

## World 1161

### Chapter 1161: Two Great Rivers\_2

“May I ask the Sect Leader, what constitutes a great contribution?”

Xie Yuntian immediately asked, as he was the most impatient among the three and the most confident in himself.

“The alchemy recipe for the Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine comes from the Longevity Sect. Our Sect also needs to gather materials to refine it. Once the refining is successful, I will decide based on the three of you’s contributions to the Sect.”

Chen Mobai did not provide a concrete standard.

Not long after the three of them left, Luo Xue’er was brought back by Gu Yan.

“Sect Leader, I have reached Foundation Establishment Completion and have come to inquire about the matter from the other day.”

Luo Xue’er was also very conflicted at the moment. Naturally, she wanted to achieve Core Formation, but she could only choose one between the Heterodox Golden Core and the Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine, so she hesitated.

“If the refining of the Golden Liquid Jade Pill is successful, Xie Yuntian will have made the greatest military achievements for the Sect, followed by Quan Shanlin, so you can only be third. However, that Heterodox Golden Core is indeed the most suitable for you at the current stage in the Sect. I just so happen to have a super project that I want to start on the Eastern Desolation Plateau. Would you be willing to go there?”

“Disciple is willing!”

Before Chen Mobai could specify what the super project was, Luo Xue’er did not hesitate at all and immediately agreed.

When the matter of opening up the Eastern Desolation Plateau and managing the Boundless Sand Sea was mentioned, Luo Xue'er, the Vice Hall Master of Reward Virtue Hall, also widened her eyes in disbelief.

"I plan to dig a great river from Yun Meng Ze to irrigate Sky Country, and then lead another river from the Frost country snowy mountains to irrigate Rock Country; finally, the confluence of the Two Rivers will flow to Rainbow Country to provide sufficient water resources to manage the desert..."

After Chen Mobai finished speaking, Luo Xue'er had basically grasped his idea. She knew internally that this would undoubtedly be incredibly arduous, involving the opening of tens of thousands of miles of river channels that would span from Sky Country to Rock Country. The process required traversing the entire Eastern Desolation Plateau to find the most suitable route, which would take at least several decades or even a century to complete.

But for her own Core Formation, she knew she had to endure the hardship.

"Sect Leader, I need to command some disciples from the Spirit Vein Division. If we also have support from the Spirit Beast Division and the Body Forging Division, the digging could be faster."

Luo Xue'er quickly immersed herself in the role of digging the great river and began asking Chen Mobai for manpower.

"The Sect needs to guard against the retaliatory strike of the Demonic beasts from Yun Meng Ze, so most of the elite disciples cannot be moved. However, missions can be posted in the Spirit Treasure Pavilion."

Chen Mobai always liked to emphasize the initiative of cultivators in handling matters. Although he could order the disciples of the Three Halls and Twelve Divisions in the name of the Sect, he still preferred to have tasks with explicitly stated rewards.

In this way, leaders like Zhuo Ming could gain more merit, rather than having it dispersed so that no one accumulates enough merit for Enlightenment.

"Yes, Sect Leader!"

After hearing Chen Mobai's words, Luo Xue'er realized that this task would take even more effort than she had imagined.

But the thought of Core Formation ignited a fighting spirit within her.

She must complete this task well.

"I am the chief engineer of this super project, but as the Sect Leader, I need to stay at Giant Tree Ridge and cannot leave lightly, so I have sent Ming'er to oversee this matter in my place. She has received my true teachings, and when you go there, you must also follow her lead."

Chen Mobai first backed up his prized disciple, preventing Luo Xue'er from using her seniority to take over command.

"Yes, Sect Leader, I will certainly follow Zhuo Shimei's lead."

There was a hint of bitterness in Luo Xue'er's heart when she said this.

Having worked in the Divine Wood Sect for over a hundred years, as the Vice Hall Master of one of the Three Great Halls, just below the Golden Core Cultivators, she now had to follow the orders of a young girl.

It could only be said that effort was not as good as choosing the right master.

"Hmm, after you leave, go and find Ming'er. She should already be organizing manpower, ready to set out for the Eastern Desolation Plateau.""

When Luo Xue'er bid farewell and left, she found that Xie Yuntian and Quan Shanlin were actually waiting at the entrance of the Longevity Wood Dojo.

Both men's eyes flickered when they saw her come out.

The three of them had the same thought in mind.

They all wanted to seek out the Sect Leader privately to inquire about the conditions for obtaining the Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine.

Since Chen Mobai had seen one of them, it would not be right to refuse to meet the other two, so he asked Gu Yan to bring them up as well.

Facing the two of them, there was no point in hiding anything.

He mentioned the matter of refining the Golden Liquid Jade Return Pill, saying that if only one pill was successfully refined, then it should be exchanged with the Sect member who had made the highest contribution.

When Xie Yuntian and Quan Shanlin left, the relationship between the two men, which had been fairly good, now felt like there was a barrier between them.

They exchanged a glance and flew toward the Spirit Treasure Pavilion together.

Inside the pavilion, as usual, many disciples of the Divine Wood Sect bustled about. When they saw the two men, who were ranked second only to the Nascent Soul Ancestors in the Sect, come in, they were all taken aback.

But then, something even more shocking happened!

Xie Yuntian pointed to the hardest tasks on the Spirit Treasure Pavilion's mission list, those with the greatest Sect contribution upon completion, and told Liang Lingzhen, who was on duty, to accept them all.

But before he could finish, he was interrupted by Quan Shanlin.

"Xie junior brother, it's a bit much to hog it all to yourself, isn't it? You have to leave half for me."

“In that case, I’ll leave these five tasks to senior brother.”

Xie Yuntian was quite forthright, directly handing over the tasks that, although offering a sizable contribution, would take up a lot of time, to Quan Shanlin. The latter smirked coldly and pointed to the tasks other than those five, telling Liang Lingzhen he would take care of the rest.

The way the two were competitively opposed to each other immediately caused Liang Lingzhen to frown with worry.

He couldn’t afford to offend either of them.

But he was also puzzled as to why these two big shots were suddenly so enthusiastic about doing tasks?

In the end, this matter was brought to Chen Mobai’s attention. He smacked each of them fifty times and then reformed the Sect’s mission rules, stipulating that one could only accept another task after completing or canceling the previous one.

Chen Mobai had Liang Lingzhen bring over the mission list from the Spirit Treasure Pavilion and told Xie Yuntian and Quan Shanlin to each pick one.

In front of him, naturally neither dared to step out of line, and they both picked tasks they felt they could complete easily and which offered high contribution.

“After that, it’s up to you two who returns to the Sect first. At that time, you can choose whatever you want.”

Having dealt with this matter, Chen Mobai then went to Xiao Nanshan.

He saw Zhuo Ming, who was busy with the handover of the Spirit Fields, the Immortal Peach Tree, the Tea Trees, and various other Spirit Plants of Xiao Nanshan.

After she left, these would all be looked after by someone assigned by the Spirit Plant Department.

Shi Fengping finally got the chance to show his worth in front of Chen Mobai, personally leading the elite disciples of the Spirit Plant Department. He took over with meticulous care, making sure he understood every aspect of different Spirit Rice habits and planting seasons to ensure that the Spirit Rice yield from Xiao Nanshan wouldn't plummet once he took over.

After Chen Mobai arrived, Shi Fengping was still seeking advice from Zhuo Ming, showing his seriousness and dedication to the task the Sect Leader had entrusted for the Land of Dragon Prosperity.

"Master..."

Liu Wenbo happened to be on Xiao Nanshan today as well; he needed to discuss with Zhuo Ming how to transport the materials she needed to the Eastern Desolation Plateau.

However, after Chen Mobai arrived, master and disciple went aside under the Immortal Peach Tree to discuss matters regarding Song Huangdae.

After the news spread that Liu Wenbo had taken him as a nominal disciple, indeed, mysterious letters soon arrived at Dragon Horn Trench, directing Song Huangdae to probe into the secrets of the Xiao Nanshan Lineage.

Song Huangdae immediately reported this letter to Liu Wenbo, his nominal master, and asked how he should reply.

Liu Wenbo thought about several different versions, trying to figure out who the infiltrator within the Sect might be.

But since he was uncertain, having met Chen Mobai today, he brought it up for advice.

Chen Mobai replied, "Just say that you've discovered that Ming'er and Xuan are about to leave Giant Tree Ridge to carry out my orders to develop the Eastern Desolation Plateau."

Liu Wenbo said, "Master, the people from the Spirit Plant Department have been coming to Xiao Nanshan daily; isn't this matter already common knowledge?"

Chen Mobai replied, "Information has to come step by step. The mole will definitely want Song Huangdae to find out from you, his master, the 'real purpose' behind the development of the Eastern Desolation Plateau. Tell Song Huangdae to say that it's not only Ming'er and Xuan, but also the Vice Hall Master of the Reward Virtue Hall is going to be dispatched by me."

Chen Mobai continued, "Once Luo Xue'er also leaves Giant Tree Ridge, the mole will certainly see Song Huangdae's value greatly increased. Then, have him reveal that he has discovered that Yin Qingmei, the possessor of the Heavenly Spiritual Root, might also leave Giant Tree Ridge..."

Chapter 1162: Five-Cornered Ancient Maple If you want to lure the snake out of its hole, then you must choose bait that your enemy simply cannot resist.

Within the entirety of the Divine Wood Sect, aside from Chen Mobai and other cultivators who have already achieved Core Formation, the one who makes the enemies most wary is undoubtedly Yin Qingmei with her Heavenly Spiritual Root.

With such aptitude, achieving Core Formation was a minimum guarantee, and there was even a great chance of reaching "Nascent Soul Formation" eventually.

If there was an opportunity to eliminate her in advance, they would undoubtedly take immediate action to kill her.

And Chen Mobai wasn't spreading false information; Yin Qingmei indeed needed to go to Rainbow Country to adjust her Fire Vein and plant trees to treat the sand. Zhuo Ming had also visited Qingdai Mountain several times to discuss this matter with her.

Once Liu Wenbo received guidance from Chen Mobai, he immediately had an epiphany and left Xiao Nanshan to arrange this matter.

Of course, before he left, he handed over to Chen Mobai the five tubes of Qi of Dragon Vein that Song Huangdae had painstakingly refined this year.

Ever since his identity was exposed, Song Huangdae, in an attempt to make amends, dared not slack off anymore, exceeding his original annual task of four tubes.

He hoped that when the time came for the Restoration Society to be annihilated, Chen Mobai would spare his life in recognition of his hard work.

Conveniently, at this time, the Divine Wood Sect had also gathered all the auxiliary materials needed for the Earth Veins Elixir.

What was still missing was another main material, that is, the Qi of Earth Vein!

The so-called Qi of Earth Vein was, in fact, earth-attribute Spiritual Energy. Over ninety-nine percent of Spirit Plants required Qi of Earth Vein to survive and grow.

Therefore, virtually all terrestrial Spirit Veins contain Qi of Earth Vein, making it an easily found and widely used main material.

The Earth Veins Elixir is named after it, and its demand for Qi of Earth Vein even exceeds that for Qi of Dragon Vein.

This is a Rank-3 elixir, so the Qi of Earth Vein it requires must be at least Rank-3. However, if there's Rank-4 Qi available, according to the past experience of predecessors at Jumang Academy, recounted by Wen Ren Xuewei, the quality of the resulting elixir would be even better.

And naturally, the improvement for an Earth Spirit Root cultivator from an elixir of better quality would be more significant.

However, the practice of alchemy within Immortal Gates has always advocated frugality, so if Rank-3 Qi of Earth Vein is sufficient, they would absolutely not use Rank-4.

Chen Mobai is different; if he is to refine elixirs, then he would want all the external conditions to be optimal.

Otherwise, if this material falls slightly short or that material is scant, and the refinement fails, wouldn't that be an even bigger waste?

The Qi of Earth Vein at Giant Tree Ridge is, without a doubt, the most top-notch in the Eastern Desolation.

But through the abundant experience of the Sect, Chen Mobai knew that extracting Qi of Earth Vein would affect the growth of Spirit Plants, the yield of Spirit Rice at Giant Tree Ridge, and excessive extraction could even cause the grade of the Spirit Vein to decline.

Although the Earth Veins Elixir did not require a large amount of Qi of Earth Vein, Chen Mobai still wouldn't do something that amounted to undermining his own resources.

Luckily, besides Giant Tree Ridge, the Divine Wood Sect had two other locations with Fourth Grade Spirit Veins!

They were Cloud Nation's Tianpeng Mountain and Jianguo Dayun Proving Ground.

The former was a relic of cultivators who had opened up the land discovered by the Foundation Establishment practitioner Du Feng from the Sect in the past. There was even a Rank-4 Five-Cornered Ancient Maple suppressing the Spirit Vein.

It was a pity that too much time had passed. When Chu Zuoshu went there, he found that the Five-Cornered Ancient Maple had already withstood the Heavenly Tribulation, and though it was still alive, its trunk was charred, and it had no branches or leaves left, barely clinging to the last remnant of its Elemental Energy.

Moreover, the mere remnants of the spirit in the Five-Cornered Ancient Maple caused the Spirit Vein of Tianpeng Mountain to gradually dissipate and weaken.

Later, Zhou Shengqing personally transplanted three Golden Sun Spirit Trees there and helped the Five-Cornered Ancient Maple purge the remnants of the Heavenly Tribulation. Only then was the Fourth Grade Spirit Vein of Tianpeng Mountain barely preserved.

The Dayun Proving Ground of Jianguo was a Rank-4 Spirit Vein that Ancestor Hunyuan discovered and subsequently bestowed upon Zhou Shengqing. It remains the Zhou family's ancestral land to date.

Therefore, the only place where Chen Mobai could extract Rank-4 Qi of Earth Vein was Tianpeng Mountain!

He didn't waste any time and immediately brought his cherished disciple Zhuo Ming to Tianpeng Mountain.

The All-things Altruistic Cauldron was most proficient in this extraction.

To avoid delaying Zhuo Ming's important mission to the Eastern Desolation Plateau, Chen Mobai decided to extract all the Qi of Earth Vein needed for his refinement in one go.

After passing through the Teleportation Array, Chen Mobai, riding on the "Red Misty Cloud Silk," arrived at Tianpeng Mountain with the greatest speed.

The place was protected by a Formation, unseeable and inaccessible to mortals.

But as the Sect Leader of the Divine Wood Sect, Chen Mobai naturally had unimpeded access!

After passing through the Formation, what came into view was a lush and verdant Spirit Mountain with winding streams, not particularly tall.

The foothills and slopes of the mountain had all been converted by the Spirit Plant Department of the Divine Wood Sect into Spirit Fields and Medicine Fields, where a variety of precious herbs were planted.

The dissipating Spirit Vein here nourished all fields to become Third Rank Superior Grade Spirit Fields, and Chen Mobai even spotted an acre of Jade Marrow Golden Mushrooms.

In the center of Tianpeng Mountain stood a Five-Cornered Ancient Maple tree, over ten zhang tall with a charred trunk, devoid of branches and leaves.

This plot of Spiritual Land of Tianpeng Mountain naturally had cultivators from the Sect's Spirit Plant Department tending it, and the one in charge was even a Foundation Establishment practitioner named Xin Tingzheng.

He was once the deputy head of the Spirit Plant Department, yet unfortunately, he was now over two hundred years old, his life nearing its end.

So, feeling his body weakening irrevocably, he retired to this Rank-4 Spiritual Land to spend his last years.

On hearing that Sect Leader Chen Mobai was coming, Xin Tingzheng, dragging his decrepit body, was carried over by four disciples of the Spirit Plant Department to pay his respects.

Is this what a Foundation Establishment Practitioner facing the end of his lifespan in the Tianhe Realm looks like?

Chen Mobai looked at the emaciated Xin Tingzheng, with a lifeless expression and Spiritual Power not even on par with the Ninth Layer of Qi Cultivation. After feeling his pulse, it was easy to discern that his state was due to an overwhelming amount of elixir toxins within his body, which was why, despite having several years left in his lifespan, he already looked like a man at death's door.

Chapter 1163: Five-Cornered Ancient Maple\_2

He couldn't help but channel a gentle stream of Pure Yang Spiritual Power to help Xin Tingzheng dissolve some of the accumulated poison in his body.

"Thank you, Sect Leader!"

While Chen Mobai and Xin Tingzheng were conversing, Zhuo Ming had already approached the nearly withered Five-Cornered Ancient Maple, touching it with both hands and employing the Divine Skills of All Things Spiritual Communication.

Unfortunately, they were not in Xiao Nanshan, and this Fourth Order Spirit Plant had been nearly soul shattered by the Heavenly Tribulation, retaining only a trace of its remaining spirit, completely devoid of the ability to communicate.

Zhuo Ming had initially hoped to save this precious Fourth Order Spirit Plant, but now it seemed like an impossible feat.

Amidst her sigh, Zhuo Ming wasted no more time; she immediately took out the All-things Altruistic Cauldron and a set of Spirit Sealing Tubes, beginning to extract the Fourth Order Qi of Earth Vein with this Lifespan Artifact.

Xin Tingzheng could roughly understand what Zhuo Ming was doing, but with Chen Mobai nearby, he dared not say anything.

The other disciples of the Spirit Plant Department were all focused on Chen Mobai, the Sect Leader, wondering if they would have the chance to ask him some questions about cultivation.

Three days later!

Chen Mobai took Zhuo Ming and left Mount Tianpeng.

Zhuo Ming used the All-things Altruistic Cauldron to extract twenty strands of Fourth Order Qi of Earth Vein, but unfortunately, they did not discover any Qi of Creation here.

“Master, I was thinking, is it possible to use the Kindwood Mantra to turn this Five-Cornered Ancient Maple into a seed and take it back to Xiao Nanshan for re-cultivation?”

On the way back, Zhuo Ming proposed her idea.

“This Five-Cornered Ancient Maple is a Fourth Order Spirit Plant. You need to cultivate the Kindwood Mantra to the Fourth Order in order to do that, something even your teacher cannot achieve!”

Chen Mobai naturally appreciated his disciple's idea, but he did not want to use the Fourth Order Empowerment of the Heavenly Calculation Bead on such a minor Technique.

Moreover, after turning it into a seed with the Kindwood Mantra, it would have to be nurtured from Rank-1 again, which he found to be troublesome.

After listening to this, Zhuo Ming could only show her disappointment!

Upon returning to the Divine Wood Sect, Chen Mobai took all the materials needed for the Earth Veins Elixir and went back to the Immortal Gate to practice alchemy.

Zhuo Ming Luo Yixuan also set off for Rock Country to prepare for the diversion of Snow Mountain Water for irrigation, officially developing the Eastern Desolation Plateau.

Time quickly passed and half a year went by!

In the Transmission Department, Du Feng, seeing in his hand the newly approved decree from the Sect Leader to dispatch Luo Xue'er, the Vice Hall Master of the Reward Virtue Hall, to Sky Country to develop a major river, no longer doubted the message that Song Huangdae had brought yesterday.

He had not expected that this time, the old devil Chen would actually send out Yin Qingmei, the Heavenly Spiritual Root!

Isn't he afraid that once she leaves Giant Tree Ridge, she could be ambushed by other enemy Golden Core Cultivators?

Probably, the Divine Wood Sect's consecutive victories in recent years have gotten to old devil Chen's head, leading him to believe that the Eastern Wasteland has truly become the realm of the Divine Wood Sect.

"Let's take this opportunity to kill off this future Golden Core of the Divine Wood Sect."

Thinking to himself, Du Feng left the Transmission Department and went back to his Cave Dwelling, took out a special piece of Talisman Paper, wrote down the message he wanted to convey, and then lit it on fire, burning it to ashes.

After several transfers, the letter reached the hands of the former Sect Leader of Liu Jia Mountain, Xu Shengbing.

He immediately sought an audience with Yan Fusheng, who was in seclusion in his Cave Dwelling.

“What is it?”

The stone door opened, and a deep, authoritative voice accompanied by a tall silhouette emanated from within.

“Ancestor, I have received a letter from brother Du!”

As Yan Fusheng’s personally placed spy inside the Divine Wood Sect, Du Feng had even offered up the Spiritual Land of Mount Tianpeng and the Five-Cornered Ancient Maple; therefore, any information he sent was of great importance.

“Capture this Heavenly Spiritual Root alive. I want to turn her into a Human Puppet; she might even become a complete Liu Jia Heavenly General!”

Upon hearing the news of Yin Qingmei heading to Rainbow Country, Yan Fusheng’s eyes lit up, and he gave his orders.

“Yes, Ancestor. However, my command over manpower is limited at the moment, and I dare not direct the Sect’s Foundation Establishment Practitioners. Given that Yin Qingmei, being a Heavenly Spiritual Root, likely has many protective treasures, I can manage to kill her alone, but capturing her alive may be difficult.”

Xu Shengbing expressed his difficulties, for over the past ten years under Yan Fusheng's guidance, he had also broken through to the Completion of Foundation Establishment and believed there were only a handful of Nascent Soul Ancestors in the Eastern Barren he could not defeat.

Facing Yin Qingmei, the Heavenly Spiritual Root long protected by the Divine Wood Sect at Giant Tree Ridge, he was certain of victory, but the thought of trying to capture her alive was troubling.

"Don't make a move in Rainbow Country to avoid the Divine Wood Sect suspecting Liu Jia Mountain and coming to us."

"If she wants to come to Rainbow Country, she will definitely pass through Rock Country. Isn't the Restoration Society active there? Use my token to mobilize those remnants from Mountain Shaker Peak and capture her there."

"After you've done this, make a detour and lead the trail to the Nanxuan sect."

The strategy, spoken in Yan Fusheng's icy tone, brightened Xu Shengbing's eyes.

If everything went as the ancestor suggested, not only would they be able to kidnap Yin Qingmei, but they might also provoke a full-scale war between the Divine Wood Sect and the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace.

"Yes, ancestor!"

...

Qingdai Mountain.

Yin Qingmei had no idea she was being used as bait; she was worried about how to transplant her Biyu Wutong to Rainbow Country.

For cultivators of the Qing Emperor's Longevity Scripture, once they left their Destiny Spirit Plant, their cultivation speed would revert to its original state.

Even if she reverted to her original pace, she was still a Heavenly Spiritual Root, far surpassing anyone in the sect.

But having grown accustomed to the support of her Destiny Spirit Plant and refining Spiritual Power, Yin Qingmei found it difficult to accept returning to her previous cultivation speed.

Unfortunately, the Divine Wood Sect's method for tree seeds would permanently fix the Spirit Tree's grade, which would make carrying it very convenient if transformed into a tree seed.

She even consulted Zhuo Ming, the top Spirit Plant Master of the sect, about this issue.

Zhuo Ming proposed two solutions!

One of them was to use the Kindwood Mantra that Chen Mobai taught from the Longevity Sect to turn the Biyu Wutong into a seed.

This spell would preserve all the energy and Elemental Energy of the Spirit Plant within the seed, which could then be transplanted in a suitable Spirit Vein after being carried to the destination. With careful nurturing over some time, it would grow back.

But this period was not going to be short.

Zhuo Ming, through the Divine Skills of All Things Spiritual Communication, connected with the Rank-2 Biyu Wutong and estimated it would take about ten years to return to its current realm.

Yin Qingmei naturally did not want to waste so much time; she estimated that in ten years, she would likely have reached the late phase of Foundation Establishment.

So, it was the second method: like transplanting an Immortal Peach Tree, using a great force to lift up the Biyu Wutong along with the soil it was in and manually moving it from Qingdai Mountain to Rainbow Country.

With Yin Qingmei's cultivation level in the Foundation Building Realm, she was most definitely incapable of doing this.

She could only seek help from Chen Mobai.

"Thank you for your efforts, foster father,"

Yin Qingmei said with a grateful look as Chen Mobai lifted the Biyu Wutong and the huge clump of soil around its roots into the air.

"It's a simple matter. I was also planning to secretly escort you to Rainbow Country, so transporting this Biyu Wutong is on the way."

Chen Mobai briefed Yin Qingmei on the possibility of undercover agents, but she remained composed, assured that with her foster father in hiding, her safety was guaranteed.

"Hmm, it's good that you have this mentality. In some time, I will have Xie Yuntian escort you to Rainbow Country openly. If enemies ambush you, don't worry about him, just find a way to ensure your own safety."

Zhuo Ming, Luo Xue'er, and Luo Yixuan had gone to the Eastern Desolation Plateau to thoroughly verify the accuracy of Song Huangdae's information.

Now, the news of Yin Qingmei's departure should be able to draw out the genuinely hidden and malevolent Restoration Society against the Divine Wood Sect.

After the two finished discussing, Chen Mobai gave his Haotian Mirror to Yin Qingmei.

"Once you're in Rainbow Country, you mustn't stop condensing the Pure Yang Purple Qi. I'll transmit a stream of Spiritual Power to you; in a critical moment, you can activate this magic artifact to save your life," he said.

Having said that, he sent the Biyu Wutong tree into his own Domain.

After breaking through to the third layer of the Gold Core, his Domain had expanded to 320 cubic meters, more than enough to fit the tree.

Chapter 1164: Refining the Earth Veins Elixir “

Within the boundaries of Rain Country, a group of Black Plague Birds suddenly appeared, led by a powerful Rank-2 Demonic Beast.

It seemed that a breach had occurred in the defenses along the border with Cloud Dream Marsh, compounded by the fact that after Hong He’s “death in battle,” his replacement as the Town Guard of Rain Country was Fei Zhongyu, an ordinary Foundation Establishment Cultivator from Penalty Evil Hall, which somewhat undermined the control of the situation.

Although Fei Zhongyu had tried his best to gather Divine Wood Sect Monks from Rain Country, coupled with the assistance of the major families, they were still unable to completely exterminate the Black Plague Birds, capable of free flight.

Some time ago, two lesser families were breached by the Black Plague Birds, and dozens of cultivators were brutally killed.

Facing such a situation, several families from Rain Country began to retreat, with leading Foundation Establishment Cultivators summoning their own sect members to defend family lands, in order to prevent the spirit rice and medicinal herbs in their Spirit Fields and Medicine Fields from being entirely devoured by these monstrous beasts.

Without the manpower from the major families, Fei Zhongyu found the Divine Wood Sect Monks at his disposal somewhat insufficient.

He could only retreat to within Liu Hua Market and then sent a request for reinforcements to the Sect.

Usually, in such cases, the Divine Wood Sect would have two ways to respond.

The first was to post this demon-exorcising mission directly on Spirit Treasure Pavilion, waiting for a Foundation Establishment Practitioner with spare time, and looking to earn some sect contributions and spirit stones, to take it on.

If Fei Zhongyu had a more profound background, then higher-ups like Chen Mobai would directly assign some powerful Foundation Establishment Cultivators to intervene.

Alternatively, they would decree Foundation Establishment Monks guarding various islands and markets in Cloud Dream Marsh to go there.

Unfortunately, Fei Zhongyu was just the most ordinary Foundation Establishment Cultivator within the Divine Wood Sect; even though he had a few fellow disciples with whom he was acquainted, they were nothing more than casual contacts.

Besides, he was already advanced in years, with his potential drained, which is why he obeyed orders to leave Penalty Evil Hall and followed Hong He to Rain Country, hoping to earn some more spirit stones in his later years.

But who could have known that two years ago, his immediate superior would suddenly perish in Cloud Dream Marsh.

Due to the shortage of manpower at that time, he was forced to become the acting Town Guard of Rain Country. Fortunately, the onslaught of the Cloud Dream Marsh Monsters had mostly subsided by that time, and thanks to his diligent performance, there were no mishaps.

However, when the subsequent selection for reigning Town Guard of Rain Country occurred, qualified Divine Wood Sect Foundation Establishment Practitioners declined one after another.

Firstly, they feared following in Hong He's footsteps, perishing in Cloud Dream Marsh.

Secondly, being a Town Guard was originally a position at the Sect Leader's discretion, and after Hong He's death, no one in the Sect could compete with the likes of E Yun and King Zhou Wangshen.

As a result, in the absence of anyone stepping forward to compete, Fei Zhongyu remained as the acting Town Guard of Rain Country for more than two years.

Fei Zhongyu was quite pleased at first, as at least being the Town Guard of a country, he ranked just below the upper echelons of The Three Great Halls and the Twelve Divisions within the Sect, and he would also receive more in terms of spirit stones and other stipends.

However, after the Black Plague Birds made landfall, he started to regret why he didn't ask to resign earlier, citing inadequate abilities.

Amidst fierce cries, hundreds of Black Plague Birds formed a massive dark cloud over the market's sky, and under the leadership of the Rank-2 big bird, they shot sharp, glinting Wind Blades towards the market's Large Formation.

Fei Zhongyu was naturally not afraid that the market would be breached; even if thrice the number of demonic beasts came, he believed he could rely on the Large Formation to defend it.

Even if it did not hold, he could escape using the Teleportation Array.

But if that happened, the prestige of the Divine Wood Sect in Rain Country would be utterly disgraced.

Moreover, if he fled, he estimated that he would likely be terminated by the furiously upset higher-ups.

At this moment, Fei Zhongyu only hoped that the help he requested would be picked up promptly by a Foundation Establishment Cultivator within the Sect.

Normally, the Three Great Halls would ask Spirit Treasure Pavilion to clear out missions about once a month.

Today was the seventh day.

Fei Zhongyu only regretted why, knowing this situation, he didn't implore the Sect for reinforcements at the first opportunity, instead of trying to prove his competence by summoning Rain Country's Cultivator Families to surround and eradicate the demonic beasts, wasting precious half a month.

Just as he was praying that the Black Plague Birds wouldn't ravage other Spiritual Lands in Rain Country for the next month, the market's Teleportation Array suddenly lit up.

"Huh?"

As Fei Zhongyu's brow furrowed, a person he never expected walked out.

The arrival was not particularly tall or thin, not plump or short, with an ordinary appearance but sharp eyes and an erect posture, resembling a Sword Artifact hidden in its sheath.

Seeing the newcomer, Fei Zhongyu's face lit up with joy.

"Minister Xie, I never expected it to be you who honored us with your presence!"

The person who had teleported was none other than Xie Yuntian, who was hailed as the number one Foundation Establishment Cultivator of the Divine Wood Sect.

But upon seeing him, Fei Zhongyu also felt puzzled; he had no connection whatsoever with the pinnacle figure of the Sect's Foundation Establishment, so why was it him who took on the mission?

"Far too negligent; when faced with a situation you cannot handle, you should report to the Sect promptly. Every day you delay, our Sect's interests in Rain Country, as well as our allied families, suffer more losses!"

After stepping out of the Teleportation Array, Xie Yuntian first sternly scolded Fei Zhongyu, who did not dare to retort and could only hang his head in admonition.

Yet Fei Zhongyu felt even more mystified.

Why had the Sect responded so swiftly this time?

And why on earth had Xie Yuntian come personally?

While he was still struggling to understand, Xie Yuntian did not delay at all!

“

Chapter 1165: Refining the Earth Veins Elixir\_2

He glanced at the group of demonic beasts besieging the skies above Liu Hua Market and sneered before spouting a cyan and green stream of light from his mouth.

It was as if a bolt of lightning suddenly flashed across the sky, brightening the world with a beam of light that fiercely tore through the massive cloud formed by hundreds of Black Plague Birds!

The leading Rank-2 black bird, amidst its shrieks, flapped its wings rapidly, bursting forth with incredible speed to narrowly evade being split in two by the sky-shredding cyan and green beam of light.

Yet even so, half of its black wing was severed by the Green Flames Sword Slaughter, burning fiercely as it fell towards the ground, leaving behind a trail of ash-like black smoke dispersing in mid-air.

“Good beast, to actually withstand one of my swords, let’s see if you can handle this second one...”

Xie Yuntian, who had flown up on his sword from the center of the market, raised an eyebrow at this scene, and then following the Sect Leader’s example, he spouted a second Green Flames Sword Slaughter from his mouth!

With its wings slashed, the Black Plague Bird could no longer dodge the Sword Sha with such speed. Despite desperately spitting out consecutive green Wind Blades, and even directing the surrounding hundreds of Rank-1 Black Plague Birds to form a shield of demonic beast clouds, under the divine might of the Sword Sha, they were like clouds torn apart by the blazing sun.

And in the eyes of the many cultivators in Liu Hua Market, they witnessed two successive cyan and green fiery streams of light rise up, completely tearing apart the group of demonic beasts that had obscured the sky for a whole seven days.

That imposing black bird, which could call upon the winds and thunder, was split into left and right halves by the second fiery stream of light.

Amidst the blood that filled the sky, the flock of Black Plague Birds that had besieged Liu Hua Market for seven whole days was completely routed!

After launching two Sword Shas in succession, Xie Yuntian also felt that his Spiritual Power had been considerably depleted and chose not to exert such terrifying power any longer.

Instead, he wielded his Flying Sword to slay the Black Plague Birds that were fleeing in all directions.

Fei Zhongyu naturally didn't miss the opportunity to make amends for past mistakes, and immediately directed the Divine Wood Sect Monks within the market to pursue and kill.

But in the end, only the cultivators who had reached the Foundation Establishment could fly, so it was only Xie Yuntian, himself, and another Divine Wood Sect Foundation Establishment cultivator who managed to slay hundreds of Black Plague Birds.

The rest escaped.

“Issue an order in the name of the sect to the major clans of Rain Country, to hunt down this group of demonic beasts with all their might, and make sure they do not harm the common people!”

After feeling somewhat drained of Spiritual Power, Xie Yuntian stopped his pursuit, and shortly after returning to Liu Hua Market, Fei Zhongyu also returned, instantly relaying the order.

“Yes, Minister Xie, we really owe you one this time. Otherwise, the smaller clans in Rain Country and the commoners might have suffered.” Fei Zhongyu said earnestly. After every major clan began to only care for their own, he could only defend his territory.

If the Black Plague Birds had recovered and no longer besieged Liu Hua Market but instead scattered across Rain Country to prey on people, he would have been severely at fault, and upon returning to the Sect, he probably would face punishment.

“It is only my duty!”

After saying this, Xie Yuntian took out the document that represented the mission from the Spirit Treasure Pavilion, and had Fei Zhongyu sign to confirm that the mission was accomplished.

“Minister Xie, you have also worked hard to slay the demonic beasts. I have prepared the best Rank-3 Cave Dwelling in the market...”

“I won’t be staying. I need to return and hand over this mission before taking on the next one,” he said with a wave of his hand, declining the offer. After confirming that the group of demonic beasts was no longer a threat, he left via the Teleportation Array once more.

“This...”

Fei Zhongyu, puzzled by the abrupt arrival and departure of Xie Yuntian, was left scratching his head in confusion.

The great number one Foundation Establishment cultivator of the Divine Wood Sect, short of Spirit Stones and contributions?

...

After relocating the Biyu Wutong to his own Domain, Chen Mobai left a Formless Puppet within the sect to wait for Xie Yuntian’s return.

Although he had to use Yin Qingmei as bait, he couldn't be too blatant about it.

As a Heavenly Spiritual Root, if the Sect suddenly sent her off alone, it would surely raise suspicions among enemies.

Having Xie Yuntian, the number one Foundation Establishment member of the Divine Wood Sect, as a bodyguard was the perfect cover, and this news could also be leaked by Song Huangdae, further solidifying his trust among the undercover agents.

As for the real Chen Mobai, he wasted no time in returning to the Immortal Gate.

He was, after all, refining Earth Veins Elixir in the Rank-4 workshop of Red Dawn Institution.

But the Alchemy System of the Immortal Gate was nearly fully automated; as a formula of the Immortal Gate, the Earth Veins Elixir wasn't like the traditional Golden Crow Bearing the Sun Elixir that needed constant tending to the furnace flame.

“

Even so, he left another formless puppet to watch over his workshop.

When Chen Mobai returned, he arrived just in time to see two streams of gas mixing with different mineral fragments inside the long glass tube, continuously combining under the plant gel.

The alchemy recipe for the Earth Veins Elixir would leave alchemists from the Tianhe Realm baffled.

This was because the two main ingredients were the intangible qi of the Dragon Vein and the Qi of Earth Vein, and the auxiliary ingredients included various minerals along with plants that aided the fusion.

This was an elixir of the metals and stones category!

Thus, the difficulty of refining the Earth Veins Elixir was far beyond that of the common Golden Crow Sun-Swallowing Elixir. Even Chen Mobai, who knew the refining process like the back of his hand, had failed once already. This was his second attempt.

Fortunately, the materials for the Earth Veins Elixir were much easier to collect than those for the Golden Crow Sun-Swallowing Elixir, so even if he failed ten or twenty times, he wouldn't feel too pained.

But he had underestimated his own abilities; the Enlightenment Tea's insight into the alchemy recipe, combined with the auspicious blessing of the Vermilion Phoenix Facing the Sun diagram and the equipment of the Rank-4 workshop, meant that he actually succeeded on this second attempt.

Chen Mobai joyfully took out the earthy-yellow elixir and placed it on the device that measured its toxicity.

5.2%!

This was a bit over the limit!

Seeing this number, Chen Mobai couldn't help but frown slightly.

Although he had the Green Charm Spiritual Tea and the Burning Lamp Art to resolve the toxicity, the toxicity from the Golden Crow Sun-Swallowing Elixir in his body hadn't been completely refined away yet. It would be better to put less strain on his body.

Chen Mobai attempted to refine the Earth Veins Elixir for the third time.

4.7%!

Even though it was still a success, the toxicity content still left him somewhat dissatisfied with himself.

Just as he was preparing for the fourth refining attempt, the formless puppet he had left at the sect sent him a message.

Xie Yuntian has returned from completing his mission!

Chen Mobai thought for a moment, organized the issues he encountered during his three refining attempts into a document, and sent it to Qing Nu, asking for her guidance.

However, Qing Nu seemed to be busy and didn't reply right away.

Chen Mobai wasn't in a hurry. He left another formless puppet to continue the automated refining of the Earth Veins Elixir to increase his proficiency, while his true body returned to Giant Tree Ridge.

...

"I pay my respects to the Sect Leader!"

In the Shenmu Hall, Xie Yuntian rushed over as soon as he received the summons.

"I've sent Qing Mei to Rainbow Country to assist Ming'er with sand control, but she is after all a cultivator with a Heavenly Spiritual Root. I fear she might encounter enemies en route, so I want you to escort her there."

"Yes, Sect Leader. But once Yin Qingmei reaches the Eastern Desolation Plateau, could she still possibly be ambushed by enemies? Do I need to stay there long-term to protect her?"

In the past, Xie Yuntian would definitely not be willing to serve long-term as a bodyguard for anyone, even if it was to protect a sect member with a Heavenly Spiritual Root who was the future of Core Formation.

But now his mindset was completely different. He thought that if he could protect Yin Qingmei and the Sect Leader's two disciples, after the successful refinement of the Jade Return Pill, the Sect Leader would surely appreciate his hard work and give him first consideration.

“You just need to deliver Qing Mei. There will be others arranged to watch over her on the Eastern Desolation Plateau.”

This statement from Chen Mobai left Xie Yuntian somewhat disappointed.

However, the mission personally assigned by the Sect Leader was worth as much as three thousand contribution points!

If things went smoothly, by using the teleportation array, he could complete it in about half a month!

After leaving Shenmu Hall, Du Feng immediately received the mission document stamped with the Sect Leader’s decree, and seeing that it was identical to the intelligence he had received not long before, his trust in Song Huangdae deepened within his heart.

He was already thinking about how to help Song Huangdae climb higher within the Xiao Nanshan lineage.

Of course, Du Feng hadn’t forgotten his primary duties.

He promptly conveyed the intelligence about Xie Yuntian escorting Yin Qingmei to Xu Shengbing!

Chapter 1166: Suppressing and Killing

Yin Qingmei and Xie Yuntian set off discretely and quickly.

Chen Mobai naturally used the technique of One-Leaf Blindness to conceal his own figure and followed behind them.

Meanwhile, at Giant Tree Ridge, his Formless Puppet had been appearing continuously in Shenmu Hall for half a month, dealing with various sect affairs accumulated for a long time with Yue Zutao.

Passing a false message to the undercover agent.

Traveling from Jian Country to Rainbow Country required crossing the majority of the Barren Eastern Wilderness. Even with the convenience of a teleportation array, it still took half a month for Yin Qingmei and her companion to reach a border market in Rock Country.

“This Changzhuang Mountain Market was the first to surrender and be developed by the family Zhuang after the Sect Leader led an army into Rock Country. Because it’s close to two spirit stone mines, it used to attract quite a number of cultivators and was fairly bustling, but now it’s no longer the case...”

Xie Yuntian led Yin Qingmei out of the Changzhuang Mountain Market’s teleportation array and shook his head as he looked around the deserted and desolate surroundings.

The spirit stone mines here had successively belonged to Mountain Shaker Peak, the Divine Wood Sect, and the Nanxuan Sect, before ultimately returning to the grasp of the Divine Wood Sect.

After over a hundred years of excavation by the three major forces, the mines had become exhausted ten years ago.

An exhausted mine didn’t mean that there were no spirit stones left.

It meant that all the easily mined large-scale veins of spirit stones had been depleted; what remained were deeply buried, scattered, low-value fragmented spirit stones.

In the Divine Wood Sect’s eyes, the contribution of resources to mine these spirit stones even exceeded their value, so they withdrew their workforce and left the mines for loose cultivators to dig.

No matter who mined how many spirit stones, they just needed to pay half of their haul when leaving the cave.

This is why places recently declared as exhausted mines would quickly attract a large number of loose cultivators.

The Changzhuang Mountain Market developed precisely for this reason.

Back then, cultivators, dreaming of riches, cram-packed every tunnel in the mine.

Unfortunately, after ten years, the remaining spirit stones within the abandoned mine had been extracted nearly entirely.

When a month's digging might not even unearth a single spirit stone, the mine was formally abandoned by the loose cultivators.

Consequently, the once crowded Changzhuan Mountain Market became as it is now.

If it weren't for the teleportation array set up by the Divine Wood Sect for transporting spirit stones, Xie Yuntian and Yin Qingmei wouldn't have come here to transit.

"So that's what happened. Senior Brother Xie is truly knowledgeable and well-informed."

Yin Qingmei, looking at the dust-laden buildings of the market, showed a sudden realization on her face.

She had been protected for long-term cultivation at Giant Tree Ridge and had hardly dealt with the outside world. The word 'exhausted mine' was also new to her.

"Then what about the original owners of this Changzhuan Mountain Market, the Zhuang family? This is still a Rank-2 spirit vein, which seems to be a good cultivation spot for Qi Practitioners," Yin Qingmei asked again, thinking that cultivator families shouldn't give up their ancestral land so easily.

"Junior Sister Yin, this Changzhuan Mountain originally had a Lower-grade Rank-3 spirit vein. But as the spirit stone mines were exhausted, the spiritual energy gradually weakened, eventually falling to the present Lower-grade Rank-2," Xie Yuntian explained.

"The old ancestor of the Zhuang family naturally tried to save this ancestral land, even inviting Junior Brother Weng, a Rank-3 Earth Master here, but still failed to stop the depletion of the spirit vein."

“After realizing that nothing could be done, the Zhuang family’s ancestor led the elite of their family to collectively relocate and settle in Northern Abyss City. However, there should still be guardians left by their family here.”

Xie Yuntian explained, but suddenly sensed something amiss.

Although the spirit vein of Changzhuan Mountain was continuously weakening, the concentration of Rank-2 spiritual energy was still decent. Moreover, this was still the ancestral land of the Zhuang family; it shouldn’t be devoid of any human presence.

And because there was a teleportation array for transfer purposes here, the Divine Wood Sect even paid the Zhuang family a hundred spirit stones annually for maintenance and guarding.

Logically, they should have seen the Zhuang family’s Qi Practitioners as soon as they emerged from the teleportation array.

A loud thud!

A human head was tossed from behind a nearby building, rolling to the feet of Xie Yuntian and Yin Qingmei.

Afterward, a mysterious person shrouded in a black robe walked out from the shadows.

“Junior Sister Yin, make sure not to stray too far from me,” Xie Yuntian tightened his eyes when he saw the robed figure, sensing spiritual power fluctuations similar to his own and immediately telepathically warned Yin Qingmei.

He hadn’t expected that somebody would dare to make a move against a Heavenly Spiritual Root of their Divine Wood Sect in the Barren Eastern Wilderness.

Anger surged in his heart, but Xie Yuntian’s rich combat experience did not cause him to lose his senses; instead, he started to observe the surroundings.

But what subsequently appeared made his heart suddenly sink!

Thump, thump, thump!

Three more heads were tossed out, and three cultivators, also dressed in black robes, stepped out from different buildings in various directions.

Their spiritual power fluctuations, although not as strong as the first, were still in the Foundation Building Realm.

“Senior Brother Xie, I can take on two of them,” Yin Qingmei said; despite her lack of combat experience, she was after all an Eastern Wasteland Cultivator and showed no fear. She drew out her Divine Wood Sword and Divine Wood Shield, covertly clutching the Haotian Mirror within her storage bag, ready to use this Rank-3 magic artifact given by her foster father should the situation turn dire.

Chapter 1167: Suppressing and Killing \_2 “Yin Junior Sister, the man before us is a Foundation Establishment Completion practitioner. Although I am confident I can slay him, it might deplete a lot of my spiritual power. When the time comes, you should try to escape on your own; don’t worry about me.”

While Xie Yuntian was confident in his mastery of the Green Flames Sword Slaughter, believing that within the Eastern Wilderness, no other Foundation Establishment practitioner could match him, he was also aware that one cannot fight off four with only two hands.

If the enemy could so precisely grasp that they would come here, and even set up an ambush in advance, it was clear they knew the strength of both of them well.

In such a situation, daring to send only four people over, they must be confident in their ability to capture them with this lineup.

“Senior Brother Xie, don’t worry about me. I have life-saving means bestowed by my ancestors.”

Compared to Xie Yuntian’s caution, Yin Qingmei seemed much more composed.

However, in her heart, she was thinking: why hasn't my foster father shown up yet?

"Good!"

After hearing Yin Qingmei's words, Xie Yuntian no longer had any worries and directly spat out a cyan-blue beam of light from his mouth. His hard-earned later-stage Fire Spirit Body, combined with the Green Flames Sword Slaughter, now possessed sixty percent of the power Chen Mobai had during his Foundation Establishment phase!

The Foundation Establishment Completion practitioner in a black robe who was caught off guard was split into two halves by the Sword Evil Slash!

"Senior Brother Xie is amazing!"

Yin Qingmei couldn't help cheering at the sight.

But soon, Xie Yuntian's expression changed slightly; he realized that what his Sword Sha had seemingly slain did not feel like a human body!

And at that moment, a bizarre and eerie cold aura burst forth from the other three Foundation Establishment practitioners. They took out a set of black Array Flags, which transformed into a surging cold tide, enveloping both Xie Yuntian and Yin Qingmei.

Yin Qingmei immediately used the Divine Wood Shield, transforming it into a green light shield that enveloped both of them.

Seeing this, Xie Yuntian stopped releasing the Spirit Leaf Talisman from his palm.

Just as he was about to use his Sword Control to slay the three Array-setting Foundation Establishment practitioners, the ground suddenly collapsed with a thunderous boom!

Although both of them managed to fly up in time, numerous dark yellow sandstone hands burst out from the ground, grabbing their feet and dragging them toward the sunken earth.

At the same time, the Meridian Cold Tide Formation also erupted to its extreme at this moment, frosting the Divine Wood Shield with a layer of frost.

The green light shield cracked instantly!

Xie Yuntian used his Sword Control to cut off the large sandstone hands under their feet, and then crushed the Spirit Leaf Talisman in his palm!

But just as he had freed himself, the mysterious person his Green Flames Sword Slaughter had split into two suddenly stood up, transforming into two pitch-black wooden blocks stacked into Puppet Snakes, which crossed in an X-shape to snip at him.

Xie Yuntian had no choice but to spit out another Green Flames Sword Slaughter from his mouth, shattering this wave of attack.

But what he found unbelievable happened — the two Puppet Snakes burning with the Sword Sha's flames suddenly shed their wooden outer layer, revealing two even more intricately detailed and lifelike Gravel Long Snakes.

At this time, Xie Yuntian's Spirit Leaf Talisman was also shattered by the Meridian Cold Tide.

The two Gravel Long Snakes, like ropes, wound through the dispersing cracks and bound Xie Yuntian and Yin Qingmei together.

"Hmph, trying to trap me..."

Xie Yuntian snorted with rage, channeling the last of the Green Flames Sword Slaughter from his Dantian Qi Sea, attempting to melt the Gravel Long Snakes.

But at this moment, the Meridian Cold Tide fell, forcibly suppressing the Green Flames Sword Slaughter for a blink of an eye.

Suddenly, a black nail was spat out from the mouth of the snake on Xie Yuntian's body, piercing into his Dantian Qi Sea.

In an instant, the Green Flames Sword Slaughter completely dissolved!

"A Spirit-banishing Nail?"

Xie Yuntian's expression changed drastically, but it was too late to make a desperate move.

All of his spiritual power was sealed.

The Gravel Long Snake trapping Yin Qingmei also spit out a black nail, but she blocked it with an Ancient Bronze Mirror.

Then, the might of a Rank-3 Magic Artifact erupted, carrying Yin Qingmei as she broke free from the restraints, flying upwards into the sky.

The Meridian Cold Tide surged again, attempting to suppress Yin Qingmei!

But the Haotian Mirror burst forth with Pure Yang Fire, instantly breaking through this force.

"Chen Lao Mo's Six-Yang Divine Fire Mirror! He actually had it on him for protection. Hehe, this is good; I've hit the jackpot today. Not only do I get your body with a Heavenly Spiritual Root but also a Rank-3 Magic Artifact..."

The sinister words floated unpredictably through the air, and it was only after hearing this that Xie Yuntian realized who he had been fighting all this time—it seemed to be the opponent's Puppet Device!

“Which member of Liu Jia Mountain are you?”

In the Eastern Wilderness, the only others capable of such mastery in the Puppetry Technique, aside from the Puppet Division of the Divine Wood Sect, would be from Liu Jia Mountain.

“The Puppetry Technique of Liu Jia Mountain may be decent, but it can hardly be mentioned in the same breath as our Restoration Society. Stop probing. The president has ordered that we capture those with a Heavenly Spiritual Root alive; the rest may be killed without mercy. You will undoubtedly die today!”

The creepy words rang out again, followed by the formation of a Gravel Flying Sword in front of Xie Yuntian’s brow that, along with a flash of Spiritual Light, looked set to pierce through the brow of this number one Foundation Establishment practitioner from the Divine Wood Sect.

A streak of Pure Yang Spiritual Light descended from the sky—Yin Qingmei was taking action.

“Yin Junior Sister, you should have escaped!”

Xie Yuntian let out a long sigh at this scene.

Having the Sect Leader’s Magic Artifact for protection, Yin Qingmei at least had a chance to escape the encirclement. Even if she were to be pursued later, she could delay them for some time, and who knows, there might be a chance of survival.

“Xie Senior Brother, you’re giving me too much credit. Having activated the Sect Leader’s Magic Artifact, my Spiritual Power is already depleted. I wouldn’t get far even if I ran!”

Yin Qingmei spoke with a faint smile, her face slightly pale as she held the Haotian Mirror.

Xie Yuntian and those trying to kill him both found it odd to see her smiling at such a life or death moment.

[To avoid prolonged trouble, let’s kill Xie Yuntian first!]

Hidden in the darkness and controlling the puppet, Xu Shengbing frowned slightly, preparing to activate his own Gravel Flying Sword.

Suddenly, footsteps approached from behind him.

“You’ve only brought four Foundation Establishment Practitioners? Not enough to even give me a proper warm-up.”

The words from behind sent a chill down Xu Shengbing’s spine. He whirled around and saw a long-robed young man with an air of disappointment, his features both clear and distinguished.

“You... you’re supposed to be at Giant Tree Ridge...”

Upon seeing Chen Mobai’s face, Xu Shengbing spoke in disbelief.

“That thing? It was just one of my Puppet Bodies.”

Chen Mobai’s words made Xu Shengbing’s eyes widen in shock as he started shaking his head.

“That’s impossible; if you were a Puppet Body, you couldn’t have deceived my Junior Brother.”

“My Puppetry Technique is a bit beyond what you people in this world can imagine, you know?”

Chen Mobai said with a smile, while Xu Shengbing’s whole body burned with Essence Blood, unleashing all his Spiritual Power in an instant, attempting to use the explosive power of a Blood Curse to escape alive.

But just as he tried to take flight, he found his body as heavy as if burdened with a thousand pounds, terribly heavy, unable to lift his feet off the ground.

Looking down, he saw that, at some unknown time, wisps of colorful mist-like silk had ensnared his entire body.

Even the Blood Curse Escape Skill, which could supposedly boost one's speed threefold for a short duration, was unable to break even a single strand of the colorful mist silk.

The "Red Misty Cloud Silk," a Rank-3 Magic Artifact, might be almost insignificant against a Golden Core Cultivator, but it was more than enough to suppress a Foundation Establishment Practitioner effortlessly.

"Who is the mole within my sect?"

Chen Mobai asked, at the same time uncorking the Yellow Skin Gourd at his waist as orange-red radiance flickered within it, followed by a spurt of blood light.

It sliced through the Array Flags held by three nearby Ghost Cultivators, also piercing their Dantian Qi Seas.

"Ha ha, do you think I would actually tell you?"

Xu Shengbing said grimly. Then, his eyes bulged as his body suddenly expanded, and the terrifying Restriction hidden within his body erupted, igniting all of his Essence, Qi, and Spirit, resulting in a Blood Curse Thunder Method powerful enough to destroy half of the Changzhuan Mountain Market.

Chen Mobai's brows furrowed slightly and, with a clench of his right hand, the "Red Misty Cloud Silk" turned into a colorful ball of light that enveloped Xu Shengbing entirely.

What he considered his final trump card, the Blood Curse Thunder Method, merely resulted in a muffled boom that slightly distorted the ball of light but did nothing more.

Chapter 1168: I'm Going to Liu Jia Mountain Looking at Xu Shengbing, who had turned into a pool of bloodstains, Chen Mobai tsked!

His Void Spirit Eye had always been open, and he had clearly seen that the Blood Curse Thunder Method wasn't something his opponent intended to unleash. Instead, it was a restriction left inside his body by a higher-level cultivator.

It was a pity that a Foundation Establishment Completion cultivator, who was even very likely a Core Formation seed, ended up with no bones left.

Chen Mobai hadn't even had time to ask for his name.

But within the Eastern Wilderness, such cultivators were few and far between. He took out paper and pen, and with the painting skills he had learned at the Dance Tool Dao Academy, he easily drew a likeness of Xu Shengbing.

"Do you recognize this person?"

After finishing the drawing, Chen Mobai used the Ground Firelight escape technique and blinked in front of Xie Yuntian, handing him the portrait.

"It's the former sect leader of Liu Jia Mountain, Xu Shengbing!"

As the head of the sword training division, and a true disciple of the Five Elements Sect in his youth who had fought battles across all nineteen countries of the Eastern Wilderness, Xie Yuntian naturally recognized Xu Shengbing, who had once been a celebrated figure just like himself.

"The former sect leader, huh..."

After hearing this, Chen Mobai pondered for a while.

He wondered if using this as a reason to annihilate Liu Jia Mountain was somewhat insufficient.

"Sect Leader, how should we handle these three people?"

At this moment, Xie Yuntian spoke up.

When Chen Mobai had captured Xu Shengbing earlier, he had also deployed the Primordial Yang Sword Evil and crippled the cultivation of three surrounding Foundation Establishment practitioners.

After removing their black robes, they were three cultivators with pale faces, weak and powerless.

“Oh, there’s actually a Ghost Fetus in the Womb among them!”

Chen Mobai walked over to one of the thin, tall youths and was about to ask a couple of questions when suddenly, a bizarre spiritual power fluctuation erupted within the youth’s body.

Just like Xu Shengbing, he was hit with the same Blood Curse Thunder Method and looked about to explode, poised to reduce him and the two Foundation Establishment practitioners beside him to dust.

Chen Mobai flicked his hand, and a bright golden flame burst forth in his palm, instantly turning him into a pile of ashes.

“Please forgive me, Sect Master Chen, I did not know that the target of this assault was a cultivator from your sect. I was merely enticed and sought to earn some elixirs for breaking through realms,” said another cultivator with an old appearance and a long beard hanging over his shoulders, his voice quivering in fear.

“Oh, might I know who you are?”

Chen Mobai asked with a hint of curiosity.

“Sect Master Chen, my name is Mu Xishen, a Loose Cultivator residing in Northern Abyss City. For the sake of cultivation resources, I joined an organization called the Restoration Society. Normally, I receive their resources and act on their behalf when necessary...”

Mu Xishen spoke with a desolate expression. His Dantian Qi Sea had been crippled by Chen Mobai, ruining a hundred years of bitter cultivation in a single blow. Yet even then, he wanted to survive and began confessing the truth.

“I was persuaded by this man, Yan Gongsheng here. He promised me a Return Yuan Pill after the deed...”

After listening to what he said, Chen Mobai walked over to the last Foundation Establishment practitioner, a middle-aged man with a square face and desperate, dim eyes.

“One of the remnants from Shake Mountain Peak?”

Chen Mobai asked, as Yan Gongsheng looked up at him, his eyes filled with barely concealed hatred.

It seemed he was correct.

Only the vengeance of having one’s sect destroyed could compel a Foundation Establishment practitioner to flash such a look towards Chen Mobai, a Core Formation practitioner.

“You needn’t bother; I won’t say anything,” Yan Gongsheng stated coldly, appearing resigned to his fate.

“Is that so, well then, alright!”

Chen Mobai responded, nodding his head.

Then, in a move that left Yan Gongsheng incredulous, a bright orange light emerged from the Yellow Skin Gourd at Chen Mobai’s waist and flew out, crossing his throat.

As the head fell to the ground, Chen Mobai turned to the last survivor, Mu Xishen.

“Sect Master Chen, I was really just temporarily blinded by greed. Please spare me; my cultivation journey hasn’t been easy...”

Mu Xishen kept kowtowing and begging for mercy, but in the light of the bright orange blaze, his head too had fallen to the ground.

“Sect Leader, shouldn’t we have kept one for interrogation, to ask for intelligence?” Xie Yuntian came over and asked with some surprise.

“These people were clearly bound by Dao Heart oaths. They couldn’t disclose any information we might desire. With that being the case, it’s better to kill them and prevent any future troubles,” Chen Mobai replied.

After all, in the history of the Tianhe Realm, there have been legends of those who had their Dantian Qi Seas ruined but were blessed with great fortune, acquiring heavenly and earthly treasures that could reverse fate, allowing them to cultivate anew and even reach the peak.

“I really owe you for stepping in to save us this time, Sect Leader. If I had died it wouldn’t have mattered much, but if Yin Shimei had been captured by the enemy, the loss to our sect would’ve been enormous,” Xie Yuntian expressed.

The value of a Heavenly Spiritual Root could be considered on par with a Core Formation practitioner.

Chen Mobai felt somewhat embarrassed as he had been the only one aware of his ‘fishing’ gambit with the exception of Xie Yuntian.

Given his intelligence, he most likely had guessed it by now, but he had to pretend he had not.

“You proceed to escort Qing Mei as normal to meet up with Ming’er and Xuan. I’ll follow behind you on the way to avoid a second wave of ambush,” Chen Mobai instructed.

Xie Yuntian and Yin Qingmei naturally agreed with nods.

However, it was quite clear that even within the Restoration Society, it would be difficult to muster such an ambush force more than once, as Foundation Establishment Completion practitioners were counted on one's fingers in the Eastern Wilderness.

The three of them transported smoothly into Northern Abyss City.

E Yun was waiting for them in person; he hadn't expected Chen Mobai to come personally. When he saw him, his face showed shock.

"The two Shimeis, along with Qi Shidi, Yu Shidi, and some sect disciples, are currently at the border between Rock Country and Frost Country, digging canals to divert the Snow Mountain Water into rivers. But Frost Country is somewhat skeptical about the route we've chosen for the canal. Zhuo Shimei is in talks with them..."

Chapter 1169: I'm Going to Liu Jia Mountain\_2

Within a secret cave dwelling in Northern Abyss City, E Yun reported the detailed progress of developing the Eastern Desolation Plateau to Chen Mobai.

"Things are going quite smoothly for Luo Xue'er in Sky Country; after all, Yun Meng Ze is also considered the territory of the Divine Wood Sect. No matter where they start drawing water for irrigation, no one has any objections."

However, on the side of Rock Country, it involves the Snow-blowing Palace, thus specific routes need to be negotiated to avoid affecting their Spirit Fields and Spiritual Veins in Frost Country, and so on.

It is fortunate that it was Chen Mobai and Kong Lingling, two Nascent Soul Ancestors, who established the agreement, otherwise, Zhuo Ming would probably still be wrangling with the people of Snow-blowing Palace right now.

"Do we have enough manpower?"

Chen Mobai asked, as the digging of canals, although expedited by cultivators wielding various spells, making it dozens of times more efficient than manual labor, still required a vast number of workers and time, considering it stretched for tens of thousands of miles.

“We barely have enough for now. But once Zhuo Shimei finalizes all the routes within Rock Country for White River, we will definitely be short-handed,”

E Yun honestly mentioned the difficulties they faced here. Excavating canals required cultivators who practiced Earth Attribute Cultivation Techniques, and when it came to irrigating with water from the Snow Mountains, they would need to plant trees and set up embankments on both sides to prevent soil erosion, among other reinforcements.

It was just barely manageable to recruit Loose Cultivators by posting missions in Northern Abyss City for a few waterways.

But to spread the entire infrastructure across Rock Country, it would be far from sufficient.

“Oh, it’s called White River?”

Upon hearing this, Chen Mobai couldn’t help but slightly raise an eyebrow.

“Yes, the river opened up by Zhuo Shimei is called White River, the one Luo Shijie is developing in Sky Country is named Mo River, and when the Two Rivers converge in Rainbow Country, it is tentatively named Xuanhe!”

These three names were unanimously agreed upon by everyone.

Chen Mobai initially thought he might feel embarrassed, but upon truly reflecting on his feelings, he discovered a subtle and indescribable sense of pride.

Because this meant that, centuries later, his name could potentially be perpetuated in this Eastern Wasteland through these two rivers.

To establish virtue, accomplish deeds, and leave a legacy!

This was not only about establishing virtue but also about accomplishing deeds!

Yet Chen Mobai still restrained the smugness in his heart, cautioning E Yun to remember not to blindly pursue progress on the project.

“Let’s take it one step at a time. This is a century-long mega-project, which upon completion will change the entire pattern of the Eastern Wasteland. It is better to be cautious and careful.”

Upon hearing this, E Yun also nodded slightly, indicating that he took note.

“Greetings, Master!”

At that moment, after receiving the news at the Longevity Academy, Jiang Zongheng hurried over.

When teacher and disciple met, before Chen Mobai could speak, Jiang Zongheng already mentioned that he had added new courses within the academy.

In the coming years, he intended to train a batch of Earth Masters and Spirit Plant Masters to support Zhuo Ming in canal excavation and tree planting for soil stabilization and sand control, among other things.

Among the entire Divine Wood Sect, Jiang Zongheng was the first cultivator to grasp the transformative intention behind Chen Mobai's efforts.

Atop the plateau, which held the most extensive soil area in the entire Eastern Wasteland, the cultivation of Spirit Rice or even the development of animal husbandry would potentially solve most of the famine issues if it could be entirely developed.

With an abundance of food, unifying the Eastern Wasteland would no longer be just a dream.

The reason why the Eastern Wasteland was split into nineteen countries previously was not only because of the big sects but also due to food scarcity. Whenever a country's population exceeded its capacity, wars would break out between countries as a form of population control.

If the Divine Wood Sect only had one country under its command, encountering such a situation without desiring to engage in conflicts with other major sects could only lead to civil strife, which was somewhat embarrassing for the cultivators who covertly ruled these nations. Eventually, it led to the deliberate fragmentation into several countries.

Jiang Zongheng knew that Zhuo Ming had many improved varieties of Spiritual Rice Seeds in her possession. Although these Spirit Rice had scant Spiritual Energy, they were highly productive, capable of two harvests per year, with the highest yielding up to a thousand catties per mu.

And the entire Eastern Desolation Plateau, which Chen Mobai had once traversed with his two disciples, contained arable soil amounting to as much as thirty million mu.

If the development is successful, Jiang Zongheng felt that the Spirit Rice from this area could sustain the entire Eastern Wilderness population and lay the material foundation for great unification.

“You’ve done well, but I think the classification inside the Longevity Academy is still lacking. Apart from Earth Masters and Spirit Plant Masters, you could add more specific courses in agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, and fisheries to cultivate specialized talents.”

Chen Mobai stood on the shoulders of the Immortal Gate, his vision far broader than Jiang Zongheng’s.

“Master, I’m not sure which senior brother within the Sect specializes in these areas. I will invite them to come to the academy to teach.”

Jiang Zongheng too was quick to understand, swiftly grasping the additional benefits these courses could bring.

“It doesn’t have to be only Sect cultivators who can teach. We can employ some Loose Cultivators or people with rich experience from within families. For example, your senior brother’s Liu family—although their industries have upgraded over the years, their traditional skills in fisheries have been preserved. I just don’t know if they would be willing to share and teach...”

Chen Mobai thought about the cultivators in the Eastern Wilderness and their stubbornness about the transfer of knowledge.

Although he had significant influence, and the Liu family would almost certainly agree if he asked, he did not want to pressure people with his status; he hoped others would come to teach at the Longevity Academy sincerely and willingly.

“I understand, Master. I will strive toward this aspect from now on.”

Jiang Zongheng nodded, indicating that after returning, he would start searching for Loose Cultivators with experience in agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, and fisheries. Compared to families, Loose Cultivators would generally be willing as long as they were offered Spirit Stones.

“When opening up large rivers, we can also carry out some water conservancy projects on the side. Moreover, underneath the plateau, the mineral resources are the richest in the entire Eastern Wasteland; these courses should also be added. Ming’er will be staying here for a long time anyway, so when she has spare time, let her come over and teach a few classes occasionally.”

Chen Mobai didn’t care whether Jiang Zongheng could comprehend it all, he simply rattled off all the content and specializations he had gathered from the Immortal Gate.

Once the two great rivers were opened for irrigation, all these aspects of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, and fisheries on the Eastern Desolation Plateau could be put on the right track.

Now was an appropriate time to cultivate the relevant talents.

“Yes, Master!”

However, after listening once, Jiang Zongheng basically understood everything. He had heard related subjects discussed in mundane dynasties when he was a child, but not in as much detail or in a structured way as Chen Mobai had explained.

Now after hearing it, he could apply his knowledge. Even a hint of understanding appeared on Jiang Zongheng’s face.

Indeed, managing one’s household, governing the country, and pacifying the world—these principles worked even in the Cultivation World.

Chen Mobai stayed in Northern Abyss City for another two days, waiting for Zhuo Ming and Luo Yixuan to return.

“Qing Mei, plant your Heaven and Earth Spiritual Roots here in Northern Abyss City for now. Next, you’ll help Ming’er plant trees along the newly-dug riverbanks to stabilize the soil.”

With Zhuo Ming present, Chen Mobai was fully confident in transplanting the Biyu Wutong, and Yin Qingmei naturally let him make the arrangements.

Soon they arrived at the peak of the highest mountain in Northern Abyss City.

Zhuo Ming looked nostalgically at the place; it was here that he had mastered the All-things Altruistic Cauldron.

After planting the Biyu Wutong, Chen Mobai left first.

“Is Master returning to the Sect?”

Zhuo Ming and Yin Qingmei were circling the newly transplanted Biyu Wutong, communicating with it, while Luo Xue'er was sticking closely to Chen Mobai and immediately asked when she saw him going down.

“No, I'm going to Rainbow Country!”

Chen Mobai shook his head, mentioning a destination that puzzled Luo Xue'er.

“To Rainbow Country? Are you going to check the results of Yan Yuanhao's tree-planting and desert-control efforts? Master, would you like me to accompany you? I would like to see how much rain I can bring in the desert with my cultivation level.”

Luo Xue'er certainly wanted to accompany Chen Mobai, but he shook his head again.

"I'm going to Liu Jia Mountain!"

Chapter 1170: Rank-4 Mountain Suppression Stone

Since Xu Shengbing had made a move against Yin Qingmei, Chen Mobai had to pay a visit to Liu Jia Mountain no matter what.

After instructing Luo Yixuan to stay behind and protect Zhuo Ming and Yin Qingmei, he himself descended into the teleportation array in Northern Abyss City.

As streaks of silver light flashed by, he had already arrived within the territory of Rainbow Country.

Yan Yuanhao, upon receiving news of his arrival, immediately rushed over in a hurry.

However, Chen Mobai did not allow him to follow, as this trip was meant for him to seek retribution.

Liu Jia Mountain also possessed a Fourth Grade Spirit Vein, guarded by a top-ranked large formation, showing all the signs of a major sect in the Eastern Wilderness.

Upon Chen Mobai's arrival, he did not conceal his powerful spiritual energy. Soon enough, the sect leader of Liu Jia Mountain, Yu Changjian, came out to greet him across the formations, trembling with fear.

"I wonder for what matter Sect Master Chen has graced us with his presence?"

Chen Mobai's expression remained calm as he pulled out Xu Shengbing's portrait and tossed it to Yu Changjian.

"You know this man, don't you?"

"Yes, this is our ex-sect leader who was expelled..."

Although Yu Changjian did not know why Chen Mobai had come, he instinctively started to disassociate Xu Shengbing from Liu Jia Mountain.

"Several days ago, he led a reactionary force called the Restoration Society to ambush our sect's Foundation Establishment practitioners, harboring malicious intentions..."

Chen Mobai did not mince words and directly labeled Xu Shengbing as an enemy of the Divine Wood Sect.

Yu Changjian was already sweating profusely after hearing the first half of the statement. By the time Chen Mobai finished, he nearly fainted.

“Sect Master Chen, this truly has nothing to do with Liu Jia Mountain. It has been ten years since I expelled him from the sect, a fact that has been announced to the entire Eastern Wilderness...”

Yu Changjian immediately began to explain, asserting that Xu Shengbing’s actions were his own and had no relation to Liu Jia Mountain.

“Whether it’s related or not is not for you to decide.”

Chen Mobai spoke up, his cold facial expression causing Yu Changjian’s gaze to flicker uncertainly, ultimately biting the bullet and continuing to apologize.

“Please instruct me, Sect Master Chen, on how Liu Jia Mountain can clear our name of this injustice?”

“My visit is simply to give you a chance to prove your innocence. How you demonstrate it convincingly enough for me not to take action against Liu Jia Mountain is your affair.”

Chen Mobai’s words, spoken calmly, were extraordinarily harsh.

After the passing away of True Person Nan Shi, Liu Jia Mountain was no longer a so-called major sect of the Eastern Wilderness.

Facing a Golden Core Cultivator, although they could rely on their sect's heritage and the large formation for defense, doing so would completely enrage the Sect Master Chen before them.

Once the Divine Wood Sect's army headed north and several Golden Cores descended upon them, the fall of Liu Jia Mountain would just be a matter of time.

So, although Chen Mobai's statement was harsh, it was very much grounded in reality.

It was now up to Yu Changjian, the sect leader of Liu Jia Mountain, to convince him.

"Sect Master Chen, when True Person Fu of your sect took all our inheritance scriptures, he said that as long as our sect remains sealed and dormant, he would not touch us."

Yu Changjian continued to negotiate strenuously, hoping Chen Mobai would give face to Fu Zongjue, knowing that even casual words spoken by high-order cultivators were to be enacted upon.

"If I remember correctly, this agreement was reached between Xu Shengbing and Brother Fu. Now that Xu Shengbing has initiated an attack on our sect's Foundation Establishers, it's a breach of the agreement, thus invalidating Brother Fu's promise."

After saying this, Chen Mobai's gaze upon Yu Changjian held a touch of disappointment as he reached for his Yellow Skin Gourd at his waist, ready to pull the cork.

This action caused Yu Changjian's body to jolt; his fame was growing, and the power of his Yellow Skin Gourd was widely recognized.

Even within the formations, Yu Changjian felt chills run down his spine.

"Please wait, Sect Master Chen. Our sect still possesses a Rank-3 Soul Crystal passed down from our ancestors, capable of creating Rank-3 human puppets. True Person Fu, having acquired our sect's inheritance, would surely find it of great need."

Having no other choice, Yu Changjian offered up one of the most precious items of Liu Jia Mountain.

"Soul Crystal?"

Chen Mobai was somewhat surprised; this was his first time hearing of such a thing.

Yu Changjian immediately began to explain that it was unique to the Eastern Wilderness, a type of crystal that could potentially emerge from slain Yin Souls or Ghost Cultivators. It was an essential component in the creation of higher-grade puppets.

"I see."

Chen Mobai recalled that, after he had slain some Ghost Cultivators, there indeed seemed to be a crystal-like object amongst the spoils.

“But a mere Rank-3 Soul Crystal... You know, when Brother Zhou had his “Nascent Soul Formation” and slew several Rank-3 Ghost Cultivators, similar items appeared...”

Chen Mobai was not sure if Zhou Shengqing had obtained any Soul Crystals when using the Longevity Technique to kill Ghost Cultivators, as such items, in Zhou Shengqing’s view, were only useful to Fu Zongjue and might have been given directly to him.

However, this did not prevent Chen Mobai from using the information to apply further pressure.

After hearing this, Yu Changjian felt as if his teeth were about to shatter. Though he knew that Zhou Shengqing hadn’t held any “Nascent Soul Formation” ceremonies for many years, likely indicating his passing away in meditation, in full view of everyone, he had indeed killed many Ghost Cultivators. Thus, faced with Chen Mobai’s words, he could only offer up the most valuable treasures of Liu Jia Mountain.

“Sect Master Chen, my sect still has three types of Fourth Order Spiritual Medicine. Should you need any, you may choose one of them!”

The history of these three types of Fourth Order Spiritual Medicine could be traced back to the era of the pioneer cultivators, roughly parallel to the history of Liu Jia Mountain itself.

Previously, there were seven types, but four had been taken by Ancestor Hunyuan of the Five Elements Sect for some unknown elixir, leaving the rest behind.

“I’ve heard of these Spiritual Medicines too, but I know that only the climate here in Rainbow Country can sustain their cultivation. I have no current need for Alchemy, so I won’t take them.”

Chen Mobai’s words made Yu Changjian’s expression grow even more bitter.

This was already the best he could offer.

If they weren’t interested, could it mean they had already planned to wipe out Liu Jia Mountain?

“Sect Master Chen, please make it clear, how can our sect avoid this disaster?”

While cursing Xu Shengbing in his heart, Yu Changjian had no choice but to continue bowing and apologizing to Chen Mobai.

“I’ve heard that the core of the spirit vein in Liu Jia Mountain is a fourth grade Mountain Suppression Stone...”

As soon as Chen Mobai’s words fell, Yu Changjian’s face underwent a drastic change.

“Sect Master Chen, without the Mountain Suppression Stone, the power of our Mountain Protection Array will gradually weaken, and within a few years, it will downgrade from rank-4 to rank-3...”

“Isn’t that better? A rank-3 formation is more befitting the current Liu Jia Mountain. Having control over a rank-4 Mountain Protection Array is like having a thorn in my side, a constant worry. Only a Liu Jia Mountain that I can completely control poses no threat in my eyes and allows me to leave your lineage in Rainbow Country with peace of mind.”

Before Yu Changjian could finish speaking, he was interrupted by Chen Mobai, whose words were very realistic and blunt.

Initially, Fu Zongjue agreed to seal Liu Jia Mountain not only because he wanted a complete puppet inheritance but also because trying to break through a rank-4 formation was too time-consuming.

Especially since the Divine Wood Sect had no Nascent Soul cultivators, only by mobilizing a large number of people to bring the Alpha Wood Soldiers to their limit could they possibly shake the power of a rank-4 formation.

At the same time, an Earth Master needed to act, either by damaging the spirit vein of Liu Jia Mountain or utilizing something as malicious as a Bead that Breaks Meridians to stand a chance of breaking through.

After the sealing, Liu Jia Mountain, sitting on a fourth-grade spirit vein and a top-ranked large formation, could possibly produce another Golden Core cultivator and return to its peak if left to develop.

Chen Mobai, who wanted to turn the barren Rainbow Country back into green mountains and clear waters, naturally would not leave the hidden danger of Liu Jia Mountain within this land of merit.

He had been pondering how to address this issue; originally, he planned to transplant the Biyu Wutong during the desertification treatment and slowly integrate the spiritual veins of the entire Rainbow Country, reducing Liu Jia Mountain's fourth-grade spirit vein to third-grade.

But that would take too much time.

Now, with the excuse from Xu Shengbing, he planned to first dismantle Liu Jia Mountain's status symbol as a major East Wilderness Sect's rank-4 large formation.

"Sect Master Chen, about this matter..."

Yu Changjian's face showed continuous struggle; he was well aware of the consequences after handing over the fourth-grade Mountain Suppression Stone—it meant giving up the last of his sect's ability to resist the Divine Wood Sect.

But if they didn't hand it over, he could tell from the attitude of the Divine Wood Sect's Golden Core Sect Leader who came personally, today's affairs wouldn't end on good terms.

"Sect Master Yu, I can make a promise that as long as you hand over this fourth-grade Mountain Suppression Stone, I will absolutely not take action against Liu Jia Mountain as long as I live."

Seeing his struggling expression, Chen Mobai added fuel to the fire with his statement.

“Can Sect Master Chen’s words represent the entire Divine Wood Sect?”

However, Yu Changjian was an old hand at such maneuverings and wanted to prevent Chen Mobai from playing word games, knowing all too well that the Divine Wood Sect had more than one Golden Core cultivator.

“Of course!”

On hearing this, Chen Mobai sighed internally. He had initially thought that without his interference, once Zhuo Ming, Yin Qingmei, and the others reached Core Formation, he could let them act.

But since Yu Changjian had put it that way, he could only agree.

After all, once Liu Jia Mountain lost the Mountain Suppression Stone, it would be akin to a tiger without teeth, and in the future, he could plunder their spirit veins and spiritual medicines until the day this major sect of the East Wilderness completely declined.

Moreover, the fourth-grade Mountain Suppression Stone was not only useful for setting up formations, but in the hands of Zhuo Ming, it could also be used to improve the spirit vein level of Northern Abyss City.

Northern Abyss City was being built on the scale of the Eastern Desolation Plateau's number one Immortal City, and its third-grade spirit vein was becoming increasingly inadequate for development.

E Yun had previously proposed upgrading to a fourth-grade spirit vein.

These years, from selling real estate to renting out shops, they had saved up tens of millions of spirit stones, enough for upgrading the spirit vein.

However, upgrading to a fourth-grade spirit vein also required treasures that could suppress spiritual energy.

It was certainly impossible to transplant the fourth-order Spirit Plants from Giant Tree Ridge to Beiyuan Immortal City, so it was stuck there.

However, the fourth-grade Mountain Suppression Stone just happened to have the ability to suppress spirit veins.

Yu Changjian and Chen Mobai each made a Dao Heart oath, agreeing that Liu Jia Mountain and the Divine Wood Sect would be friendly allies and not initiate conflicts for a hundred years.

"Please wait, Sect Master Chen, I will go and fetch the Mountain Suppression Stone!"

Having verified that there were no loose ends on all sides, Yu Changjian sighed and, with a somewhat stooped bearing, flew towards his sect.

He knew that the unbroken lineage of Liu Jia Mountain might begin its descent during his time.

But the situation was beyond his control!

It wasn't his fault!

All the blame lay with that bastard, Xu Shengbing...

After redirecting all his anger towards the deceased Xu Shengbing, Yu Changjian holding the sect leader's token, unlocked the restrictions of the formation one by one and entered the depths of Liu Jia Mountain.

This was a chamber within the belly of the mountain, with a stone platform in the center.

Yu Changjian removed the Mountain Suppression Stone that was enshrined on the platform and placed it in a box. Feeling the aura of the large formation around him begin to weaken, he couldn't help but sigh and turned to deliver the item to Chen Mobai.

However, there was a tall, black-robed cultivator standing at the doorway, whose presence was unaccounted for as to when they appeared.

Yu Changjian saw him, first with vigilance and confusion, then his face dramatically changed.