

World 1221

Chapter 1221: Extreme Sun Slash Success_2

But Chen Mobai's Pure Yang Spiritual Power was of higher quality, and it even encompassed all the characteristics of Red Flame Spiritual Power, so this step was greatly shortened.

One could see the two distinctly incompatible and clearly separated scorching energies in the palm of his hand begin to slowly merge...

One year later!

A faint white light that twisted the void itself danced forth.

The white light was like lightning, dazzlingly bright!

Unable to resist, Chen Mobai reached out to grasp it. In an instant, the light burst forth, its terrible sharpness and intense heat almost too much to handle, forcing him to release it with a flick to the side.

With a hiss!

One could see the limb of the Rank-4 Everlife Wood, cleanly severed, falling toward the ground.

The power of that white light clearly hadn't been fully unleashed, as it cut straight into the main trunk of the Everlife Wood before Chen Mobai's astonished gaze, nearly splitting the thick trunk.

However, at that moment, the power of the white light had also been exhausted.

Chen Mobai flew to the trunk's wound and saw that searing white sparks were still burning on it.

But the Everlife Wood was, after all, a Fourth Order Spirit Plant, tempered by Green-sun Fire for hundreds of years, and its resistance to flames was extremely high. Streams of greenish Qi accompanied by the vibrant sap of the Longevity Tree emerged, quickly covering and extinguishing the sparks.

This also let Chen Mobai realize the power of his Extreme Sun Slash.

In the Eastern Wilderness, magic weapons and Spirit Talismans below Rank-4 were already something he could ignore; as for those on the Rank-4 level, unless they could suppress the attribute of Extreme Sun Slash, it was estimated they would have a hard time withstanding it.

As newly mastered Extreme Sun Slash was at his disposal, while Chen Mobai was contemplating how to train his control, a clear and agile female cultivator flew up.

“Sect Leader!”

Gu Yan’s expression was respectful as she held a charred twig in her long, snow-white hands—it was the very limb that the Extreme Sun Slash had cut down, which she found below while extracting Longevity Tree Sap.

This was Fourth Order Spirit Material, invaluable beyond measure, so she immediately presented it to him.

“Practicing sword techniques, the power was somewhat beyond expectations.”

Seeing it was Gu Yan, Chen Mobai didn’t bother to hide it and spoke out.

After hearing this, Gu Yan looked up just in time to see the arm-length cut on the trunk of the Longevity Wood beside Chen Mobai, her face revealing a look of shock.

One must know that for these Foundation Establishment practitioners, even if they went all out, they couldn’t pluck a single leaf from a Fourth Order Divine Wood.

So, even though they knew as soon as the bark of the Longevity Wood was cut, sap would ooze out, they still needed a Secret Technique to extract it.

Because even Golden Core Cultivators were not able to break through the bark of this Fourth Order Spirit Wood.

At most, they could sever some small branches or take a few leaves.

But now, Gu Yan saw this Rank-4 Spirit Wood, revered as a Divine Tree within their Sect, not only had its bark been slashed, but it seemed the main trunk had been deeply cut as well.

The charred wound on the trunk and the sap that overflowed from it made Gu Yan worry whether she would still be needed by the Sect Leader in the future.

“Has anything major happened in the Sect recently?”

Chen Mobai asked. While he was in seclusion, only Gu Yan and disciples from Xiao Nanshan were allowed to enter this Longevity Wood Dojo.

Gu Yan, who was there for a long time, would usually be the first to be informed of any matters by the likes of Yue Zutao and Liu Wenbo when they came to visit.

Every time Chen Mobai finished his cultivation practice and came down for a breather, Gu Yan would tell him any important matters if she encountered him.

“Elder Liu came by several times, but he didn’t say what for.”

After listening, Chen Mobai nodded slightly and then had Gu Yan go down to notify the Sect that he had emerged from seclusion.

It wasn’t long before Yue Zutao came over first.

During the year Chen Mobai was in closed-door cultivation practicing Extreme Sun Slash, nothing of great importance that required his attention happened in the Eastern Wilderness, but Yue Zutao still reported a piece of news that pleased him.

That news was about Zheng Deming, a Sect disciple who had long been stationed in Yun Meng Ze, who exchanged for a Rank-3 Immortal Peach Fruit and achieved Foundation Establishment Completion in his cultivation realm.

Chen Mobai was naturally aware of this person; after all, when he first came to the Eastern Wilderness to earn Spirit Stones in Yun Meng Ze, it was under his command on Green Light Island.

Chen Mobai: "How old is Zheng Deming?"

Yue Zutao: "This year, Zheng Deming is exactly 170 years old."

Hearing this, Chen Mobai couldn't help but feel a twinge of regret. According to the theories of the Immortal Gate, a Foundation Establishment practitioner is still in the peak of their Essence, Qi, and Spirit before the age of 150, with a higher possibility of breaking through major realms.

At 170 years old, Zheng Deming has reached the Completion of Foundation Establishment, and since he doesn't practice the Longevity Scripture, his hopes of reaching Core Formation are probably slim.

However, it's certainly a cause for celebration for the sect to have another Foundation Establishment Completion practitioner.

Moreover, Zheng Deming has been stationed in the Cloud Dream Marsh for many years, slaying demonic beasts, and his cumulative contribution to the sect is said to be the highest among Foundation Establishment practitioners; it's just that he hasn't received the same background as Zhou Fu, so previously all his contributions were exchanged for cultivation resources at the Spirit Treasure Pavilion.

And now, after reaching Foundation Establishment Completion, he only has the goal of Core Formation left.

For this, he will surely slay more demonic beasts, driving the rest of the Divine Wood Sect's Foundation Establishment practitioners who seek Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine to become even more involved.

“What a pity Zheng Deming practices the Yellow Sand Sword Art, which has different properties from my cultivation techniques...”

Chen Mobai, who enjoyed mentoring others, regretted that he couldn't offer guidance.

Zheng Deming was a loose cultivator before joining the Divine Wood Sect, and even after joining, he didn't change his cultivation techniques, so if he wishes to reach Core Formation in the future, he will have to rely more on himself.

Nevertheless, Chen Mobai still had Yue Zutao notify Zheng Deming to return to the sect for a visit, intending to impart the sect's Core Formation Insights to him, which could save him a lot of detours.

“Sect Leader, should we not test him further?”

Yue Zutao hesitated for a moment before opening his mouth to speak, revealing the locally prevalent mentality.

“Why?”

“After all, Elder Zheng entered the sect as a loose cultivator, not a direct descendant of our Divine Wood Sect...”

Yue Zutao's words were cut short when he saw Chen Mobai shake his head in disappointment, rendering him unable to continue.

“I too entered the sect as a loose cultivator. According to you, shouldn't Fu Shixiong have tested me thoroughly before imparting anything to me?”

“This...”

After hearing Chen Mobai's words, Yue Zutao's face turned white, and he was speechless.

However, it wasn't his fault, as this was the custom in the Eastern Wilderness. Insights on breaking through major realms were fundamentally what made great sects what they were.

Loose cultivators lack these things, which is why, although many strive to reach Qi Cultivation Perfection, one in ten thousand can break through to Foundation Establishment.

As for loose cultivators reaching Core Formation, the Eastern Wilderness has yet to see one.

Zheng Deming cannot be considered as someone nurtured by the Divine Wood Sect since his cultivation resources were primarily fought for by himself in the Cloud Dream Marsh, unlike Xie Yuntian's noble background.

Therefore, when Yue Zutao heard that Chen Mobai intended to impart Core Formation Insights to him, he couldn't help but speak out of turn.

"Before each cultivator in the sect is transmitted insights, they take a Dao Heart oath, so there's absolutely no need to worry about leaks, and by imparting it to him in advance, we can better cultivate his recognition and sense of belonging to the sect."

After hearing Chen Mobai's words, Yue Zutao's expression cleared. However, this was also because he had never experienced such a matter himself; after all, he wasn't qualified to take part in the transmission of Core Formation Insights before.

While Yue Zutao personally went to notify Zheng Deming at the Cloud Dream Marsh, Liu Wenbo, upon learning of Chen Mobai's emergence from seclusion, also returned.

"Greetings, Master!"

Liu Wenbo came over to pay his respects, then spoke of two matters.

The first was that during the year Chen Mobai was in seclusion cultivating the Extreme Sun Slash, Zhuo Ming's Ninefold Law Body achieved a breakthrough to the fourth layer.

This meant that her physical strength was now comparable to a Second Order High Grade defensive magic weapon.

Combined with the All-Things Altruistic Cauldron, basic Foundation Establishment practitioners would no longer be able to penetrate her defenses.

“That’s great news. If Ming’er could cultivate the Ninefold Law Body to the fourth layer before reaching Core Formation, then reaching Core Formation shouldn’t be a problem at all.”

Chen Mobai was also very pleased. He calculated with his fingers; the last time Zhuo Ming’s Ninefold Law Body broke through along with her cultivation realm was exactly ten years ago.

This speed was already quite fast. The influence of the Spiritual Root on the Body Refining Technique isn’t as significant as it is on Spiritual Power. Zhuo Ming’s rapid progression is mainly due to her having the same abundant resources as her master.

The Superior Quality Clear Bamboo Spirit Rice she cultivated, originally meant for Golden Core Cultivators, was of no interest to Chen Mobai, so he left it all for her to use in body forging.

Precious Third Order Spirit Rice, along with a sufficient amount of Second Order High Grade Spirit Rice, the endless supply of demonic beast meat sent from Cloud Dream Marsh, and the Longevity Tree Sap gifted by Chen Mobai, allowed Zhuo Ming to make such rapid progress to the fourth layer of the Ninefold Law Body without consuming elixirs.

After sharing the good news, Liu Wenbo’s expression became serious as he started discussing the second matter.

Chapter 1222: “Song Huangdae said that the person contacted him again. This time, they asked him to closely monitor your schedule, Master, and to notify them immediately if there are signs of you leaving.”

Upon hearing Liu Wenbo’s words, Chen Mobai couldn’t help but raise his brow slightly, his mouth curling into a cold smile.

To monitor his movements—they were planning to make a move against him!

Just as the Extreme Sun Slash was perfected, he needed a few people to test its sharpness, and now someone delivered themselves to his doorstep.

“Now, openly in the Eastern Desolation, there are only so many at the Core Formation stage. To target me, if Nascent Soul Cultivators don’t come, at least three of the same rank are needed. I wonder where the Restoration Society is getting so many people from? It seems that Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace is about to make a move!”

Over the years, through Song Huangdae’s infiltration, Chen Mobai had discovered that the commands of the Restoration Society were consolidated to the Nanxuan sect at Treasure Color Mountain.

In the Eastern Desolation, things didn’t require as much evidence as the Immortal Gates did. With this discovery, Chen Mobai directly attributed the Restoration Society to the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace.

After all, in the Eastern Desolation, after annihilating Shake Mountain Peak and Liu Jia Mountain, no one or power dared to probe the Divine Wood Sect like this anymore.

The Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, having Nascent Soul Cultivators, was different. Although Fang Xuanyang was isolated in terms of power in the Eastern Desolation, with Golden Wind Ancestor behind him, he probably still looked down on the Eastern Desolation and was the most likely and motivated person to establish the Restoration Society.

After realizing this, Chen Mobai’s first thought was to take Mo Douguang and Fu Zongjue to Treasure Color Mountain to also slaughter Fang Xuanyang.

However, he hadn’t become arrogant to the point of disregarding everything. Although the Divine Wood Sect had fought a major war with the Nanxuan sect, after all, it was the Nanxuan sect that was in the wrong at that time.

If he went now and killed Fang Xuanyang without reason, Golden Wind Ancestor would definitely interfere if he wanted to remain influential in the East Land, and would send Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace Cultivators to the Eastern Desolation for revenge.

According to Chen Mobai's plan, he intended to wait until Zhou Shengqing's Nascent Soul Formation, and then deal with Fang Xuanyang and the Restoration Society.

But then he encountered the unexpected event of Ku Zhu returning from Nascent Soul Formation.

To avoid startling the snake, he could only let Fang Xuanyang live a few more years.

However, unexpectedly, his kindness was not appreciated at all by Fang Xuanyang, who now even planned to make a move against him.

Thinking of this, Chen Mobai silently took out the talisman paper given to him by Zhou Shengqing.

Although after mastering the Extreme Sun Slash, basically no Golden Core Cultivator could compete against him, the always cautious Chen Mobai decided to be more careful and also called Zhou Shengqing.

"Tell Song Huangdae to inform the Restoration Society that I will be inspecting the Eastern Desolation Plateau at the end of next month."

"Yes, Master!"

Liu Wenbo nodded in agreement, but just as he was leaving, his face suddenly showed hesitation.

"Is there anything else?"

Seeing his eldest disciple's expression, Chen Mobai couldn't help but ask.

"Master, after the destruction of the Restoration Society, Du Feng, who was in contact with Song Huangdae, will no longer be of any use. Should he be dealt with?"

Since Song Huangdae had accurately transmitted several pieces of intelligence, he had almost gained complete trust from the Restoration Society.

And last time, when Zhou Shengqing broke through to the Nascent Soul stage, causing a surge in nature's..."

..." Du Feng, seeking to find the cause, once again employed the method of contacting Song Huangdae, letting this disciple from Xiao Nanshan seek the truth.

Song Huangdae, who had long since turned from darkness to light, naturally immediately informed his Master Liu Wenbo, who then reported to Chen Mobai.

It was also Chen Mobai who proactively let Song Huangdae divulge that he had broken through to the Mid Foundation Establishment stage to cover up the fact that Zhou Shengqing had transformed into a Legal Body Nascent Soul, and at the same time, it was also to fish for information.

Clearly, the information about Chen Mobai reaching the Mid Foundation Establishment stage was of extremely great value.

Du Feng, after obtaining it, couldn't wait to pass it on, then was discovered by Chen Mobai who was already prepared.

However, after Song Huangdae lured out this spy, Chen Mobai did not deal with him immediately.

The reason, naturally, was to be able to deliver a "precise" piece of intelligence, capturing Fang Xuanyang and the entire Restoration Society in one fell swoop.

Now, Liu Wenbo meant just that.

Chen Mobai, thinking of his and Zhou Shengqing's forthcoming action, which would definitely completely fall out with Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, realized there indeed was no need to keep Du Feng, an undercover agent, and nodded.

“Du Feng is a cultivator who survived the Five Elements Sect’s factional war, and his cultivation level is also at the Foundation Establishment Middle Stage. You are not his match; I will arrange a more powerful expert for you.”

Though Liu Wenbo, this eldest disciple, was mediocre in dueling, Chen Mobai wasn’t very reassured. Fortunately, Zheng Deming was returning to impart his Core Formation insights, so he would let him and Liu Wenbo go together to finish off Du Feng.

...

Wind Rain Hamlet.

Zhou Shengqing and Nu Jiang were playing chess, while Mo Douguang was drinking tea next to them.

At that moment, Zhou Shengqing’s face froze,

After placing the white piece, Nu Jiang saw Zhou Shengqing’s expression and couldn’t help but ask,

“Some guy pretending to be an obedient grandson no longer wants to pretend and is thinking about biting back.”

Zhou Shengqing sneered and placed his chess piece down,

“Oh, so the elder brother has finally shown his true capabilities after ‘Nascent Soul Formation,’ but this might affect our future plans to reclaim the Five Elements Sect!”

Nu Jiang, however, thought of another problem. Once Zhou Shengqing’s ‘Nascent Soul Formation’ was exposed, Zhou Ye would definitely be highly alert; entering the Hunyuan Immortal City might face some complications.

“I was only in the past suppressing the formation for Junior Brother Chen, and if it were me who made a move on Core Formation, there wouldn’t be any noise at all.”

Zhou Shengqing said a very confident phrase, causing Nu Jiang to nod repeatedly after hearing it.

The vast gap between Nascent Soul and Core Formation indeed warranted such a statement.

However, Zhou Shengqing had not mentioned another matter to Nu Jiang; his main reason for going there was to prevent the Golden Wind Ancestor from shamelessly coming in person.

“With Junior Brother Chen’s Sword Dao Realm, if the opponent is merely a Golden Core Cultivator, there’s absolutely no need for us to make a move.”

Mo Douguang couldn’t help but comment after hearing this.

Chen Mobai had a Fourth Order Sword at his disposal. Among all the Core Formation cultivators in the Eastern Wilderness, he was probably the only one who could rival them with the realm of Sword Wipeout Thunder Sound.

“One on one, naturally no one is a match for Junior Brother Chen, but what if there’s more than one?”

Zhou Shengqing uttered a phrase that surprised both Mo Douguang and Nu Jiang.

Above the Eastern Wilderness, there were only a handful of Core Formation cultivators not from their faction; moreover, given Zhou Ye’s character, he definitely wouldn’t leave the Hunyuan Immortal City.

“Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace!?”

A flash of realization crossed Nu Jiang’s mind, guessing the truth.

“Ha ha ha, Third Junior Brother is indeed clever. I hope the Golden Wind old ghost doesn’t send too many Core Formation cultivators; otherwise, if all are defeated by Junior Brother Chen, I fear he’ll directly surrender facing the Kong Sang Valley!”

Amidst Zhou Shengqing’s laughter, he completed his last chess move, decisively defeating Nu Jiang’s big dragon.

...

In Dongyi Mingjing Mountain.

In the grand hall of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, the Golden Wind Ancestor sat upright in his seat, flanked by six Core Formation cultivators in golden robes, each with distinct appearances.

“This time, the assassination of Chen Guixian from Divine Wood Sect will be handed over to Xuan Shu and Xuan Qi; you both must ensure he doesn’t escape. In coordination with Fang Xuanyang, execute him on the spot, then clean up the Eastern Desolation Plateau to establish our sect’s retreat.”

The Golden Wind Ancestor, with a stern demeanor, selected two individuals and Xuan Shu along with another elderly man of curious appearance stepped forward, respectfully saluting him.

“Ancestor, Chen Guixian has a Fourth Order Sword, and his cultivation level has now broken through to the Mid Foundation Establishment Stage. He will clearly be more troublesome. I’m worried about repeating the same scenario as with Ku Zhu. Perhaps we should also include Sisters Xuan Yi and Xuan Wo. With the five of us taking action and setting up the Golden Light Array, we surely won’t fail.”

The old man named Xuan Qi, evidently of a cautious character, had already reviewed the intelligence sent by Fang Xuanyang and voiced his opinion immediately after being selected.

“Just Chen Guixian, I alone am sufficient; Brother Xuan Qi can support me.”

But before the Golden Wind Ancestor could speak, Xuan Shu calmly made a very proud remark.

“Junior Brother, unless I am remembering wrong, the last time you went to the Eastern Wilderness, you had an encounter with the newly formed Core Chen Guixian. With your late stage of Core Formation, you could only manage a draw with him.”

Xuan Qi, furrowing his brow, mentioned something that caused Xuan Shu’s expression to turn cold.

“That Magic Duel, Chen Guixian was backed by the Array of Ten Thousand Woods, which is why I didn’t pursue and thus maintained a tie. Moreover, I have already gauged his limits from that encounter. His

maximum capability was swinging that Fourth Order Sword thrice. Now although he has advanced to the Mid Foundation Establishment Stage, in these sixteen years, I have also broken through and attained the strongest realm just below Nascent Soul!”

As Xuan Shu spoke, his eyes shimmered like two golden stars, radiating dazzling light. Then an overwhelming aura erupted from him that startled all the Core Formation cultivators present in the hall.

“This is...”

Xuan Qi, being the oldest Core Formation cultivator of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, instantly sensed Xuan Shu’s current realm, widening his eyes in both shock and joy.

“Zhou Shengqing didn’t kill me, but instead allowed me to reach Perfection in Core Formation. I will repay this debt with Chen Guixian’s head and the downfall of Divine Wood Sect.”

The aura of Perfection that burst from Xuan Shu, along with his confident words, brought smiles to the faces of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace’s Core Formation cultivators who had been under the shadow of Ku Zhu in the Kong Sang Valley for some time.

Even the two who usually clashed with Xuan Shu were genuinely hoping that this Taoist Child could resolve the grudge in his heart in the Eastern Wilderness.

“Once you’ve cleared the Eastern Wilderness, I will prepare the resources for your Nascent Soul Formation, hoping you won’t disappoint me again!”

Golden Wind Ancestor promised as he spoke.

Upon hearing this, Xuan Shu immediately turned around and respectfully saluted,

“Yes, Master!”

Chapter 1223: Reencountering Xuan Shu This year, Chen Mobai celebrated his sixtieth birthday.

Before heading to the Eastern Desolation Plateau, he made a special trip back to the Immortal Gate since many relatives and friends had sent messages to congratulate him.

The Immortal Gate paid great attention to one's sixtieth birthday celebration. Originally, according to Tang Panchui's wishes, it was to be grandly celebrated, but Chen Mobai, being naturally reserved, only invited his relatives for a simple family banquet.

After dining with his family, Chen Mobai joined Yan Bingxuan and other friends for a meal.

Unfortunately, many people were overly reverent towards him.

This made Chen Mobai feel a sense of loneliness and desolation.

After the dinner, he and Yan Bingxuan, the only one he could still interact with normally, had a nighttime snack and shared his lament about the decreasing number of close friends.

The next morning, after making phone calls to friends who couldn't attend, Chen Mobai returned to Giant Tree Ridge.

In Zhou Shengqing's Longevity Wood Dojo, he calmly brewed tea and served Chen Mobai, Mo Douguang, and Fu Zongjue.

"Junior Brother Mo should return to Golden Cliff tomorrow, and it's best to make some noise when you go back, let people know," Zhou Shengqing suggested.

Now, Mo Douguang, publicly recognized as the foremost Golden Core Sword Cultivator in the Eastern Wilderness, who possessed formidable combat power, was the person the Divine Wood Sect's adversaries most dreaded.

If Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace intended to kill Chen Mobai, they would definitely ascertain his whereabouts to avoid encountering him unexpectedly.

Surprised by Zhou Shengqing's arrangement, Mo Douguang nonetheless did not object and simply nodded his agreement.

"Junior Brother Fu should also stay in the Sect, letting others think that Junior Brother Chen whimsically wants to inspect the progress on the plateau," Zhou Shengqing continued.

Fu Zongjue also nodded his approval. With Zhou Shengqing around, unless the Golden Wind Ancestor personally came from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, even if all six Golden Cores except Fang Xuanyang attacked the Eastern Wilderness, they would be easily defeated.

Zhou Shengqing suggested, "Before we leave, let's have someone take care of Du Feng, as he's no longer of any use."

Chen Mobai responded, "Yes, I've already made arrangements."

Zhou Shengqing presented a Rank-4 Spirit Leaf Talisman he had refined, "Junior Brother Chen, since you're risking yourself, take this for now to guard against the suicidal attempts of Xuan Xiao's Golden Core Cultivators."

Chen Mobai thanked him, "Thank you, Senior Brother."

The four discussed the possibility of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace losing too many Golden Core Cultivators in the Eastern Wilderness and being unable to confront Kong Sang Valley in the East Barbarians.

"Now, even if the Golden Wind Ancestor personally leads all cultivators from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, relying on the Large Formation and terrain advantage, we are confident we can hold them off. After Brother Zhou's 'Nascent Soul Formation', we need not fear anymore. Besides, having cultivated a foundation for a thousand years, the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace in the East Barbarians wouldn't easily give up until the bitter end," Zhou Shengqing asserted.

Chen Mobai voiced his opinion on this, gaining nods of agreement from Zhou Shengqing and others.

“This time, since Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace is actively targeting Junior Brother Chen, we cannot endure any longer. After we eliminate Fang Xuanyang and others, the Sect will mobilize and prepare for battle against Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace.”

“If Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace indeed comes from the East Barbarians, the first battlefield they encounter will be on the Eastern Desolation Plateau. The Northern Abyss City’s Mount Meru Nine Palaces Formation currently is only Rank-3. If it cannot be upgraded to Rank-4, it may not withstand a battle involving Nascent Soul Level power.”

“For a decisive strategic victory, and to ensure the Eastern Wilderness’s inland regions remain unaffected by war, we need to keep the battle confined to the plateau, preventing Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace’s forces from descending.”

In the room was also a three-dimensional topographical map of the entire Eastern Desolate Frontier produced by the Spirit Vein Division, which Zhou Shengqing pointed at as he discussed contingency plans should war with Sky Country and Rock Country occur.

“Can we strike first and halt the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace army at The Ruins?”

Chen Mobai’s remark made Zhou Shengqing and the others reflect. Although The Ruins were fraught with danger, rumored even to harbor Rank-4 demonic beings, pushing the battlefield there would be more beneficial than detrimental to the Divine Wood Sect and the whole Eastern Wilderness.

After all, the Eastern Desolation Plateau had been developed over many years, just reaching a point of yielding constant benefits; a major battle here would likely destroy much of Zhuo Ming and others’ hard work.

Furthermore, if a battle involving Nascent Soul Level power truly erupted, the Northern Abyss City, only shielded by a Rank-3 Large Formation, could potentially be leveled.

“After eliminating the incoming forces from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, I’ll personally visit The Ruins to check for any dangerous demonic beasts or evil entities,” Zhou Shengqing declared, a Nascent Soul Realm cultivator proficient in the defense-intensive Immortality Scripture, confident in escaping even if he encountered a Rank-4 adversary.

After their discussion, each departed separately.

The next day, Mo Douguang openly used the Teleportation Array in front of many Divine Wood Sect disciples to leave Giant Tree Ridge.

Naturally, Du Feng immediately learned of this and used an Identical Seal Talisman to inform the operatives of the Restoration Society stationed outside Giant Tree Ridge.

...

“Thank you, Sect Leader, for your guidance!”

In the Shenmu Hall, Zheng Deming respectfully bowed to Chen Mobai before him.

“There is a traitor within the Sect who has leaked many important details. Would you be willing to eliminate him on my behalf?”

Chapter 1224: Meeting Xuan Shu Again_2

After imparting the insights on Core Formation, Chen Mobai asked a question.

“Sect Master, please give your orders!”

Zheng Deming had guarded Yun Meng Ze for nearly a century and was known as the most lethal Foundation Establishment Practitioner of the Divine Wood Sect, he did not hesitate in the slightest.

“Wen Bo is waiting for you at the entrance, he will tell you who the traitor is.”

Chen Mobai nodded and waved, and Zheng Deming immediately rose and departed from Shenmu Hall.

At the entrance of the grand hall,

Zheng Deming noticed that, besides the Sect Leader's Eldest Disciple, there was also a slightly plump Qi Practitioner. Although unfamiliar, his presence meant he must be significant. After greeting Liu Wenbo, he also nodded slightly in acknowledgment.

"This is my disciple, Song Huangdae. He is a bit confused about his cultivation, so I asked him to come and seek guidance from the Master."

Liu Wenbo introduced him briefly, mentioning that Song Huangdae was a third-generation disciple from Xiao Nanshan, causing Zheng Deming to look suddenly enlightened.

After Song Huangdae bowed to Zheng Deming, he took an Identical Seal Talisman he had just finished writing and entered Shenmu Hall.

"Brother Zheng, please come with me. The traitor is an Elder from the Transmission Department who received a task today to buy a batch of fine jade for making Jade Slips. He has already used the Teleportation Array to travel to Yuhu Market."

Liu Wenbo warmly invited Zheng Deming, who nodded thoughtfully, seeing this as a good opportunity to build ties with the Sect Leader's lineage and determined to perform this task impeccably.

...

Du Feng frowned slightly, unhappy that the famous Yuhu Market, known for its jade, couldn't procure the quality of jade required by the Sect, a task he had expected to complete that very day.

However, since the market was managed by the Fu family's ancestral line, he dared not show his displeasure.

"Elder Du, the latest batch of fine jade ore hasn't been shipped from the mines yet. Maybe you could wait a few more days; I'll immediately arrange for Spirit Beasts to haul it here."

The Shopkeeper of the Fu family said apologetically. Since there was no Teleportation Array at the mine, transportation of the jade ore relied solely on Spirit Beasts.

“No need, I’ll go there myself.”

Being a Foundation Establishment Practitioner, Du Feng had a large enough Storage Bag and was willing to fly there himself. He might even be able to return before dark.

“It’s tough on you, Elder Du. This is the contract; just show it to the person in charge at the mine, and he will hand over the goods to you.”

The Shopkeeper from the Fu family immediately handed a Spirit Inscribed paper respectfully with both hands to Du Feng, who casually took it and inserted it into his sleeve, then left the shop.

Looking undisturbed, Du Feng walked out of the market and then flew up into the air using Escaping Light.

An hour later, he landed midway atop a barren mountain void of Spiritual Energy.

At the peak was a large locust tree known as the Ghost Tree because its trunk was covered in holes of various sizes, rumored to be the dwellings of solitary souls and wild ghosts.

Perched on one of the tree branches was a crow-shaped puppet. Du Feng took out the exhausted Spirit Stone from within the puppet and replaced it with a new one.

He had left this puppet here with a single purpose—to activate the Identical Seal Talisman when Song Huangdae sent messages.

Similarly, there were six setups near Giant Tree Ridge, four of which were puppets, and two were Cultivators from the Restoration Society.

From one of the tree holes, Du Feng took out a piece of yellow paper.

It bore a message from Song Huangdae transmitted with the Identical Seal Talisman, which contained vital information in Du Feng’s view.

[Zheng Deming has reached Foundation Establishment Completion using a Rank-3 Immortal Peach Fruit, and the Sect Master has called him back to impart the Core Formation Insights.]

After reading, Du Feng's expression subtly changed.

The Divine Wood Sect had gained another seed likely to attain Core Formation, which caused great discomfort to him as an undercover agent.

He also needed to immediately inform the Restoration Society to see if there was an opportunity to kill Zheng Deming in Yun Meng Ze.

Just as Du Feng was preparing to leave by navigating the Escaping Light, a yellowish Flying Sword soared across the sky, forcing him to a halt.

"Who dares to attack me, an Elder of the Divine Wood Sect!"

Du Feng took out a Black Tortoise shield from his Storage Bag to block the Flying Sword and yelled fiercely toward the two streaks of Escaping Light approaching from the sky.

But as soon as the Escaping Light reached him, Du Feng's face instantly turned deathly pale.

"Brother Du, by Master's command, I am here to take your life!"

Liu Wenbo's expression remained calm as he addressed Du Feng, while Zheng Deming, without uttering a word, once again spurred his flying sword, unleashing a more terrifying and substantial burst of sword light in a ferocious slash.

"The day has finally come, huh..."

As soon as Du Feng saw Liu Wenbo, the Sect Leader's Eldest Disciple, he knew no explanation would suffice.

He had anticipated this day a long time ago; however, he had always harbored a slight hope. That's why, even after the fall of Liu Jia Mountain, he still hadn't left.

Driven by the instinct to survive, Du Feng took out all of his trump cards from the storage bag, barely fending off the assaults from Zheng Deming's flying sword.

Shortly after, he was struck midair and fell onto the mountain peak.

Struggling to his feet, Du Feng noticed the crow puppet perched on a branch.

Suddenly, he thought of Song Huangdae, who had risked sending him messages, deciding that even in his death, he must leave a spark for the Restoration Society to counter the Divine Wood Sect.

Du Feng pulled out a Rank-3 spirit talisman, his last ace, and launched it at Zheng Deming and Liu Wenbo in midair. Then, while they were dodging, he used the crow puppet to send one last message to Song Huangdae using the Identical Seal Talisman.

[I have been exposed, be cautious in hiding!]

After sending this message, Du Feng smashed the puppet with one palm and then kicked a locust tree, breaking it in half. He then flew away with his flying sword and shield, employing the Blood Transference Technique, fleeing in a random direction.

Unfortunately, he was far less capable than Zheng Deming, and after fleeing for ten miles, he was caught up with.

The flying sword swept across, and Du Feng, drained of vitality, could no longer defend himself, his head severed from his body.

Meanwhile, two Qi Practitioners of the Restoration Society hiding near Giant Tree Ridge were also killed by Yue Zutao with his men.

...

“Sect Leader, mission accomplished without dishonor!”

Inside Shenmu Hall, Zheng Deming presented Du Feng’s head and storage bag to Chen Mobai.

“Well done. Consider this mission as thirty hundred contributions. I will have Yue Zutao add it for you.”

After Chen Mobai finished speaking, he pointed a finger, took Du Feng’s storage bag effortlessly, erased the Divine Consciousness Imprint inside, and handed it to Song Huang, who stood beside him.

“You played a significant role in this matter, take it as a gift. The contents will be useful to you.”

Song Huang immediately received it with both hands and thanked him. Then, hesitating, he handed over the Identical Seal Talisman he had just received to Chen Mobai, who could not help but smile slightly upon seeing it.

“This is good, at least you haven’t been exposed. This identity might still be useful in the future.”

...

Elsewhere, Chen Mobai’s true body and Zhou Shengqing had already traveled via the teleportation array to Rock Country.

In the Divine Wood Sect, it was Chen Mobai’s Formless Puppet that was overseeing everything.

Still in the incredibly desolate Changzhuan Mountain Market, not long after the two stepped out of the teleportation array, they noticed two Golden Core Cultivators in golden robes waiting.

The one on the left was Xuan Shu, someone Chen Mobai was very familiar with.

“Eh, why only you two? Where is Fang Xuanyang?”

Seeing an old man beside Xuan Shu, Chen Mobai was slightly perplexed and asked.

“Oh, you knew we were coming to kill you?”

Seeing his composed demeanor, Xuan Shu was somewhat surprised and glanced at Zhou Shengqing, who walked out beside Chen Mobai wearing a wooden mask.

“Is he your reliance? Must be Mo Douguang!”

Xuan Shu spoke calmly. Having achieved Perfect Core Formation and invincible under Nascent Soul, he was confident that even if Mo Douguang and Chen Mobai joined forces, they would not pose a threat to him.

“You haven’t answered my question.”

Chen Mobai, wanting to test the strength of his newly mastered Extreme Sun Slash, did not let Zhou Shengqing take action directly. However, the absence of Fang Xuanyang, a Golden Core Cultivator who had been operating in the Eastern Wilderness for over a decade from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, was quite unexpected to him.

“Brother Xuanyang is kind-hearted; he didn’t want Sect Master Chen to travel the Yellow Springs Path alone, so he specifically went to kill your beloved disciple first, sending her on her way.”

Chapter 1225: Luo Yixuan Takes Action Zhuo Ming led Luo Yixuan, Yin Qingmei, and others to a place called Lan Chuan Mountain.

When White River had advanced to this location, it suddenly hit an obstacle.

The Hua family, which had contracted this section of the project, struck a vein of Lan Liu Stone during excavation, a type of ore highly suitable for refining and condensing True Fire.

Moreover, adding a piece during Artifact Refining or Alchemy could increase the flame temperature by one level.

Upon discovering this mineral, the first thought of the Hua family was whether they could keep it for themselves.

However, after Hua Zhong, the Family Head, and Hua Fan, an old Foundation Establishment ancestor, visited the site and pondered over it for two days, they ultimately sighed in helplessness and reported the matter to Northern Abyss City.

Because the Lan Liu Stone vein could not be hidden.

It lay precisely above the excavation route of White River.

They had contracted this section, and every ten to fifteen days, a monk from the Divine Wood Sect would come to inspect the progress.

Even if they managed to deceive someone temporarily, by the time of contract completion, when Zhuo Ming personally came to inspect and take over, it would certainly be exposed.

By then, even if the Hua family had extracted a considerable amount of Lan Liu Stone, if they wished to continue to operate in the Eastern Wilderness, they would have to surrender all of it to the Divine Wood Sect.

Moreover, it was conceivable that should they engage in such actions, they would infuriate Sect Master Chen, who was ruthless in his killings.

Thus, after repeated deliberation, the two principal members of the Hua family decided that the precious Lan Liu Stone vein was not worth such a cost and reported it resolutely, hoping that their discovery might earn them additional contracts from the Divine Wood Sect.

There was another problem. After discovering the vein, the Hua family's ordinary Qi Practitioners fell significantly behind schedule on the river excavation according to the contractual agreement, requiring people from Northern Abyss City to come over and discuss how to resolve this issue.

Upon hearing of the Lan Liu Stone, Zhuo Ming immediately brought people over.

"If I took action, it wouldn't be impossible to forcefully carve through, but doing so would damage this vein."

Luo Yixuan was the first to express her opinion. Her External Incarnation, coupled with her Fourth Order Moonlight Blade, could flatten the mountain without any issues.

"That would be too wasteful. This Lan Liu Stone vein is not small; if excavated intact, it would be worth at least a million Spirit Stones, equivalent to Rock Country's yearly Spirit Rice income."

After a simple use of All Things Spiritual Communication to communicate with the land veins of Lan Chuan Mountain, Zhuo Ming roughly knew the value of this vein and immediately shook her head after listening to Luo Yixuan.

"Then, we can only alter the route!"

Yin Qingmei spoke up unconcernedly after hearing the discussion.

Although the plans for two major rivers on the blueprint were 99% consistent with practical surveys, there were still some unexpected circumstances requiring a change of the original plan.

Prior to Lan Chuan Mountain, they had found a valley containing a Rank-3 Spirit Vein, with a forest of Red Willows at its center, holding five Rank-3 Green Red Willows.

This Red Willow forest naturally formed a Formation that could conceal Spiritual Energy, so it was not initially discovered by the Earth Masters of the Divine Wood Sect. Forcing excavation would inevitably damage the Spirit Vein and even affect the growth of a large area of Spirit Plants.

After much consideration, Zhuo Ming decided to curve around them.

The same was true for Lan Chuan Mountain's Lan Liu Stone vein; after weighing the options, they also chose to change direction.

After deciding, Zhuo Ming called over the two Foundation Establishment cultivators of the Hua family.

"Let's modify this section of the project, but as for how specifically to change it, that will have to wait until I've surveyed the nearby area..."

Zhuo Ming's words were cut off as a powerful surge of Spiritual Energy swiftly approached them and arrived in front of them in an instant.

Fang Xuanyang, in a golden robe with sharp eagle-like eyes, arrived on a beam of Jinguang (Golden Light). Under the glaring sunlight, his entire being radiated a dazzling brilliance, and the aura of Core Formation captured the soul, causing the two Foundation Establishment Hua family members to visibly change color.

"Who goes there!"

Luo Yixuan stepped forward without hesitation, standing in front of Fang Xuanyang.

"From the Nanxuan Sect, I am Fang Xuanyang, here to take the lives of you three, so that Sect Master Chen won't be lonely on the path to Yellow Springs."

As Fang Xuanyang spoke, he held a Golden Halberd in his hand, casually infusing it with a bit of Spiritual Power, and hurled it toward Luo Yixuan, who stood before him like a mantis trying to stop a chariot.

In his eyes, his Sun Shooting Halberd Technique would skewer the three Core Formation cultivators in front like threading gourds, killing them all.

But something unexpected happened!

A cold smile crossed Luo Yixuan's lips, and a chilling aura surged from her shadow, transforming into a figure and merging into her body.

Her snow-white, slender right hand then lifted and directly grasped the Golden Halberd Fang Xuanyang had thrown.

With a "clang," Luo Yixuan's fingers tightened slightly and the halberd snapped, and she disdainfully tossed it back onto the ground in front of Fang Xuanyang.

"Who are you!"

Fang Xuanyang's hawk-like eyes suddenly narrowed, and he frowned, looking incredulously at the eerily beautiful female cultivator in front of him, wearing palace attire and with skin so pale it was almost transparent.

"Divine Wood Sect, Xiao Nanshan Lineage, Luo Yixuan! Weren't you coming for us?"

Luo Yixuan's lips curled with a mocking sneer, stating her identity.

"When did you form your Golden Core?"

Fang Xuanyang found it somewhat hard to accept. Core Formation must be accompanied by a Heavenly Tribulation, and he couldn't believe that his Restoration Society had failed to uncover even this piece of information.

But now the fact was right in front of him, leaving him no choice but to believe.

"It should have been six years ago," Luo Yixuan said in an even tone. Hearing this, Fang Xuanyang's anxiety eased slightly.

If she had achieved Core Formation six years ago, even if she was as talented as her master Chen Guixian, she would only be at the early stage of Golden Core at most.

With his own realm at the peak of mid Core Formation, coupled with a century's experience in magical duels, he was sure he could easily defeat her.

At this moment, Fang Xuanyang also felt fortunate that he had waited until Luo Yixuan and the other two had left their residence before ambushing them. Otherwise, in Northern Abyss City, relying on her Rank-3 Mount Meru Nine Palaces Formation, he would have really been at a loss.

“What a pity, such a talented pair of master and disciple will both die at the hands of my Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace today...”

Fang Xuanyang's ruthless words were cut off when he saw Luo Yixuan draw a pure white crescent blade from her storage bag.

As the Moonlight Blade appeared, the strong aura it exuded immediately made Fang Xuanyang's eyes widen.

A Fourth-grade Magical Weapon!

How does the disciple have one too?

Chen Mobai having a Fourth Order Sword was because he was the Longevity Sect's Saint Son, but what about Luo Yixuan?

As Fang Xuanyang hesitated over whether to continue the fight, Luo Yixuan had already swung the Moonlight Blade, casting a beautiful arc of pure white light towards him.

Faced with the terrifying aura of the fourth-grade weapon, Fang Xuanyang finally understood what he was up against.

He flung out a handful of Golden Pearls, which formed a glittering golden screen in a formation pattern, then immediately applied the Jinguang Escape Method, retreating explosively.

As expected, the golden screen could only hold against the pure white arc of light for a mere two breaths before being slashed through.

However, Fang Xuanyang's figure had already taken the opportunity to leave the spot, and even flew far away, then ran without looking back!

Luo Yixuan, feeling almost a third of her Yellow Springs Spiritual Power drained from her body, couldn't help but click her tongue in wonder.

This was the first time she had exerted the power of a Fourth-grade Magical Weapon.

"Chase him!"

At this time, Elder Ming's voice rang out in Luo Yixuan's Sea of Consciousness; she was initially puzzled but soon understood the reason.

As a Golden Core Cultivator, Fang Xuanyang's brazen attempt to bully the weak was a clear sign that Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace was ready to strike against the Divine Wood Sect in full force.

He also mentioned earlier that in addition to himself, others were also making moves against Chen Mobai.

Luo Yixuan, the most trusted disciple of her master, realized under Elder Ming's reminder that what she needed to do was follow Fang Xuanyang, a Golden Core enemy force cultivator.

This would not only tie him up to prevent him from joining the attack on Chen Mobai but also avoid Fang Xuanyang striking out in frustration against the Divine Wood Sect Monks busy with constructions all over Rock Country.

After realizing this, Luo Yixuan told Zhuo Ming and Yin Qingmei, then, holding the Moonlight Blade, pursued the mere speck that was Fang Xuanyang's remaining outline in the sky.

"Let's head back to Northern Abyss City for now!"

Zhuo Ming, well-versed in Chen Mobai's teachings, immediately decided to take Yin Qingmei back to safety under such circumstances.

It was only then that Yin Qingmei recovered from her shock at Luo Yixuan having formed a Golden Core, a fact that within the Divine Wood Sect, only the Xiao Nanshan Lineage and Zhou Fu knew.

But at the moment, the impending major battle with Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace once again filled Yin Qingmei with anxiety; that was a Nascent Soul Major Faction, after all.

However, with a foster father to bear the falling sky, it was better to seek refuge first.

"Alright, thank you, junior sister."

Yin Qingmei nodded, promptly descending into the All-things Altruistic Cauldron, then Zhuo Ming retracted this magical artifact and vanished from the spot using the Earth Escape Technique.

In a blink, all that remained here was the Hua family cultivators with a baffled expression.

Hua Zhong and Hua Fan, two Foundation Establishment cultivators, glanced at each other and inhaled sharply in unison.

"Quick, quick, quick, gather all the clan members, drop the ongoing construction projects, and rush back to our homeland at the fastest speed."

With their insights, they had naturally realized by now that from the moment Fang Xuanyang made his move, conflict between Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace and Divine Wood Sect had become inevitable.

The outcome of this war, even at their level, they didn't dare guess who would win or lose.

One was the ruler of the Eastern Wilderness, while the other was an Eastern Yi Clan seated by a Nascent Soul.

But they knew that either power could easily wipe out their Hua family.

So as the first to know about this, the two could only hope that their clan's Rank-3 Formation would protect their family through what was sure to be a brutally fierce conflict.

"Who would have thought that Sect Master Chen's second disciple had already formed her Golden Core. Truly fitting to the Southern Mountain Fairy, akin to Sect Master Chen, the Divine Wood Sect kept her Core Formation ceremony hidden so deeply. It seems they had long anticipated a major battle with Xuan Xiao Dao Palace..."

As they led the clan disciples away, the two Foundation Establishment members of the Hua family couldn't help but admire Chen Mobai's foresight.

Chapter 1226: In Chang Zhuan Mountain Market, Chen Mobai was slightly taken aback after hearing the words of the old man beside Xuan Shu.

He went to find Ming'er and the others!

With Xuan having the Moonlight Blade in hand and being controlled by the old ghost Elder Ming, she should be able to kill Fang Xuanyang, right?

While Chen Mobai was thinking this, the figure of Xuan Shu in front of him suddenly blurred, and then a turquoise-golden radiance abruptly appeared in front of him, slashing at his neck with the speed of lightning faster than one could cover their ears.

In a flash of flames, Chen Mobai's figure, which was nicked across the neck by Xuan Shu's Heavenly Wind Finger, suddenly dispersed into sparks that filled the sky.

Xuan Shu slightly frowned, his figure becoming blurred once more, disappearing from his original position.

At this moment, the true body of Chen Mobai appeared right behind Xuan Shu using the Earth Departing Flame Light Escape, and a surge of Golden Flame burst fiercely from his palm like sword light, sweeping across the afterimage left by Xuan Shu where he initially stood.

The two's exchange had happened in the blink of an eye, their speed so fast that even Zhou Shengqing beside them had almost failed to see clearly.

"The speed of Wind Escape is, indeed, elegant."

Chen Mobai said with some admiration to Xuan Shu, who had returned to his original place. He reached out to touch his neck, where there was a line of blood, the very wound that Xuan Shu had inflicted with his Heavenly Wind Finger.

If it hadn't been for his Earth Departing Flame Light Escape which had also achieved the realm of moving with his thoughts, he feared that it wouldn't have been just a cut on his skin.

"The inheritance of the Longevity Sect isn't bad," Xuan Shu noted, nodding in recognition as he saw the line of blood on Chen Mobai's neck emitting a faint green light, and the wound completely healed within a few breaths.

"Junior brother, should I make a move?" Zhou Shengqing, wearing a mask, asked from not too far away.

"Fellow Daoist, let my junior brother have a one-on-one Magic Duel with Sect Master Chen. If you're itching for a fight, I could spare some time to entertain you," Xuan Qi said with a smile, taking out a Golden Halberd from his Storage Bag and reminding Zhou Shengqing that it was better for him to watch from the sidelines.

As the oldest Golden Core Cultivator in the Xuan Xiao Dao Palace and with his realm having ground to the Core Formation Late Stage, his Essence, Qi, and Spirit might be on the decline, but his experience in Magic Duels was the most abundant. Moreover, with two Fourth-grade Spirit Talismans as his trump

cards, he believed he could effortlessly hold off even Mo Douguang, the number one Sword Cultivator of the Eastern Wilderness.

Zhou Shengqing heard Xuan Qi's words, his eyes narrowing slightly under the mask, but then he suddenly laughed.

In his over three hundred years of life, he never felt as amused as he did now.

"Rest assured, today Xuan Shu will only die by my hand," Chen Mobai said, uttering words that caused both Xuan Shu and Xuan Qi's expression to change.

"Arrogant!" Xuan Shu scoffed, deciding not to hold back any longer.

With a booming sound, a turquoise-golden whirlwind formed around him, sweeping through the Spiritual Energy from all directions.

With a swoosh, a series of brilliantly gleaming Golden Halberds, carrying a piercing light as if a volley of arrows was launched, flew towards Chen Mobai one by one.

Chen Mobai had already faced the Sun Shooting Halberd Technique countless times.

But without a doubt, Xuan Shu's spell was more terrifying than any member of the Nanxuan sect he had encountered before.

Empowered by his Perfect Core Formation, each Golden Halberd that shot out from the whirlwind carried the power of a Third Rank Peak.

Even Mo Douguang, if he were here, would only rely on the speed of the Sword Wipeout Thunder Sound to dodge!

However, Chen Mobai stood still, unmoving.

An ancient Mirror flew out from his sleeve and hovered above his head, erupting instantly into a golden radiant fire shield that enveloped him entirely.

All the flying Golden Halberds that met the flames shield melted like gold put into magma, instantly turning into liquid gold that slid down, pouring onto the ground to form a perfect golden ring.

This ancient Mirror was naturally Chen Mobai's Haotian Mirror.

For this Magic Duel, he had already had Yin Qingmei return it in advance, and even replaced the original mirror frame with Fourth-grade Everlife Wood.

Thus, the power of the Haotian Mirror was fully unleashed.

However, the Mirror was after all based on the Six Yang God Fire Mirror, so to defend against the Sun Shooting Halberd Technique, what was used were two inlaid Pure Yang Spells!

Pure Yang Fire and Mysterious Yang Divine Light.

While upgrading to the Haotian Mirror, Chen Mobai had also consulted Hong Mengkui, planning ahead for the amalgamation of these two spells into an integrated attack-and-defense "Big Sun Qian Yang Divine Fire Shield" setting.

And the key to merging these two spells was the Great Sun Fire.

The Pure Yang Fire, when refined with the Pure Yang Spiritual Power's alchemical flame, could ascend to become one of the six treasures of the Immortal Gate, the Great Sun Qianyang Fire.

The inspiration for this "Big Sun Qian Yang Divine Fire Shield" came from there.

With its first use, it easily blocked the barrage of Sun Shooting Halberd Technique unleashed by Xuan Shu.

“Another powerful Magic Artifact of the Longevity Sect, huh? You’re lucky!” Xuan Shu said, frowning at the sight, but since he had dared to come to the Eastern Wilderness to assassinate Chen Mobai, he had naturally anticipated this.

After all, he had found a Fourth-grade Magical Weapon in the ruins of the Fanhai Sect.

But his Golden Mirage Pearl was specifically reserved to match Chen Mobai’s Purple Lightning Sword, so facing the integrated attack-and-defense “Big Sun Qian Yang Divine Fire Shield,” Xuan Shu used his most proud spell after achieving Perfect Core Formation!

With a gesture of his hand, the whirlwind encompassing him suddenly began to contract, constantly tightening into shape, turning into a spiraling turquoise-golden glow.

Chapter 1227: Xuan Shu’s figure blurred on the spot and he had already landed in front of Chen Mobai.

He extended his hand and raised his forefinger, drawing a spiral beam of cyan and gold, which he lightly touched upon the flame light shield.

Chen Mobai’s expression changed slightly as he poured the Pure Yang Spiritual Power from within his Dantian Qi Sea into the Haotian Mirror, pushing the power of the “Big Sun Qian Yang Divine Fire Shield” to its limit.

The golden flame light shield twisted and shrank under the cyan and gold spiral, inching toward Chen Mobai’s brow.

“A Rank-4 spell?!”

After resisting for a few breaths, Chen Mobai finally realized why Xuan Shu dared to resist his Haotian Mirror with a single finger.

With a bang!

The “Big Sun Qian Yang Divine Fire Shield” could no longer hold up under the Rank-4 Heavenly Wind Finger, disintegrating into a sky full of sparks.

But after Xuan Shu shattered the flame light shield, he did not see the despair on Chen Mobai’s face that he had expected to see.

“I will shatter your most prideful Sword Dao once again, and completely break your Dao Heart!”

Xuan Shu’s tone was ice cold as he ruthlessly aimed his cyan and gold forefinger spiral at Chen Mobai’s brow.

Then, he saw a faint white light that twisted even the void itself, leaping from Chen Mobai’s mouth.

The white light was like lightning, brilliantly dazzling!

But what made Xuan Shu’s eyes widen in disbelief was the incredible swiftness of the white light, which had been released later yet managed to withstand his Heavenly Wind Finger.

Soon he felt a scorching heat on his forefinger, and in the blink of an eye, his skin began to burn and his flesh to boil, making it look as though the bone within would be revealed. He immediately stopped his Wind Escape and hastily retreated!

But Chen Mobai, having struck with the Extreme Sun Slash, naturally would not let him off easily!

The Earth Departing Flame Light Escape was deployed at the same time, charging in front of the retreating Xuan Shu who had just used Wind Escape.

The faint white light, under the guidance of Chen Mobai’s Divine Sense, was like a blinding electrical flash in the void, piercing through wall after wall of wind in the blink of an eye.

However, Xuan Shu took this opportunity to once again pull away.

At the same time, he raised another one of his fingers, fury within his brow, unleashing the full potential of his Rank-4 Heavenly Wind Finger to the utmost limit he could bear!

Chen Mobai's successful refinement of the Rank-4 Extreme Sun Slash was indeed beyond Xuan Shu's expectations. Moreover, his Wind Spiritual Power naturally was restrained by Chen Mobai's Fire Spiritual Power. However, Xuan Shu believed that with his Perfect Core Formation's profound Spiritual Power, he would certainly far surpass Chen Mobai, who had just broken through to the Mid Foundation Establishment Stage.

The amount of Spiritual Power needed for a Rank-4 spell was something Xuan Shu was well aware of, so upon discovering the Extreme Sun Slash, he immediately adopted a new Magic Duel strategy.

The cyan and gold tornado rose up once more!

Xuan Shu directly engaged the incoming faint white light with brute force, clashing once again!

Chen Mobai was somewhat surprised, but this was exactly what he was hoping for. A hint of golden lines faintly emerged in the pupil of his left eye.

Amidst the booming noises, the two Rank-4 spells clashed head-on, unleashing a terrifying Spiritual Power Fluctuation that caused the nearby Xuan Qi to involuntarily change his expression.

This Sect Master Chen from the East Wasteland Village truly possessed an incredible talent, far more frightening than the rumors suggested!

It should be noted that in the past, Ancestor Hunyuan made a name for himself in the Six Domains of East Land, partly due to the unstoppable Extreme Sun Slash he wielded!

Fortunately, Xuan Shu had also cultivated the Rank-4 Heavenly Wind Finger, or else upon seeing the Extreme Sun Slash, Xuan Qi would have run back to the East Barbarians without looking back.

While Xuan Qi was thinking this, Chen Mobai and Xuan Shu had already exchanged blows a dozen times in midair, moving so fast they left behind image after image.

They fought and moved, and in no time, the sky above Mount Chang Zhuan was filled with their figures.

Finally, they collided into the mountainside with a terrifying Spiritual Power Fluctuation, shattering half of the mountaintop with an earth-shattering rumble!

Amongst the clouds of dust, the cyan and gold tornado and the faint white light were like two bolts of lightning continuously clashing and sparking, unleashing an even more vast and terrifying Spiritual Pressure.

[This Sect Master Chen of the Divine Wood Sect, he sure is tenacious!]

Xuan Qi, standing by, saw the Extreme Sun Slash's white light being suppressed by the spiraling aqua-gold color several times, but each time it was about to be completely extinguished, it erupted into bright light again as if fuel had been poured on it, and he couldn't help but admire in amazement.

But what he did not know was that Xuan Shu, who was facing off against Chen Mobai, was becoming more and more terrified as the battle raged on.

He had no idea how much tiger wolf medicine Chen Mobai had taken beforehand, each time he managed to deplete Chen Mobai's spiritual power to near exhaustion, but it always suddenly returned to its peak.

After three consecutive times, Xuan Shu cursed in his heart and also took out a golden-red elixir from his storage bag and swallowed it.

He refused to believe in this madness!

After taking the powerful elixir that restored spiritual power, Xuan Shu's face turned ferocious as he once again activated the Rank-4 Heavenly Wind Finger, insisting on his magic duel strategy, determined to exhaust Chen Mobai's spiritual power.

After two more attempts, Xuan Shu, who felt that his Dantian Qi Sea had emptied by half once again, suddenly realized something.

Seeing Chen Mobai in front of him still in peak condition with spiritual power, but only slipping slightly in the state of his divine sense, and controlling the Extreme Sun Slash with less accuracy and reaction than before, he knew his strategy might have been wrong.

Facing the faint white light slashing hurriedly toward him once more, Xuan Shu could no longer restrain himself and spat out the Golden Mirage Pearl – a Rank-4 magical weapon he had reserved for the Purple Electric Sword!

Chen Mobai had long been familiar with this magical artifact from the Fanhai Sect, but he still couldn't resist unleashing the Extreme Sun Slash upon it.

Accompanied by a burst of blinding bright radiance, the Extreme Sun Slash was unable to cut through this Rank-4 magical artifact.

Following this, Chen Mobai felt terrible invisible forces of confinement pressing in on him from all directions, centering on him and continuously squeezing in.

After another attempt at breaking through with regular methods proved fruitless, he couldn't help but reach into the void with his hand and grasp.

In the midst of the crackling thunder!

The Purple Electric Sword fell from the domain, landing in Chen Mobai's palm, and then this fourth-grade superior quality sword artifact, already in perfect sync with his will, suddenly flashed with a bright purple electric light.

With a boom, Chen Mobai, sword in hand, had already broken through the fierce wind confinement of the Golden Mirage Pearl!

After deploying fourth-grade magical weapons, the two of them were no longer holding back!

Fully confident in their own magical artifacts, they both used escape skills and charged directly at each other!

“Turn the Sky into a Furious Ruthless!”

Xuan Shu, having bitterly cultivated for many years to unleash the true power of the Golden Mirage Pearl, became like a swirling golden violence, holding the treasure bead in his palm, bombarding furiously towards Chen Mobai!

Chen Mobai, who had not yet tested the upper limits of the Purple Electric Sword’s power, was fearless as well, raising his sword for a slash!

The wide blade collided with the Golden Mirage Pearl!

In a moment, Mount Chang Zhuan was left with nothing but purple and gold!

Xuan Qi’s eyes widened, wanting to witness the outcome of the clash, but under the impact of the two raging fourth-order forces, he could only retreat continuously to avoid being drawn in too.

And at that moment, he suddenly noticed that the guy wearing the wooden mask hadn’t moved back a single step, instead standing still as the fourth-order aftershocks engulfed him.

[Do sword cultivators not care for their own lives? Or do they want to save Chen Guixian?]

In Xuan Qi’s eyes, Zhou Shengqing was Mo Douguang, the number one sword cultivator of the Eastern Wilderness, and seeing this, he couldn’t help but shake his head.

At that moment, the clash between the Purple Electric Sword and the Golden Mirage Pearl also erupted into the most terrifying climax.

Chen Mobai felt his arm’s skin starting to crack open inch by inch, blood oozing, because his body could not withstand the power of the Purple Electric Sword at that time.

[Master, let me go quickly...]

Chen Mobai obediently released his grip, and Xuan Shu, seeing this, smiled at the corner of his mouth and pressed forward with the Golden Mirage Pearl once again.

He had won!

However, at that moment, he saw a gigantic translucent skeletal hand emerge behind Chen Mobai.

With the five-color light swirling, this large hand materialized flesh and blood and directly grabbed the hilt of the Purple Electric Sword!

Chapter 1228: Beheading Two People in a Row After the empowerment of Chen Mobai's external incarnation, he had already reached the Heavenly Star Realm.

Although he lacked the corresponding Essence Qi and Evil Qi, the arm that he had condensed through the Five Elements Sword Sha possessed some characteristics of a Rank-4.

Now that he grasped the Purple Electric Sword, it signified that Chen Mobai was truly going all out.

Once the Purple Electric Sword was controlled by the giant transparent arm shimmering with multicolored radiance, there was no longer any need to worry about the power it unleashed being too strong and harming Chen Mobai's physical body.

Amid the roaring thunder, a blindingly bright purple lightning violently struck down from the sky, swallowed by the plain and unadorned majestic sword artifact.

Thereupon, as the Purple Electric Sword was gradually overwhelmed by the Golden Mirage Pearl, it suddenly burst forth with a brilliant light, radiating in all directions like a lightning bolt exploding in the sky, instantly piercing through all the surrounding darkness.

Beneath Xuan Shu's incredulous gaze, his right hand holding the Golden Mirage Pearl crackled and then burst open, revealing five pale white phalanges.

He wanted to release the Golden Mirage Pearl, but the Magic Artifact had now tightly bound him.

Shortly after, just in a blink of an eye, Xuan Shu's palm bones completely shattered, and finally, amid a cloud of blurry blood mist, his entire right hand fragmented and flew in all directions.

Xuan Shu's physical body couldn't withstand such terrifying Rank-4 power.

As the Golden Mirage Pearl sensed the increasingly terrifying force coming from the Purple Electric Sword, to avoid being cleaved open, it instinctively burst forth with even greater power to resist.

Then, Xuan Shu ended up having the Spiritual Energy in his Dantian Qi Sea almost drained and his right hand explosively shattered.

However, now without his right hand, Xuan Shu finally escaped the binding of the Golden Mirage Pearl.

His eyes split with rage, he took out an Elixir from his Storage Bag and stuffed it into his mouth, then pushed his Wind Escape technique to its limits and flew away toward Mount Chang Zhuan without looking back!

With a hiss!

A green Light Needle, coming from nowhere, pierced through Xuan Shu's protective wind wall and jabbed into his Dantian Qi Sea.

Just as it was about to cripple Xuan Shu, a Jade Pendant he wore suddenly lit up with a bright Spiritual Light.

With a bang, the Jade Pendant shattered, but the green Light Needle was halted and subsequently dissolved into nothing.

"Eh, a Substitute Death Talisman? You do have quite some good items!"

Zhou Shengqing's voice rang out as his figure appeared in mid-air in front of Xuan Shu, and at the moment he appeared, all the nature's spiritual energy lingering in the void surged towards him.

"Nascent Soul Formation! Impossible!"

Seeing such a characteristic scene, Xuan Shu couldn't help but blurt out in disbelief.

He couldn't believe that in the remote countryside of the Eastern Wilderness, someone could actually condense a Nascent Soul!

"When I first formed my Nascent Soul, I wasn't familiar with controlling its power, so you escaped; I didn't expect you to come here to seek death a second time!"

Zhou Shengqing spoke with a smile, slowly removing the wooden mask from his face, and following their prior arrangement, fashioned himself to appear as a normal Nascent Soul cultivator, rather than an Embodiment Nascent Soul!

"You actually succeeded in forming your Nascent Soul!"

Seeing it was Zhou Shengqing, even though Xuan Shu was reluctant to believe, he could only admit it with a bitter expression.

Not far away, Xuan Qi, who had been observing the battle results between Chen Mobai and Xuan Shu, couldn't help but gasp upon seeing Zhou Shengqing with the surrounding spiritual energy swirling around him in mid-air.

He recalled his own earlier words and finally understood how precarious his own life had been, having circled around Ghost Gate Pass several times already.

Without any hesitation, Xuan Qi discreetly moved, hiding himself in a shadow, and took out a silver Talisman from his Storage Bag, immediately making his escape!

“Brother Xuan Qi, I’ll hold him off for you; once you return to Bright Mirror Mountain, you must tell Master this news and avenge me!”

But just at this moment, Xuan Shu in the sky suddenly shouted toward Xuan Qi, who was activating the Escape Sky Talisman, then took out a deep blue ancient Talisman.

“The damned Xuan Shu, may you never rest in peace...”

However, at that moment, Xuan Qi outright cursed.

Unsurprisingly, Zhou Shengqing in mid-air immediately directed his gaze over there.

Being locked on by Nascent Soul Divine Sense, Xuan Qi bit the tip of his tongue and using his Essence Blood, triggered his most powerful Rank-4 Jinguang (Golden Light) God Talisman, covering both Zhou Shengqing and Xuan Shu in the sky.

At the same time, the silver radiance flickered as the Escape Sky Talisman was activated, ready to transport him away.

But suddenly, Xuan Qi felt a warm flow on his back and a figure accompanied by flickering flames materialized behind him.

Then, a faint white radiance sneaked in just before the Escape Sky Talisman’s barrier fully closed.

Blood light flashed!

The over four hundred-year-old Xuan Qi displayed his experience in Magic Duel, utilizing a bitterly cultivated protective technique, tearing off his left hand, transforming it into a blood light shield, and managed to block the Extreme Sun Slash!

Chen Mobai, witnessing this, couldn’t help but nod slightly!

Indeed, worth the stature of a Tianhe Realm cultivator, their life-preserving techniques were endless.

Taking advantage of this moment, the Escape Sky Talisman was fully activated.

The silver barrier enveloped Xuan Qi completely; he clutched his severed arm with an agonized expression and a fierce look toward Chen Mobai, and just as he contemplated uttering some harsh words, a heaven-piercing green divine light suddenly descended from above, striking heavily upon the Escape Sky Talisman barrier.

The Sacred Tree Divine Light pushed forth by Zhou Shengqing using Longevity True Qi directly tore open a crack in the barrier.

Chapter 1229: Beheading Two People in a Row_2

Just as Chen Mobai was about to activate the Blade of the Void, he no longer wasted time, lest Xuan Qi had lifesaving means and too much could happen in the long night.

He directly activated the All Laws Persona to thrust the Purple Electric Sword into the gap!

Despite suffering severe damage to his vital energy, Xuan Qi's will to survive was still strong. He spat out a Gold Seal, which was clearly his Lifespan Artifact.

Though its grade was inferior to the Purple Electric Sword, under his desperate efforts, it managed to block the incoming blade.

But the Gold Seal cracked with fine lines, yet if it could hold for one second, Xuan Qi would be able to wait for the Escape Sky Talisman to carry him away.

However, at this moment, a faint white glow suddenly emerged at the bottom of his eyes, followed by feeling a chill on his neck.

His entire head had already flown up.

The Bloodlight Shield he had used despite being severely wounded had been split open by the Extreme Sun Slash at some unknown time.

Unaware of this, Xuan Qi was abruptly decapitated.

After killing Xuan Qi, Chen Mobai once again used the Ground Firelight to soar into the mid-air.

Xuan Shu took advantage of the moment Zhou Shengqing's attention was diverted to activate an Escape Sky Talisman!

Soon after, the Rank-4 Golden Light Talisman deployed by Xuan Qi helped him buy even more time.

Although Zhou Shengqing was already at the Nascent Soul level of strength, a Rank-4 talisman could still injure him, so he had to use the Spirit Leaves Technique to defend.

Then he saw Xuan Qi trying to flee using the Escape Sky Talisman and immediately smashed a Sacred Tree Divine Light from afar.

But at this moment, Xuan Shu's Rank-4 Overturning River Talisman also erupted towards him.

Unexpectedly for Zhou Shengqing, this talisman in combination with the Rank-4 Golden Light Talisman could form a synergy. Under the principle of gold generating water, dark blue tidal waves swept through the mid-air, enveloped by a heaven-full of golden light blades, shattering his defensive Lingye.

Seeing this, Zhou Shengqing immediately gathered nine Spirit Leaves again!

For a Golden Core Cultivator, what could be considered a trump Rank-4 technique was just a routine method for Nascent Soul Cultivators.

As the nine Spirit Leaves emerged, even though the blade storm continued to bombard Zhou Shengqing, it could no longer shake him in the slightest.

However, at this point, Xuan Shu's Escape Sky Talisman had fully formed.

Silver light transformed into a cover, enveloping his pale-faced entirety.

Seeing this, Zhou Shengqing's brows furrowed, and a bright green Light Needle began to condense in the palm of his right hand again.

This was the Heavenly Wood God Needle, Zhou Shengqing's most powerful attack at the moment.

[Hopefully, this guy only has one Substitute Death Talisman!]

However, just as Zhou Shengqing was about to make his move, he suddenly saw flames appearing in front of Xuan Shu, blocking his view.

Seeing Chen Mobai appearing before him, Xuan Shu's gaze was icy cold.

"The next time I come to kill you, it will be me at Nascent Soul Formation!"

Although Xuan Shu was pale, his spiritual power was exhausted, and his energy was weaker than it had ever been before, his mouth still refused to concede as the Escape Sky Talisman began to teleport him away.

Chen Mobai listened, and just gave a faint smile.

Then, a sharp and flat blade extended from his fingertip, lightly tracing across the silver light cover enshrouding Xuan Shu's entire body.

"It's useless, this Escape Sky Talisman..."

Xuan Shu had only gotten halfway through his sentence when he saw the Blade of the Void merging with the silver light cover with no resistance, slicing in effortlessly, the light cover even being absorbed by Chen Mobai's fingertip blade, suddenly becoming thin and transparent!

Instinctively trying to take out a defensive talisman from his Storage Bag, but already having completely drained his spiritual power, Xuan Shu's movements were only halfway when the Blade of the Void had already passed over his neck.

His head fell, and fresh blood drenched the inner walls of the light cover of the Escape Sky Talisman.

Once the Escape Sky Talisman activated, it wouldn't stop operating. After Chen Mobai took Xuan Shu's Storage Bag using the Blade of the Void, he saw Xuan Shu's body, now a corpse, disappear from his sight.

...

Bright Mirror Mountain!

Golden Wind Ancestor, who was in seclusion and cultivating within his stone cottage, suddenly furrowed his brows and opened his eyes.

He walked to the entrance of the stone cottage, only to see Xuan Guang, the Sect Leader of the Xuan Xiao Dao Palace, kneeling in fright on the cliff opposite.

Being chosen as Sect Leader, his temperament was naturally of the highest order. Such loss of composure made the Golden Wind Ancestor's heart sink.

"What's the matter? Has the army of Kong Sang Valley attacked?"

In the heart of the Golden Wind Ancestor, this was the only matter that could cause Xuan Guang to show such an expression.

"Master, the bodies of junior apprentice-brother Xuan Shu and senior apprentice-brother Xuan Qi have returned!"

Xuan Guang spoke with a somber tone and a tragic look on his face, uttering words that made the Golden Wind Ancestor's eyes widen in disbelief.

Inside the grand hall of Xuan Xiao Dao Palace, the Golden Wind Ancestor who had flown over looked at the two bodies lying side by side, their heads severed, and he couldn't help but tremble all over, clenching his fists tightly.

Xuan Qi was one thing, but Xuan Shu was his disciple with the highest potential for "Nascent Soul Formation".

In the eyes of the Golden Wind Ancestor, although this disciple was somewhat overbearing and proud, his talent and resilience were not inferior to Ku Zhu's. He was the only one capable of leading the Xuan Xiao Dao Palace to continue the greatness of the sect after a hundred years.

However, now his head had been cut off, lying silently on the blue bricks of the grand hall's floor.

"Who?!"

The Golden Wind Ancestor's voice rose, suppressed with shaking anger. The four Golden Core Cultivators inside the hall all looked at each other, and in the end, Xuan Guang, as the Sect Leader, stepped forward and shared his opinion.

"Reporting to Master, we have examined the bodies of our senior and junior apprentice-brothers and found that senior apprentice-brother Xuan Qi's head wound is charred black, obviously caused by fire spiritual power, while junior apprentice-brother Xuan Shu's head has a smooth and even cut. Although there are no traces of spiritual power residue, it can be seen that it was likely severed by sword light."

"They both appear to have died after a ferociously brutal battle, and the only ones who could force them into such a state must be Nascent Soul Cultivators."

"There are no cultivators of such realms in the Eastern Wilderness. Although senior and junior apprentice-brothers went to kill Chen Guixian of the Divine Wood Sect, I suspect that perhaps Nascent Soul Cultivators from the other two sects of the East Barbarians had acted."

Upon hearing Xuan Guang's words, the expression of the Golden Wind Ancestor suddenly became calm.

He had also inspected the bodies of the two, and the overpowering fire spiritual power on Xuan Qi's wound led him to think of no one else but the Baiwu Ancestor of Sun Bathing Sea.

And the sword cultivator who could kill Xuan Shu, a cultivator with perfected Golden Core, forcing him to use an Escape Sky Talisman and still not manage to flee, was most likely Ku Zhu, their sworn enemy!

To be able to cut through the void – had that guy already mastered swordplay to such a fine level?!

How infuriating!

Why do the sects of our enemies produce such heaven-defying successors, while I must endure the pain of the elder burying the young!

Rage blazed within the Golden Wind Ancestor's heart, but even at over eight hundred years old, he didn't lose his reason in this situation.

He was pondering whether Sun Bathing Sea was truly in league with Kong Sang Valley, even to the extent of killing his disciples to seal their alliance. Then, could his thousand-year-old Xuan Xiao Dao Palace even survive?

“What about Fang Xuanyang? Weren't the three of them together?”

At this time, the Golden Wind Ancestor suddenly remembered the Golden Core Elder his sect had sent to the Eastern Wilderness; Xuan Shu and Xuan Qi had reported to him once when they arrived there.

If he wasn't dead, perhaps the truth behind the deaths of Xuan Shu and Xuan Qi could be discovered!

“Junior apprentice-brother Xuan Yang's soul tablet has not shattered, and I have already dispatched disciples through the Ruins to the Eastern Wilderness in hopes of finding him...”

Xuan Guang had already considered this possibility, but since there was no large-scale Transmission Array between the East Barbarians and Eastern Wilderness, the transmission of messages had to be done manually through the Ruins.

“We must find him!”

The Golden Wind Ancestor commanded, then his gaze fell on the remaining Golden Core Cultivators in the hall.

The four Xuan Guangs immediately bowed their heads, not daring to meet his eyes.

They feared that the Golden Wind Ancestor would send one of them to the Eastern Wilderness to find Fang Xuanyang!

However, in the end, under the threat of the formidable enemy and considering the need to activate the sect’s Rank-4 Large Formation, the Golden Wind Ancestor did not dispatch any of the remaining four Golden Core Cultivators.

...

Above Rock Country, Fang Xuanyang gritted his teeth at Luo Yixuan, who was hot on his heels.

He had tried stopping to face Luo Yixuan in combat.

But instead, Luo Yixuan turned and fled.

With a Fourth-grade Magical Weapon in hand, Fang Xuanyang feared ambush and did not dare pursue.

Yet just as he was about to depart, Luo Yixuan stopped running and clung tightly behind him.

At first, Fang Xuanyang was filled with rage, but soon, his extensive experience allowed him to calm down and come up with a brilliant solution.

“Hmph, I’ll fly straight to Mount Chang Zhuan. My senior and junior apprentice-brothers are there. If she dares to follow, even with a Fourth-grade Magical Weapon, it would mean certain death for her!”

Chapter 1230: The Destruction of the Nanxuan Sect “Brother, I haven’t yet congratulated you on your ‘Nascent Soul Formation,’” Chen Mobai said as he handed over the Treasure Bead to Zhou Shengqing in the sky above Mount Chang Zhuan. The latter naturally hesitated to accept it.

“Junior brother, this is also a spoils of war from your battle...”

“Brother, as a Nascent Soul Cultivator, you are the one who can truly unleash the might of this object. After slaying those two, a great battle between our sect and the Xuan Xiao Dao Palace has become inevitable. When the time comes, only you will be able to confront the Golden Wind Ancestor, so please do not decline.”

Having said this, Zhou Shengqing, who was already quite tempted, immediately felt it would be disrespectful to refuse any longer.

“Thank you, Junior Brother.”

Zhou Shengqing, with a delighted expression, took over the Golden Mirage Pearl and, lovingly investing his Spiritual Power into it, began to attempt refining it.

The Magic Artifacts of the Tianhe Realm held no regard for things like Spirit Stones.

Such objects had never been scarce to their previous owners. The Golden Mirage Pearl was of fourth rank mid-grade, possessing only a faint spirituality. Even though it had just been struck by the Purple Electric Sword, it stubbornly sealed itself off, resisting Zhou Shengqing’s efforts at refining.

“This Magical Weapon has been refined by Xuan Shu for over a century. Without the correct Refine Treasure mantra, I can only bring its most basic functions into play in the short term.”

After trying for a while, Zhou Shengqing was both pleased and worried as he gazed at the Treasure Bead in his hand.

As a Nascent Soul Cultivator, with continued effort, he would one day be able to completely eradicate the traces of Xuan Shu's Divine Consciousness imprint and replace them with his own.

But to fully unleash the weapon's power, he would still need the corresponding mantras and heart methods for refining and mastering the treasure.

Speaking of which, Chen Mobai thought of the Precious Golden Light Spell he himself had been practicing.

Although he also had always been cultivating this Spell, he mostly did so to pass the fragmented time in daily practice, and thus had only reached the realm of Sealing Treasure.

However, due to his perseverance over the years, he was not far from attaining the realm of Precious Treasure.

Moreover, now that Chen Mobai was at the Golden Core Fourth Layer, the speed of his refining of the Golden Crystal was faster. By his estimation, with a couple more years of hard work, he could forge the eighty-one rays of Precious Golden Light, upgrading this secret technique to the realm of "Precious Treasure."

Chen Mobai had continued to cultivate this secret technique precisely because he saw its potential when cultivated to the utmost limit—the "Refine Treasure" realm.

It could enable him to become a fourth-grade Treasure Appraiser of the Immortal Gate out of nothing.

"Let's see if there are any related methods in Xuan Shu's Storage Bag. Maybe with a bit of luck, we can find them."

Chen Mobai's Precious Golden Light had no effect on the Golden Mirage Pearl, but he quickly thought of another possibility and handed over the Storage Bag to Zhou Shengqing.

Xuan Shu, a cultivator with Perfect Core Formation, had his Divine Consciousness Imprint in it, which Zhou Shengqing could easily break through.

"Well, one can hope..."

Zhou Shengqing nodded as he took over the Storage Bag. Just as he was about to open it, his expression suddenly froze, and then he turned to look towards the empty northern sky.

"Brother, what's happened?"

Chen Mobai's Divine Sense was not as sharp as that of a Nascent Soul Cultivator, and he did not notice Fang Xuanyang or Luo Yixuan, who were flying towards them from afar.

"Ha ha ha, the last fish that slipped through the net is coming to deliver itself to death!"

Zhou Shengqing laughed heartily as he shared his discovery with Chen Mobai, who, upon hearing it, couldn't help but laugh as well.

The two of them leisurely descended to the ground.

After the time it takes for an incense stick to burn, Fang Xuanyang, who was excited, finally arrived here. Looking at the half-destroyed Mount Chang Zhuan, he marveled at the power of Xuan Shu's Heavenly Wind Finger, feeling the blend of Wind Spiritual Power that had yet to dissipate.

Of course, Fang Xuanyang also sensed another powerful Fire Spiritual Power, thinking that Chen Guixian was indeed as remarkable as his reputation, to be able to fight Xuan Shu to such an extent.

It was just a pity that he was born into the wrong sect. Even if he were a genius, once they from the Xuan Xiao Dao Palace regarded him as an enemy, he could only become a corpse.

Fang Xuanyang landed serenely above the ruins of Mount Chang Zhuan, and with a smile that was not quite a smile, turned around to look at the female cultivator in palace attire who had been following him.

At this moment, Luo Yixuan, seeing him halt, also realized something was amiss. As she got closer, she too sensed the powerful Spiritual Power still present in the air, one strand of which was very familiar to her.

Just as she was cautiously preparing to retreat, Fang Xuanyang suddenly let out a hearty laugh, took out his Lifespan Artifact, and turned to attack Luo Yixuan, preventing her from leaving.

“You’re doomed now, to dare chase me here. I don’t mind telling you, this is where your master will be buried. My senior brothers Xuan Qi and Xuan Shu are already here. This way, after you and your master die, you can share the same grave, haha!”

Thinking he had the upper hand, Fang Xuanyang no longer held back, rushing towards Luo Yixuan.

But suddenly, he noticed that although Luo Yixuan initially wore a panicked expression, her eyes quickly brightened as if she saw something, and she smiled charmingly.

“What are you smiling at, facing death like this?”

Fang Xuanyang thought Luo Yixuan was making a last-ditch effort to fight for her life, and to avoid being taken away by a fourth-grade Magical Weapon, he took out a life-saving Talisman from his Storage Bag.

“He’s just laughing at you for falling into the trap!”

A clear voice suddenly rose from the Fang Market below.

Upon hearing this, Fang Xuanyang’s eyes widened in shock; he turned to look and then saw Chen Mobai and Zhou Shengqing flying out from one of the ruined buildings.