

World 1211

Chapter 1211: Another Nascent Soul with a Dance Instruments Background_2

Although Dance Tool Dao Academy and Pure Yang Academy were at odds, Qin Beichen, as a former member, still generously gave guidance to Pang Yingru, hoping that this promising student would not waste too much time on the Pure Yang Scroll.

“Thank you, Teacher Qin, for your guidance.”

Pang Yingru listened and humbly accepted the advice, but he was still eagerly waiting for Chen Mobai, who was silent next to him, to speak.

“I, on the other hand, think that with your Mysterious Yang Spirit Body, it would be a great waste not to cultivate the Pure Yang Scroll.”

Chen Mobai, being an ordinary cultivator, was well aware of the difficulties of cultivating the Pure Yang Daoist Body, but he had started by using spirit stones for full-efficiency enhancement, and forty years later to this day, he had already cultivated to the Eighth Yang Body.

“If you can successfully form your core within sixty years, you will be just in time for the next pioneering war. At that time, the Immortal Sect will definitely open up normally regulated resources like spirit stones.”

“If you’re lucky enough to find a spirit stone mine in a different world, you might just gain enough resources to fully cultivate to the perfection of the Pure Yang Daoist Body.”

“As an Immortal Sect Disciple, since you have the opportunity for Divinity Transformation, even if it’s incredibly slim, I still hope you can push yourself towards this goal with all your might.”

Chen Mobai’s words brightened Pang Yingru’s eyes and filled his heart with unprecedented hope.

“Most importantly, you still need sixty years to have a chance at core formation. By then, if the different world you encounter is a resource-barren Dead Star, it will still be early enough to give up the Pure Yang Scroll.”

After hearing these two reasons, Pang Yingru no longer had any doubts and solemnly thanked both Chen Mobai and Qin Beichen.

“Thank you both for your guidance.”

After this interlude, a few more students came over for advice.

Chen Mobai and his companion also provided their opinions one by one; being Golden Core Masters, they had a much broader perspective and insight than those at the Foundation Establishment level, and they could generally help the students gain something.

However, aside from Pang Yingru, none of the second-generation students like Xiao Hei came over for advice.

After all, such talents could always consult Golden Core Masters in the school and had already understood the paths most likely to lead them to the peak.

Chen Mobai had initially wanted to meet Bai Guang and Crystal, but after the exchange ended, these two beings from the sea territories immediately left the Red City Cave Heaven, leaving him a bit regretful.

After the symposium ended, it was time for the graduation ceremony.

Chen Mobai was invited to attend and even gave the closing speech as a notable alumnus.

Besides him, Xiao Hei, representing the graduates, took the stage at the beginning, making the two of them bookends of the event.

After the ceremony ended, many students from the Daoist Academy came up wanting to take photos with Chen Mobai, and he gladly obliged each request.

Next, during the internal vote held by the Dance Tool Dao Academy, there were no surprises; Qin Beichen, supported by Chen Mobai, received most of the votes and was elected to be the guardian of the Fifth-Rank Vermillion Fruit Tree after Duanmu Longrong.

Having completed these two tasks, Chen Mobai planned to book his ticket back to Red Sandstone City.

However, Master Chengxuan asked him to wait two more days because Daoist Yu Yi was about to bring his team here to start the Blooming Moment experiment.

Before that, as one of the experimenters, he needed to make a will, which Chen Mobai was to witness.

Chen Mobai had initially planned to leave with Xiao Hei on the same day, but reluctantly, he had to let her go to the train station alone.

“Remember my words next year when you go to the sea territories, do not be overly competitive...”

At the school gate, when Chen Mobai bid farewell to Xiao Hei, he couldn't help but speak out again. She nodded repeatedly, then looked back repeatedly with a reluctant gaze at the Daoist Academy where she had strived for ten years, as she dragged her suitcase away.

Chen Mobai didn't know why, but watching her leave with tears barely visible in her eyes, he felt an indescribable sense of reluctance.

Is it because I'm getting older?

Can't bear to see these farewells anymore?

Chen Mobai, who was nearly sixty, thought of an explanation for his inexplicable emotions.

The day after bidding farewell to Xiao Hei, the Immortal Sect team led by Daoist Yu Yi arrived, and Master Chengxuan, along with Che Yucheng and Chen Mobai, personally welcomed them.

Then they confirmed the will of Master Chengxuan, in case anything unexpected happened during the experiment.

Another Nascent Soul Superior from the Lingbao Study Palace, namely Yuxiao Superior, also participated and witnessed Master Chengxuan making his will from afar.

This was also Chen Mobai's first encounter with this individual.

Yuxiao Superior's origins were somewhat complex and obscure, being the most low-profile among the fourteen Nascent Soul cultivators in the Immortal Gate.

Nevertheless, as Chen Mobai was now broadly recognized as the future leader of Dance Tool Dao Academy, after querying, Master Chengxuan did not conceal these secrets from him.

Yuxiao Superior was a transformed Spiritual Treasure!

Initially, she was a student at Lingbao Study Palace, named Jiang Xuanzhu, who had entered Dance Tool Dao Academy to study, and she had found this Magic Artifact in the Treasure Trove.

Although in the Treasure Trove, most of the Rank-3 and Rank-4 Magic Artifacts were under the control of the academy, some very ancient ones were not scattered about in the form of "Device Nurturing Spheres" but were nurtured in their original forms within Spiritual Cave Pivot.

Yuxiao was one of them.

This Fourth Grade Superior Magic Artifact, traceable back to the ancient times of the Dance Tool Dao Academy, was found by Jiang Xuanzhu in the Treasure Trove and was not publicized by her, but hidden away.

Later, she even used this artifact to complete "The Union of Differences," turning Yuxiao into her life-bound artifact, and with the help of this ancient and powerful artifact, she continuously broke through realms and, upon acquiring Gold Elixir Spirit Medicine, succeeded in one fell swoop.

Afterward, it took her 160 years to cultivate to the Ninth Layer of Golden Core.

Jiang Xuanzhu, unable to wait for the Infant Forming Spirit Medicine, decided during her peak of essence, qi, and spirit to force through to the Nascent Soul Realm with “The Union of Differences” aided by her life-bound Yuxiao.

She failed!

She did not transcend the “Heart Demon Tribulation,” and both her body and spirit perished.

However, Yuxiao, by virtue of the pact formed between the two, took over her body after her death, and successfully transcended this tribulation.

After forming her Nascent Soul, she needed to pay her respects to the Huashen Ancestor.

Yuxiao Superior’s situation could naturally no longer be concealed, and it is unknown what she confessed to the two ancestors, Baiguang and Qian Xing, but anyway, she passed the review and descended from the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains.

Subsequently, Yuxiao Superior Jiang Xuanzhu became the principal of Lingbao Study Palace, but her origin was still communicated to Master Chengxuan by Ancestor Baiguang.

Following that, Master Chengxuan personally swept through the Treasure Trove to prevent such an occurrence again.

After the will was confirmed, Yuxiao Superior’s figure dissolved in the middle of the office, and Daoist Yu Yi, led by Che Yucheng, went to the deepest part of the Treasure Trove, in Yuping Small Realm, to start preparing for the Blooming Moment experiment.

In the end, only Master Chengxuan and Chen Mobai were left in the office, the former divulged to Chen Mobai about Yuxiao Superior’s origins.

“This matter is only known to the Nascent Souls in this academy.”

After listening, Chen Mobai was visibly shocked; he had not expected that Yuxiao Superior’s origins could be so mystical.

“As for the Magic Artifact, should there be a way to trace its history?”

As everything placed in the Treasure Trove was registered, Chen Mobai could not help but ask.

“This Magic Artifact is too ancient. Later, based on the traces left by Jiang Xuanzhu’s activities, I located where Yuxiao was nurtured and investigated the remaining restrictions nearby and discovered that it was possibly placed there directly by Ancestor Yun Ya.”

After hesitating for a moment, thinking of the academy’s future in Chen Mobai’s hands, Master Chengxuan disclosed his findings.

Considering this, Chen Mobai somewhat understood why the two ancestors, Baiguang and Qian Xing, allowed Yuxiao to descend from the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains.

“You should not delve too deeply into this matter; the two ancestors certainly have higher-level considerations. You just need to know that Yuxiao Superior Jiang Xuanzhu is one of ours from Dance Tool Dao Academy. Even if I were to leave, you could still use her name to exert influence.”

“Why would I borrow her name when I could borrow Ancestor Baiguang’s? The ancestor is a bona fide graduate of the academy.”

Chen Mobai didn’t quite understand Master Chengxuan’s words.

“Well, the ancestor has been quiet for decades now! Moreover, the ancestor enjoys solitude and hates being bothered by all sorts of miscellaneous matters.”

Master Chengxuan replied somewhat vexedly, not revealing that he had tried to contact Ancestor Baiguang three times in the past hundred years without any response.

“I see...”

Hearing this, Chen Mobai thought about leveraging the favor on Xiao Hei in hopes that it might be of use when he eventually goes to visit Ancestor Baiguang at Wangxian Peak.

However, as someone with the qualifications for Deification Transformation, if he really formed his Nascent Soul and went to pay respect to the ancestor as a burgeoning symbol of the Dance Tool Dao Academy’s future, surely the ancestor would be delighted.

Chapter 1212: The Technique of Demon Foetus Transformation After dealing with matters at the Dance Tool Dao Academy, Chen Mobai originally planned to rush back to Red Sandstone City, but he was delayed by another Golden Core Master.

This person was none other than Chu Chuanhua from the Empty Green Pharmacy Factory. Chen Mobai had once consulted him about the Return to the Sun Spirit Water; Chu was also present because the academy was voting to elect the next caretaker of the Fifth-Rank Zhu Fruit Tree.

As Chen Mobai had mastered the Illusory Thunder, he invited Chu to see if it was possible to refine the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations.

However, Chu Chuanhua suggested that it would be better to seek the help of an alchemist from Jumang Academy to handle the refinement.

Due to the myriad alchemy recipes within the Immortal Gate, no single alchemist could master them all; they generally focused on learning and expanding in the areas they were most interested in.

Especially at higher levels, due to the scarcity of resources, the Immortal Gate always had professionals handle their respective specializations to minimize failures and waste.

For example, Chu Chuanhua specialized in Fire Attribute Elixirs. The Fire Elemental Gold Core Pill within the Immortal Gate was primarily refined by him.

As for the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations, although he had studied it, he was unsure if he could produce a product that met the Immortal Gate's standards and was free of Dan Poison.

"Jumang Academy also has a specialized Thunder Pool specifically for refining this Spirit Water, and combined with the pure Spirit Qi of a Fourth-order Water Vein, they have full confidence in producing the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations..."

After hearing Chu Chuanhua's explanation, Chen Mobai suddenly understood.

Relying on the Green Charm Spiritual Tea and the Flame Lighting Technique, Chen Mobai no longer worried about Dan Poison, but if he were to seek a cooperative refinement within the Immortal Gate, handling Dan Poison would be unavoidable.

Although he had reasons and excuses to offer some Spiritual Extract, it was clearly not a long-term solution.

After the discussion with Chu Chuanhua, during his journey back, Chen Mobai made a call to Wen Ren Xuewei.

"There are three alchemists in our academy who can handle the refinement, but it requires that specific Thunder Pool, and after the refinement, the allocation of the product is managed by the dean, considering how useful this substance is for Spirit Plants."

Wen Ren Xuewei candidly stated that if she intervened, and with Chen Mobai's influence, obtaining some Water of Ten Thousand Transformations shouldn't be an issue, but getting Jumang Academy to personally refine it was virtually impossible.

"You also know the dean's ambitions. If she wants to progress further, the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations is the best Elixir for her, so that Thunder Pool is primarily reserved for her use."

Initially, the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations from Jumang Academy was intended for the Great Chun Divine Tree, but after reaching Sixth Rank, it became entirely unnecessary. Later, the Peach Blossom Sage transformed and specifically learned alchemy to monopolize it.

Only when unavoidable requests came did she share some of it.

Understanding Wen Ren Xuewei's difficulty, Chen Mobai quickly changed the topic, stating that after his "Nascent Soul Formation," he had plenty of time and was also learning alchemy. He wondered if there were other tricks to refining the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations.

Wen Ren Xuewei replied, "The main issue is still that Thunder Pool, originally custom-ordered from your Dance Tool Dao Academy's Tiangong Instrument Factory. However, after several upgrades, it can nearly automate, and I'll see if I can find the blueprints..."

Being the top-ranked school of Water Method Alchemy within the Immortal Gate and possessing the unique advantage of a Fifth Grade Water Vein, nearly all top-ranked Water Method Elixirs were produced by Jumang Academy's Empty Green Pharmacy Factory.

With over thirty Fourth-order Medicine Pools, including the Wanhua Thunder Pool part of these.

About half an hour later, Wen Ren Xuewei sent over a compressed file containing the complete set of blueprints for the Wanhua Thunder Pool, which had been continuously optimized over thousands of years.

Wen Ren Xuewei suggested, "You can have your Daoist Academy's Tiangong Instrument Factory experts take a look and try creating a simplified version of the Thunder Pool to practice the refining process. Once you advance to a Fourth-Rank Alchemist, I'll find a way to arrange a retreat for the dean so you can use the Fourth-Rank Thunder Pool at the Empty Green Pharmacy Factory."

Building a complete Fourth-grade Wanhua Thunder Pool involved significant investment, which was why Jumang Academy constructed it and continued evolving it through centuries of experience.

Considering these factors, Wen Ren Xuewei gave a very considerate suggestion with Chen Mobai's interests in mind.

“Thank you!”

However, as Chen Mobai expressed his gratitude, he wondered if the Divine Wood Sect could build this Wanhua Thunder Pool.

And for refining the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations, it also required at least Fourth-rank Water Pulse Spirit Qi.

This posed a bit of a challenge, as the only Fourth-rank Water Veins in the Eastern Wilderness were at the Snow-blowing Palace and Wind Rain Hamlet, neither of which was under the control of the Divine Wood Sect.

However, given the relationship between the Divine Wood Sect and the Wind Rain Hamlet, borrowing their Fourth-order Water Vein shouldn't be an issue, but it was always a bit unsettling not to have one's own.

Hoping that Zhou Shengqing would advance to Nascent Soul Formation soon and swiftly reintegrate the Five Elements Sect, or perhaps slay the Poisonous Dragon in the heart of Yun Meng Ze, they could then gain access to the Fifth-Grade Spirit Vein level of the Yellow Dragon Cave Mansion.

With these thoughts, Chen Mobai immediately used the Turtle Treasure and returned to Giant Tree Ridge.

Upon receiving the news of his “emergence,” Yue Zutao came over immediately to report the recent happenings in the Eastern Wilderness.

Chapter 1213: The Technique of Demon Foetus Transformation_2

“Strong fluctuations of Spiritual Energy have emerged from the Snow-blowing Palace...”

“Back to Sky Valley is collecting medicinal herbs from all the Immortal Cultivation families and Sects across the Eastern Wilderness, it seems they intend to refine top-ranked elixirs...”

“The Spirit Stone Mine in Wind Country is nearing depletion, according to the investigations of the Spirit Vein Division, and at most, the core area can only be mined for another four or five years...”

“Sheng Zhaoxi of the Five Elements Sect, who possesses the Fire Attribute, has healed from his injuries and plans to refine an even more outstanding Defensive Magic Weapon, but he lacks some top-ranked ores and would like our Sect to help collect them...”

“The Demonic Beasts in Yun Meng Ze have started stirring again, although mainly around Dongwu...”

What awaited Chen Mobai were major issues, while Sect Leader Yue Zutao had already taken care of the various minor matters himself.

Chen Mobai, “The affairs of the Snow-blowing Palace are other people’s business, even if they discover new Spirit Stone Veins, we have no reason to contend for them. Just have the people from the Spirit Vein Division pay a little attention and report back to me once there’s a result.”

Chen Mobai, “Do we have a catalog of the medicinal herbs Back to Sky Valley is collecting?”

Yue Zutao nodded and handed a prepared list to Chen Mobai. Yan Shaoyin didn’t seem to intend to hide anything, as all the items on it were medicinal herbs needed for three Elixir Recipes obtained from the Longevity Elixir Scripture.

Chen Mobai took a pen and circled several key main ingredients of the Infant-Feeding Elixir: “Inform me once Back to Sky Valley has gathered these.”

Yue Zutao, “Yes, Sect Leader!”

The intermediate-grade Spirit Stone Mine in Wind Country was something Zhou Shengqing had forcibly wrested from the hands of the Five Elements Sect when the families split. It yielded nearly three to four million Spirit Stones annually. Moreover, it was the sole source of Superior Quality Spirit Stones for the few Nascent Soul Ancestors of the two families.

What Yue Zutao referred to as “depletion” meant the central part of the vein where Superior Quality and intermediate-grade Spirit Stones lay, while the Low-grade ones on the outskirts could still be mined for over a decade.

Chen Mobai, “If the Spirit Stone Mine in Wind Country is exhausted, our Sect will face issues with its source of Superior Quality Spirit Stones. However, there’s nothing we can do but find a way to compensate from other aspects. Have the Spirit Vein Division expedite their exploration of the territories under our Sect’s dominion across the seven countries, to see if new Spirit Stone Veins can be found.”

Yue Zutao took note but suggested that within the Sect, Zhuo Ming was the most skilled Earth Master. Could they ask her to postpone her projects on the Eastern Desolation Plateau and lead the Spirit Vein Division to look for Spirit Stone Veins first?

Chen Mobai, “Do not bring this up again; even ten Spirit Stone Mines are not as important as what Ming’er is currently undertaking.”

Chen Mobai decisively refused. As a person from Immortal Gate, he knew that mining would only bring temporary wealth, whereas only fertile territories and solid enterprises could help a Sect flourish!

He was even considering, after finding Spirit Stone Veins, not to mine them right away, but to see if they could be converted into cultivation Spiritual Lands or Spirit Fields through the methods of an Earth Master, benefiting more Cultivators.

After all, Spirit Stones would be gone once used, but if converted into Spiritual Lands and Spirit Fields, with the help of Formations and such, they could achieve sustainable development.

“Sheng Zhaoxi must be treated with respect. We’ll need her to counter the Five Elements Sect in the future. We should collect on behalf of our Sect within the territories of the seven countries under our command. However, it would be best for her to send a Disciple over to take charge of this matter, and we will cooperate.

“As for the Yun Meng Ze situation, let Meng Hong stay stationed there and not return for the time being. If there’s another surge of Demonic Beasts like last time, notify the Sect immediately, and I will personally lead the Sect’s Cultivators to assist.”

After dealing with all major matters, Chen Mobai then went to the Longevity Wood Dojo where Zhou Shengqing was in closed-door cultivation.

After chatting with Fu Zongjue's Purple Sun Puppet at the entrance, he learned that everything was proceeding smoothly.

Zhou Shengqing had reached the nineteenth layer of the Longevity Scripture, transforming into the Legal Body Nascent Soul, and now only needed to convert all his Spiritual Power into Longevity True Qi to successfully conclude his cultivation.

With the help of the two thousand Top-grade Spirit Stones sent in by Fu Zongjue, he was likely to achieve this by the end of the year.

Hearing this, Chen Mobai felt greatly reassured.

"The moment Brother Zhaoxi's Nascent Soul achieves completion, the entire strategic layout of the Eastern Wilderness will be set!"

Chen Mobai spoke with hope, and beside him, Fu Zongjue, also imagining the Divine Wood Sect's bountiful future ruling over the Eastern Wilderness, couldn't help but burst into laughter.

But halfway through his laughter, Fu Zongjue's Puppet Body suddenly stiffened with a smile that turned into a grimace of grief and anger.

In the hall where the Divine Wood Sect's revered Soul Lanterns were housed.

The True Body of Fu Zongjue stood before one of the extinguished Soul Lanterns, fists clenched, body trembling unceasingly.

Not long after, Chen Mobai, who had received the news, also arrived.

...

In the Eastern Wilderness, within the forbidden grounds of the Snow-blowing Palace.

Kong Lingling opened her eyes, and the ice encasing her body cracked and shattered, scattering in all directions.

A trace of contentment emerged on her beautiful face, as the ice-blue Spiritual Power around her body continuously flickered. Her aura had already crossed the bottleneck; she had become a Cultivator in the Core Formation Late Stage.

“I’ve finally made the breakthrough.”

Kong Lingling had reached Core Formation nearly two hundred years ago. To achieve such success was considered quite respectable in the history of the Snow-blowing Palace.

However, with her natural talent, it was basically impossible to break through to the Core Formation Late Stage, let alone to achieve Core Formation at all.

All this was thanks to an encounter with an eccentric individual two hundred years ago, who directed her to this mysterious forbidden land.

Located within a mysterious cave at the border of Frost Country and Snow Country, it concealed a very powerful Ice Vein.

For other Cultivators, this place was a dead end, but for her, it was an unparalleled sacred ground for practicing Ice Heaven Cultivation.

It was also with the help of this place that she was able to achieve Core Formation and even cultivate to her current Realm.

After breaking through to the Core Formation Late Stage, her greed for a higher realm grew even greater.

Nascent Soul!

But she also knew that to reach such a realm, she needed to explore the true secrets of this Ice Vein.

After two hundred years of familiarity, Kong Lingling had more or less learned the origin of this place.

It was here that an Ancient Ancestor of Ice once sealed a powerful Mother Locust, and the strong Spiritual Energy that had been channeling the Spirit Veins over the years transformed into this Ice Vein.

And if Kong Lingling wanted to achieve “Nascent Soul Formation,” her only chance would be within the seal.

Two hundred years ago, the odd person who directed her here had also given her a sinister Cultivation Technique.

It was called “The Technique of Demon Foetus Transformation!”

This technique allowed her to use her own body as a matrix, nurturing a powerful demon beast’s fetus as an External Incarnation. If the fetus’s true form was strong, after refining it, she could not only use it for Magic Duels but could even enhance her own body’s strength in return, advancing even further.

Kong Lingling arrived at the deepest part of the cave where a snow-white ice wall blocked the path, the seal put in place by the old ancestor of Ice.

She deployed her Innate Ice Heaven Spiritual Power, and her figure slowly merged into the ice wall. After passing through, she entered the sealed area.

Occupying the center of the seal was a Mother Locust that, over thousands of years, had turned into a skeleton.

But beneath the skeleton lay a white jade egg, flickering with Spiritual Light.

And beside this white jade egg was tied a gaunt young man.

His wrists were slit, and droplets of blood traveled through a fine ice tube, falling onto the white jade egg, nourishing its vitality.

“Well done.”

Kong Lingling approached the young man, who was hanging onto his last breath, and looked at the white jade egg flourishing with life after being watered with essence blood, a bewitching smile appearing on her gorgeous face.

The young man struggled to open his eyes, and seeing Kong Lingling’s aura more vigorous than before, a look of desperation appeared on his face.

“You... have broken through...”

“Correct, after reaching the Core Formation Late Stage, I can refine this white jade egg into my body to nurture it. In just ten years, my child will be able to hatch, and at that time, I’ll have an incarnation with the strength of a Fourth Order Demon Beast. As the final piece for my child’s revival, I’ll make your Divine Wood Sect the first East Wilderness Major Sect to be obliterated by it!”

As Kong Lingling spoke, she lifted the white jade egg and refined it into her body.

At that moment, the young man’s essence blood had been completely drained. But Kong Lingling didn’t waste his last bit of value. Using the Demonic Way Secret Method recorded in “The Technique of Demon Foetus Transformation,” she extracted his final Yuan Yang as well, combining it with her Original Yin within the white jade egg to begin the condensation of the demon fetus.

Undoubtedly, this was a Demonic Way Secret Method. Kong Lingling had some guesses about the odd person who initially directed her, but by now, she was no longer willing to turn back.

As the young man's body turned into a dry corpse and fell, dozens of other male Cultivators' bodies with the same Fire Attribute lay beside him, all of them drained of their Essence, Qi, and Spirit.

Chapter 1214: Legal Body Nascent Soul Achieved Fu Xingzhou had been missing for more than thirty years, and in the end, his soul lantern extinguished, plunging Fu Zongjue into despair, all hope faded.

Chen Mobai could only offer his consolation.

He then instructed all members of the Divine Wood Sect outside to investigate matters related to Fu Xingzhou.

However, both he and Fu Zongjue knew that after more than thirty years without news, now that he was dead, it was even less likely they would find anything.

In his grief, Fu Zongjue went to Yun Meng Ze and slaughtered a large group of demonic beasts to vent his anger.

Chen Mobai could only respond with a bitter smile.

But it was also because Zhou Shengqing's Legal Body Nascent Soul had completed its transformation, otherwise Fu Zongjue would not have left.

And after he went to Yun Meng Ze, he relieved Mo Douguang, who had been stationed at Wind Rain Hamlet, and informed him of the situation.

Upon receiving this news, Mo Douguang immediately took the teleportation array to Giant Tree Ridge.

Chen Mobai personally received him and led him to the entrance of Zhou Shengqing's Longevity Wood Dojo, where Mo Douguang silently sat down at the entrance to act as protector for Zhou Shengqing.

Time quickly approached the end of the year.

That day, Chen Mobai was discussing a newly-received piece of news with Yue Zutao.

Suddenly, a slight earthquake occurred across Giant Tree Ridge, followed by the surging spiritual energy accumulated by the Array of Ten Thousand Woods boiling over into a sky full of colorful light, pouring toward Zhou Shengqing's closed-off Longevity Wood Dojo.

Seeing this, Chen Mobai couldn't help but burst into laughter.

He immediately transformed into Escaping Light and flew over.

Another Golden Core Spiritual Light also flew over from not far away.

Half a month earlier, Fu Zongjue had also returned, knowing that Zhou Shengqing was about to emerge from seclusion.

In front of the Longevity Wood Dojo, the tall and straight Mo Douguang, standing at the entrance, nodded lightly as a greeting when he saw the two approaching.

"Senior Brother has finally succeeded!"

Fu Zongjue, feeling the tremendous and vast fluctuations of spiritual energy around, couldn't help but be immensely excited.

Accompanied by a clear, long cry, Zhou Shengqing, dressed in an ancient Daoist robe, flew down from the trees. His robe fluttered with the wind, like a dancing crane.

As he landed before them, he couldn't help but grin, revealing his snow-white teeth which, coupled with his somewhat translucent fair complexion and physique, gave Chen Mobai a sense of profound unfathomability, like a fresh breeze.

"Greetings to Zhou Laozu!"

According to the customs of the Eastern Wilderness, once Zhou Shengqing achieved Nascent Soul Formation, his seniority rose by another generation, so they had to address him as Laozu.

“There’s no need for such formality, just call me Senior Brother.”

But Zhou Shengqing shook his head, his current realm had been achieved entirely with the support of the three before him.

And, just like a Heterodox Golden Core, having the power of a Nascent Soul did not grant him the lifespan of one.

However, as he cultivated the Longevity Scripture, each major realm breakthrough would grant him an additional sixty years of lifespan, and this time was no exception.

Thus, Zhou Shengqing could use the power of a Legal Body Nascent Soul to protect the Divine Wood Sect for three hundred years.

For the Divine Wood Sect, this was like a Sky-Pillaring White Jade Column, a tremendous support!

After all, of the three Nascent Souls in the East Barbarians, aside from the one at Sun Bathing Sea, the others likely wouldn’t live longer than Zhou Shengqing.

“Congratulations, Senior Brother!”

Since Zhou Shengqing had said so, the three naturally wouldn’t fuss and continued to address each other as brothers.

“Should we announce this to the entire Eastern Wilderness and invite the Five Elements Sect of Back to Sky Valley and Snow-blowing Palace for an audience?”

Fu Zongjue was the first to ask, following tradition. Nascent Soul Cultivators were naturally the undisputed rulers of this Eastern Wasteland land and could act like Ancestor Hunyuan.

He was thinking of making Yan Shaoyin refine pills for them again!

“Junior Brother Chen, what do you think?”

After pondering for a moment, Zhou Shengqing turned to ask Chen Mobai.

“Chu Zuoshu just sent a message from the East Barbarians. Senior Brothers, please take a look.”

Chen Mobai handed a jade slip to Zhou Shengqing, who, after scanning it with his Divine Sense, his expression changed slightly.

Next were Mo Douguang and Fu Zongjue, who, skilled in hiding their emotions, couldn't help but be shocked!

“East Barbarians have had a change of power!”

Two hundred years ago, the Sect Leader of Kong Sang Valley, Ku Zhu, schemed to steal the Rank-3 Spiritual Rice Seed from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, sparking a great battle between the two Nascent Soul Major Factions of the East Barbarians.

In the end, the Nascent Soul Cultivator of Kong Sang Valley bowed down, expelled Ku Zhu, and closed the valley for a hundred years, finally putting the matter to rest.

After his expulsion, Golden Wind Ancestor, blaming him for the disruption, sent many to hunt him down.

At that time, as Kong Sang Valley was closed, no one could assist, so everyone thought Ku Zhu would die under the pursuit of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace.

But instead, Ku Zhu escaped from the East Barbarians and even counter-killed two of the three Golden Core Cultivators who surrounded him.

Upon hearing this news, the furious Golden Wind Ancestor, despite his Taoist Body not being fully healed, personally took action.

But by then, Ku Zhu had disappeared through an ancient teleportation array.

This incident made Ku Zhu famous, hailed as the first Golden Core of the East Barbarians!

And two hundred years later, this Ku Zhu had returned.

His power had now reached Nascent Soul!

This was exactly what Chen Mobai had been discussing with Yue Zutao; although Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace and Kong Sang Valley hadn't started fighting yet, based on their past grievances, a great battle was inevitable upon Ku Zhu's return.

“Golden Wind Ancestor, being an Alchemist, also has some fame in East Land, and his wealth is certainly the richest among the three Nascent Souls of the East Barbarians, but facing two Nascent Soul Cultivators, his chances of winning are probably not high.”

Chapter 1215: Legal Body Nascent Soul Achieved_2

Zhou Shengqing expressed his view.

The Kong Sang Valley originally had one Nascent Soul Cultivator, and now with the addition of Ku Zhu, if old grudges and new hatreds are added together to settle with the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, the Golden Wind Ancestor would definitely not be able to hold out.

“Will Sun Bathing Sea, out of consideration for balance, lend a hand to help Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace?”

Fu Zongjue offered his own opinion, which brought nods of agreement from Zhou Shengqing and Chen Mobai.

If they were in Baiwu Ancestor's position, they would undoubtedly make this choice; the idea of "when the lips are gone, the teeth will be cold" is understood by all.

"So what I mean is, for the time being, do not disclose the news of Brother Zhou achieving the Nascent Soul because Eastern Wilderness is right next to the East Barbarians. If a new Nascent Soul emerges here, that side will certainly regard us as an unstable factor, and it's possible that there might be a situation where they join forces to eliminate us before the great decisive battle."

After Chen Mobai finished speaking, everyone felt it made a lot of sense.

Keeping a low profile for now, stay out of the sightline of the three major factions of the East Barbarians. Given the grievances between Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace and Kong Sang Valley, there must be a battle after Ku Zhu's "Nascent Soul Formation" and return.

At that time, whether it's Sun Bathing Sea entering the fray to restore balance, or Baiwu Ancestor looking on, allowing Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace to bear the pressure alone, it would all be to the advantage of Divine Wood Sect.

Chen Mobai continued with the countermeasures he had discussed with Yue Zutao: "The best outcome is still the destruction of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace and the death of the Golden Wind Ancestor, after which we can ally with Sun Bathing Sea and reach a balance with Kong Sang Valley."

After listening, Zhou Shengqing nodded in agreement.

After his Nascent Soul Formation, he could inherit the goodwill that Master Ancestor Hunyuan had with Sun Bathing Sea, and if he stepped in, he should be able to negotiate successfully.

Zhou Shengqing: "Let's observe the changes quietly for a while then. However, the matter of reuniting the Five Elements Sect can start to be carried out now."

This was also a matter close to Zhou Shengqing's heart. Since he was the one who initially led the Wood Vein and Metal Vein out of Hunyuan Immortal City, now, he also wanted to personally lead both veins back.

Chen Mobai: "What does elder brother plan to do?"

After the Core Formation, in the vastness of the Eastern Wilderness, Zhou Shengqing could move unimpeded, and only the Rank-4 formations of the various major factions could defensively stand up to him.

Therefore, he needed to make a trip to Hunyuan Immortal City to personally reclaim what was his.

"If Zhou Ye is willing to hand over the Primordial Dao Fruit, I'm willing to leave him a position as an Elder after I reunite the Five Elements Sect. If he's unwilling, then he can't blame me for being ruthless."

A glint of cold light flashed in Zhou Shengqing's eyes as he spoke.

"When the Mysterious Five Elements Array in Hunyuan Immortal City was set up, I was one of those contributing to it. Although Zhou Ye definitely changed the Array Flag nodes and the entrance restrictions after our division, the most critical five Spiritual Pivots are impossible to alter. So as long as I can enter the Immortal City and have the cooperation of disciples from the other three veins, we can stop the Large Formation's operation."

The Mysterious Five Elements Array was most powerful when Ancestor Hunyuan was presiding at its center and each of the five Core Formation Disciples controlled one of the Spiritual Pivots.

The suppression of the Poisonous Dragon and the fierce battle with the Netherworld Path Ghost Cultivators was reliant on this.

It was just unfortunate that after Ancestor Hunyuan passed away in meditation, the array could no longer be moved.

Zhou Shengqing: "Junior Brother Mo, let's go and catch up with the other two junior siblings."

Without formations to hinder them, a Nascent Soul was invincible in the Eastern Wilderness. But for this venture to succeed, both Sheng Zhaoxi and Nu Jiang were critical.

Mo Douguang also nodded with a face full of emotions after hearing this.

Ninety years since the division, it was now time for them to prove that the original decision of Master Hunyuan had been wrong.

However, Chen Mobai still stepped forward to remind Zhou Shengqing that, before things became clear on the side of the East Barbarians, it would be best not to reveal his Nascent Soul Formation.

Zhou Shengqing also heeded the advice very much, indicating that he was only going to catch up with Nu Jiang and Sheng Zhaoxi to make some preliminary preparations for the recovery of the Five Elements Sect.

“They can keep a secret, and besides, I have rarely been successful in leaving seclusion. I should find some old friends to show off a little.”

Zhou Shengqing said with a smile, revealing his inner thoughts.

After hearing this, Chen Mobai also understood very well.

Because he was also that kind of person!

“The sect will be looked after by the two junior brothers. If you need me to take action, just contact me with this Taoist talisman paper.”

Before leaving, Zhou Shengqing plucked two leaves from the Everlife Wood and at the scene drew a talisman for Chen Mobai and Fu Zongjue.

After his “Nascent Soul Formation,” his mastery over talisman making had clearly risen to the next level. The skill with which he condensed spiritual energy into the void and inscribed it onto the leaves to make talismans was something that Chen Mobai could only envy.

He had once been hailed as a talisman genius, but after his Core Formation, there were too many aspects of cultivation that he needed to practice, and he gradually set aside this skill. To this day, he had not even obtained the title of third-tier talisman maker from the Immortal Gate.

After Zhou Shengqing and Mo Douguang left, Chen Mobai’s previously restrained steps suddenly quickened.

With a Nascent Soul to preside over the sect, he was confident that he could hold his ground even if the Golden Wind Ancestor personally led the troops of the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace to press upon their borders.

Thus, he instructed Yue Zutao to begin implementing some of the more aggressive new policies that had been held back, preparing for the merger of the seven countries.

He also personally went to the Eastern Desolation Plateau to inspect the progress of this groundbreaking enterprise.

“Master, in approximately thirteen more years, this White River in Rock Country should be completed according to the plan,”

Zhuo Ming, whose skin had become even more yellowed, proudly stated to Chen Mobai as they flew in the sky above the endlessly flowing White River.

Aside from the two of them, Luo Yixuan, Yin Qingmei, E Yun, Jiang Zongheng, and a series of other leaders from the Divine Wood Sect in Rock Country were following beside them.

It was precisely because of this group’s concerted efforts that the opening of White River progressed so smoothly, even faster than what Chen Mobai had imagined, by half.

As they flew overhead, they looked down upon a dense field of grass that rose waist-high, the Qingluo Grass. Among the pasture, herds of Spirit Bulls and Spirit Antelope, under the supervision of Divine Wood Sect Monks, were scattered and robustly growing across the plateau.

Some areas with flat terrain had also been transformed into vast Spirit Fields with golden rice ears resembling a golden ocean, shimmering with the dazzling light of a bountiful harvest as the Fresh Wind breezed gently through.

This year alone, the spirit rice and livestock industries within the territory of Rock Country would provide over a million Spirit Stones in income to the Divine Wood Sect.

And this number would only increase with time.

Now, the Divine Wood Sect Monks who had previously not understood Chen Mobai's determination to exhaust great amounts of manpower and resources to develop the Eastern Desolation Plateau had all come to realize the foresight of their Sect Leader.

This had become equivalent to a never-ending Spirit Stone Mine.

If the entire Eastern Desolation Plateau were successfully developed, it could yield an annual income that could surpass the combined output of all the Spirit Stone Mines on the Eastern Wilderness.

Such a bright future also fueled the enthusiasm of the Divine Wood Sect disciples for the development of the Eastern Desolation Plateau, which continued to surge.

This year, over fifteen hundred Qi Practitioners from the Three Halls and Twelve Divisions together took up tasks from the Spirit Treasure Pavilion and came to this plateau above the Eastern Wilderness.

Besides opening the water channel, the Spirit Vein in Northern Abyss City, after the Mountain Suppression Stone was set in place, was also jointly upgraded to Rank-4 by Zhuo Ming, guiding the Formation Division and Spirit Vein Division Monks.

For this project, E Yun invested all of Northern Abyss City's house sale income and even the shop rental income for the next five years, along with two phases of property development.

And all of this was worthwhile after the Spirit Vein was successfully upgraded.

"Very good, very good, you all did very well,"

The accomplishments here in Rock Country pleased Chen Mobai greatly, and he couldn't help but shower Zhuo Ming, E Yun, and the others with continuous praise.

However, his good mood was somewhat dampened when he saw the conditions around the Mo River in Sky Country.

Compared to the luxurious support and ahead-of-schedule progress provided to Zhuo Ming's side, Luo Xue'er and Zhou Wangshen were lagging quite a bit behind.

After making comparisons, Chen Mobai reckoned it could take another twenty to thirty years to complete the confluence of the Mo River and the White River.

After surveying Sky Country in midair, Chen Mobai frowned deeply.

Seeing the Sect Leader's expression, Zhou Wangshen and Luo Xue'er glanced at each other and hurriedly went to report some good news.

Chapter 1216: Heavenly Curtain and Earth Network "Sect Leader, the Green Wood Evil Cave we discovered is a Second Order High Grade one and it hasn't been mined yet," reported a disciple. "However, it's close to the ruins, and there's a pack of green wolves, demonic beasts, guarding it..."

Chen Mobai had a standing assignment at the Spirit Treasure Pavilion: to collect Green Wood Evil. King Zhou regarded this matter with great importance, searching far and wide within his own Sky Country over the years.

But even cultivators are human, and even professional Earth Masters, when searching for Spirit Veins, nine times out of ten, come up empty-handed—not to mention ordinary Loose Cultivators.

The discovery of the Green Wood Evil this time was made possible by the planning of two new rivers.

The course Chen Mobai chose for the rivers was carefully examined and designed, with each bend tapping into a known Spiritual Pivot of Spirit Veins on the plateau. Once the water flowed across the plateau, it would carry the Spiritual Energy from these pivots to irrigate the land, enriching the soil and causing the vegetation to flourish.

In addition to this, Chen Mobai also drew inspiration from the “Earth Network” concept of the Immortal Gates.

He only learned this after achieving Core Formation: that the mountains, rivers, and streams on Di Yuan Star had all been condensed into a massive Large Formation by the predecessor Huashen Zhenjuns of the Immortal Gates, encompassing all the Spirit Veins and controlling the world’s spiritual pivots. The hub of this network was the Five Peaks Immortal Mountain.

For this reason, the Five Peaks Immortal Mountain was a Sixth Grade Spirit Vein.

All the Spiritual Energy of the Immortal Gates would pass through the Earth Network’s main gate at the Five Peaks Immortal Mountain before being released to the Thirty-Six Heavenly Caves and Seventy-Two Blessed Lands, from where the local Spirit Network departments would distribute it as needed. It was then sent through the Earth Network in layers to countless households.

The Heavenly Curtain and Earth Network, these two massive Formations, if operated simultaneously, could even propel Di Yuan Star out of its current cosmic orbit and into the unknown vastness of the universe.

With the current strength of the Divine Wood Sect and Chen Mobai, naturally they could not achieve the same as the Heavenly Curtain and Earth Network.

However, they could lay the foundation. While carving out the two rivers, Chen Mobai had the Formation Division and the Spirit Vein Division of the Divine Wood Sect record the terrain and Spirit Veins of the Eastern Desolation Plateau, placing Array Plates and Array Flags at the spiritual pivots along the rivers.

Should the Divine Wood Sect one day cultivate an outstanding Array Master, they would be able to link all these together, forming a Nine Curves River Luo Large Formation, attempting to emulate a section of the Earth Network.

And it was this project that had led to the discovery of the Green Wood Evil Cave.

Some of the disciples from the Divine Wood Sect, who went searching for Spirit Veins and identifying Spiritual Pivots before the river excavation, found no reaction after the Array Plates were inserted.

Later, the true disciples from the Formation Division and the Spirit Vein Division arrived together and after drilling a hole on the surface, they uncovered the surge of Green Wood Evil.

But the scope of this Ground Evil Spirit Cave wasn't small; astonishingly, it even extended into the ruins.

When the Divine Wood Sect opened the mouth of the cave and began collecting the Green Wood Evil, they attracted a swarm of attacks from demonic beasts and nearly faced annihilation.

However, the fighting ability of the two true disciples was commendable, and thanks to the large-scale development of the sect over the years, they had acquired a number of life-saving treasures. They managed to hold out until King Zhou arrived with reinforcements.

Afterwards, King Zhou stationed personnel to guard the Green Wood Evil Cave while promptly reporting the incident to Chen Mobai, seeking credit.

"The matter of the Green Wood Evil counts as a merit," said Chen Mobai.

"However, the progress of the development of the Mo River is too far behind."

"If this delay affects the schedule of the Two Rivers merging, the great virtue of fighting desertification in the Rainbow Nation Desert will be postponed."

After inspecting the progress of the Mo River, Chen Mobai, along with King Zhou, Luo Xue'er, and others, proceeded towards the Green Wood Evil Cave. However, on the way, he still emphasized the importance of the key projects.

After finding enough Green Wood Evil, he would be able to condense the Rank-4 Extreme Sun Slash.

But having grown up in the Immortal Gates, he understood that the strength and prosperity of the collective was key to an unbroken legacy.

After all, even a Huashen Zhenjun, at the end of his lifespan, becomes but a handful of yellow soil. The Immortal Gates rely on a continuous line of Deity-Transcending True Monarchs to maintain social stability and prosperity, ensuring thousands of years of peaceful and thriving eras.

As the Sect Leader of the Divine Wood Sect, after obtaining Zhou Shengqing, a Nascent Soul, Chen Mobai hoped to cultivate further and raise more Golden Core Cultivators to supplement the upper foundation of a Nascent Soul Major Faction.

In the peak times among the three major factions of the East Barbarians, there were always more than ten Golden Core Cultivators.

Only with a high number of Core Formation cultivators could the emergence of Nascent Souls be possible.

Both Zhuo Ming and Yin Qingmei were geniuses with the potential for Nascent Soul, so Chen Mobai thought about cultivating them as quickly as possible.

So, while he was pleased to be able to master the Extreme Sun Slash, Chen Mobai still gave King Zhou and Luo Xue'er a stern reminder to focus on the most crucial work.

"Sect Leader, we do want to work hard," Luo Xue'er burst forth, unable to hold back her complaints. As the former Vice Hall Master of the Reward Virtue Hall, she had extensive connections within the Divine Wood Sect and believed that, with her and King Zhou working together, opening a large river would not be difficult.

But she realized just how pragmatic the younger disciples of the Divine Wood Sect truly were after beginning the work.

Zhuo Ming, being the most dazzling disciple of the Xiao Nanshan Lineage, and herself being industrious—cultivating tens of thousands of acres of Spirit Fields and freely distributing Spirit Rice—led to the powerful young forces of the Divine Wood Sect flocking to Rock Country.

Even if they couldn't find assignments at Spirit Treasure Pavilion, as long as they were cultivators with some spells at their disposal, they could find work upon arriving in Rock Country.

Chapter 1217: Heavenly Curtain and Earth Network_2

Even without knowing spells, vigorously digging canals still far surpassed the efforts of ordinary people.

Because Zhuo Ming had the Artifact Refining Department custom-make a large quantity of Rank-1 iron tools, some for digging canals and others for farming, all of which needed spiritual power to operate, those Qi practitioners below Rank-3 eagerly took on these tasks to receive benefits such as free Spirit Rice.

Luo Xue'er and Zhou Wangshen also thought about replicating the successful experience from Rock Country.

However, without an outstanding Spirit Plant Master like Zhuo Ming to oversee everything, not only was the harvest efficiency low, even the canal excavation was delayed.

“Sect Leader, it's mainly because we don't have enough manpower here. Actually, Zhuo Shimei often comes over to help guide us, but the sect disciples are reluctant to come here. Could you possibly issue a policy under the sect's name to encourage some Qi cultivating disciples to come to Sky Country...”

Zhou Wangshen, having worked here these years, had deeply felt the taste of being isolated and helpless.

Originally, when he had first taken over the role of town guard, he, relying on the power of the Zhou family, had pulled together what could be described as the most luxurious team here in Sky Country,

including himself and three other Foundation Establishment practitioners, twelve former true-transmitted disciples, and over a hundred Qi cultivating disciples.

And E Yun, bringing along Yuan Chiye and supported by Chen Mobai's associates Yu Lian and Qi Rui, barely matched him in the number of Foundation Establishment practitioners; however, the number of Qi cultivating disciples that followed him to Rock Country was far inferior.

Now, just over a decade later, the situation had completely reversed.

Under Zhou Wangshen's command, there were now Zhou Bingyan and two other newly recruited sect Foundation Establishment practitioners, making a total of seven, nearly matching the foundation of all the cultivator families in the entire Sky Country.

Even when looking at the entirety of the Eastern Wilderness, they were second only to the major factions.

But when he looked at Rock Country, the only sentiment left in Zhou Wangshen's heart was "sour."

Not to mention the original four including E Yun, later, Chen Mobai established the Longevity Academy there and left his youngest disciple, Jiang Zongheng, in charge after inspecting the entire Eastern Wilderness. Then, Ding Ying and Lian Maozhi also chose to stay, making it seven Foundation Establishment practitioners in total.

The key point was that each year, students from the Longevity Academy who couldn't qualify to study further at the Divine Wood Sect after graduation were mostly recruited by E Yun nearby, dramatically increasing the number of his Qi practitioners.

Later when Zhuo Ming came over, she even brought Yin Qingmei and Luo Yixuan.

In Rock Country alone, there were now a total of ten Foundation Establishment practitioners.

In terms of Qi practitioners, Northern Abyss City, with its unique advantages, gathered the most Loose Cultivators and family practitioners in the entire Eastern Wilderness. When they first started opening up the canals, E Yun easily amassed a team of a thousand people.

Additionally, Liu Wenbo mobilized resources from the Little Nan Mountain Shop across the entire Eastern Wilderness, providing a continuous supply of funding.

Furthermore, those from the Three Halls and Twelve Divisions, aiming to curry favor with Chen Mobai, did not even need a direct order from him, but all implied to their disciples to rush to Rock Country and aid Zhuo Ming in earning merit.

Not only the Qi cultivating disciples, but the Foundation Establishment practitioners were also no exception.

Heterodox Golden Cores are still listed in the exchange catalog of the Spirit Treasure Pavilion!

Any practitioner with a desire for Core Formation was now highly motivated, seeking out tasks to accrue merits.

Even if they couldn't exchange for Heterodox Golden Cores, the annual Rank-3 Immortal Peach Fruits, which were exotic treasures for those at the Foundation Establishment stage, were a huge incentive. Yan Yuanhao's breakthrough to the late phase of Foundation Establishment after consuming one had significantly stimulated them.

Nearly a hundred years' worth of task lists accumulated in the Spirit Treasure Pavilion were almost cleared out by the group of Foundation Establishment practitioners from the Divine Wood Sect in just a few short years.

Newly emerging tasks basically needed to be fought over in order to be accepted.

Suddenly, within the seven countries under the Divine Wood Sect, the weather turned favorable and the nation was at peace.

Many Foundation Establishment practitioners, hopeful for further advancement and finding no tasks at the Spirit Treasure Pavilion, took the initiative to go to Rock Country.

Previously, when Chen Mobai went there for inspection, aside from core Foundation Establishments like Zhuo Ming and E Yun, there were still dozens of unfamiliar sect Foundation Establishment practitioners following in the sky.

It could be said that nearly half of the Foundation Establishment practitioners of the Divine Wood Sect were now above the Eastern Desolation Plateau.

Above the Eastern Desolation Plateau, eighty percent of the Divine Wood Sect disciples were gathered in Rock Country, following Zhuo Ming's deployment.

Watching Zhuo Ming's side being abundantly aided by successful individuals, Zhou Wangshen and Luo Xue'er felt a great deal of injustice.

If they had such manpower and resources at their disposal, they believed their progress certainly would not lag behind Rock Country's.

After listening to the grievances of the two, Chen Mobai compared the lineups of the two countries and felt that Zhuo Ming's side was indeed excessively luxurious.

The main reason became clear after a little thought; it surely was because of his reputation.

Chen Mobai felt it improper to interfere, as these were individuals who were assisting his disciple, many of whom were Foundation Establishment practitioners volunteering without compensation.

However, if the progress in White River of Sky Country was too delayed, that was also unacceptable. Zhou Wangshen and Luo Xue'er were diligent, and since they had also helped him locate a Qingmu Evil, he needed to think of a way to lend a hand.

"Later, I'll have Ming'er select several groups of cultivators from Rock Country who have been well trained to come over and help you excavate river channels, reclaim Spirit Fields, and plant Spirit Rice."

With experienced hands assisting, the progress in White River would definitely improve significantly. Chen Mobai also thought about balancing the progress between the two sides by having Zhuo Ming lead a large force from Rock Country to come to Sky Country.

After all, the more one does, the greater the merit.

“Thank you, Sect Leader!”

With Chen Mobai’s words, Zhou Wangshen and Luo Xue’er both showed delighted expressions.

At that moment, they had arrived at the location of the Qingmu Evil Cave. Zhou Bingyan and three other Divine Wood Sect Foundation Establishment practitioners were guarding it, having set up a simple formation to ward off a charge of wolf-shaped demonic beasts.

Just then, a bright orange light shone in the sky and in an instant, it fell outside the formation in a crisscross pattern, subsequently turning all the demonic beasts into piles of flesh and blood, staining a large swath of green grass red.

The two cultivators beside Zhou Bingyan, witnessing Chen Mobai’s Sword Sha for the first time, could not help but show faces of shock.

It should be known that among this group of green wolves, there were even two Rank-2 lead wolves. After the formation of a beast formation that exploited their natural talents, the three of them could only form a defensive circle.

But under that brilliant light from the sky, all were effortlessly turned into minced meat without any resistance.

“Greetings, Sect Leader!”

At that moment, a rainbow of colorful clouds descended from the sky, with Zhou Bingyan taking the lead to salute the distinguished and mild-mannered young man at the front. The two Foundation Establishment cultivators behind her immediately followed suit.

“Rise, all of you. From the heavens, using my Spirit Eye, I noticed one of the beasts already possessed an inner core. Have someone clean up, and at the end of the year, send it to the Alchemy Department under Sky Country’s name.”

As soon as Chen Mobai’s words fell, Zhou Wangshen’s eyes lit up. He immediately instructed one of the Foundation Establishment practitioners to search among the remains.

Each demonic beast inner core sent to the Alchemy Department was worth ten thousand sect contribution points.

Chen Mobai had long since disregarded such trifles, choosing instead to give them to Sky Country as a favor. Zhou Wangshen was not one to hog such gains himself; by the end of the year, as Sky Country and the Sect tallied their contributions, he would distribute them according to merit among his subordinates.

“Hmm, the quality of this Qingmu Sha here is quite good, and the quantity is sufficient.”

At that moment, Chen Mobai had already examined this Ground Evil Spirit Cave using his Divine Sense, a satisfied smile involuntarily appearing at the corner of his mouth.

His Extreme Sun Slash only lacked the final two Golden Flames.

After condensing the seed of the “Great Sun Fire” with the Haotian Mirror, he had also cultivated a complete flame using the Ignition Technique over these years, sparing no expense of Spirit Stones.

Once the nine strikes of Flame Sun Slash were gathered, they could be merged with the Great Sun Fire.

With Chen Mobai’s Core Formation realm, extracting Qingmu Sha was naturally effortless; he condensed and completed it with a Spirit Sealing Tube in just three days.

At this moment, only Zhou Bingyan remained by his side.

Zhou Wangshen had initially wanted to stay, but Chen Mobai had him, along with Luo Xue'er, take the people back. Instilling the idea of urgently opening river channels was a major matter that could not afford any delay.

Chapter 1218: Undercurrents Surge After obtaining the Green Wood Evil, Chen Mobai stayed in Sky Country for a while longer.

Under his orders, Yuan Chiye quickly led a team of two hundred Qi Practitioners from Rock Country to provide support.

These were experts trained over many years to excavate water channels. However, these were all Loose Cultivators permanently employed by Northern Abyss City under the name of the Divine Wood Sect.

As per Chen Mobai's instructions, since the construction of the two great rivers was at least a twenty- to thirty-year mega-project, these Loose Cultivators had to sign a long-term contract of over ten years with the Divine Wood Sect.

Initially, the Loose Cultivators did not approve of this long-term contract.

After all, in the Eastern Desolation, Loose Cultivators revered their freedom, preferring to cultivate in seclusion after completing a task and only seeking work when their stock of Spirit Rice and Spirit Stones ran out—this was the norm.

But the terms offered by the Divine Wood Sect were too good!

Especially after Zhuo Ming led a team to open up tens of thousands of mu of Spirit Fields in Rock Country, achieving self-sufficiency in Spirit Rice, all the Loose Cultivators began rushing to sign this long-term contract.

Some even wanted to extend it by decades or even a hundred years, willing to work for the Divine Wood Sect for a lifetime.

After all, paid in Spirit Stones and provided with Spirit Rice as welfare benefits, this was a rarely seen high remuneration throughout the entire Eastern Desolation.

Had the Divine Wood Sect not been the premier sect in the Eastern Desolation, renowned for its good reputation, the Loose Cultivators might even have suspected a scam of the Demon Path.

Once some desperately poor cultivators verified the truth, all Loose Cultivators in Northern Abyss City went crazy.

Even upon spreading the news, Cultivators from all over the Eastern Desolation began flocking towards Rock Country.

Previously, Loose Cultivators would either sell themselves to forces in Fang Market or risk their lives in Yun Meng Ze to earn Spirit Stones.

But working in Northern Abyss City posed no threats to their lives!

Though it was tough and exhausting and involved taking commands from the cultivators of the Divine Wood Sect and adhering to strict working hours, the lengthy contracts ensured they could accumulate a considerable amount of Spirit Stones by the time they were terminated in ten or twenty years.

Perhaps they could even cover all expenses incurred before reaching Foundation Establishment.

The smarter Loose Cultivators of the Eastern Desolation, just by making comparisons, began swarming to Northern Abyss City, which nearly resembled paradise.

Many creative sects and Cultivator families recognized the business opportunity and stopped trading in Magic Artifacts, Elixirs, and Talismans; instead, they led their own disciples and relatives to negotiate with Northern Abyss City about taking contracts to excavate certain sections of the river channels.

Naturally, E Yun agreed to this.

Initially, Zhuo Ming was worried this would compromise the quality of the work, but undoubtedly, this method saved a significant amount of manpower for the Divine Wood Sect, as the typically employed Loose Cultivators required meticulous supervision and training from capable individuals from the Divine Wood Sect.

Contracting to other forces, they only needed to finalize the instructions initially, set the targets, and then periodically inspect the progress.

If the quality met the standards upon inspection, then E Yun from the Northern Abyss City side would issue the corresponding Spirit Stones and Spirit Rice as progress payments for the project.

If Zhuo Ming was dissatisfied, they would redo the work until she was satisfied.

No satisfaction meant no Spirit Stones were granted; all major sects and Cultivator families wanting a contract had to abide by this rule.

This was also why the Divine Wood Sect, already dominating alone in the Eastern Desolation and because the contracting forces willingly sought this business, could enforce such stringent terms—ensuring that the Divine Wood Sect had no risks, and the contracts were fiercely sought after.

The second batch led by Qi Rui to provide support consisted of those contract holders from Rock Country.

Over a dozen major and minor Cultivator families and second and third-tier sects combined had actually amassed five hundred Qi Practitioners.

Qi Rui discussed with Luo Xue'er and assigned several simpler sections of the Mo River that required less mountain carving and earth breaking to this group of contractors from Rock Country to try their hand.

Zhou Wangshen, participating throughout with the status of Town Guard of Sky Country, had separately established contracts with these thirteen contract holders, specifying diverse inspection requirements for each river section at the appointed time.

“Why don’t the Cultivator families and sect forces on the side of Sky Country have such a business acumen?”

After discussing this issue, Zhou Wangshen couldn’t help but shake his head and say.

“It’s also thanks to Zhuo Shimei initially providing Spirit Rice to the working Loose Cultivators under a good reputation.”

“The first to spot this business opportunity was Hua Zhong, the family head of the Hua family. He is a visionary who, confirming that our sect was genuinely undertaking a decades-long mega-project on the Eastern Desolation Plateau, sent quite a few disciples and relatives to actively participate in river channel excavation, Spirit Field planting, and tree plantation to stabilize the soil, investigating all the technical challenges.”

“After two years of actual participation in developing the Eastern Desolation Plateau, once confirming that his family could complete it profitably, this family head began discussions with Brother E, aiming to take a contract for constructing a section of the river channel.”

“After Hua family’s example, other powers in Rock Country began surging in, and by now, nearly all Cultivators of Rock Country are involved in the White River project.”

Qi Rui highlighted the key points, and after hearing this, both Zhou Wangshen and Luo Xue’er were immensely moved.

“There are also six more contractors specializing in planting Spirit Fields and sowing Spirit Rice coming over, led by Han Shizhu. By then, Brother Zhou, please coordinate with the manpower of Sky Country.”

Qi Rui again mentioned the third batch of support coming from Rock Country. Sky Country’s Spirit Field resources were even better than Rock Country’s, especially with Yun Meng Ze nearby; even though Mo River had not yet been fully developed, the annual rainfall was still substantial.

Chapter 1219: Turbulent undercurrents_2

However, most of the Spirit Fields were the lands by the shore of Yun Meng Ze, basically all occupied by the local Cultivator Families. Zhou Wangshen followed Chen Mobai's command, not seizing those lands but instead leading the Sect Disciples to open up new areas.

But the Spirit Plant Masters from Sky Country surely couldn't compare to those from the Xiao Nanshan Lineage.

Moreover, most of the manpower was dispatched by Zhou Wangshen to dig canals, resulting in Sky Country lagging far behind Rock Country in terms of Spirit Field development and Spirit Rice cultivation.

"Who is this Han Shizhu?" Zhou Wangshen asked Qi Rui, since the previous two batches of laborers had been led by Foundation Establishment Practitioners, how come the third batch suddenly had Qi Practitioners instead.

"What, Brother Zhou doesn't know... She is Zhuo Shimei's disciple, and as long as she achieves Foundation Establishment, she will become the third-generation Eldest Disciple of the Xiao Nanshan Lineage."

Upon hearing this from Qi Rui, Zhou Wangshen immediately realized.

He had heard of Han Zhiling's reputation.

"I will have Bing Yan personally welcome her."

Zhou Wangshen didn't look down on Han Zhiling just because she was only in the stage of Qi Cultivation; after all, being accepted by Xiao Nanshan meant she must have been granted permission by the Sect Leader.

Plus, most importantly, Chen Mobai was still in Sky Country.

Once the third batch led by Han Zhiling arrived, the Qi Practitioners from Sky Country and Rock Country finally balanced out.

But those Foundation Establishment Practitioners, since they all volunteered to help Zhuo Ming, Chen Mobai could not really give orders to them.

He could only have Spirit Treasure Pavilion provide more conveniences for Zhou Wangshen, listing more tasks from Sky Country; whether or not Zhou Wangshen could retain them when they came would depend on his tactics.

When Han Zhiling arrived, Chen Mobai had just finished turning all the Green Wood Evil into Green Flames Sword Sha.

As his chosen third-generation Eldest Disciple, Chen Mobai naturally wanted to meet her.

Not long after Han Zhiling was accepted by Xiao Nanshan, she came to Rock Country with Zhuo Ming.

Her talent was undeniable, and combined with diligent hard work, she had already become a Rank-2 Spirit Plant Master, specializing in Fire Spirit Rice.

This was the reason Zhuo Ming had her lead the team this time.

Chen Mobai's meeting with Han Zhiling was not to assess this aspect, but to ask if she had any doubts about her cultivation, for he was already inferior to Zhuo Ming in the field of Spirit Plants; it was better to stick to his strengths.

Han Zhiling had already reached the Ninth Layer of Qi Cultivation, but she felt her practice was not profound enough and wanted to wait another two years before attempting Foundation Establishment.

Chen Mobai's personal inquiry naturally led her to ask all the questions she had accumulated over the days.

Chen Mobai, renowned in the Eastern Desolation as a Great Sage and Good Teacher, easily guided a Qi Practitioner.

After some answers, Han Zhiling no longer had any doubts about using Melting Fire Cultivation to establish her Foundation and felt confident that once she reached Qi Cultivation Perfection, she would be ready to take a Foundation Building Pill.

However, after Foundation Establishment, the Melting Fire Cultivation would reach its limit, and Han Zhiling would either have to cultivate the Earth's Core True Fire Technique from Back to Sky Valley or switch to another Fire Attribute Technique.

Chen Mobai also asked her about her own thoughts on this.

Han Zhiling hesitated, expressing her admiration for the founder's formidable Sword Dao and her aspiration for the Red Flame Sword Jue.

"It's not impossible, but right now you should focus on Foundation Establishment. I'll take care of the subsequent Cultivation Techniques for you," he reassured her.

If Chen Mobai was willing, creating a mantra to bridge the transition from Melting Fire Cultivation to Red Flame Sword Jue wouldn't be difficult, especially since he had the Formless Puppet at his disposal.

Thus, he did not make Han Zhiling switch her Cultivation Technique at the moment. After all, she had practiced Melting Fire Cultivation for the better part of her life; making a switch at the Ninth Layer of Qi Cultivation would certainly affect her Foundation Establishment.

It was better to wait until after achieving Foundation Establishment to consider changing her Cultivation Technique.

With his assurance, Han Zhiling was completely at ease.

After the exchange with his granddaughter-student, Chen Mobai left Sky Country.

He didn't continue to Rainbow Country, but instead planned to return and master Extreme Sun Slash.

Unknown to Chen Mobai, his whereabouts were always being monitored by others.

After he left the Eastern Desolation Plateau, Nanxuan sect's Fang Xuanyang's face grew solemn as he put down the letter that had just arrived from the East Barbarians.

The letter contained the latest instructions from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace for him.

The negotiations between Golden Wind Ancestor and Ku Zhu had broken down, and both sides were now preparing to mobilize all of their forces for a major conflict.

As a Golden Core Cultivator, Fang Xuanyang would naturally be called back.

However, before returning, Golden Wind Ancestor had another directive for the Eastern Wilderness.

That was to make this place a retreat for Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace.

Should the war against Kong Sang Valley fail, their remaining people could withdraw here to lie in wait, preparing for a comeback.

But to turn the Eastern Wilderness into Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace's fallback strategy, the biggest issue was the Divine Wood Sect.

After all, according to the original strategy of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, once Mountain Shaker Peak was destroyed, they would step in to gradually wear down Rock Country, Sky Country, and others, seizing the Eastern Desolation Plateau, which connected to the Land of Ruins, to establish a branch.

Unfortunately, the resistance from Divine Wood Sect erupted beyond Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace's expectations. Both Nanxuan Jing and Zhao Xuankang died; even the highly-anticipated Xuan Shu arrived only to return severely wounded.

When Fang Xuanyang was dispatched, he too was trembling with fear, deeply worried that Chen Mobai and the other three Golden Core Cultivators would come knocking on his door to slaughter him.

Thankfully, the reputation of Golden Wind Ancestor of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace still managed to hold sway.

But from this, Fang Xuanyang guessed one thing, that Zhou Shengqing must not have succeeded in his "Nascent Soul Formation."

A major sect with a Nascent Soul powerhouse would never allow any other Nascent Soul forces to establish a branch within their territory.

Since he guessed this much, Fang Xuanyang naturally thought of a way to verify it.

Thus, he founded the Restoration Society and summoned over the Cultivators from the East Barbarians who had been annihilated by Divine Wood Sect to draw on their connections in the Eastern Wilderness and continually gather intelligence.

Among these, the Restoration Society encountered another secret organization when they reached Rainbow Country. Fang Xuanyang personally made a move to test them but backed off with trepidation.

Yet, this organization also had deep-seated hatred for Divine Wood Sect and had even buried many of its members with significant identities and statuses among the major sects of the Eastern Wilderness.

Fang Xuanyang immediately collaborated with this organization and indeed obtained more detailed and specific information about Divine Wood Sect.

Unfortunately, this organization was not cautious in its actions. The Killing God of Divine Wood Sect traced them, drew his sword, and ascended Liu Jia Mountain, leading to another East Wilderness Major Sect being annihilated.

Fang Xuanyang had mixed feelings about this; he rejoiced that after the fall of Liu Jia Mountain, the Foundation Establishment Practitioners led by Yu Changjian weren't completely exterminated. He managed to find and recruit those who concealed themselves under his command.

His worry stemmed from the terrifying strength that Divine Wood Sect displayed in the process of conquering Liu Jia Mountain, which made him dare not command the Restoration Society to take any further actions.

If possible, Fang Xuanyang hoped that things would continue peacefully as they were.

But sadly, the orders from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace obliged him to prepare for a falling out with Divine Wood Sect.

Fortunately, as a Golden Core Cultivator, he had some semblance of prestige; this letter sought his opinion.

Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace planned to sweep through the Eastern Wilderness before the major showdown with Kong Sang Valley, at the very least, to eradicate Divine Wood Sect, their greatest enemy, to prevent possible retaliation in the future should they retreat to the Eastern Wilderness after a defeat.

And now, supporting Divine Wood Sect was the key figure, the young Sect Leader Chen Guixian.

As long as he was slain, the rest was not a concern.

For this, Fang Xuanyang mobilized all the hidden agents of the Restoration Society, keeping a close watch on Chen Mobai's movements.

He didn't consider himself a match, so he waited for a more powerful Golden Core Cultivator from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace to arrive.

Only this time they hadn't been quick enough.

Chen Mobai didn't stay long on the Eastern Desolation Plateau and had returned home.

Fang Xuanyang remained very calm about this. After all, his Restoration Society had a highly placed mole in Giant Tree Ridge who could inform him at any moment of Chen Mobai's next visit to the Eastern Desolation Plateau.

Next time, when Sect Master Chen visited, he'd also take out Chen's prized disciple, and that Heavenly Spiritual Root as well.

Completely severing any chance for Divine Wood Sect to rise again!

Chapter 1220: The Extreme Sun Slash Succeeds

In truth, according to Fang Xuanyang's original plan, it would have been best to wait another twenty or thirty years, until the excavation of Two Rivers was successful and the entire Eastern Desolation Plateau had been fully developed by the Divine Wood Sect, before the great army of the Xuan Xiao Dao Palace would come.

At first, Fang Xuanyang could not comprehend what Sect Master Chen of the Divine Wood Sect was up to.

Whether it was the establishment of Longevity Academy, the real estate development in Northern Abyss City, or pioneering the Eastern Desolation Plateau, in the eyes of Fang Xuanyang, a native of the Tianhe Realm, all seemed like pointless toiling.

But now, the tangible results forced him to admit that he had been shortsighted.

The Restoration Society had the most informants within Northern Abyss City, and since the prices of real estate and the rent of shops in this first Immortal City of the Eastern Desolation Plateau were transparent, Fang Xuanyang easily calculated how much Spirit Stone the Divine Wood Sect had earned from Northern Abyss City.

Then he became envious and could not help but emulate them, setting up South Xuan Real Estate in the Treasure Color Market.

To deceive some Loose Cultivators in need of Foundation Building Pills, he also earned a considerable amount of Spirit Stones — at least more than he ever had back in the East Barbarians.

But when compared to the Divine Wood Sect, it was still insignificant.

Later, when it came to the grand project of excavating Two Rivers and developing the Eastern Desolation Plateau, Fang Xuanyang initially failed to see the point, but he learned to watch and wait.

Now, after more than five years, Fang Xuanyang finally understood.

If the Eastern Desolation Plateau were fully developed according to that Sect Master Chen's plans, it would be a veritable cornucopia—an endlessly mining, never-exhausting large Spirit Stone Mine.

After understanding this, Fang Xuanyang's respect for Chen Mobai grew even more.

This guy was not only supremely talented in cultivation but also a prodigy in managing a sect.

It was just a pity that in this backwater place of the Eastern Wilderness, his vision and approach were still too limited.

Fang Xuanyang still believed that the most important thing for Cultivators was to enhance their own strength and realm. With Chen Mobai's talent, engaging in these matters was pure waste of time and energy.

The rise of any great sect is due to the emergence of high-order Cultivators; there has never been a Sect that rose solely because it had extensive Spirit Fields, abundant Spirit Stones, or a large territory.

In fact, these could even become the root cause of disasters. Without the protection of powerful Cultivators, no matter how much wealth or how many Spirit Stones one has, in the end, they would become a feast for the larger sects to devour.

This was exactly the mindset of Fang Xuanyang now; he recognized that he had misjudged before, but now he thought this was even better.

Because the fruits of so many years of laborious management and development by the Divine Wood Sect on the Eastern Desolation Plateau would soon all belong to the Xuan Xiao Dao Palace.

If it weren't for the impending war with Kong Sang Valley and the accurate intelligence just received from a mole within the Divine Wood Sect, Fang Xuanyang might even draft a memorial convincing the Golden Wind Ancestor to give the Divine Wood Sect more time to develop, so their harvest would be richer.

With this thought, Fang Xuanyang took out that carefully stored piece of intelligence and reviewed it once more, reaffirming his plan.

An informant of the Restoration Society within the Divine Wood Sect mentioned that the nature's spiritual energy around Giant Tree Ridge had recently surged wildly toward the location of three pieces of Everlife Wood.

This was clearly a sign that someone was breaking through a realm or perhaps had mastered some formidable Divine Power Technique.

Subsequently, the mole discovered through various investigations that the surge of nature's spiritual energy was due to none other than Sect Master Chen breaking through to the Mid Core Formation Stage.

Upon seeing this information, Fang Xuanyang was initially shocked—after all, Chen Mobai had only been in the Core Formation stage for sixteen years.

To know that when he was in Xuan Xiao Dao Palace, he was regarded as a talent second only to Taoist Child Xuan Shu, but even so, it took him nearly thirty years to break through to the Mid Foundation Establishment Stage.

Such a comparison revealed just how astonishing Sect Master Chen's talent was.

It was also for this reason that Fang Xuanyang made up his mind not to wait any longer, preparing to summon people from the Xuan Xiao Dao Palace and strangle the most dazzling Sword Dao Genius of the Eastern Wilderness in a millennium.

...

Chen Mobai was, of course, unaware that he had been targeted.

He had returned to Giant Tree Ridge and begun condensing the nine Flame Sun Slashes, ready to combine them into one, elevating it to the “Extreme Sun Slash”!

In the Longevity Wood Dojo, Chen Mobai floated in midair, with the nine Flame Sun Slashes suspended behind him under the control of his Divine Sense, forming a perfect circle.

The dazzling golden glow twinkled intermittently, slightly obscuring his figure, making him resemble an effervescent sun shimmering in midair.

If he hadn’t contained it, the Sect Disciples in Giant Tree Ridge might have been able to look up to the sky and see two Suns, large and small.

It was precisely because of the disturbance caused by his Cultivation Practice that Chen Mobai chose to stay in Giant Tree Ridge, rather than returning to the more suitable Danxia Mountain.

A blaze of pure white flame burned in the palm of his hand—this was Great Sun Fire.

Nine orbs of Golden Flame, at his command, began slowly rotating around the white blaze of Great Sun Fire at the center.

Soon, strands of flame spilled out from the Golden Flame, infusing into the Great Sun Fire.

Chen Mobai, who was already well-versed in the Flame Sword Charm, immediately injected his own Pure Yang Spiritual Power into it.

This refinement process originally required Red Flame Spiritual Power.

According to the Red Flame Sword Jue, to elevate Flame Sun Slash to Extreme Sun Slash, it would take at least three uninterrupted years of persistent refining with Dan fire and Spiritual Power infusion.