

World 1591

Chapter 1591: Turning the Hand into Clouds (10k)_3

Even Yuanyang Ancestor had paused for a considerable time before reaching the threshold of Nascent Soul Formation. For Chen Mobai to achieve it at the age of eighty-nine was already an unprecedented accomplishment throughout the ages.

So, when Chen Xiaohei said this, he clung to Chen Mobai's arm with a face full of pride.

"Actually, I relied on some external aids, and I'm not sure whether you'll be able to use them in the future."

As Chen Mobai spoke, he reached out and took out the Stat Fire.

After his Nascent Soul Formation, he would need to visit the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains to pay respects to the Huashen Ancestor. He would certainly have to provide a reasonable explanation for achieving the Nascent Soul so quickly, and the Stat Fire was the most suitable excuse.

After all, in the history of the Immortal Gate, there were precedents for this, and there were even examples from Nascent Soul Superiors Qing Jing and Qing Shi.

Aside from the Stat Fire, the other aids he used—be it the Infant-Feeding Elixir or Primordial True Qi—could not be mentioned.

And as for Yan Bingxuan's Yuan Yin True Coldness, it was best not to reveal it if he could avoid it.

Beyond all that, his success in forming the Nascent Soul was primarily due to his innate talent.

After all, with the qualification of deification, wasn't achieving the Nascent Soul with ease just natural?

The question was whether, during this visit to the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains, he might be able to meet the greatest pillar of support for the Weapon Dancing Sect—Ancestor Baiguang.

As Chen Mobai thought about this, Shi Wanyu walked over, her face full of excitement.

“Congratulations. How could someone as ordinary as me have the fortune to marry a Nascent Soul Superior as a husband?”

Hearing Shi Wanyu’s words, Chen Mobai recalled all the moments the two had shared along the way. Although they came together primarily because of their daughter, over the years, they had treated each other with the respect of honored guests, and feelings had naturally grown between them.

It was only a pity that Shi Wanyu lacked confidence in herself and had refused Chen Mobai’s offer of the Foundation Establishment Trithings.

She believed that with her talent, she would surely fail. It would then damage her lifespan, and so she preferred to cherish the time she had now, accompanying her husband and daughter.

“Why speak of such things? We are family.”

Chen Mobai comforted Shi Wanyu, who seemed even more nervous after her initial excitement. She undoubtedly felt unworthy of him once again.

While the family was enjoying their time together, phone calls and text messages started pouring in.

All were to congratulate him on achieving the Nascent Soul.

“I’ll handle some official matters for a moment.”

Chen Mobai gestured at his phone, where a call from Wang Xinfu was incoming. Shi Wanyu and their daughter nodded immediately and went to prepare dinner.

Walking into the courtyard, Chen Mobai engaged in a half-hour conversation with Wang Xinfu.

He learned about the recent meeting regarding the allocation of the Golden Liquid Jade Pills in the financial department.

“Two members of our Daoist Academy were ousted?”

Hearing this, Chen Mobai’s eyes flashed coldly. In the past, patience had been necessary, but now that he had achieved the Nascent Soul, it was time to show his fangs.

“Lan Haitian promised compensation in the next distribution of Golden Liquid Jade Pills. This time, due to Nangong Xuanyu’s involvement, adjustments were unavoidable,” Wang Xinfu explained.

At this, Chen Mobai replied with words that stunned Wang Xinfu.

“If it’s an issue of this time, then it should be resolved this time. Go and tell Lan Haitian: I want him to honor his word.”

“But the list has already been finalized.”

To this, Chen Mobai replied in a calm tone, “As long as the list hasn’t been announced, it can still be changed.”

Upon hearing this, Wang Xinfu first fell silent, then his voice became excited. “Understood, Superior. I will make arrangements immediately.”

Though the allocation meeting had determined the ownership of all ten Golden Liquid Jade Pills among the influential figures of the Three Great Halls, according to the Immortal Gate’s rules, the list wouldn’t be officially announced until the year-end—celebrating the occasion with a festive spirit in solidarity with the people.

Speculating who made the list had always been a source of fun for the Immortal Gate’s populace.

In theory, the final list decided in such meetings was seldom changed.

However, in the Immortal Gate's thousands of years of history, there had been rare cases of adjustments to the selected individuals.

Sometimes it was due to a scandal involving someone on the list before it was announced. Other times it was because higher-ups changed their minds and reshuffled the list after engaging in some form of interest exchange to promote their own people.

What Chen Mobai intended to do now was precisely this.

He wanted to overturn the list already finalized by the upper ranks of the Three Great Halls!

Previously, this would have been impossible.

But now, having achieved the Nascent Soul, it was within reach.

Yet relying solely on the Weapon Dancing Sect wouldn't suffice.

After finishing his call with Wang Xinfu, Chen Mobai immediately dialed Pei Qingshuang, the current leader of the Jumang Lineage. The latter promptly congratulated him on his Nascent Soul breakthrough.

"I have you to thank for helping me reach the Nascent Soul," Chen Mobai said sincerely.

Pei Qingshuang was initially puzzled by his words but quickly figured it out, her expression shifting to a look of realization.

"You condensed the Nine Heavens Pure Spirit Purple Brilliance Energy, didn't you? No wonder you dared to attempt this major breakthrough without any Infant Forming Spirit Medicine."

Hearing Pei Qingshuang's remark, Chen Mobai didn't elaborate further. After all, the matter of the Stat Fire still depended on the stance of the two Huashen Ancestors.

Back when Qing Shi and Qing Jing had also condensed it, the term "Stat Fire" disappeared from the history of the Immortal Gate after their passing in meditation.

Perhaps the upper echelon was deliberately concealing the existence of the Stat Fire to control the number of Nascent Soul cultivators.

He decided to wait until after meeting the Huashen Ancestors. If there was no issue, only then would he disclose the Stat Fire to Pei Qingshuang.

After all, his ability to condense it was inseparable from the Green Frost Sword Technique.

Pei Qingshuang's decision to lend him the Qing Shuang Sword was an undeniable favor to Chen Mobai, who resolved to repay her aid in kind by assisting her when she sought her own Nascent Soul Formation in the future.

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"I want to make some changes to the distribution list for the Golden Liquid Jade Pill. I'll need the help of your Jumang Lineage."

Chen Mobai introduced the main agenda of the day over the phone, and Pei Qingshuang agreed without the slightest hesitation.

"You take care of the arrangements; I'll fully cooperate with you."

"Thank you."

After ending the call with Pei Qingshuang, Chen Mobai thought for a moment, then used “Listening with Empty Valley Echo” to sense the activity in the room. Once he confirmed that the mother and daughter were in the kitchen preparing dinner, he stepped away a little further and called Yan Bingxuan.

The two of them conversed affectionately for a long time. In the end, it was only because Che Yucheng’s call came through that Chen Mobai found a reason to bid her goodbye.

“I’m proud of you. When you have free time, come visit the Daoist Academy...”

“Yes, Teacher.”

Che Yucheng finally ended the call with a face full of satisfaction. Beside him, Hong Mengkui and Bian Jingchun, the master and disciple pair, couldn’t hide their envy.

“You, of all people, how did you get so lucky? Taking on a disciple so casually, only to draw out the individual with the strongest talent in the Immortal Gate’s thousand-year history.”

As Hong Mengkui sighed with emotion, he suddenly remembered that Chen Mobai could also be considered one of his students. His mood instantly brightened, and he pulled Che Yucheng along to continue drinking tea and playing chess.

Bian Jingchun, on the other hand, had a very complicated expression. Her emotions were a mix of happiness, bitterness, and resignation.

She had once thought that after forming her Core, she could finally catch up to her junior brother Chen Mobai. After all, Infant Forming Spirit Medicine was exceedingly rare in the Immortal Gate, and she had over a century to close the gap.

She had imagined the two of them both reaching Golden Core Perfection and even dreamed of using the resources of the Dance Tool Dao Academy to try achieving Nascent Soul Formation simultaneously.

But who could have foreseen that, after only a few years, Chen Mobai would leave behind all his contemporaries and directly achieve Nascent Soul Formation?

In that moment, Bian Jingchun no longer harbored thoughts of catching up to Chen Mobai.

She only aspired to follow in the footsteps of this Daoist Academy leader and restore the Dance Tool Lineage to its former greatness and glory.

And it wasn't just Bian Jingchun—most of the geniuses and Golden Core Masters who had graduated from the Dance Tool Lineage felt as though they had found their guiding star when they heard of Chen Mobai's success in forming a Nascent Soul. The future seemed boundless.

After all, if Chen Mobai could so effortlessly achieve Nascent Soul Formation without relying on spirit medicines, then his qualifications for Deification Transformation were beyond question.

They all believed that as long as Chen Mobai advanced methodically, he was certain to become one of the Three Hall Masters.

Some even held extreme opinions, predicting that Chen Mobai would undeniably become the "Third Saint of the Immortal Gate" in the future!

At that time, with two Deity-Transcending True Monarchs in their ranks, even if the Dance Tool Dao Academy lacked Nascent Soul Cultivators, they would still indisputably stand as the foremost faction of the Immortal Gate.

This realization was not limited to the members of the Dance Tool Dao Academy. Others across the Three Lineages and even some discerning individuals throughout the Immortal Gate also became aware of this fact.

This was no ordinary newly-formed Nascent Soul Superior but rather a future Deity-Transcending True Monarch!

Because of this, Chen Mobai had every confidence that he could overturn the pre-established list.

However, to accomplish this, he still needed to win over a key figure.

At this time, Chen Mobai was on the phone with Wang Shuye. Although Wang Shuye had survived his failed attempt at Nascent Soul Formation, his lungs had suffered serious damage, and years of recuperation showed little progress.

“Cough, cough... Leave this matter to me; I’ll handle the communication. Faced with the overwhelming momentum of the Heaven-Repairing Lineage, I believe she will agree...”

Hearing Chen Mobai’s plans, Wang Shuye was quick to express his approval.

The Dance Tool Lineage had endured suppression for far too long. A bold move was necessary to shake the Three Great Halls and announce to the entire Immortal Gate the Lineage’s strong return.

Amending the previously finalized Golden Liquid Jade Pill distribution list was a perfect stage for such a declaration.

The momentum of the Heaven-Repairing Lineage was undeniable in this matter. Even the Kunpeng Lineage could no longer oppose it. However, the Kunpeng Lineage would certainly not take this lying down. With Chen Mobai willing to take the lead in challenging the Heaven-Repairing Lineage, they would surely support him.

Yet, knowing that he and Ye Yune’s relationship was average at best, Chen Mobai worried that if he reached out to her directly, personal grudges might jeopardize this collaboration. Thus, he entrusted Wang Shuye to act as the intermediary.

“Dad, dinner’s ready.”

After hanging up the call, Chen Xiaohei shouted to him from a distance.

Midway through their meal, Wang Shuye called back.

“Ye Yune has agreed to the collaboration. However, when you return to Wangwu Cave Heaven, it’s best to meet her in person to discuss. After all, to change the list, the two of you need to take the lead.”

Hearing Wang Shuye's advice, Chen Mobai softly nodded and expressed his gratitude.

"Now I can truly enjoy my retirement in peace."

As the call drew to a close, Wang Shuye said with satisfaction.

Their generation had been a failure. From Duanmu Longrong to him, none had succeeded in forming a Nascent Soul. Without Chen Mobai's meteoric emergence, the Dance Tool Lineage might have declined during their watch.

But now, everything was different.

"In the future, if I become too occupied with administrative matters, I might have to rehire you, senior, to assist me."

Chen Mobai chuckled, his tone light. He was certain that the bulk of his efforts would remain focused on the Tianhe Realm. At the Immortal Gate, he might, at most, serve as one of the Three Hall Masters. Like Narcissus before him, he envisioned becoming a hands-off overlord, leaving the day-to-day operations to someone like Wang Shuye, who was the most suitable candidate.

"Very well, very well, I'm always at your service."

Believing Chen Mobai was merely being polite, Wang Shuye readily agreed.

Night fell.

Chen Mobai, holding Shi Wanyu in his arms, spoke to her about the matter of moving.

Now that he had achieved Nascent Soul Formation, he was determined to make bold moves in Wangwu Cave Heaven, standing in direct opposition to the Heaven-Repairing Lineage. There was no reason for his family to remain separated anymore.

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Now that Chen Xiaohei's ten-year tenure at her assigned territory had long ended, Chen Mobai could transfer her position back to the Forestry Administration of Wangwu Cave Heaven to prepare for the upcoming Golden Liquid Jade Pill process.

"Alright, I'll listen to you."

Shi Wanyu, limp and exhausted, spoke lightly.

After reaching the Nascent Soul Realm, Chen Mobai no longer needed to worry about any gossip.

There wasn't a media outlet in the Immortal Gate bold enough to act so recklessly.

However, moving houses would take some time, and Chen Xiaohei's promotion from Yu Wood City to the Wangwu Cave Heaven headquarters also required formalities. Hence, Chen Mobai decided to return to Wangwu Cave Heaven ahead of her.

After all, the bigger picture over there still needed his control.

Before leaving, however, he took the time to visit his relatives in Red Sandstone City.

Unexpectedly, Chen Yulan's health had improved considerably, likely stimulated by the news of Chen Mobai achieving Nascent Soul Formation—a rejuvenating boost that brought an unexpected clarity to her condition.

Chen Mobai had a meal with her family, but he could sense that both Chen Yulan and Wang Xinying were now much more reserved with him.

In contrast, the solitary Chen Baolan remained as she always had been.

Seeing Chen Yulan's health improve, she expressed her intention to head back to the Extreme North Grotto Heaven to continue the archaeological excavations under Purple Cloud Palace.

In response, Chen Mobai offered some advice.

He pointed out, gently but frankly, that although Chen Yulan's current condition seemed much better, it was clearly a last burst of energy before the end. Considering her lifespan calculation, she likely had only a few years left. Given Chen Baolan's age, he suggested she stay in Red Sandstone City to keep her company and avoid future regrets.

Chen Baolan, thoughtful as ever, heeded his suggestion and let go of her plan to resume archaeological work.

"I'll leave Red Sandstone City in your capable hands. Call me if anything comes up."

Before departing, Chen Mobai entrusted family and factory matters to his cousin Wang Xinying, who nodded solemnly, assuring him she'd handle everything well.

When Chen Mobai arrived at the airport, he discovered, surprisingly, that he was the sole passenger on the flight.

In the vast flying artifact, he was alone.

"Honored one, I am the attendant for this journey. Please let me know if there's anything you need."

A tall and graceful flight attendant wearing a green floral cheongsam greeted Chen Mobai respectfully. He nodded and indicated his desire for a quiet space.

The journey was unbearably boring, and Chen Mobai couldn't help but think about his friend Wen Ren Xuewei. After achieving Nascent Soul Formation, he had yet to reach out to her, so he decided to call.

“You’ve really sped ahead. I was just thinking I might be able to catch up soon.”

Wen Ren Xuwei spoke lightly, with a playful hint of complaint that brought a smile to Chen Mobai’s face.

“I’ve heard you’re at the Ninth Level of Golden Core now. Once your True Qi accumulates to perfection, you’ll be able to attempt Nascent Soul Formation. With Lasting Spring Cultivation as your protection, you shouldn’t be far behind me.”

During Chen Mobai’s efforts to cultivate Primordial True Qi, Wen Ren Xuwei had made remarkable progress, benefiting from the Great Chun Tree and breaking through to the Ninth Level of Golden Core the previous year.

Their rate of progress within the Immortal Gate was nearly comparable.

“Do you think I’m like you? True Qi doesn’t condense that easily! By the way, do you have some kind of secret technique? How did you manage to accumulate enough Pure Yang True Qi for Nascent Soul Formation right after reaching the Ninth Level of Golden Core?”

Wen Ren Xuwei found her cultivation speed impressive enough—she had nearly caught up to Chen Mobai. Yet his swift success in Nascent Soul Formation immediately after Ninth Level baffled her.

How had his Pure Yang True Qi condensed so swiftly?

“Let’s talk about this in detail when we meet. By the way, how did you cultivate Great Void Transference? I’m beginning to feel that taking flights wastes too much time. Maybe I can learn it instead.”

Chen Mobai’s words prompted Wen Ren Xuwei to fall silent for a moment.

“Without Lasting Spring Cultivation, Great Void Transference requires a Fifth Order Forged Body to withstand it.”

“I see... Looks like it’s beyond me for now.”

Chen Mobai silently shook his head upon hearing this, inwardly marveling at Qi Yuheng’s strength. After all, Qi could perform Great Void Transference—it required the Fifth Order Forged Body.

No wonder he was hailed as the Immortal Gate’s number one Nascent Soul cultivator!

“Actually, given your talents, you might be able to master Great Void Transference without Lasting Spring Cultivation or a Fifth Order Forged Body. Ultimately, it’s just a space technique. Since you’ve already mastered Void Walking during the Golden Core Realm, you might be able to learn Great Void Transference in the Nascent Soul Realm.”

Wen Ren Xuewei shared her perspective, showing more belief in Chen Mobai’s potential than even he did.

Within the Immortal Gate, many now speculated that Chen Mobai possessed a Void Spirit Body.

The two friends chatted for the entire journey.

At the Wangwu Cave Heaven airport, Hua Zijing had already arrived with a specialized vehicle ready to receive him.

“You’ve been through a lot while I was away.”

After settling into the car, Chen Mobai spoke sincerely to Hua Zijing, whom he hadn’t seen for over a decade.

“Not at all. To be in this position now—as the head group leader—it’s all thanks to your favor.”

Hua Zijing still appeared somewhat dazed. Even her usual demeanor slipped momentarily upon seeing Chen Mobai, and she struggled to adapt to the change in titles.

“Let’s go to Xianwu Hall.”

“We’re not heading to Hall of Orthodox Law first?”

Hua Zijing was puzzled. Although Chen Mobai had become a Nascent Soul cultivator, he remained under Hall of Orthodox Law in name. Even if he wasn’t returning there, going to Kaiyuan Hall would still make sense. But Xianwu Hall? He held no position there.

“I’ve instructed Ye Yune to raise objections to the Golden Liquid Jade Pill distribution list under Kaiyuan Hall’s name. The finance department should be holding a meeting soon. I’ll head over and make some adjustments to the list—adding your name.”

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Chen Mobai’s nonchalant remark instantly moved Hua Zijing.

“Superior’s great favor, Zijing will remember it for a lifetime.”

“I’m merely keeping my promises.”

Chen Mobai replied indifferently.

...

In the Xianwu Hall’s finance department meeting room.

Bo Xiangqian glanced at the time and then at everyone present, gently wiping sweat from his forehead.

“The time is almost up, the meeting can begin.”

At this moment, Nangong Xuanyu said coldly.

“Our Department of Law Enforcement still has another representative who hasn’t arrived. It must be due to flight delays; let’s wait for a bit longer.”

Following Gongsun Jieli’s signal, Law Enforcement Minister Wen Lianshan spoke under Nangong Xuanyu’s cold gaze.

“Since they’re late, they shouldn’t participate. Don’t they realize the level of this meeting? Making all of us wait for him—is that appropriate...”

Nangong Xuanyu’s voice trailed off midway when suddenly a silver light flickered above the meeting room. Chen Mobai’s figure appeared before everyone out of thin air.

“Apologies, traffic was bad, I’m late.”

“No, no, the timing is perfect. Superior, please take a seat.”

Chen Mobai arrived precisely at the last second, and Bo Xiangqian immediately guided him to his seat.

He was part of the Hall of Orthodox Law faction, so he sat alongside Nangong Xuanyu, Gongsun Jieli, and Wen Lianshan. However, due to past grievances, the two Nascent Soul superiors sat at the furthest ends.

“Minister Wen.”

Formalities dictated Chen Mobai greet him politely upon sitting, despite being nominally subordinate to Wen Lianshan.

“No, no, Superior, just call me Xiao Wen or Lianshan.”

Wen Lianshan dared not protest, promptly standing up and waiting for Chen Mobai to sit before carefully seating himself.

“I don’t understand. The list had already been finalized; what justification does Kaiyuan Hall have to raise objections?”

As soon as Chen Mobai sat down, Bo Xiangqian announced the start of the meeting. Nangong Xuanyu, already aware of the day’s agenda, immediately amplified his aggression.

“Kaiyuan Hall shoulders the responsibility of supervising power usage within the Three Great Halls. Upon discovering unethical behavior among certain individuals on the list, we are obliged to propose a reassessment and redistribution.”

After exchanging glances with Chen Mobai, Ye Yune voiced her reasoning.

“Who are they?”

Nangong Xuanyu demanded directly, but Ye Yune refrained from answering and passed the baton to Chen Mobai.

“Ding Guoyuan and Dong Yukun.”

Wang Xin Fu immediately spoke up, producing documentation prepared earlier that outlined Ding Guoyuan and Dong Yukun’s reception of illicit benefits during their tenure.

“This is slander! I request a thorough investigation of the two.”

Both Ding Guoyuan and Dong Yukun were Heaven-Repairing Lineage members, making Nangong Xuanyu unwilling to back down.

“Then let’s settle it after the meeting with a joint law enforcement investigation by the Three Great Halls. For now, remove the two from the list.”

Chen Mobai finally intervened.

“On what grounds?”

Nangong Xuanyu’s icy gaze locked onto Chen Mobai, who responded with a faint smile.

“If there are opposing views, then let’s resolve this through voting.”

Bo Xiangqian looked troubled, but rules were rules. He turned to Lan Haitian, who remained silent.

“Then let’s vote.”

Without explicit instructions from Ying Guanghua passed through Lan Haitian, Bo Xiangqian couldn’t contravene regulations and sighed before announcing the vote.

The results quickly emerged.

With the combined forces of three factions and others eager to curry favor with Chen Mobai, the future Divinity Transformation cultivator, votes easily outnumbered those of the Heaven-Repairing Lineage.

“Then Ding Guoyuan and Dong Yukun will be removed from the list.”

Bo Xiangqian could only announce the decision.

“But they’ve already been notified...”

Luan Xuehou spoke reluctantly.

“The twenty-seventh article of the Xianwu Hall regulations clearly stipulates that any departmental meeting content cannot be disclosed to relevant parties unless stamped and publicly announced. I suggest suspending and investigating whoever violated the rule.”

Chen Mobai responded coldly. Luan Xuehou opened his mouth but stayed silent, glancing at Nangong Xuanyu, who was uncharacteristically quiet.

In the Immortal Gate, rules had to be adhered to.

Although regulations weren't laws, notifying candidates beforehand was an unwritten rule. Many department ministers discreetly informed their allies so they could prepare to accommodate the Golden Liquid Jade Pill and cultivate favor.

After all, these individuals had high Core Formation probabilities.

Nevertheless, such matters couldn't be openly discussed.

“Let's review the previously filtered list and identify suitable replacements for the two vacant spots.”

Chen Mobai spoke up again, prompting Lan Haitian to display Hua Zijing's profile on the large screen.

“I object!”

Nangong Xuanyu instantly protested.

“Then let's vote.”

Chen Mobai dismissed further argument.

Under the gaze of two Nascent Soul superiors, Bo Xiangqian glanced at the screen and declared Hua Zijing's inclusion via majority vote.

The next replacement was naturally Meng Huang.

“Opposed.”

Despite knowing defeat was inevitable, Nangong Xuanyu firmly opposed, maintaining his adversarial stance against Chen Mobai.

“Vote again.”

Chen Mobai smiled and signaled Bo Xiangqian, who nodded.

“Vote passed. Meng Huang also enters the list as a replacement.”

Nangong Xuanyu watched, his cold gaze meeting Chen Mobai’s mocking eyes. Scoffing, he rose, about to leave.

“One more thing. I agree with Minister Nangong’s earlier suggestion. Bai Er Shi Fu’s members haven’t received a Golden Liquid Jade Pill in a long time. While Dong Yukun exhibited personal misconduct, it doesn’t represent all Bai Er Shi Fu officials. I propose giving them one pill...”

Chen Mobai’s casual remark halted Nangong Xuanyu’s movement.

“Which candidate does Superior propose to remove then?”

Bo Xiangqian cautiously inquired.

“I’ve always admired Ling Daoshi. His talent is exceptional—second only to me among our contemporaries. Honestly, I believe he could achieve Core Formation without the pill. Perhaps we could redirect his share.”

Chen Mobai's suggestion incited uncontrollable fury from Nangong Xuanyu.

"Don't push your luck!"

Chapter 1595: Turning the Hand Over as Rain

Ling Daoshi's Golden Liquid Jade Pill, like Zhongli Tianyu's, is considered a baseline offering.

If Chen Mobai vetoes it, the Heaven-Repairing Lineage will hardly be able to lift its head in the Three Great Halls in the future.

"It seems that Minister Nangong opposes it, so let's vote, then."

Chen Mobai said with a smile, but at this moment, Bo Xiangqian hesitated.

Not just him—Lan Haitian and several others in the room who had been neutral also exchanged uncertain glances.

Everyone here was a seasoned player, fully understanding the significance of Ling Daoshi's offering.

["Always leave others some room; it'll make encounters in the future easier."]

Lan Haitian, growing anxious, directly transmitted a message to Chen Mobai. After all, he was Ying Guanghua's close confidant—if Ling Daoshi's pill was vetoed, the Head of Immortal Affairs couldn't help but lose face.

At that point, it might very well lead to a full-blown conflict among the four lineages within the Three Great Halls.

If that happens, the rules upheld by the Immortal Sect for thousands of years could easily collapse.

["Some matters weren't initiated by me."]

Chen Mobai transmitted back calmly.

["But Zhongli Tianyu's pill at the last meeting was reasonably accepted by your side."]

Lan Haitian continued to advise earnestly.

["Had he not been from the Zhongli Family, I believe it would have been vetoed too."]

Chen Mobai retorted bluntly. Lan Haitian fell silent upon hearing that, as it was an undeniable truth.

"I oppose."

Given the circumstances, Lan Haitian had no choice but to take a side. Seeing Nangong Xuanyu's barely contained fury, he promptly stood to express his opposition.

His statement caused the previously neutral members to hesitate even more.

Lan Haitian, within the Three Great Halls, practically represented Ying Guanghua.

Chen Mobai wasn't surprised at all by Lan Haitian's stance. After all, he had been a close aide to Ying Guanghua for a century, his allegiance deeply ingrained.

But even if Ying Guanghua himself were present today, Chen Mobai was determined to suppress the Heaven-Repairing Lineage in this instance.

"Vice Hall Master Bo..."

Seeing Bo Xiangqian slow to respond, Chen Mobai's tone subtly hardened. The latter could only offer a bitter smile before following procedure to announce a vote.

This time, however, many individuals outside the four lineages abstained from voting.

It was the prudent path to self-preservation.

The undercurrents among the four lineages would leave anyone dragged into them utterly annihilated.

Yet even with the abstentions, the Heaven-Repairing Lineage was no match for the combined forces of the other three.

Jumang Academy had long been advancing alongside the Weapon Dancing Sect. Ye Yune was even eager for the Heaven-Repairing Lineage to direct its attention and aggression toward Chen Mobai—fueling the flames by signaling her faction to support the veto.

Thus, Ling Daoshi's offering was ultimately rejected.

However, this rejection wasn't as crushing as it could have been.

In the end, Chen Mobai selected an official from Qing Sang Academy, someone who had studied at Jumang Academy, as a replacement.

He chose her because she had left an impression—during his tenure as Qing Sang Academy's principal, she had returned a few times as a distinguished graduate, coincidentally during occasions when he was present.

Seeing this, Nangong Xuanyu, previously fuming, suddenly calmed down. He even sat back down and addressed Lan Haitian.

"I'll trouble Secretary Lan to record the minutes of this meeting. There might be a third meeting; we'll amend this list when the time comes."

His remark instantly sent chills through everyone's hearts.

It was clear—very clear—that the Heaven-Repairing Lineage wouldn't settle for this missed opportunity. Like Chen Mobai, they aimed to overturn the current roster at the next meeting.

In the third meeting, if they wished to counteract the alliance of the three lineages, their strategy would hinge on winning over the neutrals.

With that realization, everyone present outside of the four lineages wore expressions of growing dread.

"We are all decision-makers within the Immortal Sect; our daily responsibilities already leave us burdened. Convening repeatedly over such minor affairs wastes time and energy and creates the public impression that our efficiency is abysmal. I propose treating today's resolutions as final."

Chen Mobai naturally countered Nangong Xuanyu, and Wang Xin Fu, along with other members of the Weapon Dancing Sect, immediately nodded in agreement.

"The Immortal Sect's longstanding tradition is to announce the roster at year-end. I will pass today's meeting notes to the Hall Master for review—let's adjourn here."

Bo Xiangqian, under Lan Haitian's implicit signal, promptly announced the meeting's conclusion to prevent Chen Mobai and Nangong Xuanyu—two Nascent Soul Superiors—from clashing directly.

Still, cultivators of Chen Mobai's caliber could easily control their emotions.

In fact, Nangong Xuanyu's apparent indignation might very well have been an act.

After the adjournment, Nangong Xuanyu let out a cold snort and was the first to leave the meeting room.

Watching this, Chen Mobai shook his head slightly and remarked,

“Who would have thought that among the Immortal Sect, there are still Nascent Soul Cultivators who haven’t mastered Void Walking—a decline from generation to generation.”

As Chen Mobai uttered those words, Nangong Xuanyu had just stepped out the door. As a Nascent Soul Cultivator, he heard them loud and clear, and his fists instantly clenched tightly.

Void Walking was considered a hallmark technique of Nascent Soul Cultivators.

But mastering it required arduous cultivation and attuning oneself to the frequencies of the void.

Nangong Xuanyu’s Sword Dao was undoubtedly peerless among Nascent Soul Cultivators, but his skill in spatial techniques remained his weak point.

Chapter 1596: Turning the Hand Over is Like Changing the Weather_Part 2

Moreover, he was, after all, a newly emerged Nascent Soul Cultivator, so even now, he hadn’t yet completely mastered Void Walking.

If anyone else had said that, Nangong Xuanyu would surely have used Nascent Soul Oppression to make them understand what it meant to challenge him.

But Chen Mobai...

Nangong Xuanyu thought for a moment, then left quickly without stopping.

Chen Mobai was a little surprised to see him take it so well.

He had already prepared to use Nangong Xuanyu as the “chicken” to establish his authority after forming his Nascent Soul.

After Nangong Xuanyu left, Bo Xiangqian and Lan Haitian came over to greet both Chen Mobai and Ye Yune before leading the members of the Heaven-Repairing Lineage out of the meeting room.

Next were the individuals from outside the four lineages. They all came over politely to introduce themselves briefly, ensuring Chen Mobai would remember them.

These were essentially the real power figures of the various departments within the Three Great Halls – in fact, the true upper echelon of the Immortal Gate.

After Chen Mobai responded to each of them, he exchanged contact information with them individually.

Though he had previously been the head of the Weapon Dancing Sect, his reclusive nature and involvement in the covert Sky-Mending Group gave him little opportunity to interact with these people.

Now, after forming his Nascent Soul, Chen Mobai was even less inclined to bother with such matters.

His mind was already on reappointing Wang Shuye back to his position.

“Commissioner Chen, before speaking, you might want to consider how others feel.”

At that moment, as Ye Yune led the Kunpeng Lineage members out and passed by Chen Mobai, she suddenly said this to him.

“Huh?”

Chen Mobai was momentarily puzzled, but as he watched Ye Yune’s retreating figure leave the meeting room, he suddenly understood.

So she also hadn’t mastered Void Walking yet.

Was this technique really so difficult?

Chen Mobai, who had comprehended it back during the Core Formation stage, couldn't quite figure it out.

“Honored One, Gongye Zhixu, as one of the Kaiyuan Hall Rotational Committee members, has the authority to raise objections and request a meeting to be reconvened.”

By this point, only the Weapon Lineage and Jumang Lineage remained in the room. Wang Xin Fu immediately approached Chen Mobai and said this to him.

This explained why Nangong Xuanyu had made such remarks before leaving.

Just as Chen Mobai could reverse and adjust the roster this way, the Heaven-Repairing Lineage could also exploit the rules to reconvene the meeting.

“That's Ye Yune's domain. If she blocks it, Gongye Zhixu's request might not even make it out of Kaiyuan Hall.”

To reconvene the meeting, it would have to be done under the authority of Kaiyuan Hall. While Gongye Zhixu was a Nascent Soul Cultivator, he was still subordinate to Ye Yune.

“The Kunpeng Lineage would certainly be delighted to see us and the Heaven-Repairing Lineage go head-to-head. Deputy Hall Master Ye wouldn't just refrain from stopping it – she might even add fuel to the fire, creating even greater friction between our two sides.”

Wang Xin Fu let out a bitter smile. Previously, the Weapon Lineage had been low-profile, and the Jumang Lineage had remained silent, leaving most of the Heaven-Repairing Lineage's attention focused on the Kunpeng Lineage as they supported Gongye Zhixu's attempts to wrest power from Ye Yune within Kaiyuan Hall.

Now that Chen Mobai had stepped forward, the Kunpeng Lineage would undoubtedly want to take this opportunity to extricate themselves, hoping for a scenario where Heaven-Repairing and Weapon/Jumang factions both suffer losses. If Ye Yune could create conditions for such a conflict to occur, she wouldn't hesitate for a second.

“It’s fine. I was just testing the waters, and I didn’t expect that gaining the upper hand over Ling Daoshi would actually align with the people’s desires.”

Chen Mobai, however, casually remarked.

To be honest, his initial intention had only been to avenge the grudge of having his team member struck off the roster by the Heaven-Repairing Lineage. Getting Hua Zijing and Meng Huang onto the list had already fulfilled his goal at the outset.

Ling Daoshi was merely a pawn in his struggle with the Heaven-Repairing Lineage.

“Next time, the Kunpeng Lineage might not continue to stand with us.”

Pei Qingshuang voiced her concern. The reason they had managed to suppress the Heaven-Repairing Lineage this time was due to the alliance between the three lineages.

“Do you think the Heaven-Repairing Lineage would try to convince me, or Ye Yune?”

Chen Mobai posed this question, which left Pei Qingshuang and the others enlightened.

“The Heaven-Repairing Lineage would privately seek reconciliation with us?”

In truth, this was the norm in politics. Before the distribution of Gold Core Spiritual Materials, the upper echelons of the four lineages would typically reach an agreement on the lists, with the meeting serving as a mere formality to announce the results to others.

But earlier, Nangong Xuanyu had acted unpredictably, directly targeting individuals with Weapon Lineage backgrounds without prior notice.

If Chen Mobai hadn’t formed his Nascent Soul, the Weapon Lineage could only have endured the insult in silence.

But now, things were different.

With both sides having representatives at an equal level, negotiation, trade-offs, and compromise became the norm.

Sure enough, just as Chen Mobai sat in Hua Zijing's car, preparing to leave, Lan Haitian's call came through.

"Palace Master Ying wishes to meet with you. Do you have time?"

Lan Haitian's tone was exceedingly polite. Chen Mobai nodded, instructing Hua Zijing to continue driving him back to the Hall of Orthodox Law, while he himself activated Void Walking and disappeared from the back seat.

Chen Mobai returned to the Xianwu Hall.

Lan Haitian was waiting in the same meeting room as before. He then led him toward Ying Guanghua's office.

"It's been a long time. Truly, you're worthy of being recognized as having the Qualification of Deification within our Immortal Gate."

Ying Guanghua seemed to have been handling some official work, but upon seeing Chen Mobai enter, he immediately set aside what he was doing and stood up to greet him.

Chen Mobai nodded in acknowledgment and reciprocated with a few pleasantries before the two took their seats.

Chapter 1597: Turning the Hand Over is Like Changing the Weather_Part 3

“I won’t say anything unnecessary. For this meeting, I will stamp approval for the two people who have just advanced from your lineage, but next time, Ling Daoshi’s name must also be on the list.”

Ying Guanghua had dealt with Chen Mobai before and knew him to be a confident and proud person, so he didn’t exchange pleasantries and directly stated the terms of the exchange.

“Regarding this matter, we should wait until the next meeting to have a public vote.”

Chen Mobai, however, smiled slightly, politely refusing.

“After forming a Nascent Soul, one must pay respects to the Divinity Transformation Ancestor. I wonder when Commissioner Chen plans to visit the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains?”

Ying Guanghua asked this question with an unchanged expression.

Chen Mobai frowned slightly upon hearing this.

The Immortal Sect’s two Divinity Transforms, the Weapon Dancing Sect’s Ancestor Baiguang had not appeared for a long time, but the Leading Star Ancestor of the Heaven-Repairing Lineage was very active, and the new Nascent Souls all met him.

According to Master Chengxuan, Ancestor Baiguang seemed to be in secluded meditation, pursuing a higher realm of the Sword Dao, exploring beyond the material world, and it was uncertain when he would emerge.

In other words, the Divinity Transformation that Chen Mobai would meet this time should also be the Leading Star Ancestor.

Offending the Heaven-Repairing Lineage among the Three Great Halls like this, if Chen Mobai goes to see the Leading Star Ancestor, he might not be well-received.

“Since it was you who initiated this matter, just letting it pass like this would not be easy for me to explain to those below.”

By saying this, Chen Mobai implied that he was willing to make a deal.

“I heard that you are cultivating the Danfeng Chaoyang Diagram, and that Biyu Wutong from Danxia Mountain is very helpful for practicing this method. When you visit the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains, you might mention this to the ancestor. The ancestor might agree to let you transfer that Rank-4 Superior Spirit Plant into your domain.”

Ying Guanghua’s words made Chen Mobai very tempted.

“If the ancestor agrees, the list can indeed be altered.”

Ying Guanghua lightly nodded upon hearing this.

After all, it was their Heaven-Repairing Lineage that acted first. Now that they had failed, it was necessary to offer some compensation.

After saying this, Chen Mobai teleported away.

Once he disappeared, the smile on Ying Guanghua’s face instantly vanished.

At night, it was still the same room.

The three Nascent Souls of the Heaven-Repairing Lineage gathered once more in the Three Great Halls.

“Do we really have to give him the Biyu Wutong? His cultivation speed is already fast; if he accelerates further, he may indeed have the potential to transform into divinity...”

Gongye Zhixu, after hearing Ying Guanghua’s story, frowned and expressed his concern.

“You’re overthinking it. If the difficulty of forming a Nascent Soul is ten, transforming into divinity is exponentially more challenging, even hundreds of times more so. Under our pressure, he formed his Nascent Soul early, so the condensed Pure Yang True Qi is probably at the lowest level of thirty-six strands, making it extremely difficult to transform into divinity.”

Nangong Xuanyu, however, spoke confidently, being a cultivator who formed a Nascent Soul using the Pure Yang Scroll, was most clear about this.

It could even be said that forming a Nascent Soul with thirty-six strands of Pure Yang True Qi was practically self-sabotaging before the divinity threshold.

He had forty-nine strands, which still left a sliver of hope.

“Moreover, the ancestor might not agree.”

Nangong Xuanyu’s words made Gongye Zhixu frown slightly.

“If the ancestor doesn’t agree to give him the Biyu Wutong, he definitely won’t let it slide easily at the meeting.”

Ying Guanghua’s eyes gleamed slightly as he spoke his first words that night.

“Recently, the ancestor has been playing a game, and it might not be completed until after the new year, so the audience with him will be after the meeting.”

Upon hearing this, Nangong Xuanyu smiled, and Gongye Zhixu suddenly understood.

Because the list would be announced at the end of the year, with only a month left, the third meeting would be the final evaluation.

If Chen Mobai wanted the Biyu Wutong, he would definitely have to demonstrate his sincerity before meeting the Leading Star Ancestor.

As long as Ling Daoshi's name appeared on the list again, their goal would be achieved.

In this way, if the Leading Star Ancestor denied Chen Mobai's request at that time, after he returned from the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains, it would already be too late.

He could only accept his bad luck.

This scheme was designed to exploit the Immortal Sect disciples' reverence towards the Divinity Transformation Ancestor.

Even if Chen Mobai had the Qualification of Deification, he could not escape this fate.

If he wanted the Biyu Wutong, he could only get things in order beforehand, since everyone in the Immortal Sect knew that the Leading Star Ancestor was the very sky for the Heaven-Repairing Lineage.

This stratagem of manipulation was something Ying Guanghua learned from Lin Daoming.

"In the future, this boy should aim for the position of Deputy Hall Master in the Dharma Hall. By then, it will be you and him in direct competition."

Gongye Zhixu said to Nangong Xuanyu. If Chen Mobai hadn't formed the Nascent Soul, Nangong Xuanyu definitely would have had the upper hand.

But now, a change was quite possible.

"The Military Department is mostly sorted out by now, and many in the Department of Law Enforcement have also pledged their allegiance to me. Although this boy has formed a Nascent Soul, he is still ten years late. In the position of Vice Hall Master, he cannot compete with me."

Nangong Xuanyu, however, was very confident in himself.

“Let’s take it one step at a time. If things don’t work out, we can transfer you from Kaiyuan Hall to the Dharma Hall, replacing Wen Lianshan as the Director of the Enforcement Department, abandoning the encroachment on Kaiyuan Hall. You two can first team up to suppress him in the Dharma Hall.”

Ying Guanghua’s eyes shone darkly as he spoke to Gongye Zhixu, who lightly nodded after hearing this.

As the previous Vice Hall Master of Xianwu Hall, Gongye Zhixu’s talents were among the top in the Immortal Sect, with a unique mastery in applying the rules of the sect.

Chapter 1598: Turning the Hand into Rain_4

He was confident that he could use the rules of the Immortal Gate to trap Chen Mobai.

After the three of them had made their decision, they each went their separate ways.

Of course, Chen Mobai was completely unaware of this.

He was busy behind Meng Huang.

“You’re incredible...”

Half a day later, Meng Huang, drenched in sweat from head to toe, collapsed in Chen Mobai’s embrace with a look of sheer bliss.

“Now that you’ve obtained the Golden Liquid Jade Pill, where do you plan to form your core?”

Chen Mobai, holding her graceful and slender figure, savoring the slick sensation of her radiant skin after such intense exertion, asked in a concerned tone.

“I’m still conflicted about that. This place is where I’ve lived the longest, but the spiritual energy here can only buy Rank-3 level; the Arts Department can arrange Rank-4 spiritual energy, but I feel uneasy in unfamiliar places; as for Crimson Mountain, I haven’t returned there for a long while, and I’m not sure what level of spiritual energy they can arrange.”

Graduates from the Four Great Daoist Sects who return to their academy for core formation are usually assigned Rank-4 spiritual energy.

But even Rank-4 energy is divided into upper, middle, and lower grades.

Back when Chen Mobai formed his core, he had True Person Shaoyang make room for him, but Meng Huang definitely wouldn’t command such respect.

“If you return to the Daoist Academy, I can arrange for you to use the center of the Treasure Trove, where the Fifth-Order Vermillion Fruit Tree is located for your core formation. However, the spiritual energy there can only reach Fourth Grade Superior at most.”

Chen Mobai’s casual remark instantly made Meng Huang overjoyed; she couldn’t help but reach out and sit on him again to express her gratitude.

“I really can’t thank you enough. Without you, even if I waited another ten years, I might never have obtained the Golden Liquid Jade Pill. The greatest fortune and opportunity of my life is finding a man as incredible as you.”

After thanking him three times, Meng Huang utterly melted into softness, yet she still conveyed her sense of emotional value, expressing her worship and admiration toward Chen Mobai.

When she saw the moment Chen Mobai achieved Nascent Soul Formation live on television, Meng Huang reached an unprecedented peak in her own home.

Though she had always believed that Chen Mobai’s talent could very likely lead him to this step, accomplishing it at eighty-nine years old was far beyond her expectations.

It was at that moment that Meng Huang felt immense relief for recognizing Chen Mobai's extraordinary potential back in school and betting everything precious on him.

Despite their years of interaction being brief, Meng Huang knew well that Chen Mobai was a man who always kept his word.

Now that he'd formed his Nascent Soul, she could rely on him as her support, guaranteeing two rounds of core-forming spiritual medicine at the very least.

With this backup, even given her talent, she might successfully form her core.

She clung tightly to this golden opportunity for decades and was finally reaping the rewards.

"By the way, I still don't know your spiritual root talent yet. I need to check if Crimson Mountain is suitable for your core formation."

Chen Mobai, ever responsible for his woman, patted her lightly and prepared to give her focused guidance on core formation considerations.

"My initial spiritual root has three attributes: metal, water, and wood..."

Meng Huang said this rather bashfully. Her spirit root attributes had only gained her entry into the Dance Tool Dao Academy through special recruitment.

It was precisely because of this that the Foundation Building stage was so challenging for her.

"Have you practiced the Spiritual Root Enhancement Technique?"

"Yes, I've been practicing the Technique of Turning into Gold consistently, and now my Metal Spiritual Root has reached 52 points."

The cultivation of the Mystic Sound Method aligns well with a high Metal Spirit Root attribute. Although Meng Huang's talent was lacking, her solid mindset allowed her struggles in Foundation Establishment to further temper her.

To help Chen Mobai form his core back then, she quickly enhanced herself to the ninth layer of Foundation Establishment using elixirs, and then spent sixty years steadily practicing the Technique of Turning into Gold to raise her Metal Spirit Root from 32 points to 52 points.

"Not bad. If you can persist in cultivating this, you do have worth nurturing. Don't fear the monotony—in the future, you'll have me behind you. Once you form your core, I'll even arrange the Infant Forming Spirit Medicine for you."

Having achieved Nascent Soul Formation, Chen Mobai was already planning his next step: Divinity Transformation.

In the Immortal Gate, the most pivotal factor in Divinity Transformation lay in the Shocking God Sonata.

As someone close to him, nurturing Meng Huang would obviously be more beneficial than nurturing other Mystic Sound Method Tao Seeds within the Arts Department.

"Mm, I'll do my best not to disappoint you."

Meng Huang replied with some hesitation; she couldn't help doubting whether she'd succeed, even with two rounds of core-forming spiritual medicine.

The difficulty of her Foundation Establishment had left shadows in her heart, making her question her own talent.

"Don't worry. If once doesn't work, twice; if twice doesn't work, then thrice. No matter how many times, I'll make sure you have everything you need for core formation."

Chen Mobai sensed anxiety within her and spoke domineering words that stirred her to the core.

At that moment, his hand gently fell onto her waist, and Meng Huang instinctively and adeptly turned her snow-white body...

In the days following, Chen Mobai meticulously guided Meng Huang through various tips and insights on core formation.

Of course, he didn't forget to apply to the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains for an audience with the Huashen Ancestor. Unfortunately, even with Zhongli Tianyu pulling strings as the property manager, he could only escalate the matter to Wangxian Peak and Gathering-Immortals Peak levels. As for when the two Ancestors might be available—that was beyond anyone's control.

Chen Mobai quickly realized: could it be that even after the meeting ends, he still wouldn't get to see the Leading Star Ancestor?

Should he proceed with handling Ling Daoshi's matter?

As the thought crossed his mind, Chen Mobai frowned slightly.

If he insisted on dismissing Ling Daoshi now, it would surely make things uncomfortable when he eventually spoke to the Leading Star Ancestor about the Biyu Wutong matter.

But if he resolved the issue ahead of time, what if the Leading Star Ancestor refused to agree?

Chen Mobai immediately contacted Ying Guanghua via Lan Haitian, but the latter replied saying he could only ask Chen Chun to help deliver the message. He had no control over whether the Ancestor would agree.

After hanging up the phone, a cold sneer appeared on Chen Mobai's face.

He could see through Ying Guanghua's attitude—there was zero sincerity.

Hmph, is the Biyu Wutong that precious?

In the Five Elements Sect, fourth-grade superior spiritual plants like this number close to double digits.

And not just that—now that he had achieved Nascent Soul Formation, with Tai Yi Wu Yan Luo and Primordial True Qi in his arsenal, he no longer needed to fear Zhou Ye's Chaotic Five Elements Extinguishing Divine Thunder. He could directly confront Zhou Ye and uproot the Five Elements Spirit Tree from within the Yi Yuan Secret Realm.

Besides the Five Elements Spirit Tree, the Great Dao Tree within the Divine Tree Secret Realm—which had caused Chen Mobai so much hardship in the past—was also overdue for probing into its depths.

It wasn't long before the meeting was convened again.

The other nine names on the list passed without opposition.

When it came to Ling Daoshi's turn, no one spoke up. Just when Bo Xiangqian thought his superior had resolved matters with the Weapon Dancing Sect, Chen Mobai voiced his disagreement.

"I object!"

In that instant, all eyes turned towards him. Nangong Xuanyu, who had been calm and composed till then, suddenly widened his eyes and stared intently at Chen Mobai.

An objection meant a vote was required.

Ye Yune was eager for Chen Mobai and Nangong Xuanyu to clash, even hoping the Kunpeng Lineage would step in.

Ling Daoshi was once again rejected.

Bang!

Nangong Xuanyu shot up like a drawn sword, standing from his seat and walking step by step toward Chen Mobai.

Chen Mobai sneered coldly!

He rose confidently to meet the challenge.

Chapter 1599: Make a Move, and I Lose

At the moment Chen Mobai rose, two mighty streams of pure Yang energy collided fiercely.

The terrifying surge of spiritual power caused the expressions of everyone present to change drastically.

Ye Yune, however, wore a look of excitement, as though she wished the two would clash immediately.

“Two Superiors, this is Xianwu Hall!”

But Bo Xiangqian quickly spoke up, and at the same time, Lan Haitian sent a message, informing Ying Guanghua of the situation here.

“I’ve long heard of Commissioner Chen’s renown for battle law victories. I’ve always wanted to experience it firsthand. However, before, your cultivation level wasn’t complete, and it would’ve been unscrupulous of me to bully someone weaker. Now that you’ve achieved Nascent Soul Formation, it is all the more fitting. So, Commissioner Chen, do you dare grant me this duel?”

Yet among those present, there was no one of equal rank who could stop Nangong Xuanyu, aside from Ye Yune, who chose not to intervene.

“Your boldness in challenging me does earn my respect. Pick the time and place as you wish, and I shall let you understand why orthodoxy is orthodoxy, whereas you... are merely a side sect!”

Chen Mobai’s words carried an overflowing air of arrogance, perfectly embodying his persona within the Immortal Gate.

“Why not today, then? Besides, orthodoxy versus side sects isn’t set in stone forever. If I defeat you, then I shall be orthodoxy!”

Nangong Xuanyu was equally prideful. He had suppressed countless Golden Core Masters from the Four Great Daoist Sects for over a century, reigning as the Immortal Gate’s foremost Golden Core cultivator. He had even previously crossed swords with Elder Qingping, and his confidence far surpassed that of Chen Mobai.

“Where shall we go?”

Chen Mobai didn’t bother saying much more. It had been too long since he’d struck on this side of the Immortal Gate, and it was time to remind everyone why he bore the title of “Battle Law Victory.”

“Since the Primordial Infant Arena within Little Red Heaven hasn’t yet been opened, let us suppress our cultivation levels to Golden Core Perfection. Using our respective pure Yang techniques and the Primordial Yang Sword Secret, we’ll settle this honestly and openly.”

Nangong Xuanyu had clearly fantasized about a duel with Chen Mobai for a long time, as he directly suggested this arrangement.

“If cultivation cannot be relied upon, then you stand even less of a chance.”

Chen Mobai scoffed dismissively, but did not oppose the idea.

After all, if two Nascent Soul Superiors truly went all out in a real-world battle, they would likely need to fight outside the Heavenly Curtain, using the starry sky as their battlefield.

“I hope your tongue remains as sharp when you lose!”

Nangong Xuanyu realized he was losing the verbal sparring match with Chen Mobai, so prepared to act directly instead.

“Gentlemen, is this truly necessary?”

At that moment, a streak of silver light streaked across, revealing Ying Guanghua, who appeared in the meeting room with a furrowed brow, standing between the two of them.

He already knew Chen Mobai had opposed him once again, and his mood was foul.

But if two Nascent Soul Superiors truly arranged a duel within Xianwu Hall, it would bring even greater disgrace to him as the Head of Immortal Affairs. Thus, upon receiving Lan Haitian’s message, he had no choice but to intervene.

“Palace Master Ying, this is a private matter. Please don’t interfere.”

Chen Mobai sneered coldly, showing no consideration for Ying Guanghua whatsoever.

“Indeed. My duel with Commissioner Chen is solely for mutual exchange, to determine who truly represents pure Yang orthodoxy. It is not due to today’s clash.”

Compared with Chen Mobai, Nangong Xuanyu at least gave Ying Guanghua a bit of face-saving explanation.

“Hmm, in that case, why not take this opportunity to also unlock the next layer of permissions for Little Red Heaven?”

Upon hearing this, Ying Guanghua uttered words that surprised everyone present.

The next layer of permissions—wasn't that the Nascent Soul Realm Arena?

Because simulating Nascent Soul cultivators within Little Red Heaven required a tremendous expenditure of spiritual energy, the Immortal Gate had debated for years about whether it was worth it, without arriving at a conclusion.

The Heaven-Repairing Lineage supported the idea, since they had the greatest number of Nascent Soul cultivators. Unlocking the arena would allow their members to exchange blows and improve their battle law skills.

After all, without the arena in Little Red Heaven, sparring would always feel restrictive, lest someone accidentally unleash enough force to collapse a Cultivation Room.

In contrast, the other three lineages opposed it, citing it as a waste of spiritual energy resources.

“If this matter is to be decided, it may require another vote in Kaiyuan Hall.”

Ye Yune hesitated as she spoke.

Among the Three Great Halls, Kaiyuan Hall theoretically held the greatest authority. By voting, its members could even impeach the Sect Master of the Immortal Gate.

The unlocking of Little Red Heaven's Nascent Soul Arena permissions also fell under Kaiyuan Hall's jurisdiction.

“The Immortal Gate has another rule: if the Three Hall Masters reach a unanimous decision, it can override Kaiyuan Hall's authority.”

Ying Guanghua remarked, causing Ye Yune's brows to furrow.

This rule indeed existed within the Immortal Gate, and it was for this very reason that all factions sought to keep the Three Hall Masters from belonging to the same lineage.

If all three belonged to the same lineage, they could jointly decide on policies, wielding authority as if through royal decree.

Even if Kaiyuan Hall unanimously opposed them, they could be disregarded.

Yet even if Ying Guanghua and Narcissus agreed, there was no way Kaiyuan Hall Master Qi Yuheng would consent, right?

Just as Ye Yune was pondering this, two more streaks of silver light appeared within the meeting room.

The Hall Master of Orthodox Law, Narcissus, and the Kaiyuan Hall Master, Qi Yuheng, had arrived simultaneously.

“Currently, the Immortal Gate has seventeen Nascent Soul cultivators. Soon, there will be one more. It’s time,” Qi Yuheng declared, shocking Ye Yune with his words. But given that even he, the Kaiyuan Hall Master, agreed, she had no grounds for objection.

Chapter 1600: Make a Move, and I Lose – Part 2

“After the Yuan Ying Arena in Xiao Chi Tian opened, the sea territory over there also wanted to use this platform to hone their divine skills and talent, so they will bear half of the spiritual energy consumption.”

The words of the Water Immortal made everyone present suddenly realize.

No wonder the Three Great Hall Masters suddenly agreed.

However, this matter must have been discussed for a long time, but today it just happened to coincide with the dispute between Chen Mobai and Nangong Xuan Yu, so they directly took the opportunity to announce it.

“We can wait until after my duel with Committee Member Chen to open it, so as not to say that I am bullying him with my deep cultivation level.”

But Nangong Xuan Yu was faking it at this time.

“If Committee Member Chen has no objections, then it’s not impossible.”

Ying Guanghua, hearing this, smiled and handed the issue over to Chen Mobai.

If Chen Mobai agreed, it would mean that he lacked the confidence to defeat Nangong Xuan Yu in the Nascent Soul Realm.

And if he didn’t agree, it would play right into their hands.

After all, Nangong Xuan Yu had formed his nascent soul a decade earlier, relying on the spiritual energy of Yuanyang View over these years, continuously condensing Pure Yang True Qi, nearly reaching the second layer of the Nascent Soul.

In a true contest of realms, Nangong Xuan Yu was surely more powerful than the newly ascended Chen Mobai.

“I do have a different opinion.”

When Chen Mobai said this, Nangong Xuan Yu’s face showed a look of mockery, thinking he was indeed pretending earlier, actually afraid of contesting with him using real strength.

“I think Minister Nangong and I should fight twice. After defeating him in both the Golden Core Realm and the Nascent Soul Realm, I believe he will be genuinely convinced.”

But Chen Mobai’s next words made Nangong Xuan Yu’s expression stiffen immediately.

All those present looked at Chen Mobai with admiration.

They believed this person truly deserved to be regarded as the most gifted in the history of the Immortal sect; such arrogance and confidence were unmatched, not even the two ancestors held such demeanor in their youth.

“Since you wish to be humiliated twice, I will grant you that wish.”

As he spoke, Nangong Xuan Yu decided not to spare Chen Mobai any dignity, intending to defeat him with his strongest Jade Sun Sword Intent in the duel at Xiao Chi Tian.

He wanted everyone to know that talent did not equate to combat power.

The fame of victory in battle was merely because none among the same cohort of cultivators matched his level in the Sword Dao.

Seeing the two reach an agreement, Ying Guanghua immediately instructed Bo Xiangqian to arrange the update of Xiao Chi Tian.

Under direct instructions from the Three Great Hall Masters, efficiency was certainly extraordinary.

Soon, Bo Xiangqian returned to announce the upgrade was completed.

“Since both of you are people of the Hall of Orthodox Law, I ask the Master of the Water Immortal Palace to open a room and invite us all to watch the duel.”

Ying Guanghua addressed the Water Immortal. Being the in-charge of the Heaven-Repairing Lineage, he needed to stay neutral. Qi Yuheng had been in opposition, so it was unsuitable for him as well.

In this case, among the Nascent Soul cultivators present, only the Water Immortal from the sea territory was most suitable.

“Alright!”

The Water Immortal did not refuse and, with great interest, entered Xiao Chi Tian first.

Subsequently, apart from the directly involved Chen Mobai and Nangong Xuan Yu, everyone else present received an invitation to spectate the duel.

This duel was fundamentally a continuation of the conflict between the Heaven-Repairing Lineage and the Weapon Dancing Sect.

If Nangong Xuan Yu defeated Chen Mobai, even if Ling Daoshi was out of the picture, the world would still know that the Heaven-Repairing Lineage remained the strongest among the Three Great Hall Masters, and the future of the Weapon Dancing Sect involved keeping their heads down.

But if Chen Mobai won!

Then the Heaven-Repairing Lineage would completely lose its predominance.

That’s why Qi Yuheng, who had always opposed the upgrade of Xiao Chi Tian, suddenly agreed this time.

It wasn’t entirely because of Chen Mobai, but with the warfare running out in thirty-one years, the Primordial Infant Arena would have to open eventually, and with the addition of the sea territory, it couldn’t be stopped indefinitely.

Rather than agreeing when it couldn’t be blocked anymore, it was better to seize this opportunity to nod in agreement now.

Moreover, Qi Yuheng believed that Chen Mobai could win!

He had specifically studied Chen Mobai, even watching all of Chen Mobai’s combat videos from the entrance exam up to the offline sparring sessions at the Daoist Academy.

As the first Nascent Soul of the Immortal sect, specifically tasked with combat, Qi Yuheng was convinced after watching that Chen Mobai was a dueling genius just like him.

Qi Yuheng even thought that if he were in the same realm, he might not perform as outstandingly in dueling as Chen Mobai did.

Although Nangong Xuan Yu was also very formidable, being able to duel with Elder Qingping using the Jade Sun Sword Intent before forming his nascent soul, Qi Yuheng knew that Elder Qingping's level of dueling was the weakest among all Nascent Soul cultivators in the Immortal sect.

Elder Qingping's cultivation in the Five Elements Cultivation and Jade Purity Scripture focused mainly on breaking through realms.

Only his Void Walking cultivation was decent; other techniques, whether offensive or defensive, were set aside after reaching the fourth rank, dedicating all time to breaking through realms.

That's why Elder Qingping is acclaimed as the representative figure of the Immortal sect's Sect of Realms.

Qi Yuheng did not agree with this because he believed that breaking through realms quickly meant missing out on the profundities of each realm, possibly leading to a shaky foundation, making future major realm breakthroughs difficult.

Foundation Establishment, Golden Core, Nascent Soul can rely on the Immortal sect's elixirs to get through, but what about Divinity Transformation?

The Immortal sect has no elixirs to support Divinity Transformation!