket for her.

The station where she boarded the train was one of the tour locations, and the next city she needed to visit was conveniently reachable by the same train.

Although they only had a little over two hours together, which seemed brief for two people who hadn't seen each other for a long time, it was still enough to vent their long-pent-up feelings of missing each other.

As the train continued its journey on the tracks, the carriage jostled and trembled incessantly, and at some point, the thick windows had fogged up with a layer of faint condensation. Through the hazy mist, the slender and fair right hand of someone surfaced, pressing against the glass and slowly sliding down, leaving a shallow trail before suddenly disappearing...

After they were done, the radiant Meng Huang got dressed, but when she prepared to get out of bed, her high heels were nowhere to be found by the bedside.

It was only after releasing her divine sense that she found them at the foot of the table in front of the sofa.

She immediately remembered that upon entering this carriage, the two of them had enjoyed a few drinks on the sofa, and halfway through, she couldn't contain her long-standing yearning any longer and began to ask Councilor Chen for his guidance and effort.

Thinking back on it, Meng Huang's pretty face flushed slightly. Barefoot with her snow-white legs, she stepped out of the bed and sat down by the sofa.

Just as she was putting on her white stilettos, the bathroom door opened, and Chen Mobai, having finished his shower, stepped out.

“Don’t forget the things on the table.”

Hearing Chen Mobai’s words, Meng Huang saw the eight gleaming and round pearls on the table, feeling an unprecedented sweetness and happiness in her heart.

It was seeing these that had made her lose restraint earlier on.

“What a pity there was so little time.”

Meng Huang spoke with a sense of indulgent aftertaste.

By then she had put on her high heels, fastening the delicate ankle straps. The patent leather straps and her beautiful snow-white instep blended together perfectly. Chen Mobai followed his gaze upward to her straight and slender legs, made even more graceful and light by her long-time stage performances.

Meng Huang turned around intending to tidy up her makeup in the reflection of the glass, when she suddenly felt a tightening around her waist—Chen Mobai had already sat down on the sofa and pulled her over.

“I need to get off at the next stop...”

As Meng Huang spoke, her striking figure lost balance and involuntarily reached out, pressing against the glass behind the sofa to stabilize herself.

Though the glass was warded to be one-way, allowing sight only from the inside out, in such a special scenario and with the pressing tick-tock of time, she felt an intense thrill.

“There’s still half an hour left, that’s plenty...”

Within the brief exchange, the temperature in the room began to rise, and a misty vapor spread across the glass with their breaths.

A crisp snap sounded—it was the ankle strap of the high heel that Meng Huang had just fastened coming undone again due to the violent shaking of the carriage, followed by the sound of the high heel hitting the floor.

The whistle of the train sounded in succession, signaling to the passengers that the train had reached the station.

Meng Huang quickly put on her shoes, slipped on sunglasses and a hat, and walked off the train.

When Chen Mobai disembarked at Yu Wood City, he was still savoring the melodious singing of Meng Huang, and he raised his palm as if the slick touch still lingered with sweat.

Now, their mutual aid in cultivation practice was no longer of much use, but the pleasure they found in both spirit and body made them feel an unprecedented satisfaction.

Sometimes, such euphoric release of mind and body can truly make a cultivator lose themselves in indulgence.

Fortunately, Chen Mobai was a man of resolute will, and after savoring the memories for half a day, he returned to his regular duties.

Since the matter of Red Sandstone City had been fully taken over by Wang Shuye, he only needed to wait for the results, so he went back to Giant Tree Ridge.

No sooner had he left his seclusion than an expected visitor arrived at his door, carrying two fish.

“Sect Leader, I heard about your mighty feats in Yun Meng Ze, how you slew two Rank-3 demonic beasts. Those inner cores...”

The former Sect Leader, Meng Hong, rambled on and finally stated his intentions with some embarrassment.

It was all about the heterodox Golden Core technique!

For him, this might be the only chance to experience the Golden Core Realm.

“These two inner cores are of wind and water attributes, which don’t perfectly align with your Longevity Scripture.”

When Chen Mobai had just established his Foundation, Meng Hong had helped him greatly, and the Flying Sparrow Hairpin had made a magnificent contribution to his renown in the Sword Dao. Naturally, he was inclined to bestow the inner cores on Meng Hong.

“Wind attribute is similar to the Wood Spirit Root. I think it’s worth a try.”

Although the Eastern Wilderness didn’t research Spirit Roots as thoroughly as the Immortal Gates, they still had a basic understanding.

The Wind Spiritual Root was a mutation of the Wood and Water Spiritual Roots, and indeed, there were traces to follow if Meng Hong were to practice the heterodox Golden Core technique with it.

If the two Rank-3 inner cores could indeed cultivate two Golden Core level fighters for the Divine Wood Sect, then the sect could truly dominate the Eastern Wilderness once and for all.

It’s just that, within the sect, the only two qualified to use heterodox Golden Cores, Meng Hong and Chu Zuoshu, were both practicing the Longevity Scripture.

While it was certain that the wind attribute Monster Beast Inner Pill would be given to the more senior Meng Hong, Chu Zuoshu was unable to make use of the remaining water attribute inner core.

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However, he had already made up his mind: the rich water should not flow into the fields of others.

This inner core, he would give it to Luo Yixuan, who had suffered ten years of torment in Huangquan for him.

Because she had been transformed into a ghost fetus in the womb, she had already missed ten years of cultivation, so he, as her mentor, must find a way to compensate her.

“How much sect contribution is left in your account?”

Chen Mobai asked Meng Hong, as there might be more monster beast inner pills in the future. For the development and cohesiveness of the sect, they would surely be listed in the Spirit Treasure Pavilion.

He needed to establish a standard for exchange.

“After many years of savings, there are four hundred and seventy thousand.”

Meng Hong answered truthfully; after all, he was an incorruptible sect leader.

“Then let’s set it at three hundred thousand sect contributions for one Rank-3 monster beast inner pill.”

At the words of Chen Mobai, Meng Hong nodded happily. Soon after, Luo Xue’er received a transmission through the Heavenly Communication Device, stating that any spirit objects of Rank-3 or above to be listed in the Spirit Treasure Pavilion must go through her, being the actual manager of the Reward Virtue Hall.

Luo Xue’er, upon hearing that it was a Rank-3 monster beast inner pill, looked at Meng Hong with envious eyes.

She too was a cultivator at the latter phase of Foundation Establishment and believed she could attempt Core Formation. Although the heterodox golden core transmutation technique was very dangerous, she would not hesitate if she were offered an outer path golden core.

Chen Mobai used the Rank-3 inner core to obtain three hundred thousand sect contributions from the Reward Virtue Hall, then the hall listed it on the exchange catalog of the Spirit Treasure Pavilion, and finally Meng Hong went to exchange it at the Spirit Treasure Pavilion.

“To refine this Rank-3 inner core into an outer path golden core, an outstanding alchemist and artifact refiner need to take action. I’ll go look for Zeng Woyou and Wang Tingbo.”

Having decided this, Meng Hong began making preparations to refine the outer path golden core.

However, Chen Mobai felt that Zeng Woyou might not be up to the task. Since he was going to trade with Yan Shaoyin anyway, he might as well lend a hand.

“Thank you, Sect Leader!”

When Meng Hong heard that Chen Mobai was going to ask Yan Shaoyin to help him refine the outer path golden core, he was deeply moved.

After all, in his heart, he was not very confident in Zeng Woyou’s abilities, considering that this was his only inner core.

Yet, the best alchemist he could find in the entire Eastern Wasteland was Zeng Woyou.

Above him were Yan Shaoyin and his two disciples.

However, Meng Hong believed that Back to Sky Valley would certainly not help Divine Wood Sect gain another Golden Core power.

So hearing Chen Mobai say this, he felt even more that the Sect Leader had vast divine powers.

“Do not publicize this matter. My cooperation with Yan Shaoyin needs to be discussed in person before it can be finalized.”

After returning to the sect, Chen Mobai received a message from Liu Wenbo. It said that after Yan Shaoyin had seen the catalog of the Longevity Elixir Scripture, his hands were trembling, and he immediately proposed to meet and discuss the matter.

The meeting place was temporarily set at the border of the territories.

There was a Mount Wanxiang, where the Loose Repair Alliance established a Fang Market. Being located between the Five Elements, Divine Wood, and Back to Sky, disciples of the three sects often exchanged spiritual objects there, making it somewhat famous in the Eastern Wasteland.

Since it was the time to harvest Coiling Dragon Spiritual Rice, Yan Shaoyin did not want the people from the Starry Sky Commerce Guild to know about his deal with Chen Mobai, so he chose this place.

After handling sect affairs, Chen Mobai did not delay and quietly set off for Mount Wanxiang.

There was also a Little Nan Mountain Shop there.

Chen Mobai waited on the second floor for a while before Liu Wenbo arrived with Yan Shaoyin.

“Long time no see, Sect Master Chen!”

Yan Shaoyin was very polite. Chen Mobai smiled and invited him to sit down while Liu Wenbo started serving tea to the two Golden Core cultivators.

“Which three elixir recipes would Master Yan like to choose?”

Chen Mobai asked, already baiting Yan Shaoyin with the temptation, and he agreed without any hesitation.

However, Liu Wenbo only brought over a catalog; the actual elixir recipes were still with Chen Mobai. Due to their significant value, Yan Shaoyin had to come in person.

“Infant-Feeding Elixir, Return to True Elixir, Nirvana Pill!”

Yan Shaoyin stated his choices.

The Infant-Feeding Elixir is self-explanatory, the Return to True Elixir is a kind of elixir that enhances the spiritual power of late Golden Core cultivators, which is just right for Yan Shaoyin.

And the Nirvana Pill is used to enhance the body, allowing a cultivator to undergo a transformation, raising the level of their Body Training Technique. In addition to vigorous vital energy, it can also repair bodily defects and expel impurities such as elixir toxins from the body during the process.

For the Eastern Wasteland Cultivators who are constantly popping pills to enhance themselves, this is considered a supreme elixir.

“That’s possible, but I have three conditions.”

Chen Mobai’s words were not unexpected to Yan Shaoyin, given the value of the three elixir recipes far exceeded that of the three Green Charm Spiritual Trees.

“Please speak, Sect Master Chen!”