

## World 1311

Chapter 1311: Equally Matched Yuan Zhen's eyes widened in disbelief when she saw Chen Mobai consecutively unleash five strikes that killed two profoundly powerful Mountain Giant Apes.

She had personally experienced the might of these demonic beasts, confident in her ability to defeat one alone when at her peak.

However, facing the both of them together, her best option would have been to avoid conflict.

Had there been no other choice but to face them head-on, using her trump card moves, she could just barely manage to slay both.

But Chen Mobai had dispatched the demonic beasts effortlessly, something she certainly could not do.

This Sect Master Chen from the remote area of East Wasteland Village, his cultivation hasn't reached the late stage of Core Formation, right?

"His talent might even surpass mine!"

This thought crossed Yuan Zhen's mind, making it difficult for her, the heir of the Jiutian Dangmo Sect, to accept.

The last time she felt this way, it was in front of Ye Qing!

This meant that within the entire Jiutian Dangmo Sect, perhaps only Ye Qing could firmly suppress this Sect Leader of the Five Elements Sect.

Could he actually be someone raised in the Eastern Wilderness by the First Origin Dao Palace?

This thought suddenly appeared in Yuan Zhen's mind.

During this time, with flames flickering, Chen Mobai, who had gathered the Demon Cores, returned to Yuan Zhen's side, holding his sword.

"True Person Yuan, the third-order demonic beasts nearby should only have been these three, and they've been dealt with."

Chen Mobai smiled as he spoke to Yuan Zhen, who was still coming to her senses, observing the youth with a strong and delicate appearance in front of her, causing her to blush slightly and nod gently.

"Thank you, Sect Master Chen!"

Though the threat of the third-order demonic beasts was gone, the number of demonic beasts within the Mirage Fog was still vast, so they remained in danger.

Fortunately, Chen Mobai had the Returning Essence Secret Technique, creating a Small Void that continuously replenished his Pure Yang Spiritual Power.

Under his support, though the Five Elements Dao Soldiers were breached again and again, the orange-red spiritual lights always arrived just in time, severing the bodies of the encroaching beasts about to wreak havoc.

Chen Mobai noticed that the cultivators of the Five Elements Sect had depleted much of their spiritual power, and the Five Elements Dao Soldiers began to dim, struggling to keep up.

"True Person Yuan, we might need to retreat."

Chen Mobai, after slaying three second-order demonic beasts with the Primordial Yang Sword Evil, spoke gravely to Yuan Zhen.

If this continued, the cultivators of the Five Elements Sect would exhaust their spiritual power entirely.

Even if he could still fight, it wouldn't be possible to ensure everyone's safe evacuation alone.

“My elder brother hasn’t returned yet, let’s wait a bit longer…”

But Yuan Zhen shook her head, and just then, a loud boom sounded.

The two turned their heads to look.

They saw Shen Shanqing and Yu Hai’s Flying Boat, under the attack of more than a dozen second-order demonic beasts, start to crack open from the middle.

The breakage of the Flying Boat caused the formations and restrictions attached to it to start breaking down and failing.

Bright spiritual lights flared up as several Foundation Establishment practitioners immediately jumped off the Flying Boat, followed by Qi Practitioners who had flying Spirit Talismans and Magic Artifacts. Those without leaped towards the ground.

But the slower-moving cultivators were overwhelmed by the ceaseless surge of demonic beasts and were torn into pieces.

With a flick of his divine sense, Chen Mobai sent the Primordial Yang Sword Evil, slashing through the beasts in a quick round, but the number of enemies was too overwhelming. After killing dozens, hundreds more surged forward.

At that moment, Yu Hai took out a God Thunderbolt, hurling it directly at the broken Flying Boat.

Accompanied by a dazzling golden brilliance, the Flying Boat transformed into a massive fireball in mid-air, roaring with flames.

Hundreds of demonic beasts screamed as they tried to escape the fireball, but halfway through, they lost their vitality, turning into charred corpses that fell down like black raindrops.

“So this is the Sunlight Divine Thunder of the Sun Bathing Sea, truly formidable.”

Chen Mobai, stationed at the center, observing all directions, had sensed the explosive and powerful energy contained within the God Thunderbolt when Yu Hai threw it, and had preemptively retracted the Primordial Yang Sword Evil.

The Sunlight Divine Thunder is the Sun Bathing Sea's Rank-3 Thunder method, after crafting it into a God Thunderbolt, it enables Foundation Establishment practitioners to deploy it.

Above the Sunlight Divine Thunder, there was the Rank-4 Sunlight Divine Thunder which the Baiwu Ancestor once used during the campaign against the Poisonous Dragon Demon Beast, obliterating the water in the center of Cloud Dream Swamp in one strike, the power terrifying.

After the destruction of the Flying Boat, Shen Shanqing and Yu Hai immediately employed their own Magic Artifacts and rushed towards Chen Mobai and Yuan Zhen to join up with these two Core Formation cultivators.

As for the other Loose Cultivators, they naturally didn't bother about their fate.

"Pilot the Flying Boats to land, and close the formation!"

Seeing this, Chen Mobai felt it was time to retreat; they couldn't wait for Ye Qing in this location any longer.

Under his command, the five Flying Boats started flying towards him.

The Five Elements Dao Soldiers disbanded at this time as well.

The intense clash left Mu Yuan and others pale, showing that both their divine senses and spiritual power had reached their limits.

Chen Mobai immediately ordered other cultivators like Liu Wenbo to take the lead.

Due to previously confronting a third-order buffalo demon, the Water Vein had already lost a Foundation Establishment practitioner, and the situation was extremely critical.

Chen Mobai immediately sent Gu Yan from the Wood Vein Flying Boat to substitute and control the Ren Water Taoist Soldier for the Water Vein!

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Before, to cultivate this maid, Chen Mobai had also let her take charge of the formation, letting her experience the power of the Daoist Soldiers.

Unexpectedly, what once were selfish acts now proved to be greatly useful.

After the rotation of the Foundation Establishment practitioners in charge of the formation, the overall power of the Five Elements Dao Soldiers diminished significantly.

This was not only because Liu Wenbo and the others could not compare to Mu Yuan and his group, but also because the Qi Practitioners, who formed the foundation of the formation, had already consumed much of their spiritual power.

Now they were all holding Spirit Stones while supplying energy to the Five Elements Dao Soldiers!

Chen Mobai dispersed his Extreme Sun Slash into nine clusters of Golden Flame, and then, with nine Flame Sun Slashes extending a hundred meters in cooperation with the orange-red streaks of light, he cut through the heavens and earth for over a dozen rounds, carving out time for the rotation of the Five Elements Dao Soldiers.

At the same time, he also carved out a path of survival for those Loose Cultivators who fell from the Flying Boat, who, seizing the opportunity as Chen Mobai depleted his spiritual power in a great slaughter, rushed towards the two Golden Core Cultivators just like Shen Shanjing and Yu Hai.

However, even then, only around twenty or thirty people managed to escape a disaster.

After a burst of killing, Chen Mobai felt the emptiness in his Dantian Qi Sea and once again opened a Small Void to replenish his spiritual power.

At this time, the reformed Five Elements Dao Soldiers appeared around him, like five protector Heavenly Gods, keeping all the Five Elements Sect disciples and others on the Flying Boat safeguarded at the very center under his command.

“Sect Master Yuan...”

Chen Mobai urged again, and Yuan Zhen now also saw the situation.

Thinking that if Ye Qing with his cultivation level could not slay the Devil Cultivator, it would be useless for them to stay, she clenched her teeth and nodded.

“Let’s retreat first, and find a safe place to wait for our Senior Brother!”

The two objectives for this time were accomplished; the Green Mirage Bottle had been empowered and was ready to be taken back for the Profound Heaven True Monarch to refine the Mirage Dragon Essence and turn it into a true Fifth-Level Magical Treasure.

That was also Yuan Zhen’s mission.

Seeing her nod, Chen Mobai also breathed a sigh of relief. He had already made up his mind that if Yuan Zhen did not agree, he would have to lead the Five Elements Sect disciples to withdraw on his own.

After all, the loss of these Foundation Establishment and Qi Cultivating Disciples here would be a bone-deep wound for the Five Elements Sect.

It would probably take ten years to recover from such a blow.

Under the command of Chen Mobai to retreat, the slightly smaller Daoist Soldiers began to move back beyond the original fog.

Naturally, this led to another fierce struggle.

But under Chen Mobai's watch, the number of casualties was minimal.

Before leaving, Chen Mobai did not forget to take the corpses of the two Third-Order Demon Beasts with him. Although there were many valuable parts from the bodies of other Rank-2 Demonic Beasts, amidst such intense circumstances, these had to be abandoned.

Not knowing how many more Demonic Beasts he had slain, Chen Mobai felt the spiritual power in his Dantian Qi Sea drop once again by half, even his Divine Sense was starting to feel fatigued.

It was fortunate that he had come. If it were any other Golden Core Cultivator from the Five Elements Sect, they would likely be a corpse by now if they didn't flee.

Finally, they broke through the expanse originally covered by the fog.

The Demonic Beasts, who had been furiously swarming, seemed to have an instinct in their blood that prevented them from crossing that boundary—even though all the Mirage Fog had been taken away by Yuan Zhen, they still respected it.

But Chen Mobai and the others couldn't relax just yet.

The Mountain Giant Ape Clan groups guarding the outside were roaring as they charged over.

After Chen Mobai killed two of their leaders, most had scattered, but about twenty Mountain Giant Apes, seemingly of direct lineage, sought revenge.

A flash of orange brilliance passed, and Chen Mobai sent them straight to the Underworld as well.

Yuan Zhen suggested resting here to wait for Ye Qing to come out.

But Chen Mobai felt that without the Mirage Fog, those hesitant Demonic Beasts inside might overcome their instincts and pour out.

So, he led the Five Elements Sect disciples to retreat several dozen miles further.

This place was the territory of the Mountain Giant Apes, housing a Rank-3 Spirit Vein.

As soon as the Flying Boat appeared, the Mountain Giant Apes began to scatter in all directions.

Chen Mobai chose not to give chase; he commanded the utterly exhausted Five Elements Sect disciples, with their spiritual power almost drained, to disembark from the Flying Boat and rest upon the Spirit Vein.

Most cultivators, once they landed, didn't care about waste; they took out their Spirit Stones and began holding them to restore their Spiritual Power.

Some with deeper foundations managed to hold on and were assigned by Chen Mobai to Chun Yusu, instructing the latter to set up a Rank-3 Mysterious Five Elements Formation brought with them.

Yuan Zhen stood at the highest peak of the mountain, which perfectly overlooked the original location of the Mirage Fog.

As Chen Mobai anticipated, although they acted on instinct, there were still some spiritually aware demonic beasts cautiously stepping out of the bounds that had imprisoned them for life.

One paw stepped out, and after no mishaps, half, and finally their entire bodies, charged out.

After the first demonic beast emerged, it was quickly followed by a second and a third...

In the end, the demonic beasts originally bound by the Mirage Fog began to flood out in a great expanse.

However, Chen Mobai and his group had already strategically retreated, and without their leaders, many of the beasts scattered, with quite a few engaging in mutual slaughter and even large-scale battles between different clans.

But there were also many demonic beasts running in their direction.

It was unclear whether they knew their location or if it was just blind luck.

Facing this, Chen Mobai didn't bother anymore.

The Five Elements Sect disciples below were able to handle it.

"Sect Master Chen, I can take care of things here. Could I ask you to go and check on my senior brother?" Yuan Zhen suddenly asked, and Chen Mobai turned his head in surprise to meet her gaze.

Her eyes used to look down on him.

Why was she so polite now?

It was somewhat unfamiliar.

"Sure," Chen Mobai hesitated for a moment, then nodded lightly.

Mainly, he was curious about Ye Qing's strength and wanted to see for himself just what the capabilities of the top Golden Core Cultivator in the Tianhe Realm were.

He relayed a message to Liu Wenbo, then threw a Sword Box down to his eldest disciple from the top of the mountain.

After leaving behind the Primordial Yang Sword Evil, Chen Mobai piloted the “Red Misty Cloud Silk” toward the distant colossal dragon-serpent phantom and the clear and cold Sword Light that illuminated the sky.

However, as he was about to reach the battlefield of Ye Qing and the Devil Cultivator, he saw that clear Sword Light in the sky suddenly burst forth with light, and in the distant starry sky, a series of dazzling stars began to twinkle.

The starlight fell like wheels, directly caught by a clear water-like Flying Sword, turning into a brilliant flash of light that split the nearly godlike, coiling dragon-serpent above the mountain head in two from head to tail.

The remaining momentum of the light didn’t stop there; it fell upon the top of a figure shrouded in a black robe on the mountain peak.

This must have been the Devil Cultivator. After his Heavenly Demon Avatar was slain, he produced a multicolored scale, seemingly attempting to block Ye Qing’s sword strike.

Yet as the Flying Sword passed by, it seemed to become a phantom sword, directly piercing the multicolored scale and decapitating the man in the black robe.

After slaying the enemy, the energy still lingering on the Flying Sword finally dissipated, splitting the whole mountain on which the Devil Cultivator stood into a massive fissure, as if cleaving the mountain in two.

Seeing this sword strike, Chen Mobai couldn’t help but widen his eyes.

Even from a great distance, he could feel a chilling horror rising from the depths of his heart as if facing this sword, any Defensive Magic Weapon would be useless, and one would have to rely on one’s own flesh and Spiritual Power to resist!

If he were to face it head-on, could his Longevity Dao Body withstand it?

For the first time, Chen Mobai encountered a Golden Core Cultivator with whom he was not certain of victory.

He briefly simulated a confrontation between himself and Ye Qing, feeling that as long as he didn't face him head-on and deployed the Underworld Array, he could still avoid that sword.

Arriving here, Chen Mobai couldn't help but marvel at Ye Qing's strength.

This was the Taoist Child of the Eastern Earth Holy Land, the top Golden Core in the Tianhe Realm!

Truly formidable!

To think he, a disciple of the Immortal Gate with Qualification of Deification, might be evenly matched.

Chapter 1313: Farewell While Chen Mobai was pondering his chances of victory in a clash with Ye Qing, the latter had already collected the Devil Cultivator's corpse along with the storage bag.

Then, with a flick of his sword finger, the flying sword shot back like a startled swan, returning to its sheath on his back.

"Sect Master Chen, have you practiced the Body Refining Technique?"

After flying over, Ye Qing asked Chen Mobai.

"I have cultivated our Five Elements Sect's Longevity Dao Body to the Third Rank Peak, which is quite decent."

Chen Mobai was somewhat puzzled by Ye Qing's question but still humbly responded.

"That's good. Sect Master Chen, please hold my hand. I will use the Unity of Man and Sword Technique to take you away shortly."

Ye Qing made this request, causing a look of confusion on Chen Mobai's face, but he quickly changed expression and looked up at the northern sky.

Quack!

Quack!

Quack!

A massive frog croak that shook the void came, and a terrifying demonic aura settled heavily, turning the sky into a gloomy gray cloud. It seemed as if a pitch-black firmament, along with a tremendously powerful Demon King, was charging this way.

Fourth Order!

Certainly, a Fourth Order, or even higher, powerful demonic beast!

The moment Chen Mobai observed with the Art of Spiritual Eyes, this thought emerged in his mind.

This must be the ruler of these ruins, just like the Fourth Order Poisonous Dragon from Yun Meng Ze, possessing absolute authority over this area.

Such beings, I'm afraid even Zhou Shengqing would have no choice but to flee if he were here.

"Sect Master Chen, I will take you away from here first."

At this moment, Ye Qing extended his right hand to Chen Mobai, who did not hesitate and took it.

Then with a thunderous sound, the two men vanished in a flash, as if they were a bolt of electricity.

Chen Mobai felt the scenery before his eyes stretch out, and when he regained his senses, miles of mountains had already come into view, but then waves of intense pain throughout his body made him involuntarily gasp in shock.

Fortunately, his Longevity Dao Body was best at recovery.

After a few breaths, Chen Mobai felt the nearly tearing pain throughout his body slowly dissipate.

“Sect Master Chen’s Longevity Dao Body is indeed extraordinary,”

Ye Qing’s voice rang in Chen Mobai’s ear.

Chen Mobai looked up and saw that the Taoist Child from the Holy Land seemed unaffected, appearing to have adapted to the speed of the Sword Wipeout Thunder Sound under Unity of Man and Sword.

[I may have underestimated him a bit; he might be stronger than I am.]

This thought flashed through Chen Mobai’s mind.

At this time, a stream of Spiritual Light descended, revealing a girl with bright eyes and white teeth – it was Yuan Zhen.

Seeing Chen Mobai’s composed expression, a flicker of respect flashed in her eyes.

As Ye Qing’s partner, she was most aware of her senior brother’s prowess in sword escape. She herself couldn’t handle it and needed to use a Spirit Talisman to protect her body each time.

Unexpectedly, this Sect Master Chen from the Eastern Wilderness also had such outstanding achievements in the Body Refining Technique.

“Junior sister, cast a Sky-Concealing Talisman.”

Ye Qing told Yuan Zhen, who nodded, took out a talisman with a black base and golden patterns, and upon activation, Chen Mobai felt as if his own and the Five Elements Sect disciples' presence had all become undetectable.

Although they were directly opposite him, neither the Art of Spiritual Eyes nor the Divine Consciousness Searching Heaven and Earth could sense any fluctuations of Spiritual Power or Qi and blood.

Just after the talisman was activated, a vast and mighty demonic consciousness swept over through the mid-air.

Clearly, it was the same terrifying Fourth Order demonic beast from over a hundred miles away.

However, the talismans of the Jiutian Dangmo Sect were obviously more profound and mysterious, escaping the beast's detection entirely.

To avoid any accidents, Chen Mobai still instructed the Five Elements Sect disciples and the Loose Cultivators present to maintain the quietest and most covert stance.

Within half a day, that powerful demonic consciousness swept back and forth three times.

Ultimately finding nothing, it completely disappeared.

"This should be a Fourth Order Golden-eyes Azure Toad. I'm not confident enough to confront it with my current strength."

Ye Qing breathed a sigh of relief after sensing the departure of the demonic consciousness.

"Then let's retreat for now. This area was previously the Mountain Giant Ape's territory. If the Golden-eyes Azure Toad is smart enough, it might infer our presence here from the traces of the Mountain Giant Ape's disappearance."

Chen Mobai spoke with concern, and Ye Qing and Yuan Zhen nodded in agreement.

Their mission had been accomplished, and it was time to leave the Ruins.

After reaching a consensus, Chen Mobai promptly called the Five Elements Sect disciples to begin the retreat.

“The vision of the Golden-eyes Azure Toad can reach a thousand miles. Now, without the Mirage Fog to obstruct it, it might detect us if we leave by Flying Boat in the air; it would be better to use the cover of trees and mountains to retreat on the ground.”

Ye Qing spoke again, revealing something Chen Mobai was not aware of.

“Thank you, True Person Ye, for the warning.”

Chen Mobai immediately ordered the Five Elements Sect disciples who were preparing to pilot the Flying Boat into the sky to stop and relayed the command.

Although the disciples below had not yet fully recovered their Spiritual Power, they soon finished their preparations under the command of the higher-ups.

Chen Mobai also informed Shen Shanqing, Yu Hai, and their group.

They had also felt the might of that Fourth Order demonic beast, and being keen on preserving their lives, they naturally followed the Five Elements Sect in leaving.

The Cultivators acted quickly, opening their Storage Bags and packing all their belongings.

Chapter 1314: Goodbye\_2 “I will clear the path ahead; Sect Master Chen and Junior Sister Yuan will cover the rear. She has exhausted her elemental energy using the Green Mirage Bottle, so if danger arises, please take care of her,” Ye Qing offered, and Chen Mobai naturally had no objections.

After finishing his words, Ye Qing transformed into a streak of sword light and instantly landed at the very front of the formation.

Chen Mobai immediately used his divine sense to transmit sound, directing the cultivators of the Five Elements Meridians. Under the guidance of the leading Foundation Establishment Practitioners from each vein, the groups began to retreat towards the ruins' outskirts in an orderly sequence.

Fortunately, on the way here, Chen Mobai had instructed Gu Yan to map out the terrain from the air, so even though they were now retreating on the ground, they were still able to maintain their direction with the help of the map.

To avoid conflicts with the demonic beasts and to escape the attention of the Fourth Order Golden-eyes Azure Toad, the group deliberately avoided paths with Third Order Demon Beasts settling in.

Because of this, they had to take a significantly longer detour.

However, the daunting pressure from the Fourth Order Demon Beast kept everyone tense, closely following the main group, terrified of being left behind.

According to the rules of the Tianhe Realm, those who dare to slow down during a retreat may be abandoned or even executed by the leaders, an action that everyone endorsed and celebrated.

After the previous battle within the Mirage Fog, both the members of the Five Elements Sect and the loose cultivators understood that if they were left behind here, they would never escape back to the Eastern Wilderness.

Fortunately, Gu Yan's map was quite accurate, and with Ye Qing leading the way reliably, they encountered only minor trouble.

At about three hundred li away near a river, they ran into a large group of hiding fish demons.

Chen Mobai and Ye Qing struck together; their crisscrossing sword lights in a blink of an eye slaughtered the group of fish demons that had surfaced.

However, the number of fish demons in the river was countless.

After slaughtering this first batch, another batch surged towards them from the distant parts of the river.

“Cross the river quickly!” Chen Mobai advised as he pointed his finger and the “Red Misty Cloud Silk” unfurled from his sleeve, swiftly forming a bridge of clouds over the river.

Protective cloud light railings rose on both sides of the cloud bridge, bolstered by his spiritual power, blocking the fiercely-teeth fish demons leaping from the water.

Upon seeing this, Yuan Zhen returned the talisman she had taken out from her storage bag.

Just when they thought they had resolved the issue, a sudden upsurge occurred in the distant river followed by an eruption of deep ice-blue demonic energy.

A Third Order Demon Beast was driving waves, along with numerous fish demons, sweeping towards them.

“I’ll handle it!” Ye Qing dropped these words after he had already drawn the longsword from his back. Standing on the river surface, he moved like a sharp sword cutting through the waves and vanished from the spot.

In no time, Chen Mobai saw the large green fish hidden in the waves chopped in half, its dark red blood staining the incoming waves.

Yet, without the demonic energy’s enhancement, Chen Mobai easily suppressed the waves with the “Red Misty Cloud Silk.”

Amidst the flashing sword light, Ye Qing appeared before Chen Mobai holding a demon core and a piece of luminous green jade-like fish scale.

“This big green fish seemed to have swallowed a Dragon Transformation Fruit or similar heavenly and earthly treasures. It actually had a dragon scale,” Ye Qing remarked, tossing the demon core and dragon scale to Yuan Zhen, who immediately caught them.

After slaying the big green fish, the vast river finally calmed down.

Once all the Eastern Wasteland Cultivators had crossed the river, Chen Mobai lightly waved his sleeve, retracting the “Red Misty Cloud Silk.”

Just then, several potent Third Order Demon Beasts’ presences surged from upper and lower streams of the river, driving massive waves towards them.

“Go!” Chen Mobai exchanged glances with Ye Qing, both speaking in unison.

Although they were capable of slaying these demonic beasts with their strength, they were unsure about the number of hidden demonic beasts in the ruins.

What if there were Fourth Order demonic beasts lurking in this vast river?

Thus, without any hesitation, they immediately urged the cultivators who had reached the bank to retreat swiftly towards the direction of the Eastern Wilderness.

Fortunately, the only surprise turned out to be this wide river.

Subsequently, the demonic beasts within the mountains and rivers of the ground below were mostly recorded by Gu Yan during their aerial approach.

“If avoidance is an option, take it; if not, Chen Mobai and Ye Qing were the ones to act, eliminating all threats as swiftly as possible, striving to avoid any loud disturbances.”

It was not until they had traveled 1200 li beyond the range of the Mirage Fog, ensuring that the Fourth Order Golden-eyes Azure Toad could not possibly see them, that Chen Mobai took out the Flying Boat and had everyone board.

By this time, the Qi Practitioners were already utterly exhausted.

Even the Foundation Establishment Practitioners appeared weary.

Once aboard the Flying Boat, Loose Cultivators immediately took out various elixirs to consume, restoring their Spiritual Power and Essence.

The situation was quite varied among members of the Five Elements Sect.

However, cultivators from the Wood Vein did not consume any elixirs; instead, they took out Spirit Stones and began to meditate.

There were also some cultivators who were extremely fatigued; they consumed Fasting Pills and immediately fell into a deep sleep, allowing their bodies to rest and naturally recover their Essence, Qi, and Spirit.

Upon waking up refreshed, they too used Spirit Stones to restore their Spiritual Power.

This scene took Ye Qing and Yuan Zhen by surprise.

As heirs of a Holy Land, they knew that frequent consumption of elixirs could destabilize one's foundation, making it risky to break through to higher realms in the future.

But even though many were aware, not many cultivators had the self-discipline to act accordingly.

Even among the sect members of the Jiutian Dangmo Sect, many consumed elixirs to force their advancement, vying for resources and positions within the sect.

Yet, in the remote Five Elements Sect of the Eastern Wilderness, there were so many cultivators who could maintain such discipline, earning further respect for Chen Mobai as their Sect Leader.

They traveled another thousand li on the Flying Boat.

The group had now entered the ruins between the Eastern Wilderness and the East Barbarians, a region that, despite being ruins, was less dangerous due to the traffic between the two regions.

“Sect Master Chen, we will not be returning to the Eastern Wilderness.”

Ye Qing and Yuan Zhen flew over and landed on the Wood Vein’s Flying Boat, addressing Chen Mobai.

“Take care, both of you.”

Chen Mobai also bid farewell to the two, not mentioning any compensation, but clearly Ye Qing and Yuan Zhen were not ones to renege on their promises, with Yuan Zhen pulling out a fist-sized, crystal-clear Spirit Stone from her storage bag and handing it to him.

“This is... a Supreme-grade Spirit Stone!”

Chen Mobai took it with a trace of surprise; upon touching it, he felt an immense Spiritual Energy within and couldn’t help but appear startled.

Although he had three charged ones, this was his first encounter with such an untouched, full-energy Supreme-grade Spirit Stone.

“This is too precious.”

While Chen Mobai truly desired it, he still politely refused at first.

“Sect Master Chen, please accept it. With the Supreme-grade Spirit Stone in hand, you can break through realms anywhere. We hope you can come to the East Land in the future. With your talent, you are well-suited to compete for the position of Taoist Child in the First Origin Dao Palace.”

Yuan Zhen said with a smile, making Ye Qing beside her slightly puzzled.

This Junior Sister of his had always been rather high-spirited, previously even complaining that they were giving too many Spirit Stones to Chen Mobai. Why was she now not only switching to a Supreme-grade Spirit Stone but also adopting such a gentle and soft demeanor?

“Since that is so, I sincerely thank both True Persons.”

Hearing Yuan Zhen say this, Chen Mobai, who was already keen on the Supreme-grade Spirit Stone, immediately put it into his storage bag.

Just then, Yu Hai also flew over.

He and the other two from the Jiutian Dangmo Sect would travel with him to the East Barbarians and then take the Large-scale Transmission Array at Golden Crow Immortal City back to the East Land.

Of course, before returning, they still needed to make a trip to Kong Sang Valley to inquire about the matter of the Corpse Cultivator.

“Sect Master Chen, this is my Message Talisman; remember to find us when you come to the East Land.”

Before leaving, Yuan Zhen handed another Taoist Talisman Paper to Chen Mobai, as Ye Qing had also done earlier.

“Until we meet again!”

Chen Mobai took the Message Talisman and bowed to the two.

Chapter 1315: Taoist Saintess of the Three Great Sacred Lands Ye Qing and his group left, and Chen Mobai ordered the cultivators of the Five Elements Sect to take their final rest.

After that, they would make an energetic return to the Eastern Wilderness.

“Sect Master Chen, I really owe you a lot this time.”

Chen Mobai flew in midair, looking around to prevent any powerful demonic beasts from approaching. Shen Shanqing, seeing this, flew up to him and sincerely thanked him.

“Chef Shen, you are too polite. You are a resident of Northern Abyss City after all. Since we are on the same path, as long as I am able, I will definitely protect you.”

Chen Mobai spoke the truth—he would certainly only protect the cultivators of the Five Elements Sect if the situation turned dire.

“It would be so much better if there were more people like Sect Master Chen in this world.”

Little did he know, after hearing this, Shen Shanqing couldn’t help but express his admiration.

What Chen Mobai considered basic moral principles seemed like the virtues of a sage to the Cultivators of the Tianhe Realm.

“After the two True Persons from the Jiutian Dangmo Sect came to the Eastern Wilderness, the first person they sought was Chef Shen. It truly shows the renown of the Sky Meal Building.”

Chen Mobai changed the topic, thinking that if he ever went to the East Land, he could use the channels of the Sky Meal Building.

“The Sky Meal Building once hosted the Profound Heaven True Monarch with Cannon Dragon Cooking Phoenix, two esteemed ancestors. We could leverage the reputation of the Jiutian Dangmo Sect. Thus, when Real Person Ye and Real Person Yuan came, they asked me to help gather a group of loose

cultivators. But to venture into the Ruins, only your sect has the capability. So when I learned of it, I strongly suggested that Real Person Ye invite Sect Master Chen for help.”

Shen Shanqing revealed the hidden circumstances, which explained why Ye Qing actively sought Chen Mobai.

“This time, my sect has gained a lot from the Ruins, and I must thank Chef Shen for that.”

Upon hearing this, Chen Mobai bowed his fist to Shen Shanqing, who immediately stepped back and waved his hands modestly, not daring to accept it.

“Sect Master Chen, it’s good enough that you don’t blame me for dragging your sect into this.”

“Chef Shen speaks too gravely. Real Person Ye also politely invited me, which I could have declined. Besides, the strength of my Five Elements Sect is well-known to everyone in Northern Abyss City, even without you mentioning it.”

These words made Shen Shanqing even more moved.

Cultivators in the Tianhe Realm, when encountering various matters, often assume the worst about their enemies. Someone as morally upright as Chen Mobai is indeed rare.

“If the Primordial Void Dao Child could have such a sage as Sect Master Chen in the lead, maybe it truly could revive the prestige of the Holy Land.”

This remark from Shen Shanqing piqued Chen Mobai’s curiosity, prompting him to inquire about the situation of the First Origin Dao Palace in the East Land.

“What I know happened before coming to the Eastern Wilderness. After repelling Ming Zun, the First Origin Dao Palace announced it was closing its doors, yet there is still one who travels the world maintaining the prestige of the Holy Land.”

“The worldly traveler of the First Origin Dao Palace is mainly the Taoist Saintess. Initially, it was good, and they could compete with other sacred lands of the same rank.”

“But a hundred years ago, the worldly travelers of the First Origin Dao Palace were successively defeated by the Taoist Children of the three great sacred lands. Finally, on their way back to their sect, they were ambushed by a Magic Daoist Monk, resulting in the tragic death of the Primordial Taoist Child and the kidnapping of the Saintess, whose whereabouts remain unknown.”

Hearing this, Chen Mobai couldn't help but feel a slight shock and a profound sense of shared disgrace.

After all, in the eyes of those in the Tianhe Realm, their Five Elements Sect was like a branch established by the First Origin Dao Palace in the Eastern Wilderness.

If he could one day lead the First Origin Dao Palace, he would definitely cleanse this dishonor.

Thinking this, Chen Mobai asked for more intelligence about the East Land.

Although Shen Shanqing had been opening markets in the Eastern Wilderness for recent decades, having been a cultivator native to the East Land, he had clear knowledge of each major Holy Land and sect. Moreover, the Sky Meal Building, having branches throughout the six realms of the Eastern Region, served as an excellent center for information exchange.

For this reason, Ye Qing sought the Sky Meal Building upon arriving in the Eastern Wilderness.

After learning in detail from Shen Shanqing about the local situation and the strength of the Five Elements Sect, they formulated a detailed plan for entering the Ruins.

“According to the news from the Sky Meal Building, the Taoist Child of the Dao Morale Sect had successfully performed ‘Nascent Soul Formation’ ten years ago. Now it is usually the Saintess who represents the Dao Morale Sect as the worldly traveler. It's said that if it weren't for her, she would also be preparing for ‘Nascent Soul Formation’.”

“While the Taixu MiaoMiao Palace in the East Land is a branch, its main lineage is in the Central State, so the Taoist Child and Saintess of this sacred land spend most of their time outside the East Land, but their strength is not to be underestimated. The Taixu Dao Child possesses a Universe Marvel Vein that can directly attract the Nine Heavens’ Pure Spirit Immortal Qi; during cultivation, there are no bottlenecks. And the Piaomiao Saintess, reportedly a Void Spirit Body, rarely makes moves but has never been defeated.”

“The rest is the Jiutian Dangmo Sect. As the leader of the East Land, the Profound Heaven True Monarch Yuan Qingque is hailed as the first to undergo Divinity Transformation in the Eastern Region and is said to be the most likely to ascend after the True Lord Yuan. Ye Qing, as a disciple of the Profound Heaven True Monarch and a genius resonating with the Tai Peacekeeping Sword, is almost considered the next Divinity Transformation of the Jiutian Dangmo Sect after Yuan Qingque.”

Chen Mobai, reflecting on the capabilities Ye Qing exhibited during their time in the Ruins, nodded slightly.

Indeed, deserving of the Qualification of Deification accolade.

“Doesn’t the Jiutian Dangmo Sect have a Saintess?”

Chen Mobai wondered, noticing that Shen Shanqing mentioned the Taoist Children and Saintesses of each major sacred land, except for this one.

“The former Saintess of the Jiutian Dangmo Sect died after failing ‘Nascent Soul Formation’ a hundred years ago, leaving the position vacant.”

“There have been a few extraordinarily talented female cultivators who formed cores, but they seemed lacking compared to Taoist Ye. Yuan Zhen is one of them.”

“But after Yuan Zhen completed the spark-transforming of the Green Mirage Bottle, achieving a considerable accomplishment, she should be able to smoothly take over the position of Saintess upon her return.”

Shen Shanqing was indeed a disciple of the Sky Meal Building, well-versed in the various affairs of the Holy Lands.

“Yuan Zhen, compared to True Person Ye, does indeed seem rather ordinary.”

Chen Mobai reminisced briefly, comparing the abilities of Ye Qing and Yuan Zhen, and couldn't help but sharply critique.

If the Taoist Saintess of the Sacred Lands were all at the level of Yuan Zhen, he felt that after reaching Perfection in Core Formation, he could easily break through.

“Sect Master Chen, Real Person Yuan does belong to the Yuan family!”

At this time, Shen Shanqing cautiously reminded him.

Chen Mobai was taken aback after hearing this.

What does her being a Yuan have to do with anything?

Yuan Zhen is just weak!

She can't compare to Ye Qing...

Just as Chen Mobai was thinking this, he suddenly thought of something and exclaimed in surprise, “This Real Person Yuan, does she have any relation to Profound Heaven True Monarch Yuan Qingque?”

“Sect Master Chen, Yuan Zhen is indeed one of the descendants of Profound Heaven True Monarch's bloodline, which is precisely why she can control the Green Mirage Bottle. If she truly faces a fourth-order demon beast in the Ruins, she can burn her consanguineous essence blood to unleash the power of this fifth-level magical treasure. Her Azure Glede Flying Sword was also once wielded by Profound Heaven True Monarch in his youth.”

Shen Shanqing revealed this secret since he admired Chen Mobai.

On this trip to the Ruins, although Ye Qing was the most powerful, the real trump card was actually the usually unremarkable Junior Sister Yuan Zhen.

“Thank you, Chef Shen, for informing me.”

Chen Mobai never imagined that Yuan Zhen had such a background.

No wonder she could follow Ye Qing, a Daoist Child, and be considered a candidate for Saintess.

Having learned of Yuan Zhen’s identity, Chen Mobai completely understood her somewhat haughty attitude before.

If it were him who had alive, world-steadying deified ancestors, he would probably have even more pride than her.

Chen Mobai even thought Yuan Zhen was quite polite to willingly follow Ye Qing to a place like the Ruins to complete a mission.

“Most major forces in the East Land are aware of this matter, Sect Master Chen. If you ever visit the First Origin Dao Palace, you should be able to easily inquire about it.”

Shen Shanqing modestly waved his hand, indicating that what he shared was common knowledge in the East Land.

“What about the First Origin Dao Palace?”

“Ever since the Daoist Child tragically died a century ago and the Saintess disappeared, First Origin Dao Palace has not sent out any members, leading many major sects below the holy lands to feel restless, wishing to replace them.”

Hearing this, Chen Mobai truly understood the situation of the First Origin Dao Palace.

It seems the losses brought by Ming Zun were even more severe than imagined.

Yet, even in its weakened state, the camel is still bigger than the horse; even without a Divinity Transformation figure, First Origin Dao Palace still has many Nascent Soul Superiors who, in the absence of great calamity, should be able to sustain it for a few hundred years.

Chen Mobai just hoped that before he completed his “Nascent Soul Formation” and his cultivation reached greatness, First Origin Dao Palace would not fall.

Because, regarding “Nascent Soul Formation,” while combining the Immortal Gate’s inheritance with the resources of Tianhe Realm, he had many methods.

Especially having acquired the Primordial Dao Fruit and refined the Primordial True Qi, he felt even more confident.

But concerning Deification Transformation, he had no confidence!

Not even knowing how to strive for it.

After all, Yuanyang Ancestor achieved Deification using Ancient Methods through the Pure Yang Scrolls; he, currently practicing the new Pure Yang Scrolls and only possessing an Acquired Pure Yang Body, wasn’t even sure if he could really make it through.

If he could obtain the inheritance left by True Lord Yuan before his Ascendance, Chen Mobai felt that combining the knowledge from the Immortal Gate, he might just find an inspiration.

But the Tianhe Realm side was just too dangerous.

Chen Mobai felt that without completing “Nascent Soul Formation,” going to the East Land would lack a sense of security.

So he hoped that there wouldn't be ruthless characters like Ming Zun anytime soon, knocking on the door of First Origin Dao Palace!

Following this, Chen Mobai further discussed topics about the East Land with Shen Shanqing, even branching out to discuss the entire Eastern Region with its six realms, especially since the Sky Meal Building had branches everywhere.

In the end, Chen Mobai also asked about the whole five continents and four seas of the Tianhe Realm, to which Shen Shanqing could only bitterly smile and shake his head.

The Sky Meal Building also tried to open branches in overseas other continents, with Nascent Soul Cultivators like the Cannon Dragon Cooking Phoenix spending long periods battling abroad, but it was said to be consistently unprofitable, and the overall environment outside the Eastern Region was much more harsh and dangerous.

Being a minor figure like Shen Shanqing, he wasn't qualified to contact fellow disciples from the overseas other continent branches, hence he naturally knew nothing about it.

Chapter 1316: Tallying the Harvest After finishing the chat with Shen Shanqing, Chen Mobai called Liu Wenbo up and introduced him to Shen, so they could get to know each other.

After all, both were in business, and if the Little Nan Mountain Shop could expand beyond the Eastern Wilderness in the future, they would certainly need to seek guidance from the Sky Meal Building, a professional force in the field.

While the two exchanged words, Chen Mobai also ordered the rested disciples of the Five Elements Sect to board the flying boat, preparing to leave the Ruins.

On the way back, they encountered attacks from demon beasts twice.

However, with Chen Mobai, a Golden Core Cultivator, at the rear, the five veins of the Five Elements Sect easily slaughtered the two invading groups of demon beasts by relying on their increasingly skilled Taoist Soldiers.

Without the oppression of a Fourth Order Demon Beast, they even calmly selected the corpses of these beasts, taking back the valuable parts to the Eastern Wilderness.

On the way back, Chen Mobai, on the Wood Vein's flying boat, lectured all the Qi Practitioners about the contents of Foundation Establishment. Although it was common knowledge, it was the first time the disciples of the other four veins had heard it fully and systematically. Even the disciples from the Wood Vein benefited greatly.

After the Qi Practitioners, the Foundation Establishment Practitioners also came to consult him one by one.

Chen Mobai was an open book, leaving no topic undiscussed.

During this, he also spoke honestly to Chun Yusu and Zhu Xicheng, telling them that their chances of reaching Core Formation were basically non-existent.

Both of them were overage, and their essence, Qi, and spirit were waning.

Even with Golden Liquid Jade Pill, the chance was slim.

Even if they took heavenly and earthly treasures that could rejuvenate them and restore their peak essence, Qi, and spirit, the dan poison accrued in their bodies would obstruct the final Core Formation phase.

At this, Zhu Xicheng was very disappointed. However, having lived over two hundred years, he had been waiting for death and anticipated this outcome.

He had come this time just to assure himself that he had done his best.

"Sect Leader, I've heard that above the Elixir Scripture there is an alchemy recipe called Nirvana Dan, which can rejuvenate the flesh and remove all dan poison," Chun Yusu asked with some unwillingness to give up.

Chen Mobai was slightly taken aback, unsure of where he had learned of it.

However, in recent years, with the Wood Vein and Back to Sky Valley collaborating to collect various precious medicinal herbs all over the world and after revealing the information about Liquid Gold Jade Pill to the Five Elements Meridians, it was normal for Chun Yusu, the Foundation Establishment Completion Practitioner second only to Zhou Ye in the Earth Vein, to know about this recipe.

“If there was a Nirvana Dan, plus the Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine, there might indeed be a glimmer of hope,” Chen Mobai nodded, giving Chun Yusu and Zhu Xicheng a definitive answer.

But this was virtually an impossible affair; first, they could not move Yan Shaoyin.

Secondly, the ingredients for Nirvana Dan were not something these two could gather completely.

Even if they actually refined a furnace successfully and they obtained it, due to their age, the chances of success were not high.

Chen Mobai did not voice these thoughts, as it was always good to give these two Foundation Establishment Completion Practitioners a bit of hope.

As expected, seeing him nod, a glimmer of hope appeared in the eyes of Chun Yusu and Zhu Xicheng.

Next, it was Ning Leshan and the others’ turn to come for advice.

Chen Mobai answered the problems they each encountered in their current stage of cultivation.

Among them, Ban Zhaodan made a particularly deep impression on him.

This Metal Vein Sword Cultivator was a true genius, not inferior to his contemporary Zha Jianbai. It was just unfortunate that he did not receive the right education at the start and wasted some time due to failing Foundation Establishment, which greatly diminished his chances of reaching Core Formation.

But what Chen Mobai admired most was that Ban Zhaodan actually emulated him and genuinely took up farming to nurture his sword.

Although he was meeting his idol, Ban Zhaodan, humble and composed, sought clarification on his confusion about the Sword Dao. After Chen Mobai answered, he turned and started asking detailed questions about farming.

Ban Zhaodan, though puzzled, answered each question.

This satisfied Chen Mobai immensely; it showed that Ban Zhaodan was sincere in his efforts. Although his talent for farming was mediocre, his eyes shone brighter when discussing farming than when asking about the Sword Dao.

“To raise a sword, you need to let it rest properly. When you go back, if you encounter a bottleneck, you can try to put down your sword and focus on farming,” Chen Mobai said, then transmitted some of the contents of the Zi Hua Sword Manual to Ban Zhaodan.

If Ban Zhaodan could comprehend this, not only would Foundation Establishment Completion not be an issue, he could even make a breakthrough in the Sword Dao Realm.

“Thank you, Sect Leader, for imparting the teachings!” After hearing this, Ban Zhaodan respectfully saluted Chen Mobai.

The comprehensive and profound Zi Hua Sword Manual had immensely aided Mo Douguang’s advancement. Containing a system of the Sword Dao, it was considered by Eastern Wilderness’s self-taught Sword Cultivators to be the holy scripture of the Sword Dao.

However, Chen Mobai did not have the time to organize it himself; he hoped that when Mo Douguang achieved Grand Achievement in Sword Dao, he would create a complete Sword Cultivator system for the Five Elements Sect based on the Zi Hua Sword Manual.

In this way, if a second Ban Zhaodan were to join, he would not have his talent delayed.

Last to come for advice were the Foundation Establishment Practitioners from the Water Vein.

This was the vein that had suffered the most losses in the Ruins.

One of them, while evolving a Ren Water Taoist Soldier, was struck by a Third-Order Demon Beast and perished in battle, and after the Taoist Soldier collapsed, many Water Vein Qi Practitioners died from spitting blood.

Chapter 1317: Tallying the Harvest\_2 Because of this, among the cultivators who faced the assault of demonic beasts within the Mirage Fog, those attuned to the Five Elements Water Vein suffered the most casualties.

Chen Mobai felt guilty about this as well.

However, cultivators of the Five Elements Meridians had all grown accustomed to this situation.

They even considered it very fortunate that the casualties and injuries from this mission were quite low.

Compared to their Five Elements Sect, of the loose cultivators recruited by Shen Shanqing, only twenty-seven people ultimately returned alive to Northern Abyss City. They lost seventy percent of their group, and among them were three Foundation Establishment practitioners.

This was the normal casualty rate for exploring ruins.

Northern Abyss City.

After Chen Mobai led the cultivators of the Five Elements Meridians back, he immediately announced their disbandment.

Following the customs of the Tianhe Realm, cultivators returning from a life-threatening ordeal would immediately start to sell their spoils from the ruins.

For a time, the prices of demonic beast meat, pelts, and various materials for magic artifacts in Northern Abyss City all began to fall.

Correspondingly, the prices of talismans, Spirit Rice, cultivation techniques and manuals, and so on, all began to rise.

This was because those cultivators returning from the ruins had all acquired a substantial amount of Spirit Stones.

The cultivators of the Five Elements Meridians were doing alright since their own sect had all the various resources they needed. They would only make purchases if they found good quality materials that were also cheap.

But for loose cultivators, their biggest marketplace was Northern Abyss City.

They had almost spent all the Spirit Stones they had earned on their journey, with Little Nan Mountain Shop being the most frequented.

Many loose cultivators came to buy Spirit Rice.

On the way back, Chen Mobai spoke to the disciples of the Five Elements Meridians about the three challenges of Foundation Establishment and did not avoid the group of loose cultivators.

While they knew that long-term consumption of Spirit Rice helped with cultivation, it wasn't until they heard Chen Mobai's explanation that they realized its true importance.

For this reason, what should have been the most valued purchase by loose cultivators—elixirs that could enhance one's cultivation level—strangely saw no price fluctuations during the massive buying spree.

This left the branch store of Back to Sky Valley in Northern Abyss City quite puzzled.

Had their elixirs lost their appeal?

After learning the reason from some loose cultivator, the Foundation Establishment Elder in charge of Back to Sky Valley's affairs on this side could only curse under his breath.

Meanwhile, Chen Mobai was busy tallying up the gains from the expedition to the ruins.

A Supreme-grade Spirit Stone.

Three three-level Yin Void Bamboos.

Four carcasses of Third-Order demonic beasts.

Four Rank-3 inner pills.

The Spirit Stone would be saved for now, as it was originally unchanged, so he planned to use it for "Nascent Soul Formation" or other critical moments.

As for the three Yin Void Bamboos, Chen Mobai immediately called Zhuo Ming over and asked her to bring them back for cultivation with the Mother Qi of All Things.

Regarding the carcasses of the Third-Order demonic beasts, aside from some beef kept for Zhuo Ming to nourish her body, the rest were handed over to Qi Rui to be taken to Giant Tree Ridge, where the Artifact Refining Department would handle them. The essence of the materials would be kept in the Meritorious Hall Treasury.

When Luo Yixuan returned, Chen Mobai asked her what kind of magic artifact she needed.

With these materials, a tailor-made set could be crafted for her.

And the four most precious Monster Beast Inner Pills had attributes of two earth, one fire, and one wood-earth.

If they could become Heterodox Golden Cores, the fire attribute one would certainly belong to Xie Yuntian; of the two earth attribute ones, Zheng Deming would get one, and Chen Mobai was planning to reserve the other one for Zhuo Ming, just in case.

The last one with wood-earth attributes was a bit tricky.

There was not a single Foundation Establishment practitioner in the Wood Vein who was a perfect match, but because half of it was wood attribute, if they were willing, cultivators of the Longevity Scripture could attempt the refining.

In doing so, they would essentially be giving up on achieving Core Formation.

Because a half-matching Heterodox Golden Core definitely could not assist a cultivator in successfully forming a core.

Chen Mobai wondered if Chu Zuoshu would be willing.

Chen was thinking of this former Sect Leader who had opened the market for the Five Elements Sect in the East Barbarians. Chu Zuoshu had treated him quite well during his term.

It was a shame he was rather aged, but after refining the Heterodox Golden Core, the Longevity Scripture could potentially breakthrough, adding another sixty years to his lifespan.

Even if Core Formation were impossible, this was still a token of his regard.

Chen Mobai finally allocated four Monster Beast Inner Pills, but soon realized he was engaging in a futile effort.

Liu Wenbo handed an urgently delivered letter to Chen Mobai.

It was from Yan Shaoyin.

The key to refining Heterodox Gold Cores was a Rank-4 Alchemist, and there was only one in the entire Eastern Wilderness.

Therefore, as soon as Chen Mobai returned to Northern Abyss City, he immediately invited Yan Shaoyin for help.

But Yan Shaoyin didn't hesitate at all and directly refused by replying to the letter.

Naturally, the reason was also quite sufficient, that he was in the process of refining Infant-Feeding Elixirs.

Chen Mobai set down the letter and thought for a moment, then chose not to press further.

After all, he felt Yan Shaoyin was already pushed to the limit. If he put on more pressure, it would probably either lead to a full-blown conflict or complete negligence.

And without Yan Shaoyin's assistance, there wouldn't be a second Rank-4 Alchemist in the entire Eastern Wilderness.

Chen Mobai also tried asking Star Heaven Dao Sect for help, but Lou Xuelong said that their Rank-4 Alchemists were basically all occupied with tasks to refine Elixirs, with no spare hands or time.

The main branch of Star Heaven Dao Sect did have an Elder who was proficient in both Alchemy and Artifact Refining and was available, but they demanded a million Spirit Stones as a fee and didn't even guarantee a success rate.

In other words, if the attempt failed, all losses would fall on Chen Mobai alone.

Chen Mobai wasn't a fool, so how could he agree to this term.

However, this was the norm in Tianhe Realm.

Regarding this, Chen Mobai could only worry about the four Third-Order Monster Beast Inner Pills.

Without refining them into Heterodox Golden Cores, he would be unable to cultivate a Golden Core fighting force.

At this time, having learned of his troubles from Liu Wenbo, Shen Shanqing took the initiative to visit and offered to help Chen Mobai make connections.

“Zhang Zibo of Dongwu’s Zhang family is also a Rank-4 Alchemist, and he often helps the Sun family in refining Heterodox Gold Cores with skilled techniques. Sect Master Chen could request his assistance.”

Although Dongwu, much like the Eastern Wilderness, was the most remote and weakest among the six realms of the Eastern Region, they often battled with Cloud Dream Marsh Monsters, occasionally obtaining Third-Order Demon Cores.

And precisely because of this, Dongwu had the most Golden Core combat power.

The Sun family alone had as many as twelve. Among them, only five were true Golden Core Cultivators.

Sky Meal Building had also opened quite a few branches there, and Zhang Zibo just happened to be their guest, so he could help make contact.

“Then I’ll trouble Chef Shen.”

Upon hearing this, Chen Mobai was also filled with anticipation.

After Shen Shanqing left, he immediately summoned the remaining Foundation Establishment Practitioners in Northern Abyss City to inquire about Zhang Zibo.

“Reporting to the Sect Leader, I have heard of Zhang Zibo. However, he was able to become a Rank-4 Alchemist entirely due to the resources of the Sun family, so basically, he won’t refine Elixirs for anyone outside the Sun family.”

Hearing this, Chen Mobai nodded slightly.

Cultivating an alchemist is extremely resource-consuming.

To become a Rank-4 Alchemist, according to the methods of Tianhe Realm, who knows how many precious Elixirs would need to be wasted.

He wondered what method Shen Shanqing had that could persuade Zhang Zibo, a Rank-4 Alchemist, to help.

However, knowing there was such a person, most of Chen Mobai’s worries dissipated.

He could always request Nu Jiang to make another trip, asking the Sun family for assistance.

After all, both families had cooperated for over a hundred years in Yun Meng Ze to fend off Demonic Beasts and shared a deep bond. Last time, he sold them the Heavenly Blue Silverlight Grass, so asking Zhang Zibo to refine Elixirs this time shouldn’t be a problem, right?

He would be gone to the Ruins for an entire month.

During this time, there were two matters that Chen Mobai was most concerned about.

One was that Yu Lian was still missing and hadn’t been found.

Secondly, the Rock Country army had already defeated the allied forces of Summer Country and Flower Country, and after signing an agreement with Back to Sky Valley, Jiang Zongheng swiftly took down Summer Country, while Flower Country, due to the matters with Star Heaven Dao Sect, had not yet allowed the army to enter.

Negotiations with Star Heaven Dao Sect were not going smoothly.

However, Jiang Zongheng had his own methods, and no one knew what he had promised to convince the Flower Country royal family to open the gates and surrender, willingly handing over the entire country.

Thus, the entire Eastern Wilderness realm was now completely unified!

Chapter 1318: The Nineteen Counties of the Eastern Wilderness “`

Although Star Heaven Dao Sect is the overlord of East Yu, within the Eastern Region, it is a superpower second only to the Three Great Sacred Lands.

Yet faced with the Flower Country royal family’s surrender and opening of their city gates, they were utterly helpless.

After all, the cultivation of ten thousand acres of Coiling Dragon Spiritual Rice in the Eastern Wilderness was made possible by the manpower of Back to Sky Valley.

Now, Yan Shaoyin was singularly focused on refining the Infant-Feeding Elixir, having even relinquished his own homeland of Summer Country. For him to confront the much more influential Five Elements Sect for the sake of the worldly Flower Country was sheer fantasy.

Without Back to Sky Valley stepping in, Star Heaven Dao Sect simply couldn’t control the entirety of Flower Country.

Perhaps they could rely on their formidable strength to coerce Flower Country not to surrender, but that would mean becoming entangled in mundane affairs, and just the thought of the complicated governance, the survival of tens of thousands of people in each city, made Lou Xuelong shake his head.

Cultivators, once they transcend the mundane, generally would not let the trifles of the mortal world erode their tranquility.

They could manage temporarily, but if it stretched into tens or hundreds of years, it was likely that not a single cultivator from Star Heaven Dao Sect would be willing.

So facing the trend of a unified Eastern Wilderness, Lou Xuelong thought long and hard but could only heave a sigh and abandon the idea of forcibly intervening.

Still, even so, he wanted to extract as many benefits as possible from the Five Elements Sect.

Jiang Zongheng was not qualified, so Lou Xuelong headed straight to Northern Abyss City.

Although negotiations about the Heterodox Golden Core did not go through, this did not affect Chen Mobai's relationship with the Starry Sky Commerce Guild, and besides, if the Eastern Wilderness was to develop in the future, it would certainly need to build good relations with these powerful forces that had connections across the Six Domains.

After Lou Xuelong's arrival, Chen Mobai took him straight to the Sky Meal Building for a fine meal and drinks.

"Sect Master Chen, there's something you may not know. Unifying the Eastern Wilderness is treading on a taboo of the Holy Lands," Lou Xuelong said with a worried face after they clinked cups, uttering a statement that took Chen Mobai by surprise.

"Why is that?"

Lou Xuelong sighed and did not play coy, revealing the reason directly.

"After the unification of the Eastern Wilderness, a mundane dynasty even larger than the Ancient Flower Kingdom will emerge. If it lasts for over a thousand years, it will give rise to an unprecedented, enormous Dragon Pulse spanning the whole Eastern Wilderness."

"Such a vast Dragon Pulse can easily engender spirituality, the highest quality resource for cultivation. The Temporal Dragon-Sovereign Scripture of the Eastern Emperor Court from days of old was cultivated

by relying on the Dragon Vein Spirit. It is precisely because of this that successive Human Emperors were able to control dragons and govern the heavens, suppressing the Four Poles and the Eight Desolates.”

“But when the Human Emperor ruled over East Continent, the Holy Lands didn’t have an easy time. Hence, following the collapse of the Eastern Emperor Court, even though there was no explicit agreement, the Holy Lands tacitly worked to prevent the emergence of a second Eastern Emperor Court.”

“Thus, once a Dragon Pulse with spiritual nature appears on the Eastern Wilderness, the Celestial Infernal Spinning Instrument of Dao Morale Sect will react, and its celestial enforcers will immediately come to slay the dragon.”

After Lou Xuelong finished speaking, although Chen Mobai’s heart was heavy, his expression relaxed.

“A thousand years from now, who knows if I’ll even be around. There’s no need to worry about something so distant.”

Seeing he hadn’t manage to scare Chen Mobai, Lou Xuelong secretly sighed and after another clink of cups, brought up the main purpose of his trip to Northern Abyss City.

Lou Xuelong: “Sect Master Chen, to be frank, my visit today is primarily to discuss a significant transaction with your sect.”

Chen Mobai: “Please, speak.”

Lou Xuelong: “If the Dragon Pulse grows and attracts the attention of the Holy Lands, my suggestion is for your sect to sell the Dragon Pulse to us at Star Heaven Dao Sect in advance. Our sect has a special secret technique that can dissipate the Qi of the Dragon Pulse to nurture Spirit Fields. The ten thousand acres of Coiling Dragon Spiritual Rice from the Ancient Flower Kingdom came about in this way. By continuously diminishing the Dragon Pulse, Dao Morale Sect’s Celestial Infernal Spinning Instrument will never react, thereby avoiding punishment from Dao Morale Sect’s celestial enforcers for your sect.”

These words sounded as if Lou Xuelong was truly considering Chen Mobai’s interests, but Chen Mobai understood the hidden implications in his words.

This was colonization.

Previously Starry Sky Commerce Guild's targets for colonization were territories like Back to Sky Valley; now, it seemed they intended to switch to the Five Elements Sect.

Chen Mobai couldn't help but admire Lou Xuelong's business acumen. The Eastern Wilderness had only just been unified, and already he had thought of how best to benefit their Commerce Association.

Raising the wine glass that Gu Yan had just refilled, Chen Mobai clinked glasses with Lou Xuelong once again and began inquiring what price the Starry Sky Commerce Guild would offer to reserve that Dragon Pulse in advance.

Lou Xuelong: "We can represent both parties and first sign a letter of intent. Rock Country itself already has a 300-year history; it should have another 300 years or so, by which time its latent Dragon Vein will have spread throughout the entire Eastern Wilderness as the dynasty's rule extends. Then, we can start cultivating Spirit Fields atop the Dragon Pulse. I will arrange for the Earth Masters and Spirit Plant Masters from the Commerce Association to come. Once the Spirit Fields are established, we will then pay the Spirit Stone costs for purchasing the Spirit Fields."

Upon hearing this, Chen Mobai's face showed some dissatisfaction. This was pure exploitation. He couldn't help but ask, "Can the funds be advanced?"

Lou Xuelong hesitated, considering the strength of the Five Elements Sect, but decided to bleed a little: "Sect Master Chen's stature must be respected. According to our Commerce Association's rates, for each mu of Rank-3 Spirit Fields, we will pay a price of ten thousand Spirit Stones. I can make an advanced payment for one thousand mu."

“

The 19 Districts of the Eastern Wilderness\_2

Chapter 1319: The 19 Districts of the Eastern Wilderness\_2 Chen Mobai: "Ten thousand top-grade Spirit Stones per acre?"

Lou Xuelong: "Sect Master Chen is joking, it's low-grade Spirit Stones."

After listening, Chen Mobai silently lamented how these commerce associations were really too greedy.

To buy out using top-grade Spirit Stones, they really had the nerve to make such an offer.

If he remembered correctly, when the Five Elements Sect purchased the seeds for the Dari Purple Rice, the price was only one top-grade Spirit Stone per acre.

Chen Mobai used a tactful reason to refuse: "After all, the Dragon Pulse belongs to the Rock Country dynasty, and it is not my place to decide for them."

Lou Xuelong: "Sect Master Chen is being too modest. Who doesn't know it was your disciples and grandchildren who managed this unification of the Eastern Wilderness? Perhaps you think the price is too low, but that is something we can still discuss."

Chen Mobai: "Three hundred years is too far in the future; who knows if the Rock Country dynasty will soon fall apart. Let's discuss this matter after the Dragon Pulse has emerged."

Lou Xuelong: "Sect Master Chen is in the prime of his life, and could easily protect the Rock Country dynasty for at least four hundred years. By the time the Dragon Pulse emerges, it would be more than sufficient. If this deal goes through, the Supreme Elders will surely be very pleased, and then your Five Elements Sect will be an ally of our Star Heaven Dao Sect. I will help you out within our sect, and securing an invitation to the Beidou Conference should be no problem."

The Beidou Conference, organized by the Star Heaven Dao Sect, was a sales event aimed at attracting various major powers for trade, and guaranteed to offer a portion of Three Lights Divine Water.

Therefore, for those Golden Core Cultivators who wish to reach "Nascent Soul Formation," an invitation to the Beidou Conference was something they dreamt of.

Lou Xuelong also knew that for Chen Mobai, who ruled over the Five Elements Sect of the Eastern Wilderness, only items related to Nascent Soul Formation could now move him.

So, seeing Chen Mobai's lack of interest, he directly played his trump card.

Chen Mobai: "Can you get an invitation to the recent Beidou Conference?"

The Beidou Conference was held once every sixty years, and aside from preparations made by the Star Heaven Dao Sect itself, it mainly provided a trading platform for the top cultivators of the Eastern Region. Those who came and went were either those at Perfect Core Formation or Nascent Soul Cultivators.

And for these people, only Spirit Material Medicine of Rank-4 or above could catch their eye.

Chen Mobai didn't want to purchase Three Lights Divine Water; he just wanted to broaden his horizons. If he was lucky, he might even stumble upon some top-tier Spirit Materials that were squandered here.

"That might not be possible. The invitations for the Beidou Conference in three years' time have already been distributed. Now, only a few Supreme Elders have the authority to add more invitations. However, if Sect Master Chen truly wishes to participate, he could join our Starry Sky Commerce Guild, and I can bring him with me as part of our internal quota."

Lou Xuelong proposed this with a sincere face.

The Starry Sky Commerce Guild often absorbed outstanding cultivators from among the six realms of the Eastern Region, such as Yan Shaoyin.

Chen Mobai might not have excelled in the Hundred Arts of Immortal Cultivation, but he was at least a Sword Cultivation Genius and the Sect Leader of the number one major sect in the Eastern Wilderness. Taking him in as a Guest Elder, they would be able to share in the resources produced by the entire Eastern Wilderness first-hand.

"By joining your commerce association, could I exchange for Three Lights Divine Water?"

Chen Mobai asked again. To him, that was the only thing from the Star Heaven Dao Sect that had any allure. If it was exchangeable, he was actually willing to spend some effort.

“Every one hundred twenty years, our commerce association puts a portion of Three Lights Divine Water up for internal exchange. The Guest Elder with the highest contribution at that time can exchange for it.”

Lou Xuelong replied, using the same tactic as Chen Mobai did with the Golden Liquid Jade Pill at the Spirit Treasure Pavilion, making the people below struggle fiercely.

Next, Chen Mobai inquired about how to earn contributions within the Starry Sky Commerce Guild and the origins of the cultivators who had exchanged for Three Lights Divine Water in the past.

After understanding these details, Chen Mobai politely declined: “Sect duties already trouble my heart and mind; I simply have no extra energy.”

Although the Three Lights Divine Water was tempting, there were still plenty of materials for Nascent Soul Formation that he could collect, and it was not necessary to waste tremendous energy over something the entire Eastern Region was competing for.

“Sect Master Chen, won’t you reconsider? If you become a Guest Elder of our commerce guild, I can have the Ten Thousand Acres of Coiling Dragon Spirit Rice in Flower Country managed by your Five Elements Sect. Furthermore, isn’t your sect looking to refine Heterodox Golden Pills? I can speak to Elder Wang and ask him to give you a discount on the costs.”

Lou Xuelong offered two conditions he believed to be very enticing.

After all, Back to Sky Valley made a fortune relying on Coiling Dragon Spirit Rice.

But what Chen Mobai least lacked was Spirit Rice, and with Zhuo Ming around, the future supply of Rank-3 Spirit Rice would be unending. He shook his head and refused again.

As for Heterodox Golden Pills, was Chen Mobai concerned with the costs?

He disliked that the Star Heaven Dao Sect shifted all the risks onto him, who would be the contracting party.

The conversation between the two ended on an unhappy note.

However, Lou Xuelong still had some measure of diplomacy.

At least upon departure, he managed to reach a consensus with Chen Mobai regarding the matters in Flower Country.

Since the unification of the Eastern Wilderness could not be stopped, they might as well go along with it.

After all, the change in mortal reign had no impact on their ten thousand acres of Coiling Dragon Spirit Rice.

Star Heaven Dao Sect did not hinder Flower Country's allegiance to Rock Country, and thus the grand unified dynasty was established!

In the year 6531 of the First Era!

Jiang Zongheng, the Grand Tutor of Rock Country, led the General Duan Shuyu to accept Flower Country's surrender and, after their triumphant return to court, King Zhao held a grand sealing and enthronement ceremony outside Northern Abyss City. Immortal Venerate Chen parted the clouds and personally descended from the mountaintop to the mortal world, bestowing the Gold Seal, Jade Crown, and King's Sword, signifying the divine granting of imperial authority.

In accordance with the wishes of the Immortal Venerate, Rock Country was renamed the Great Zhao Dynasty. The original nineteen nations of the Eastern Wilderness were used to mark the boundaries, dividing them into nineteen prefectures, with their names unchanged.

King Zhao became the lord of all under heaven and requested from Immortal Venerate Chen the secret to immortality.

However, without a Spiritual Root, one cannot practice immortal cultivation.

Immortal Venerate Chen then granted three heavenly pills, which, when consumed by mortals, could strengthen the body and ensure a peaceful death at the end of a long life.

After the sealing and enthronement ceremony concluded, King Zhao returned to the capital, deeply melancholic.

Following the unification of the Eastern Wilderness, Jiang Zongheng had intended to return to Longevity Academy to continue teaching.

However, as the first grand unified dynasty of the Eastern Wilderness emerged and began to prosper, Chen Mobai asked him to stay in the mortal realm to perfect the newly established county system and usher in an era of peace and prosperity.

Jiang Zongheng accepted the order and then requested that the Sect establish Town Guards within each of the nineteen prefectures.

Although Divine Wood Sect's seven nations under Eastern Wilderness previously had E Yun, Zhou Wangshen, and other seasoned Town Guards in place, the recently subdued territories were still a blank slate.

Since the previous nation's Town Guards had performed well, Chen Mobai did not replace them.

According to the rules, if one in the Sect wishes to hold a high position within the Three Halls and Twelve Divisions, a record as a Town Guard is indispensable.

Now that there were more counties, Chen Mobai simply allowed the Three Halls and Twelve Divisions to recommend their chosen candidates for cultivation.

Among these, the key position was undoubtedly the Town Guard of the former Ming Nation, now Ming County.

For Hunyuan Immortal City was located there.

Despite Five Elements Sect now returning to the Sect, his relationship with Zhou Ye remained extremely delicate, and with Chun Yusu, the spy from Sun Bathing Sea, present, whoever would be sent as the Town Guard there must be an adept at judging the situation and skilled in diplomacy.

Chen Mobai scrutinized and chose Song Huangdae.

This disciple had trained for a while in the Formation Division and had already received the Array Master inheritance from Five Elements Sect, and it was time to put it to practical use.

Since Cloud Dream Ze was at war, it was temporarily impossible to go there and set up the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations, so he decided to send Song Huangdae to Ming County for a decade of experience.

Of course, before finalizing the list, Chen Mobai also asked for Song Huangdae's opinion, who expressed that he had no objections to the arrangements made by the Grand Ancestor.

Having arranged for Song Huangdae, Chen Mobai naturally did not overlook Han Zhiling.

He sent her to Summer Country, not only because the region was rife with volcanoes and abundant Fire Veins but also to have her keep an eye on Back to Sky Valley.

If Yan Shaoyin were to start "Nascent Soul Formation", even with deliberate concealment, it would be impossible to hide the calamity of the Heavenly Tribulation.

Of course, Yan Shaoyin could also give up on Back to Sky Valley, which he had run for hundreds of years, to attempt "Nascent Soul Formation" at Star Heaven Dao Sect in East Yu.

But in that case, the chances of a successful "Nascent Soul Formation" would decrease.

Immortal Gate had conducted research showing that breaking through in a familiar place increased the success rate.

This too was one of Chen Mobai's overt strategies.

#### Chapter 1320: Mysterious Cave

After the unification of the Eastern Wilderness, there were countless trivial matters.

Chen Mobai directly handed them all over to E Yun to discuss with Jiang Zongheng, except for those truly requiring his decision as Sect Leader; the rest could be decided by the two of them.

It was precisely at this time that Chen Mobai felt the desire to abdicate and let someone capable take over.

However, considering that the Eastern Wilderness had just unified, if someone other than him were to be Sect Leader of the Five Elements Sect, the other Foundation Establishment members of the Wood Vein would not be able to hold their ground, so he decided it would be better to endure the hardship for a while longer.

At least until this batch of cultivators had completed their Foundation Establishment and each had attempted Core Formation.

After the establishment of the Great Zhao Dynasty, the main focus of the Five Elements Sect was to recuperate and to use the resources of the entire Eastern Wilderness to enhance the strength of their own sect.

Therefore, Chen Mobai prepared to open the exchange for the Golden Liquid Jade Pill.

But before that, there was another issue to resolve.

That was the disappearance of Yu Lian.

Earlier, near the ruins of the Silver Sky Sect, Zheng Deming and others had found traces of demonic beasts and believed that Yu Lian might have encountered a Third-Order Demon Beast, so they didn't dare to act rashly.

It was only after Fu Zongjue arrived that they dared to follow the demonic qi's trail.

Eventually, at the border of Snow County and Frost County, within a snowy mountain range, they found a mysterious cave.

Inside this cave, there were some ancient and mysterious restrictions.

Fu Zongjue attempted to probe with his Puppet Body twice, but both attempts ended up trapped inside.

Zheng Deming was certain that the traces of demonic qi had entered this cave.

At that time, Chen Mobai was in the Ruins. Yu Lian's identity was not yet important enough for the Five Elements Sect to fully mobilize, so in the absence of the ability to enter and explore, they could only temporarily put the matter aside.

Fortunately, Jiang Zongheng's grand undertaking of unifying the Eastern Wilderness did not encounter any resistance after Snow-blowing Palace and Back to Sky Valley retreated, so they continued to guard the entrance to the cave.

Even Meng Hong brought over other Foundation Establishment Practitioners from the sect later on.

If there really was a Third-Order Demon Beast, they, as the rulers of the Eastern Wilderness, had an obligation to resolve the issue.

Snow County bordered Jianjun, so the Spirit Vein Division and Formation Division from Giant Tree Ridge were quickly called over to set up a Rank-3 Formation around the cave.

Even if they didn't dare to venture inside, they could prevent any Third-Order Demon Beast that might exist inside the cave from coming out.

After Chen Mobai learned about this, he too was extremely surprised.

He never expected that there would be a Third-Order Demon Beast lurking within the Eastern Wilderness.

Luckily, Yu Lian's Soul Lantern was still intact, which was a fortunate thing amidst unfortunate circumstances.

When he returned to the Ruins and learned about this, he immediately asked Zhou Shengqing to take action, and the latter did not refuse.

With his Nascent Soul Realm strength, plus the aid of Fu Zongjue's Puppet Body as a decoy, they cautiously overcame the remaining ancient restrictions within the cave.

But when they reached the end of the cave, they were blocked by a snow-white wall.

Even with Zhou Shengqing's strength, they were unable to open it.

Chen Mobai decided to go in person upon learning of this.

"Greetings, Sect Leader!"

At the entrance to the cave, Meng Hong and the others, who were guarding the place, paid their respects to Chen Mobai, who descended upon a colorful cloud.

"Thank you for your hard work; I'll take a look inside."

Chen Mobai nodded and slowly stepped into the cave. Soon his domain unfolded, quickly covering the path opened by Zhou Shengqing to the deepest part.

Activated by the Underworld Array, Chen Mobai at the entrance of the cave turned into a silver light and teleported next to Zhou Shengqing.

“Eh, Junior Brother, have you cultivated a Void Law Body?”

Zhou Shengqing was slightly surprised to see Chen Mobai suddenly appearing before him from the breach in the void.

“One day, while meditating, I had a realization and managed to cultivate it,” Chen Mobai said offhandedly while staring at the ice wall as white as crystal in front of him. The Underworld Array was not something that could be exposed in the Tianhe Realm.

“Junior Brother is truly a peerless genius.”

Zhou Shengqing praised. After the destruction of Mountain Shaker Peak, he and Fu Zongjue had seen the Number One Body Forging Great Method of the Eastern Wilderness, and although they felt that with enough Void Stones they could get a start, they did not deem it necessary.

With that time, they would prefer to enhance their own cultivation realm.

Unexpectedly, Chen Mobai had quietly achieved the cultivation of the Void Law Body.

At this moment, Chen Mobai tried using the Extreme Sun Slash and was amazed to find that he could only leave a shallow mark on the ice wall. Moreover, seemingly due to the counteracting nature of the elements, a cold white mist surged from the ice wall, completely freezing and dissolving the Extreme Sun Slash.

It caused Chen Mobai a pang of distress, knowing that even though he had retained a seed of this sword technique, it would take at least one to two years of hard work to condense this Rank-4 move again.

And the fact that it could so easily nullify his Extreme Sun Slash made Chen Mobai quickly realize a terrifying fact.

“Could this ice wall be the work of a Rank-5 technique?”

After hearing this, Zhou Shengqing too nodded seriously.

“I had some doubts before, but after your attempt, Junior Brother, it’s pretty much confirmed.”

Zhou Shengqing had also used the Heavenly Wood God Needle against this ice wall, but could only leave behind pinpoints that immediately disappeared.

He originally thought it was because his offensive spells weren’t powerful enough, but now that Extreme Sun Slash was also easily dissolved, his worst suspicion was confirmed.

“Is there any way to get around this ice wall?”

Chen Mobai proposed an idea.

“The entire cave has been refined by a dense and chilly spiritual power, making it not only extremely hard but also capable of blocking Five Elements Escape Techniques. This ice wall, on the contrary, is the most likely place to be breached.”

Zhou Shengqing and Fu Zongjue both shook their heads, sharing their findings from exploring the cave.

Chen Mobai swung the Primordial Yang Sword Evil at the icy stone wall, only to regret that it didn’t even leave a scratch.

“Those who can use Rank-5 Divine Skills are either Huashen Zhenjuns or Nascent Soul Complete Great Cultivators, and given that this is happening above the Eastern Wilderness, it should be pretty easy to trace their origins, right?”

Chen Mobai thought of something and couldn't help but ask.

"My Five Elements Sect has not been established for long in the Eastern Wilderness. Perhaps Snow-blowing Palace may have ancient records regarding this matter."

Zhou Shengqing shook his head, knowing that after nearly seven thousand years since True Lord Yuan opened the wilderness, it was impossible for their sect to know which Great Cultivators had been here.

"Then I'll go ask Kong Lingling."

Fu Zongjue spoke up, as he had recently refined a new puppet and was lacking a subject to test it on.

"Let me go instead. After asking, I can take care of her as well."

Zhou Shengqing, however, suggested with a certain local's determination.

"I'll try again."

Chen Mobai thought of another method and extended his right hand.

As the Void twisted, his Domain subtly extended toward the ice wall, unseen by Zhou Shengqing and Fu Zongjue.

The Domain, under the control of Chen Mobai's Divine Sense, formed into a fingertip, gently touching the ice wall.

However, the Great Cultivator who cast the restriction had clearly considered the possibility of someone breaching it with an Instantaneous Technique, and the Power of Void could not penetrate the ice wall.

Chen Mobai's face showed disappointment, and just as he was about to withdraw his hand, he suddenly thought of something else.

He began seeping the Power of Void toward the surrounding cave walls, and to his surprise, something unexpected happened.

Although these walls had been refined by condensing power and were incredibly hard, they did not have restrictions set up to block the Power of Void.

Chen Mobai immediately controlled his Domain to extend along the ice wall in all directions, trying to bypass it.

The extent of the ice wall was somewhat unexpected, being a full three thousand meters.

Fortunately, Chen Mobai's Domain was even more expansive, and he created a portal high enough and wide enough for his whole body to teleport through, then continuously stretched the Domain.

After bypassing the ice wall and continuously penetrating deeper, he finally discovered an inner cavity after several attempts.

Once Chen Mobai had set up the starting and teleportation points of the Underworld Array, he entrusted Zhou Shengqing with a message and, in a flash of silver light, disappeared from his original spot.

In an instant, he arrived in a massive underground cavern.

The scene before his eyes caused his pupils to constrict.

He saw, within the hollow shell of a giant locust, a stunningly beautiful female cultivator, with icy skin and jade-like bones, sitting cross-legged with her eyes closed, seemingly in meditation.

And beneath her, within a shattered white jade egg, was a gaunt, black-clad young man—Chen Mobai recognized him at once as Yu Lian.

“True Person Kong, by harming our sect’s disciple without permission, are you trying to provoke a war with the Five Elements Sect?”

Jianjun disciples were rare in the Eastern Wilderness, and Chen Mobai immediately recognized the enchanting female cultivator as Kong Lingling, who he had crossed swords with before.

But after his furious words, Kong Lingling gave no reaction as if she was at a critical moment in her cultivation.

Although Chen Mobai disliked taking advantage of someone in a vulnerable state, under the circumstances, he was very decisive.

An orange-red beam burst forth, ready to encircle Kong Lingling’s neck.

Suddenly, a bizarre and indescribable gust of wind came from behind Chen Mobai, with terrifying sharpness almost touching his scalp in the very moment it struck.

With a flash of flames, Chen Mobai turned into a spark and dissipated.

Though the Underworld Array was quite useful, the Earth Departing Flame Light Escape was still much quicker in the heat of battle.

Chen Mobai flickered in front of Kong Lingling, and with a grasp in the Void, the Purple Electric Sword was already drawn.

Clang!

The always invincible Purple Electric Sword was grasped by a green-yellow palm.

Amidst the flashing purple lightning, Chen Mobai finally saw clearly who he was up against.

It was a creature, short in stature, with a blue-green body, bat-like wings, ruby-like eyes, and a mouth full of jagged teeth.

Amidst roaring sounds, Chen Mobai unleashed the full power of the Purple Electric Sword.

The creature guarding Kong Lingling's front had a blood streak split in its palm and was forced to retreat step by step by the slashing brilliance of the sword.

Seizing this opportunity, Chen Mobai divided his mind into thoughts, and an orange-red beam drew a circle in the air, aiming to slash at Kong Lingling.