

World 1561

Chapter 1561: Heavenly Blessing

“With the involvement of a Divinity Transformation being, the Flying Sand Sect can only resign itself to bad luck.”

Shen Shanqing uttered another statement that shook Chen Mobai.

“Divinity Transformation? Who could it be? No wonder the Flying Sand Sect’s Sand-handling Officer, wielding the Five Direction Divine Sand, was killed.”

By reason, a Nascent Soul cultivator should be incapable of resisting a fifth-rank magic weapon. In the East Continent, unless there’s another Nascent Soul cultivator of equal standing possessing a fifth-rank artifact, only a True Monarch of Divinity Transformation could eliminate him.

“We don’t know who it is, but when the Flying Sand Sect’s Great Elder tried to use a treasure-refining mantra to summon back the Five Direction Divine Sand, there was no response at all. This could only mean it’s suppressed by a Divinity Transformation-level power.”

“Although the Flying Sand Sect is formidable, during the war with the Vast Sea Island of Ten Thousand Immortals eight hundred years ago, their Divinity Transformation True Monarch Ancestor Heisha perished at the hands of the Demon Venerable. Now when faced with the Holy Land, they lack the courage to pursue the matter to the end, and can only resign themselves to misfortune.”

“After all, if they truly traced it to the Holy Land or to a Demon Path Divinity Transformation figure, they could do nothing but focus on self-preservation anyhow.”

Chen Mobai heard more things unknown to him. Upon inquiry, he learned that, compared to the Eastern Continent where the Holy Land’s Divinity Transformation cultivators maintain stability and peace, the other Four Seas are essentially dominated by the Demon Tribe. Especially in the Desolate Sea where the Flying Sand Sect resides, there exists a Divinity Transformation being known as the Demon Venerable.

Though the origin of the Demon Venerable is unclear, it is known for its immense divine skills. Upon appearing, it manifested as Divinity Transformation-level, then with overwhelming mana, raised a submarine volcano from the depths of the Desolate Sea to the surface, where it began to teach myriad demonic arts.

It teaches indiscriminately, allowing every living being to listen to its teachings and inquire about the Dao.

Over hundreds of years, countless beings gained spiritual awareness through listening to the Demon Venerable's teachings and joined its sect for cultivation.

From then on, the place where the Demon Venerable resides has been called "Island of Ten Thousand Immortals" by these demon kin.

Of course, on the human cultivator side, it is definitively dismissed and referred to as "Island of Ten Thousand Demons."

Initially, the Flying Sand Sect feared the Demon Venerable's formidable cultivation level. Since it only preached and taught Dao, they ignored it.

But as the influence of the Island of Ten Thousand Demons expanded, and even a first-ever fourth-rank Nascent Soul demonic beast emerged, the Flying Sand Sect could no longer sit idle.

Ancestor Heisha issued a Transformation God Edict, rallying Nascent Soul cultivators from thirty-six immortal islands across the Desolate Sea to annihilate the Island of Ten Thousand Demons.

However, in a direct confrontation, the Demon Venerable's cultivation proved to be superior.

Fortunately, before Ancestor Heisha's death, he unleashed a transformative Grand Spell passed down from the Eastern Emperor Court, wounding the Demon Venerable and forcing it to sink into the sea, causing the Island of Ten Thousand Immortals to also crumble.

"The Tianhe Realm is truly vast."

After hearing all this, Chen Mobai could only exclaim in wonder.

Compared to the Immortal Gates, it seems that standing firm in this place actually requires a Divinity Transformation True Monarch.

Next, Chen Mobai inquired about the status of Divinity Transformation beings across the other Five Continents and Four Seas. However, Shen Shanqing could not provide further insights, as their Sky Meal Building was merely a Nascent Soul major faction.

The Desolate Sea and Mysterious Sea are both located outside the Eastern Continent. In past years, the Eastern Continent had organized cultivator armies to battle the Demon Tribes of these two sea territories, which is why there exists intelligence and historical records.

To know the complete list of Divinity Transformation True Monarchs in the Tianhe Realm, one would likely have to look to the Holy Lands within the East Land.

After listening, Chen Mobai expressed his gratitude to Shen Shanqing, while becoming increasingly determined to establish the Five Elements Sect's own intelligence network.

After personally seeing Shen Shanqing off, Chen Mobai returned and began conversing with Yan Shaoyin.

"Sect Leader, these are the medicinal materials you requested..."

Chen Mobai accepted the storage bag handed over by Yan Shaoyin. After glancing within, he nodded slightly.

After all, being the Eastern Wilderness's former number-one alchemist, Yan Shaoyin was perfectly suited for such tasks.

"Travel back to Back to Sky Valley and relay the instructions regarding its integration into the Five Elements Sect to the members below."

As of now, in the Eastern Wilderness, only Back to Sky Valley remained outside the control of the Five Elements Sect. Once this task was accomplished, Chen Mobai could rightfully proclaim himself as the dominator of the Eastern Wilderness.

“Understood, Sect Leader. However, given my current cultivation level has fallen, if I fail to assert dominance over the disciples, it might adversely affect the sect’s major matters.”

Without psychological burdens holding him back, Yan Shaoyin now shifted to completely considering matters from the Five Elements Sect’s perspective.

“I’ll have Martial Niece Luo accompany you on this trip.”

Saying this, Chen Mobai called Luo Xue’er inside, and she immediately accepted the assignment.

After the two departed, Chen Mobai felt a tinge of disappointment.

Among the medicinal materials brought by Yan Shaoyin, the Wind Spirit Vine was still missing.

In this way, the Lingyuan Pill’s batch could still not be refined.

However, his disappointment only lasted a few days.

Because Mo Douguang returned.

“Junior Brother, these are seven kinds of fourth-tier elixirs. Some couldn’t be obtained.”

When Chen Mobai received the storage bag from Mo Douguang and probed it with his Divine Sense, he discovered Wind Spirit Vine inside, causing him great joy.

Previously, when Mo Douguang left the Eastern Wilderness, Chen Mobai had given him a list of primary medicinal materials missing from the alchemy recipes, hoping he might collect some outside the Eastern Wilderness.

Without high expectations, he hadn't thought Mo Douguang would complete the final puzzle piece for the Lingyuan Pill.

"Thank you, Brother Mo, you've been a tremendous help."

Chen Mobai gratefully expressed his thanks after receiving the materials.

"It wasn't me who found it. It was Martial Nephew Yue Zutao who collected this in the East Land. He happened to return as I did, so he asked me to bring it to you."

After hearing Mo Douguang's explanation, Chen Mobai felt deeply relieved.

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These fourth-grade medicinal herbs combined with the ones he collected at the Beidou Conference, and those the Five Elements Sect gathered in the Eastern Wilderness, not only allow Qing Nu to refine the Lingyuan Pill but also gather enough ingredients for a furnace of Golden Liquid Jade Pills.

Perhaps this could enable the sect to acquire a few more Golden Core Cultivators.

It is indeed worthy of the outstanding cultivator nurtured by him personally for a long time. Leading the Five Elements Commerce Association, he went out for just a year and achieved such accomplishments.

Apart from these herbs, there was also a letter from Yue Zutao.

Chen Mobai took it and read that it detailed the situation after Yue Zutao led the Five Elements Commerce Association out of the Eastern Wilderness.

He had already reached one of the Seven Great Immortal Cities of the Eastern Land, the Imperial Extreme Immortal City, where he rented a shop. He was selling the resources of the Five Elements Sect brought from the Eastern Wilderness while scouting the situation in the Eastern Land.

These seven kinds of fourth-grade medicinal herbs were precisely discovered by Yue Zutao in the herbal market of Imperial Extreme Immortal City. He had to exchange some of the precious resources Chen Mobai gave him to buy them.

Finally, Yue Zutao also mentioned that the talisman paper and talisman ink produced by the puppet factory were very popular there, selling well. Perhaps soon, all the goods brought would be sold out, and support from the sect would be needed.

After reading, Chen Mobai nodded, then called over his first disciple, Liu Wenbo, to arrange this matter.

He had long optimized the blueprint of the puppet factory.

This year, although he was ostensibly watching the snow and fishing in the northernmost grotto heaven of the Immortal Gate, he easily collected those obsolete talisman paper equipment in the second-hand market.

Although these were generally meant for scrapping over there in the Immortal Gate, they were undoubtedly high-end equipment when brought to the Tianhe Realm.

As for puppets, it was even simpler; he offered very generous conditions for the entire Puppet Division of the Five Elements Sect and publicized the blueprints. As long as the puppets refined by the sect's puppet masters met the standards, they could be exchanged for varying amounts of Green Yang Spiritual Wood, Golden Sun Spirit Wood, etc.

This led many of the new disciples of the Five Elements Sect to choose the Puppetry Technique as their auxiliary cultivation skill.

Now the expanded puppet factory could produce tens of millions of talisman papers annually.

Yet Chen Mobai felt this was not enough.

After all, the entire Eastern Wilderness alone could digest three to four million talisman papers.

He also discovered during his research at the Beidou Conference that industrial talisman paper and talisman ink were supreme products for the handcraft workshops in the Tianhe Realm.

In the future, when he forms his Nascent Soul, the Five Elements Commerce Association must thrive beyond the Eastern Wilderness. If expanded within the entire Eastern Continent territory, Chen Mobai thought they could at least consume over a hundred million talisman papers annually.

He didn't plan to make money from talisman paper, just wanted to use it as a medium for the Five Elements Commerce Association to infiltrate throughout the Eastern Continent.

This way, facing situations like Chu Zuoshu's disappearance wouldn't be so blind, only relying on the Sky Meal Building.

"Wenbo, go and inspect each part of the Eastern Wilderness to see where is suitable to establish branches of the puppet factory."

After Liu Wenbo came over, Chen Mobai assigned him this task.

Concentrating the entire industry in Giant Tree Ridge was certainly not feasible; the commercial and industrial development of the entire Eastern Wilderness Nineteen Prefectures surely needs to be balanced.

Now the Eastern Wilderness Plateau is being developed vigorously, relying on the spirit fields of the three counties to supply most of the low-level Spirit Rice consumed by the Eastern Wilderness cultivators.

Originally the most resource-poor area in the Eastern Wilderness, under Chen Mobai's new policies, it gradually became the center of the Eastern Wilderness cultivation world.

Moreover, there are the counties with the Five Elements Meridians – Jianjun, Feng County, Yan County, etc., which can rely on their own foundations to keep pace with the production leap of the entire Eastern Wilderness.

But the other areas like Cloud County, Frost County, Thunder County, and Snow County are beginning to gradually decline because the cultivators there are all finding ways to work for the Five Elements Sect on the Eastern Wilderness Plateau, aiming to earn enough Spirit Stones to settle in Northern Abyss City in their lifetime.

This led to the phenomenon of uneven development in the Eastern Wilderness, with more and more cultivators gathering.

Although this is a necessary path for modernization, Chen Mobai still wanted to give the other counties in the Eastern Wilderness a chance to rise.

Liu Wenbo, having followed Chen Mobai for so many years, learned a lot and quickly understood his master's intention.

The next day, Zhou Shengqing and Mo Douguang came to seek Chen Mobai together.

They naturally came to discuss the matter of the Five Elements Essence Qi with Chen Mobai.

Regarding this matter, Mo Douguang had no objections.

“Brother Zhou and I will first condense the Gold and Wood Element Essence Qi. Junior Brother Chen, you just focus on your cultivation; the sect needs a true Nascent Soul cultivator.”

Hearing Mo Douguang's words, Chen Mobai was very touched.

That day, in the eastern sky of Northern Abyss City, a spirit bird with entirely azure feathers and wings spread like a fan, was flying. A woman in a yellow robe was sitting on it.

Soon, the Qinghong Bird familiar with the path descended straight to the top of North Abyss Mountain.

“Master!”

Zhuo Ming got off the bird’s back and respectfully saluted Chen Mobai.

“No need for formalities, come over and look at this Golden Sun Spirit Tree.”

Chen Mobai waved his hand to this beloved disciple. Zhuo Ming happened to be in Yan County during this period. There, the vast spirit fields of Fire Spirit Rice had suddenly suffered from insect infestation this year. After receiving the news, she hurried to handle it, eventually identifying the source and eradicating most of the locust nests.

After dealing with the pest issue, knowing Chen Mobai was in Northern Abyss City, she immediately rode the Qinghong Bird from the spirit fields to pay her respects.

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In recent years, the master-disciple duo had expended quite a lot of effort for the Golden Sun Spirit Tree in Northern Abyss City.

It could only be said that helping a Spirit Plant level up was truly no easy feat.

Chen Mobai and his disciple could be considered the top two Spirit Plant Masters in the Eastern Wilderness. The conditions they provided for this Golden Sun Spirit Tree were unprecedented in abundance—even a whole vial of the Rank-4 Water of Ten Thousand Transformations had been used to irrigate it. Yet, despite its aura growing stronger with each passing day, it still hadn’t crossed that critical threshold to trigger the level-up.

“Master, it’s absorbing the vast essence contained within the Everlife Soil. As long as its upward momentum doesn’t stop, it will eventually ascend,”

Zhuo Ming reported her findings to Chen Mobai after communicating with it using the All Things Spiritual Communication technique.

“It’s not that I’m impatient,” Chen Mobai responded, “but in the coming decade, I’ll be going into a closed-door retreat to break through to a higher realm. If this Spirit Plant levels up while I’m not around, I wouldn’t be able to use the One-Leaf Blindness technique to shield it from the Heavenly Tribulation.”

Hearing his words, Zhuo Ming couldn’t disguise her shock.

She knew that her master had reached the late stage of Core Formation long ago. A higher realm could only mean Perfect Core Formation.

And after achieving Perfect Core Formation, one could attempt the Nascent Soul Formation.

Nascent Soul!

This was truly the pinnacle of power in the Eastern Wilderness cultivation world!

Even across the entire East Continent, it represented an upper echelon of existence.

“Your disciple offers early congratulations to Master for successfully breaking through,”

Zhuo Ming said, her words eliciting hearty laughter from Chen Mobai. The two of them then sat beneath the shade of the Golden Sun Spirit Tree and began a long-overdue session of teaching and mentoring.

Zhuo Ming herself had already reached Foundation Establishment Completion, and her Body Refining Technique had even reached Rank-3.

According to Chen Mobai’s evaluation, if she were to take the Golden Liquid Jade Pill, achieving Core Formation would be practically guaranteed.

However, since they had set her on the path of Comprehension Path Golden Core, there was no need to rush—it was worth waiting a little longer.

Over in Rainbow County, the afforestation and desert control project was progressing under the strong backing of the Five Elements Sect. Attracted by the promise of Spirit Stones, many small sects and cultivation families joined what outwardly seemed like a labor-intensive and cost-ineffective massive project.

With the development of the Dark Water river system nearing completion, the labor force of cultivators originally tasked with constructing the river channels suddenly became surplus. They all flocked en masse to the desert control efforts.

By now, over a hundred Foundation Establishment Practitioners and four to five thousand Qi Practitioners had gathered in Rainbow County.

No matter where one was, the saying “strength comes in numbers” held true.

“Thank you, Master, for your guidance.”

After mentoring Zhuo Ming, Chen Mobai laughed heartily again. Without lingering in Northern Abyss City, he immediately left via the Teleportation Array and returned to Mount Tianpeng.

When Qing Nu saw the seven Rank-4 spiritual medicines he brought back, her smile didn’t fade for a second.

She had long prepared the tools needed to refine Lingyuan Pills.

Naturally, she didn’t let Chen Mobai off the hook, dragging him over to wield the Tuśita Fire and provide a stable source of heat.

Every time Qing Nu refined pills, it was considered a perfect teaching session for the Alchemists of the Tianhe Realm.

Thus, this time, Chen Mobai didn't hesitate to call Yan Shaoyin over as well.

After returning to Back to Sky Valley, Yan Shaoyin announced his plan to merge their sect into the Five Elements Sect. Although many of his disciples were unable to accept this, under the pressure of his years of dominance—and with Luo Xue'er, a formidable Core Formation combatant, overseeing matters—every single one of them nodded in compliance.

The locals understood all too well: defiance only led to one outcome—death.

After all, Back to Sky Valley had treated the cultivation forces within their own territory the same way in the past.

Now that even their sect's backbone elder had defected, the disciples could only obey orders. At worst, it was just trading one sect for another to scrape by.

For those unwilling to accept this, they could become Loose Cultivators. Armed with the alchemy skills learned in Back to Sky Valley, they could earn cultivation resources like Spirit Stones anywhere.

Yet, any cultivator with ambition understood how advantageous practicing cultivation within a major sect truly was.

In Back to Sky Valley, as long as one had sufficient Spirit Stones, one could exchange for the main and auxiliary ingredients required to refine a batch of elixirs. However, for Loose Cultivators, it could take years—even decades—of painstaking effort to gather everything.

The most tragic part was that, after finally collecting all the materials, a rogue cultivator might catch wind of it and steal it all in one fell swoop.

Although such acts were heavily cracked down upon after the Five Elements Sect took control of the Eastern Wilderness, they hadn't disappeared entirely. The life of a Loose Cultivator in the cultivation world remained the hardest.

After Yan Shaoyin gave the command, E Yun—having already been informed in advance—led his people over. Together with Luo Xue'er, they began registering the personnel rosters, account books, and most importantly, the medicine fields and other resources of Back to Sky Valley.

When Yan Shaoyin received Chen Mobai's summons, he skillfully avoided the heartbreak of seeing his ancestral foundation handed over and came directly to Mount Tianpeng instead.

Alongside him were Zeng Woyou and Yan Jinye, the master-disciple pair.

When they saw Yan Shaoyin, they even gave him a special salute. After all, he had held the title of the number one Alchemist of the Eastern Wilderness for over two centuries, and nearly all the Alchemists present had studied under the shadow of his reputation.

Yan Shaoyin recognized Zeng Woyou. Although the latter was the head of the Five Elements Sect's Alchemy Department, his skills were average. However, out of respect for Chen Mobai, Yan Shaoyin still nodded amicably at the master and disciple pair.

At that moment, Chen Mobai and Qing Nu descended from the mountain peak.

"Is that the True Disciple of the Abnormality Elder? She truly exudes a pure aura unlike any cultivator of the Eastern Wilderness..."

Upon seeing Qing Nu's unparalleled beauty and peerless grace, Yan Shaoyin silently nodded in approval.

But soon, he couldn't help furrowing his brows slightly.

Because he noticed that Qing Nu wasn't truly a Core Formation cultivator—she seemed to possess a Heterodox Golden Core.

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"This disciple of the venerable aberrant senior seems to have average talent," he remarked.

Yan Shaoyin speculated that it must have been because Qing Nu failed to succeed in her Core Formation previously, forcing her to resort to refining a heterodox Golden Core.

In that instant, he began to harbor doubts about the words Chen Mobai had spoken back then.

After all, as a distinguished Alchemist, failing to achieve proper Core Formation would reflect inadequacy in one's craft.

But as Yan Shaoyin was mulling over whether he had been misled by Chen Mobai, a wisp of purple-green flames materialized before his eyes.

Shortly thereafter, right before him, Chen Mobai and Qing Nu showcased a seamless collaboration, fluid as flowing water. Within merely a month, they successfully refined the Lingyuan Pills.

The very moment ten perfectly formed pills exited the furnace, Yan Shaoyin's eyes nearly popped out in shock.

"Sect Leader, may I inspect one of these?"

Unable to suppress his excitement, Yan Shaoyin spoke up with a trembling voice.

Chen Mobai nodded and handed him one. Yan Shaoyin then employed the secret pill-appraisal technique of Back to Sky Valley.

Moments later, he sucked in a sharp breath of surprise.

Utilizing his appraisal technique, he found no trace whatsoever of Dan Poison in the Lingyuan Pill in his palm.

Yet another flawless batch.

Yan Shaoyin was now certain—Qing Nu was indeed the Alchemist behind the flawless Return to True Elixirs. He deeply regretted his earlier narrow-minded doubts, thankful he hadn't displayed them outwardly.

Otherwise, his humiliation would have known no bounds.

“Greetings, Fellow Daoist. I noticed the pill-refining steps you just executed deviated from conventional methods in the Eastern Wilderness. Might I beg for some guidance?”

After returning the Lingyuan Pill with the utmost respect, Yan Shaoyin humbly sought pointers from Qing Nu.

“Of course. Nephew Zeng and Nephew Yan, come over too. If you have questions, don't hesitate to ask.”

Qing Nu had already learned about Yan Shaoyin's background from Chen Mobai. Knowing her pills would need Yan Shaoyin's reputation to enter the East Continent's markets in the future, she treated him with great courtesy.

While Qing Nu and the Alchemists engaged in their discussions, Chen Mobai excused himself and carried the freshly refined batch of Lingyuan Pills back to Mount Tianpeng's summit.

Sitting serenely beneath the reborn Five-Cornered Ancient Maple, he extracted one crystalline Lingyuan Pill and consumed it directly.

Clutching a supreme-grade Spirit Stone, he closed his eyes and activated the Drink Has Ceremony technique, siphoning the pure Fire Spiritual Energy from the surroundings and channeling the Pure Yang Scroll to refine it.

At the mountain's base, where Yan Shaoyin and the others were discussing Alchemy, they suddenly felt the entire Mount Tianpeng tremble faintly. Instinctively looking up, they saw fiery-red spiritual energy surging skyward like crimson clouds, shrouding the mountaintop. The energy condensed into a funnel and cascaded towards a specific spot on the summit with unending intensity.

Yan Shaoyin, himself a cultivator specialized in Fire Techniques and having achieved Core Formation with the Earth's Core True Fire Technique—renowned across the Eastern Wilderness for enabling practitioners to reach the Nascent Soul Realm—was astounded.

“The Sect Leader’s foundation is truly profound!”

Before breaking into Nascent Soul, Yan Shaoyin had condensed seven streams of Earth-Core True Qi. Even when he channeled all his might to cultivate, the phenomenon of attracting Fire Spiritual Energy could at most reach one-fifth of this scale.

Witnessing this spectacle stunned him deeply.

At the same time, an inexplicable surge of delight filled his heart.

With such a solid foundation, the Sect Leader would undoubtedly succeed in forming his Nascent Soul.

Unconsciously, Yan Shaoyin’s sense of identification with the Five Elements Sect deepened further.

Time flowed like a river.

Unnoticed, Chen Mobai had been in closed-door cultivation atop Mount Tianpeng for two years.

He consumed only four Lingyuan Pills during this period, yet successfully cultivated the Core Formation section of the Pure Yang Scroll to Great Perfection.

Not only had he achieved Golden Core Perfection, but he also refined three out of five fragments of the Tuśita Fire.

With this Immortal Fire as leverage, Chen Mobai condensed his Pure Yang True Qi to the pinnacle achievable within his current realm.

Now, his Dantian Qi Sea no longer contained any traces of Pure Yang Spiritual Power—it was entirely filled with vast, untamed Pure Yang True Qi.

However, this Pure Yang True Qi remained volatile, requiring further refinement through the Flame Lighting Technique.

In addition, his Divine Sense and physical body also saw improvements.

After fully refining a bottle of Star Light Spirit Liquid, his Longevity Dao Body subtly approached its theoretical limit. However, because the liquid wasn't specifically tailored to complement his Body Refining Technique, its effectiveness was diminished, falling short of aiding a direct breakthrough to Rank-4.

Chen Mobai wasn't disheartened, though. He maintained a steady pace, consuming Spirit Rice daily to further hone his Longevity Dao Body.

He planned to capitalize on the power of breaking through realms once he attempted Nascent Soul Formation, achieving multiple breakthroughs in one go.

As for his Divine Sense, it had already reached Core Formation Perfection with the help of the Pure Bamboo, so only slight enhancements in purity and clarity were possible. Yet, during a session practicing the Vermilion Phoenix Facing the Sun Diagram under the Crown of Heaven and Earth, he unexpectedly entered a mystical state of being.

In this transcendent state, he sensed an otherworldly omniscient will permeating the heavens and earth. This boundless intent governed the secrets of the universe; merging with it offered control over the Heavenly Heart's authority.

In that moment, he felt an overwhelming impulse to shed his corporeal form and fuse entirely with this vast cosmic will.

At the critical juncture, the Lifespan Artifact Morning Bell within his Purple Mansion's Sea of Knowledge rang out, pulling him back from the brink.

It was because of this that Chen Mobai awoke from his seclusion that day.

Reflecting on the profound state he entered, he analyzed his Sea of Knowledge through inner observation, searching for an explanation in his amassed knowledge.

Before long, three characters appeared in his mind.

“Heavenly Blessing!”

This was the fourth level of the Vermilion Phoenix Facing the Sun Diagram. Legends described the phoenix as an auspicious divine bird, innately favored by heaven, thus perpetually blessed. Even when calamity loomed, auspicious signs would forewarn it to steer clear.

If Chen Mobai mastered this level, he would gain a premonition akin to the instinctive alertness of a cicada sensing the first autumn winds—a mental clarity that would alert him to impending mortal danger, enabling him to prepare for crises.

Yet this realm was far advanced for a Golden Core cultivator.

Chen Mobai didn’t understand why he’d suddenly grasped “Heavenly Blessing,” but he was grateful for the Morning Bell’s timely intervention; otherwise, its consequences would’ve been uncertain.

Stirred from his retreat, Chen Mobai felt an unsettled heart and decided to rise from meditation altogether.

“Huh, you’re out of seclusion, and you didn’t even notify me beforehand!”

As he left the Five-Cornered Ancient Maple’s vicinity, Qing Nu sensed his presence and swiftly flew up from the mountain’s base.

With his Daoist companion, there was no need for concealment.

Chen Mobai explained how he had briefly entered the “Heavenly Blessing” state but felt shaken.

“It must be because of your extraordinary innate talents. I certainly don’t experience such troubles,” Qing Nu quipped with a lighthearted smile.

Chen Mobai couldn’t help but laugh. The two affectionately lingered atop the summit for a while before he decided to officially exit his cultivation.

“While you were in seclusion, several message talismans arrived for you. Do you want to take a look?”

Afterward, Qing Nu retrieved a stack of inscribed talisman papers from her storage bag and handed them to Chen Mobai. Taking them, he read through each one carefully.

Most contained good news.

Last year, Nu Jiang advanced to the late stage of Core Formation. Under Zhou Shengqing’s arrangement, he began condensing Water Element Essence.

At the year’s start, Sheng Zhaoxi achieved a similar breakthrough, progressing past his bottleneck to begin condensing Fire Element Essence.

Encouraged by these reports, Chen Mobai took out Qing Nu’s batch of Return to True Elixirs and the remaining Lingyuan Pills, preparing to personally deliver them as supplements to offset the substantial expenditure required for refining Five Elements Essence.

At last, he reached the final message talisman.

Chapter 1565: Luo Yixuan’s Core Formation

It was delivered by Luo Yixuan.

She mentioned that she had already led her team to complete the development of Dark Water and asked Chen Mobai if he wanted to join the final completion inspection.

Could it be this merit?

After reading it, Chen Mobai had this thought about why he suddenly entered the Heavenly Blessing Realm.

Thinking of this, he felt it necessary to make a trip.

Coincidentally, after Luo Yixuan finished developing Dark Water, she also felt that her Realm had reached Perfection and was ready to take the most critical step toward Core Formation. As her master, at such an important moment, he needed to protect her.

“Do you want to come along and take a look?”

This time, Chen Mobai invited Qing Nu, feeling that it was also a good time to introduce her to his disciple.

“Wouldn’t it be too abrupt?”

Qing Nu was naturally willing but still felt a bit uneasy.

“Don’t worry, you’ve met Wen Bo already. The disciples I’ve taken in here are quite obedient.”

Chen Mobai said with a smile. Besides, Luo Yixuan’s Core Formation would undoubtedly face a terrifying Heavenly Tribulation, requiring a powerful Magic Artifact to withstand it. The Xuan Guang Soap Carving Flag fragment in Qing Nu’s possession was just right.

The fragment he brought from the Beidou Conference turned out to come from the same source as the one Qing Nu held. One edge of the two pieces could align perfectly.

These fragments, which were once in Yan Fusheng's possession, could resist the edge of Chen Mobai's Purple Lightning Sword. It seemed more than sufficient to handle a Core Formation Heavenly Tribulation.

This was also an opportunity for Qing Nu to do Luo Yixuan a favor by lending her a piece to overcome the tribulation.

When Chen Mobai explained this, Qing Nu felt that he considered her in every way, and her heart was even sweeter.

"Coincidentally, I successfully refined the Golden Liquid Jade Pill half a year ago. I can bring it along for your disciple."

Qing Nu shared another piece of good news. Although she had nearly finished modifying the Five Elements Golden Core Pill recipe, it was far more reliable to have full confidence in refining the Golden Liquid Jade Pill than risking the unknown.

"Very well, very well. Since the elixir is ready, you can officially form your core once Xuan completes hers."

Chen Mobai was even more excited upon hearing this.

With Qing Nu's Heavenly Spiritual Root and the resources of the Tianhe Realm, it wouldn't be a challenge for her to achieve Nascent Soul Formation in the future. If the Fetal Transformation Essence was as miraculous as Yan Xinji described, her future Divinity Transformation was also a possibility.

This way, the two of them might even be able to build the Five Elements Sect into the first Holy Land in the Eastern Wilderness.

"I planned to start my Core Formation process after you complete your closed-door training anyhow."

Qing Nu said with a smile. With the Heterodox Golden Core and Golden Liquid Jade Pill in hand, her chances of successfully forming her core were almost 100%.

Moreover, her entire Spiritual Power had been converted to the Black Emperor Abyssal Scripture, and she had comprehended this Divine Transformation Technique to an exceptionally profound extent.

While speaking, Qing Nu handed the Golden Liquid Jade Pill to Chen Mobai, but he stopped her.

“You hold onto it. When the time comes, you can give it to Xuan and the rest.”

Chen Mobai thought about how Qing Nu, as his Daoist Couple, would be meeting his disciples for the first time. As an elder, she ought to prepare some gifts, and the Golden Liquid Jade Pill was perfect.

“Alright.”

Qing Nu happily nodded. After that, she descended the mountain to inform Zeng Woyou and the others about her departure plans.

Shortly after, Chen Mobai drove the Red Misty Cloud Silk, carrying her toward the nearest Fang Market’s Teleportation Array.

“This Magic Artifact appears to be close to upgrading into Tai Yi Wu Yan Luo.”

Seated atop the colorful wispy clouds, Qing Nu curiously reached out, stroking the soft, cotton-like Cloud Light around her.

Once all the Rank-4 Spirit Materials were refined into this Magic Artifact, it would transform into Dance Instruments Dao Academy’s renowned Tai Yi Wu Yan Luo.

Throughout the thousands of years of Immortal Gate history, only three Tai Yi Wu Yan Luo artifacts had been crafted.

Of these, some were made during resource-rich wartime, while others were nurtured by their Artifact Spirit, absorbing Spiritual Power from their owner to ascend.

For years, Chen Mobai had been focused on advancing his Cultivation Realm and condensing Pure Yang True Qi. Though he had gathered all the Spirit Materials, he hadn't had time to refine them into the Red Misty Cloud Silk.

"Now that my cultivation is at the peak, after you all complete your Core Formation, I'll upgrade this Magic Artifact."

Chen Mobai thought about the Rank-4 Spirit Materials he acquired from the Beidou Conference. Besides upgrading Tai Yi Wu Yan Luo, he could also promote the Primordial Yang Sword Evil to Rank-4.

"The Union of Differences' truly deserves its title as one of the Immortal Gate's Great Divine Techniques—it makes upgrading artifacts remarkably convenient..."

Qing Nu listened, her face full of envy.

After obtaining two fragments of the Xuan Guang Soap Carving Flag, she could only use ordinary sacramental refinement methods to ensure usability.

If she had access to The Union of Differences, she might have been able to truly fuse the two fragments and greatly enhance their power.

"After I achieve Nascent Soul Formation, I'll replace the Union's focus with the Xuan Guang Soap Carving Flag and help fuse them for you."

Chen Mobai didn't hesitate to declare.

In his hands, The Union of Differences had already degraded into a mere tool for refining artifacts.

During his leisure time, he would hang the Haotian Mirror as his “Union.” When refining the Red Misty Cloud Silk, he would replace the mirror with the silk.

If he obtained the Primordial Yang Sword in the future, he wouldn’t hesitate to make the swap.

If Hong Mengkui and Master Chengxuan knew how casually Chen Mobai treated his Union, their eyes would surely widen.

For Chen Mobai, it was mainly because he had too many options.

Moreover, his primary practice revolved around the Pure Yang Scroll, with The Union of Differences serving as a mere aide.

That was also why his cultivation hadn’t reached its fullest potential yet.

Chapter 1566: Luo Yixuan Achieves Core Formation_2

If only he could cultivate both, he surely wouldn’t be like this now.

“Your talent, even without the resources of the Tianhe Realm, is still the greatest in the history of the Immortal Gate.”

Qing Nu looked admiringly at Chen Mobai. The man before her, her Daoist companion, not only cultivated the Pure Yang Scroll but also had the energy to train in the Guidance Book and “The Union of Differences.” He handled all three Divine Transformation Techniques simultaneously, and each had achieved extraordinary mastery.

This was not something mere resources could accomplish; it required genuine transcendent insight.

“You flatter me. Many Seniors and Patriarchs in the Immortal Gate could do this as well; they just choose not to waste their time in such ways,” said Chen Mobai modestly.

The Immortal Gate revered perfection in one's craft. As for other shortcomings, they would simply find someone else who had honed that specialty to perfection to complement them.

For instance, among the Immortal Gate's Nascent Soul Superiors, Fifth-Order Artifact Refiners, and Fifth-Order Talisman Makers, there was often only one person for each specialization.

Alchemical needs, being more substantial, required three specialists in that particular field.

Each cultivator in the Immortal Gate functioned as a cog in a vast, flawless machine of cultivation society.

Other Nascent Soul Superiors of the Immortal Gate, if willing, could also practice three Divine Transformation Techniques simultaneously. But there was neither necessity nor resources to do so.

As they spoke, Chen Mobai and Qing Nu made their way toward Northern Abyss City.

"The Teleportation Array is truly convenient..."

The Immortal Gate's sole shortfall compared to the Tianhe Realm was likely its Teleportation Array technology.

Chen Mobai even entertained the thought: once he reached Nascent Soul and had the opportunity to study the Heavenly Book Academy's scriptures, could he perhaps make Teleportation Arrays a tangible result of his study of the Universe Scripture?

However, on second thought, such arrays required Void Stones for setup. With the Immortal Gate's reserves, even mastering the technique would likely lead nowhere due to resource constraints.

Perhaps that was precisely why the Immortal Gate had never developed such technology.

After all, across countless ages, so many unparalleled geniuses had passed through the Immortal Gate. With treasures like the Portal at their disposal, it seemed unlikely they couldn't figure out Teleportation Arrays.

"Come, let me show you around my Northern Abyss City."

Chen Mobai was the first to step out of the grand hall housing the Teleportation Array. Qing Nu, full of anticipation, followed him eagerly.

"Greetings, Sect Leader!"

The moment they exited, Qing Nu saw seven Foundation Establishment practitioners waiting outside. Lined up on either side stood over a hundred Qi Practitioners, all clad in five-colored uniforms and bowing respectfully to the pair.

"Dispense with formalities, disciples."

Chen Mobai waved his hand toward Yuan Chiye and the others at the forefront. These seven Foundation Establishment cultivators were in charge of the Five Element Meridians at Northern Abyss City—three of them belonging to the Wood Vein.

Since the unification of the Five Veins, Northern Abyss City had become the communication hub of the Five Veins at Chen Mobai's initiative. Distribution of tasks, Spirit Stones, and Spirit Rice was all managed from here.

Consequently, the other four veins immediately sent their brightest and most capable elders to assist.

Learning the Sect Leader would be visiting, no one wanted to fall behind, so they followed Yuan Chiye here to greet him.

After a brief exchange with them, Chen Mobai signaled for them to disperse.

In the end, only the Wood Vein members remained.

Besides the familiar Yuan Chiye and Qi Rui, there were two others: Chen Mobai's young disciple Jiang Zongheng and his disciple's disciple, Duan Shuyu.

It had been many years since they met. Jiang Zongheng now sported a black beard, likely evidence of his many years as a Grand Preceptor, lending him an air of authority he once lacked.

"Master."

Yet, before Chen Mobai, he still bowed with utmost respect.

In these years, Jiang Zongheng governed the Great Zhao Dynasty, established after unification, with remarkable order. Today, the overall population of the Eastern Desolation not only recovered to pre-war levels but continued to grow annually. It was projected to soon surpass ten million.

This would be a historic milestone for the Eastern Desolation, something it had never achieved since its founding.

All this was credited to the widespread development of fertile fields within the Eastern Desolation. Once plagued by war, the Nineteen Prefectures often lay fallow, with many Spirit Fields and Spirit Veins deserted.

Jiang Zongheng implemented policies rooted in agricultural reform, redistributing land and heavily promoting the farming civilization.

In the aftermath of chaos comes order. With policies granting everyone their own land, the mortals of the Eastern Desolation quickly stabilized, even embracing a vitality previously unseen in their lives.

Guided by Chen Mobai's insights, Zhuo Ming developed a strain of rice capable of two harvests a year. Under Jiang Zongheng's orders, this strain was distributed throughout all suitable regions of the Nineteen Prefectures.

As a result, the longstanding issue of food shortages, which had inhibited population growth, was entirely resolved.

According to Jiang Zongheng's estimations, the Great Zhao Dynasty could maintain its rapid development for another century. By then, however, the Eastern Desolation's population would reach its limit, and there would no longer be enough land to distribute.

This scenario would repeat the downfall of previous dynasties in the Eastern Desolation—land consolidation leading to chaos.

“What happens a century from now is a matter for that time. The Dao of Heaven lies in change. If waters stagnate and remain unchanging, it becomes unappealing,” Chen Mobai said with a slight smile.

He had spoken words that left Jiang Zongheng deep in thought. These echoed the wisdom of a great thinker from the Immortal Gate's ancient past.

Better to redirect than to block.

So long as they remained, any temporary unrest breaking the status quo could eventually lead back to order and peace.

“Master, is there no way to escape this cycle entirely?”

Chapter 1567: Luo Yixuan's Core Formation_3

Jiang Zongheng posed the question.

Among all of Chen Mobai's disciples, his thoughts and considerations were the most profound. He was a rare cultivator who contemplated the fate of ordinary people.

“That would require a different societal system and structure. But even with such changes, whether the cycle can be broken remains uncertain.”

Chen Mobai spoke, explaining that the framework of the Immortal Gate, upheld by strict rules, had sustained for over six thousand years—a period of unprecedented stability and prosperity.

Still, he was uncertain whether the Immortal Gate could persist eternally and establish a thousand generations of peace.

“Master, I humbly ask for your guidance.”

Jiang Zongheng inquired again.

This time, however, Chen Mobai shook his head, refraining from answering the question.

“It is not yet time.”

Chen Mobai’s words left Jiang Zongheng deep in thought. Only Qing Nu seemed to grasp his meaning.

The stability brought by the Immortal Gate’s system on Di Yuan Star was a product of fortuitous circumstances—a gradual fusion and mutual acceptance between cultivators and the ordinary world.

That process was also steeped in bloodshed.

Without the suppression and enforcement of the rules by generations of Huashen Ancestors, the peace of the Immortal Gate would be nothing more than an illusion.

“Nephew Duan seems to be nearing Foundation Establishment.”

At that moment, Chen Mobai noticed Duan Shuyu standing behind Jiang Zongheng. Compared to their last meeting, Duan seemed even older, his hair entirely white.

After all, Duan Shuyu had been quite advanced in age when he first encountered the path of immortal cultivation. Nonetheless, his exceptional talent had allowed him to reach the Ninth Level of Qi Refining within a decade.

“My respects, Master Ancestor. This time, I have come to exchange for a Foundation Building Pill.”

Seeing Chen Mobai’s gaze land on him, Duan Shuyu, under Jiang Zongheng’s signal, explained his purpose for visiting.

“Chance has brought us together. Yuan Chiye, retrieve a Foundation Building Pill from the Spirit Treasure Pavilion for him. Deduct the contribution points from my account.”

Chen Mobai commanded generously, and Yuan Chiye immediately nodded in agreement.

“Thank you, Master Ancestor.”

Duan Shuyu expressed his gratitude sincerely.

He had led the Great Zhao Dynasty’s army to unify the Eastern Wilderness—a significant contribution to the Five Elements Sect. Back then, Chen Mobai had approved his reward of eight thousand sect contribution points. Over the years, under Jiang Zongheng’s arrangement, Duan had completed several tasks, finally accruing ten thousand.

Unexpectedly, meeting Chen Mobai today saved him the need for an exchange transaction.

“How have you been progressing in the Unbreakable Body cultivation technique I taught you earlier?”

Looking at Duan Shuyu, Chen Mobai recalled their first meeting, during which he had transmitted the Metal-based Grand Way—a Body Refining Technique capable of rendering the flesh immortal and unbreakable when cultivated to perfection. Only spiritual power condensed through the White Emperor Military Formation Scripture could be used to advance it further.

This Grand Way was precisely a balance to the Water Droplet Sword.

During the era of the Ancient Changsheng Sect, disciples who practiced these two techniques often challenged one another, using each other as a grindstone for mutual progress.

“This disciple has been dull-witted and has only just grasped the fundamentals!”

Duan Shuyu confessed with some embarrassment. After breaking through to the Ninth Level of Qi Refining years ago, he had finally grasped the core principle while tempering his body, condensing his first strand of Unbreakable Spiritual Light to refine his flesh.

“To master this in the Qi Cultivating Realm is already impressive.”

Chen Mobai praised him and then retrieved two jade slips from his storage bag.

These were Grand Ways he had obtained during his exploration of the Divine Tree Secret Realm while cultivating the Earth Spirit Root through the Earth Gathering Art. As purely Metal-element techniques, they were of no use to him and had simply been set aside.

Seeing Duan Shuyu now reminded him of them.

“Thank you, Master Ancestor, for bestowing these immortal laws.”

Duan Shuyu spoke, following the Eastern Wilderness’ customs by first swearing an oath before accepting the jade slips.

“Once he attains Foundation Establishment, arrangements can be made for him to cultivate here in Northern Abyss City.”

Chen Mobai addressed Jiang Zongheng, pointing out that Duan Shuyu’s age placed him at a disadvantage. If he aimed to achieve Core Formation, diligence would be essential, requiring cultivation in a place of strong Spirit Veins such as Northern Abyss City.

“Understood, Master.”

Jiang Zongheng nodded; he, too, held similar thoughts.

With stability in the mortal world and the domain secure, Jiang had even considered retiring from officialdom. Yet, after conversing with Chen Mobai today, he realized he ought to delve deeper into grassroots efforts to uncover a genuine solution to the cyclical collapse of dynasties.

“This is my dear friend, Qing Nu.”

At this moment, Chen Mobai smiled and gestured toward his Daoist companion beside him. Jiang Zongheng, Yuan Chiye, and the others, as Foundation Establishment-level elders in the Five Elements Sect, had some understanding of Qing Nu’s origins.

After all, the ministers and vice-ministers of the Alchemy Department often visited Mount Tianpeng to seek her advice, with sect disciples frequently delivering medicinal materials as well.

Over time, it became common knowledge that the Sect Leader had invited an Alchemy Master.

“Greetings, Qing Nu Senior.”

Though Qing Nu’s true background was unknown, anyone befriending the Sect Leader was undoubtedly not a mere mortal.

Furthermore, her uniquely ethereal and untouched elegance was something rarely seen in the Eastern Wilderness.

Thus, everyone extended their greetings with utmost respect and politeness.

“Xuan is preparing for Core Formation. Now that you’re here, accompany me, will you?”

Chen Mobai suggested to Jiang Zongheng, who immediately agreed.

The group then set out for Cold Jade Lake.

Following the path carved through the Dark Water, Chen Mobai flew forward alongside Qing Nu, describing the original landscape of the Eastern Wilderness and recounting the arduous challenges of transforming the realm.

Chapter 1568: Luo Yixuan's Core Formation_4

"Being able to accomplish such grand projects, both Xuan and Ming'er have contributed immensely."

As Chen Mobai spoke, they had already caught sight of the end of Dark Water.

Soon, a stream of water-attributed Spiritual Light flew up from Cold Jade Lake, heading toward them.

Shortly thereafter, Luo Yixuan, dressed in white palace robes, descended in front of Chen Mobai. She glanced at everyone briefly, her gaze pausing for a moment on the stunningly beautiful Qing Nu before she withdrew her eyes and bowed to Chen Mobai. "Greetings, Master!"

"These past years, Xuan, you've worked hard."

Chen Mobai motioned for her to join them on the "Red Misty Cloud Silk," bringing her along as they flew to the edge of Dark Water.

Today, Cold Jade Lake saw the largest gathering of cultivators in its history.

Beyond the twenty-some Foundation Establishment Practitioners from the Five Elements Sect, there were over forty separate contractor teams led by Foundation Establishment cultivators. It was precisely because of this that Luo Yixuan had managed to complete the Dark Water project in less than ten short years.

However, to achieve this, the Five Elements Sect had poured an incalculable amount of Spirit Stones and resources into the effort.

Now that Dark Water had been successfully opened, those non-Five Elements Sect cultivators all wore expressions of reluctance.

After all, they had never earned Spirit Stones this easily in the Eastern Wilderness.

And most importantly, the Five Elements Sect also provided meals.

Anyone working on the project was supplied with an unlimited amount of Spirit Rice every day—however much one could eat, they could help themselves to it.

Usually, even the Loose Cultivators or cultivator families could not afford to eat Spirit Rice with every meal.

After Chen Mobai landed, he exchanged a few brief words with some representatives, and amidst the excited yet wistful faces of the crowd, conducted the final completion inspection.

With a wave of the “Red Misty Cloud Silk,” Chen Mobai lifted the gate blocking the river, allowing the rushing waters to flow forward like a white dragon into the pre-carved basin of Cold Jade Lake.

In an instant, the vision of rivers merging into an ocean was etched into Chen Mobai’s mind.

It even expanded and traced back to the Mo River and White River in the two counties of Yanxiao.

The three great rivers seemed like the veins of the earth, coursing through the Eastern Desolation Plateau and Rainbow County, feeding vitality into the soil along their banks. Trees were nourished with ample water, while countless small tributaries branched out, irrigating acres upon acres of fertile fields planted with Spirit Grass and rice.

Chen Mobai sensed the blades of grass flourishing under the abundant river water, growing taller than a person.

He envisioned herds of robust Spirit Bulls and Antelopes, led by Spirit Beast Department disciples of the Five Elements Sect, grazing on the grasses, hefty and strong.

At this very moment, Chen Mobai ascended into the Heavenly Blessing Realm once more!

This time, however, he achieved perfect harmony with the will of the Eastern Desolation Plateau, feeling as though he was the very sky of this region. He could perceive the hidden limitless veins of minerals, the myriad phenomena, even the cycles of life and death that permeated everything within this land.

In his mind's eye, he saw a myriad of dazzling Spiritual Lights across the Eastern Desolation Plateau.

These were potent Spirit Veins yet to be discovered by cultivators, and some contained Spirit Plants and Spirit Materials nurtured over millennia.

In this state, Chen Mobai also became aware of all future climatic changes across the Eastern Desolation Plateau. If he wished, he could even attempt to summon wind and call forth rain.

But he restrained himself.

Nature follows its own laws; it was better to let things run their course without wanton interference.

Just as this thought arose in his mind, the Morning Bell tolled once more.

Chen Mobai immediately withdrew from the Heavenly Blessing Realm.

He quickly realized that his Divine Sense had depleted to only ten percent of its capacity.

If not for the Morning Bell waking him, this immersion into Heavenly Blessing might have left his heart and mind weakened for a long time.

“What’s wrong?”

Qing Nu, having noticed something amiss with Chen Mobai, asked him with a trace of concern.

“It’s nothing, just testing a hypothesis in my mind.”

Chen Mobai replied with an unchanged expression before announcing the completion ceremony’s conclusion.

Once the crowd had dispersed and only his trusted associates remained, he did not reveal his mental fatigue and maintained his composed demeanor as he conversed with Luo Yixuan.

“You are about to form your core. The only concern is the Heavenly Tribulation. This is my friend, Qing Nu. She has a powerful water-attributed Magic Artifact, which I’ll have her lend to you for now...”

As Chen Mobai spoke, Qing Nu smiled and took out a fragment of the “Mysterious Light Soap Carved Flag,” handing it to Luo Yixuan. The latter extended her hand to receive it and quickly expressed her thanks to Qing Nu.

“I have been a close friend of your master for many years. His disciples are as good as my own. Coincidentally, I recently refined a batch of Golden Liquid Jade Pills—here, I’ll gift you one.”

After handing over the flag fragment, Qing Nu pulled out a Jade Vial, extracting a single Golden Liquid Jade Pill for Luo Yixuan.

“This...”

Looking at Chen Mobai uncertainly, Luo Yixuan hesitated, sensing that the more favors she owed this female cultivator, the more she might regret it in the future. While the Magic Artifact was a necessity for

overcoming the tribulation and could not be refused, she felt that the Golden Liquid Jade Pill was unnecessary.

“Take it. While you’re almost assured of success in Core Formation, it’s always wise to prepare for unforeseen circumstances. Consume this Golden Liquid Jade Pill, and I can rest easy.”

With Chen Mobai’s insistence, Luo Yixuan could only bow again to Qing Nu, accepting the pill from her hand.

Afterward, the Five Elements Sect disciples stationed at Dark Water returned to Northern Abyss City to finalize and hand over the project, preparing to rest for a few years.

As for the remaining contractors and Loose Cultivators, some followed them back, while others sought entry into Zhuo Ming’s tree-planting and desert reclamation project.

To this, Zhuo Ming herself arrived with Yan Yuanhao in tow, allowing the latter to select qualified cultivators while she visited Chen Mobai and also awaited Luo Yixuan’s Core Formation.

Chen Mobai introduced Qing Nu to her. Qing Nu, already aware that Zhuo Ming was the disciple Chen Mobai valued most among his four students due to her diligence, immediately took a liking to her and gifted her a vial of pre-refined Danless Earth Veins Elixirs.

Chen Mobai regretted, however, that Yin Qingmei did not come. She seemed to have some discord with Luo Yixuan and had barely interacted with her over the years.

But there would be opportunities to introduce Qing Nu to Yin Qingmei in the future.

Half a month later, Luo Yixuan, having adjusted her condition, consumed the Golden Liquid Jade Pill. As Chen Mobai had foreseen, she easily succeeded in forming her core.

However, her Heavenly Tribulation was indeed far more formidable than that faced by ordinary Golden Core Cultivators.

Still, having a solid foundation and being well-equipped with prepared Magic Artifacts, Luo Yixuan successfully faced it with composure.

As the Heavenly Tribulation dissipated, Luo Yixuan descended upon the center of Cold Jade Lake to absorb the abundant Water Pulse Spirit Qi and recover her Spiritual Power. Seeing this, Chen Mobai nodded and put away the Haotian Mirror he had been preparing to activate.

“Have your junior sister stabilize her Realm properly. I’ll take my leave for now,”

Chen Mobai said to Zhuo Ming before departing on the “Red Misty Cloud Silk” with Qing Nu and the others.

After dropping Jiang Zongheng and his disciple off at Northern Abyss City, he brought Qing Nu to Wind Rain Hamlet,

where Zhou Shengqing and his group were condensing Five Elements Essence.

Chapter 1569: Acquired Pure Yang Body

“Junior Brother Chen, your speed of cultivation is truly unmatched under heaven.”

Within Wind Rain Hamlet, upon seeing that Chen Mobai had already achieved Perfect Core Formation, Zhou Shengqing and the others couldn’t help but marvel.

“It was thanks to Qing Nu refining several furnaces of elixirs for me. Without her help, relying solely on my own cultivation, it would have taken at least another ten years.”

Chen Mobai was exceedingly humble, then took out the pre-prepared Return to True Elixir and Lingyuan Pill, handing them to Nu Jiang and Sheng Zhaoxi nearby.

“Thank you, Junior Brother.”

After hearing about the effects of the elixirs, the two of them showed delighted expressions and gratefully accepted their share.

“No need to thank me. It is I who should express gratitude to you, as my ability to condense the Five Elements Essence was largely thanks to the help from senior brothers and sisters.”

Chen Mobai spoke courteously, then introduced Qing Nu to them.

“Greetings, Fellow Daoist.”

Although they were already aware of Qing Nu’s presence, today marked the first time Zhou Shengqing and the others saw her in person. They all greeted her warmly and amicably.

“Greetings, Fellow Daoists.”

Following the etiquette that Chen Mobai had taught her, Qing Nu slightly bowed toward Zhou Shengqing and the others.

“Once you finish using these elixirs, you can send me word. I’ll open the furnace and refine more potent batches for you at that time.”

Qing Nu spoke generously and decisively.

After hearing her words, Zhou Shengqing and the others hesitated slightly, casting a questioning look at Chen Mobai.

“The truth is, Qing Nu and I fell in love at first sight and have already formed the bond of a Dao couple.”

Chen Mobai did not hide anything and directly shared the truth with Zhou Shengqing and the others.

Upon hearing this, comprehension dawned upon Zhou Shengqing and the group. No wonder Qing Nu spoke in a manner befitting a mistress of the house.

“Congratulations to the both of you...”

Once they processed the news, they immediately offered their sincere congratulations to Chen Mobai and Qing Nu, feeling genuinely happy for them in their hearts.

The Five Elements Sect had long lacked a first-rate alchemist. With Qing Nu entering a Dao couple partnership with Chen Mobai, this glaring weakness was perfectly remedied.

From this point forward, their sect’s development was bound to enter a period of rapid growth.

“By the way, Junior Brother, since you and Fellow Daoist Qing Nu are now bonded as Dao companions, are you planning to hold a ceremony to announce it to the entirety of the Eastern Wilderness?”

Zhou Shengqing asked, his concern evident.

“My plan is to wait until I undergo Nascent Soul Formation and then combine the ceremony with the Nascent Soul Grand Ceremony. It will be the perfect time to announce the birth of the Five Elements Sect as a Nascent Soul Major Faction to the Eastern Wilderness and even the entire East Continent.”

Chen Mobai explained his thoughts; in essence, he wanted to hold off on personal matters until his cultivation reached the next level.

His ambition outweighed his rush to settle down.

“This might be a bit unfair to Fellow Daoist Qing Nu.”

Zhou Shengqing apologized to Qing Nu with an awkward expression. A Rank-4 alchemist with at least a Nascent Soul-level mentor, Qing Nu would be a valued guest even in the sanctuaries and commercial associations of Holy Lands.

“Honestly, as long as I can be with him, it doesn’t matter whether there’s a ceremony or not.”

Qing Nu replied boldly, her tone full of ease. For her—having endured suppression for decades within the Immortal Gate—being able to fly freely alongside Chen Mobai in this world was already the realization of her lifelong dreams.

“That won’t do! Fellow Daoist, your union with Junior Brother Chen is an immensely joyous event, and it cannot be treated lightly. Leave it to me to arrange the proper proceedings.”

As Zhou Shengqing spoke, he assured them he would take full responsibility for organizing everything.

Meanwhile, Chen Mobai and Nu Jiang discussed the situation across Yun Meng Ze in Dongwu.

Chen Mobai had received a piece of intelligence that was hard to discern as good or bad.

Sun Huangji of Dongwu’s Sun family had failed in his Nascent Soul Formation attempt.

Although the Sun family was desperately trying to suppress the news, the calamitous heavenly tribulation made secrecy impossible. Sun Huangji’s body was seen plummeting by cultivators in Huang Wu Immortal City, clear evidence that he hadn’t passed the tribulation.

“It seems his Nascent Soul Emergence was tenuous at best, leaving no spare strength to withstand the heavenly tribulation.”

Upon hearing this, Chen Mobai deduced the reason behind the failure.

Though he had yet to form his own Nascent Soul, his theoretical knowledge was unassailable among those present.

“With Sun Huangji’s passing, the Sun family might remain the largest cultivator clan in Dongwu, but they’ve lost their ability to dominate the region entirely. Chaos will likely erupt in their ranks for a while.”

Nu Jiang speculated with visible remorse.

The Five Elements Sect and Dongwu’s Sun family had cooperated for over a century to repress the demonic beasts of Yun Meng Ze. Nu Jiang himself had been a steadfast guardian against this threat, and he understood how disastrous losing Sun family support could have been.

“Don’t worry. Once I form my Nascent Soul, even if that Yellow Dragon Monster breaks free from its seal, Brother Zhou and I together will be able to suppress it.”

Chen Mobai’s confident words alleviated much of Nu Jiang’s lingering concerns.

Indeed.

The Five Elements Sect now possessed Nascent Soul cultivators!

If Chen Mobai succeeded, their strength would indisputably crown them as the most formidable faction in the Borderland Three Regions of Dongzhou.

“Then, Qing Nu and I will take our leave. If the elixirs run out, send a disciple to Mount Tianpeng to inform us.”

Having secured the Five Elements Essence, Chen Mobai did not linger in Wind Rain Hamlet but gracefully excused himself.

Zhou Shengqing and the others saw no reason to delay him. After Chen Mobai and Qing Nu disappeared into the medium transporting formation, Zhou Shengqing’s jubilant smile became hard to conceal.

“Your Wood Vein’s fate truly is extraordinary.”

Sheng Zhaoxi remarked with subtle envy. As a female cultivator herself, she felt overshadowed entirely in Qing Nu's presence.

"Oh, come now. It's all thanks to Junior Brother Chen and his towering fate..."

Chapter 1570: Acquired Pure Yang Body_2

Zhou Shengqing laughed heartily, already calculating what gift would be suitable as a betrothal present for Qing Nu's stature.

Unaware of any of this, Chen Mobai left Wind Rain Hamlet and took Qing Nu to tour the rest of the Eastern Wilderness.

"This was my Water Mansion when I first arrived..."

"This is Southstream Market..."

"I joined what was then the Divine Wood Sect here..."

As Chen Mobai traveled with Qing Nu, he received a Message Talisman upon returning to Mount Tianpeng.

It was from Yi Shaoqing, the head of the Formation Division.

He mentioned that people from Taixu Miaomiao Palace had arrived and asked whether the medium Teleportation Array should be set up at the previously agreed location.

Chen Mobai had already confirmed this two years ago with Yi Shaoqing, but he hadn't anticipated that Taixu Miaomiao Palace's installation service would be delayed for so long.

“Proceed,”

Chen Mobai replied with just one word. He also informed Fu Zongjue about the matter and asked him to host the visitors from Taixu Miaomiao Palace.

After all, the other Golden Core cultivators within the sect were busy helping him condense Five Elements Essence, and he himself was occupied with seclusion cultivation. Out of everyone, only Fu Zongjue had both free time and the appropriate status.

Once this matter was delegated, Chen Mobai ceased to concern himself with it.

He resumed cultivating True Qi at Mount Tianpeng.

Using the Immortal Gate’s alchemy techniques, Qing Nu dissolved the Earth Spirit Fruit and the essence from the Earth Attribute Heterodox Golden Core into a Medicine Pool. This process not only preserved the essences completely but also tapped into Mount Tianpeng’s geospiritual energy, fostering gradual nourishment and growth.

Chen Mobai combined this Earth Essence Qi with the Four Elements Essence Qi condensed by Zhou Shengqing and others to cultivate Primordial True Qi.

Unfortunately, Zhou Shengqing and the others were not specialists. The Five Elements Essence Qi they condensed had its inconsistencies—some were highly purified, others scattered and unstable.

Differences in cultivation levels and foundational strength were inevitable.

Had Chen Mobai adhered to the conventional method of cultivation, balancing the Five Elements Essence Qi alone would have consumed an enormous amount of time.

Fortunately, he possessed Stat Fire.

After purification and filtration by Stat Fire, the Five Elements Essence Qi was easily extracted by Chen Mobai using his Divine Sense into five equal portions. Combining these with a strand of Primordial True Qi seeded from his Middle Dantian, he absorbed and cultivated step by step.

Soon, a complete thread of Primordial True Qi was successfully cultivated.

It was a pity that, due to Sheng Zhaoxi only starting to condense Five Elements Essence this year, Chen Mobai managed to cultivate only four threads of Primordial True Qi over the past year.

Nevertheless, compared to the progress at Flying Dragon Pool, this was exceptionally fast.

Chen Mobai did not halt Zhou Wangshen and the others' efforts. He understood all too well that, although Zhou Shengqing and the others had willingly sacrificed their cultivation time to condense Five Elements Essence for his Nascent Soul Formation this time, it was unrealistic to expect them to continue indefinitely.

Thus, for future advancements in Primordial True Qi, he would need to rely on broader collective efforts.

To achieve this, cultivating more disciples at the Foundation Establishment stage was imperative.

Under his directive and with Qing Nu's assistance, Foundation Establishment Trithings were being steadily supplied to Flying Dragon Pool.

Moreover, a new policy was announced within the Five Elements Sect.

Qi Practitioners at the ninth level of Qi Refining, aged sixty or younger, who were willing to sign confidentiality contracts, would be provided with Foundation Establishment spiritual resources by the sect to attempt Foundation Establishment again.

The sect guaranteed that any failures in Foundation Establishment would not pose life-threatening risks to the disciples. However, if successful, they would need to serve the sect for thirty years without compensation.

This new policy immediately garnered interest from nearly all Qi Practitioners.

Aside from those whose confidence in themselves led them to believe they could obtain Foundation Building Pills through tasks or sect tournaments—like the true disciples—most eagerly signed up.

After all, succeeding in Foundation Establishment granted an additional lifespan of 120 years. Repaying the sect with 30 years of labor in exchange was essentially a no-loss deal.

Since the merger of the Five Elements Meridians, the sect tournaments also unified, now hosted annually at Northern Abyss City.

Under Chen Mobai's proposal, the number of true disciples remained fixed at twenty-four to ensure their qualifications held significant weight.

This kept the previously borderline ninth-level Qi Practitioners from squeezing into their respective meridians' ranks, exposing their true standings.

That said, due to the Five Elements Sect now being capable of refining sixty to seventy Foundation Building Pills every decade, the surplus not allocated to true disciples was generally sold at the Spirit Treasure Pavilion.

Any Qi Cultivating disciple could directly exchange Contribution Points for a Foundation Building Pill with 10,000 points.

This policy thrilled disciples backed by wealthy cultivator families. With abundant Spirit Stones, they could hire cultivators to complete tasks and amass enough points.

In response, Chen Mobai set limitations, stipulating that each disciple could redeem only one Foundation Building Pill from the Spirit Treasure Pavilion.

Furthermore, redeemed Foundation Building Pills had to be used personally. Any private transactions uncovered would result in the immediate revocation of disciple status, eradication of cultivation, and expulsion from the Five Elements Sect.

Despite these rules, obtaining Foundation Building Pills from the Spirit Treasure Pavilion remained a daunting challenge for ordinary Qi Practitioning disciples.

Under such circumstances, the new policy was overwhelmingly welcomed within the Five Elements Sect.

As its mastermind, Chen Mobai provided them with a path to ascend while simultaneously securing a reserve for his future Five Elements Essence Qi.