

## World 1671

### Chapter 1671: The Treasure Gourd

Sunlight filtered through the overlapping leaves, casting a dappled light on the master and disciple.

They had already entered the valley.

Chen Mobai used Void Walk to easily teleport in, then he drew a Short Teleportation Talisman, pinpointing this location.

After positioning, he used Void Walk to exit and gave the Short Teleportation Talisman to Jiang Zongheng, allowing him to step into this naturally occurring Rank-4 maze with ease.

Jiang Zongheng stood beside him, his eyes filled with awe and anticipation.

Although this was incredibly easy for Chen Mobai, in his disciple's eyes, he effortlessly broke the maze here with just a wave of his hand, making his master seem immensely powerful.

“Let's go, that should be the place you've been longing for.”

Chen Mobai spoke to Jiang Zongheng, though the sunlight was bright in the sky, the valley was shrouded in fog.

However, Chen Mobai listened with Echoes in the Void, so the fog could not mislead him.

As Chen Mobai advanced, the mist in the valley seemed to be pulled by an invisible force, slowly parting. A deep path appeared before them, leading into the depths of the valley.

Jiang Zongheng immediately followed, looking at his master's back, his heart filled with boundless gratitude.

This valley was the unsolvable mystery in his heart and the first turning point in his life.

Today, the fog would finally be lifted.

With a mix of apprehension and anticipation, Jiang Zongheng followed Chen Mobai onto the path.

As they ventured deeper, the scenery in the valley gradually became clearer, and after crossing a waterfall, everything became expansive and clear.

The two Loquat Spirit Trees still stood in the center of the valley, with thick trunks and lush leaves, laden with golden fruits emitting an enticing fragrance.

Chen Mobai carefully examined the two Spirit Trees, a hint of surprise flashing in his eyes.

“These two Loquat Spirit Trees are actually only Rank-3 Spirit Plants?”

It’s known that with this site’s Rank-4 Spirit Vein, clearly shaped by nature’s creation, it must have a Rank-4 Spiritual Object to stabilize it, forming the natural maze.

He originally thought these were the Loquat Trees Jiang Zongheng longed for, but seeing it in reality, he realized the grade was off.

At this moment, Jiang Zongheng deeply bowed to the two Loquat Spirit Trees.

If it weren’t for them when he was a child, he would have starved to death in the valley.

Chen Mobai looked around, searching for the Rank-4 Spiritual Object at the core of this Spirit Vein.

Before long, his gaze shifted to the other side of the valley.

There, a vague fluctuation of spiritual power caught his attention.

He led Jiang Zongheng over and saw a meandering creek. The water was crystal clear, and the creek bed was embedded with colorful stones.

These stones emitted a faint glow and were obviously not ordinary.

Jiang Zongheng immediately picked up a few, and Chen Mobai found they were merely a type of Rank-3 Misty Colored Stone, a mineral with Earth and Water Attributes, useful for nourishing crops in a Spirit Field.

For Zhuo Ming, this was a treasure.

“Gather these, and you can hand them over to Ming’er when we return.”

Jiang Zongheng listened, nodding immediately, then cast a spell to collect all visible Misty Colored Stones into his Storage Bag.

By this time, Chen Mobai had already moved toward the source of the spiritual power fluctuation.

After crossing the creek, he soon arrived at a blank mountain wall ahead.

The mountain wall was entirely blank, with no further path ahead.

And here was also Chen Mobai’s destination.

His Echoes in the Void allowed him to hear something hidden before the mountain wall, but he couldn’t see its true nature.

Chen Mobai immediately activated his Divine Consciousness Searching Heaven and Earth, but it was as if he encountered a One-Leaf Blindness, finding nothing.

However, none of this could stop him.

Chen Mobai had reached the Realm of Heavenly Blessing.

In an instant, the entire valley lay exposed under his Heavenly Heart.

Chen Mobai gently raised his hand, the Blade of the Void condensed at his fingertip, and a silvery stream of light burst forth, piercing the mountain wall before him.

An almost invisible, transparent ripple appeared in the void before the mountain wall, marking the core of the valley's natural maze.

The Blade of the Void touched the maze, like a drop of water falling into a lake, causing ripples to spread out.

The maze began to tremble, slowly opening a cut.

Chen Mobai immediately infused his Domain, covering and severing the maze core's connection to nature's spiritual energy.

Soon, all the ripples began to fade away.

With the maze dissipating, a refreshing aura surged forth, and a thin layer of mist seemed to be drawn away from the mountain wall, revealing a Gourd Vine.

This vine is sturdy, covering the mountain wall, with four treasure gourds emitting spiritual light.

Among them, three treasure gourds are evidently ripe, displaying smooth curves in red, green, and blue, with a glossy luster, gentle like jade.

Chen Mobai confirmed there was no danger nearby and flew to the mountain wall, carefully inspecting the gourd vine and the gourds on it.

The smallest gourd is still pale white, looking very immature, still hanging on the gourd vine, clearly not yet ripe.

The other three have fallen off but are entwined by vines, emitting spiritual light upon the mountain wall.

One of the blue gourds is intermittently releasing faint mist, evidently the core of the maze formation.

He reached out and grabbed it, after absorbing and feeling it, he couldn't help but smile.

The three mature gourds are all fourth rank mid-grade, and inside they contain a considerable space like natural storage bags.

The interior of the blue-skinned gourd is entirely mist, once released, it forms a natural maze that can disorient cultivators trapped within.

If one covers oneself with it, it becomes similar to one-leaf blindness, appearing transparent and undetected.

The red-skinned gourd contains a type of flame inside.

Chen Mobai took out a strand, felt it, and discovered it was the Hearth Spirit Flame, which would please Yan Shaoyin.

Because the Earth's Core True Fire Technique of Back to Sky Valley, if refined with such spiritual fire, it greatly aids alchemy and assists in condensing Earth Fire True Qi, beneficial even in magic duels.

This red gourd must have been formed by the gourd vine absorbing underground Earth Fire from the valley for millennia, truly a rare treasure.

Chen Mobai found it useless personally, but he could refine it to give to Qing Nu, allowing her to use the Hearth Spirit Flame for alchemy without needing Stat Fire or drawing the Earth Fire from Mount Tianpeng.

Thinking of this, Chen Mobai picked up the last green-skinned gourd.

Inside, it is full of Yimu Spiritual Qi, almost solidified into spiritual liquid; at its center, a faint flash of green lightning could be seen.

Chen Mobai was very familiar with this green spiritual liquid, it was indeed Yi Wood Divine Thunder.

It was once his trump card in defeating foes and cultivating spirit plants.

Unfortunately, after mastering the Pure Yang Scroll and Illusory Thunder, the Yi Wood Divine Thunder had been neglected by him.

Chen Mobai then touched the last white gourd, discovering pure metal Qi inside.

When mature, it could be left for his disciple grandson Duan Shuyu.

Such thoughts led Chen Mobai to collect the three mature treasure gourds and leave the mountain wall.

“Master!”

At the stream, after picking up Misty Colored Stones, Jiang Zongheng saw him approach and respectfully saluted.

“You’re about to prepare Core Formation, the Yi Wood force within the green-skinned gourd could assist you. If you refine the Yi Wood Divine Thunder, it could serve as an additional great divine skill post-core formation.”

Seeing Jiang Zongheng, Chen Mobai smiled slightly, as most of the harvest was due to him, hence he presented the green-skinned gourd to him.

“Thank you, Master, for bestowing the treasure!”

After hearing this, Jiang Zongheng was full of gratitude.

He took the green-skinned gourd, with divine sense penetrating inside, quickly discovering a small world within, a pool of clear spiritual liquid stimulating his longevity spiritual power to arouse eagerly.

He sensed absorbing this Yi Wood spiritual liquid could not only perfect the Longevity Scripture effortlessly but also support his needs until core formation without issue.

This treasure gourd was priceless to him.

“This place is good; after I take this gourd, the maze covering the valley will soon dissipate, then let the Formation Division come and set up a large formation here.”

“Your affairs in the mortal world are mostly settled too, it’s time to return to the sect for core formation cultivation. This place I gift to you as a cave dwelling for practice.”

“On the mountain wall, there’s also a white-skinned gourd, with attributes suitable for your disciple Duan Shuyu.”

Listening to Chen Mobai’s words, Jiang Zongheng nodded repeatedly.

With a fourth rank mid-grade spirit vein place as his cave dwelling, he’s indeed the best-treated in the Xiao Nanshan lineage.

However, Chen Mobai sensed with his Heavenly Blessing realm earlier, revealing this place seemingly predestined for this disciple.

Jiang Zongheng possessed a source of this place's original Qi, likely the opportunity given in his youth.

The master and disciple weren't in a hurry to leave, continuing their search in the valley, hoping to uncover more treasures.

As time passed, they discovered rare herbs and spirit stones, even some ancient relics, indicating the valley held many secrets.

Each finding by Chen Mobai and Jiang Zongheng filled them with more curiosity and reverence for the valley. For Jiang Zongheng, this place was not only his past but the solid foundation for future cultivation. He vowed to himself to remember this grace and repay his master's guidance in the future.

Chen Mobai spoke softly.

Enlightened, Jiang Zongheng understood the master's intentions. This valley visit not only resolved doubts but provided invaluable resources for the coming Core Formation path.

They continued exploring the valley, discovering many precious spirit plants, each beneficial to cultivation. Chen Mobai carefully collected these spirit plants, planning to return to the sect for cultivation.

Standing aside, Jiang Zongheng watched his master's figure, filled with gratitude and admiration. He knew all this was the opportunity given by his master, pledging to intensify his cultivation to meet the master's expectations.

Chapter 1672: Loquat Fruit and the Final Grand Spell

The uncharted Rank-4 spiritual land, containing spiritual objects, was far beyond Chen Mobai's imagination.

There were even three Rank-4 medicinal herbs present.

But since he temporarily had no use for them, he did not pick them.

Near one of the herbs, there was an almost Rank-3 spirit snake guarding.

After easily slaying it, Chen Mobai placed a protective restriction to prevent the herbs from being eaten by demonic beasts.

After strolling through the valley, the mentor and disciple duo arrived at the two loquat trees.

After picking and storing the twenty or so fruits, Yi Shaoqing, who received Chen Mobai's decree, led the cultivators from the Formation Division over.

Chen Mobai left Jiang Zongheng behind, letting the two of them handle the array matters of the Loquat Valley Sub-Court, while he headed to Mount Tianpeng in Cloud County.

Whenever there's a good thing, his first thought is to share it with Qing Nu.

"A little refining of this gourd, and it would at least be a Rank-4 magic artifact!"

Qing Nu took the two gourds and exclaimed in wonder, saying that the resources on this side of the Tianhe Realm were indeed abundant, even places like the Eastern Wilderness had untouched Rank-4 treasures.

If it were at the Ruins, there would be even more.

No wonder cultivators here often think of exploring such areas.

"What do you want? I can refine it for you when I have time."

When Chen Mobai heard Qing Nu finally asking for something, he was extremely pleased.

“Can you divide the space inside the gourd into two parts, separating them without interference? One side for storing these earth fires, and the other like a medicine cabinet from the Immortal Gate, with neatly stacked compartments.”

“That way, I can store refined elixirs and precious herbs inside and retrieve them as needed.

“Also, if there’s a space for living beings, that would be ideal. This way, I can keep Jing’er inside and carry them with me.”

After Qing Nu finished speaking, she looked expectantly at Chen Mobai, who forced a smile.

“Such high-level spatial technique is required; I’ll check with the Returning Immortal Sect if there’s such technology.”

In the Tianhe Realm, spells related to the void are monopolized by the Taixu Miaomiao Palace, with only techniques like refining storage bags and Void Law Body being circulated.

Qing Nu’s request already touches on advanced aspects like space partitioning, transformation, and storing living beings, which simple storage bag technology couldn’t fulfill.

Fortunately, the Immortal Gate side, though lacking Void Stones in resource circulation, had enough research into space due to domain technology.

As each elixir and herb has different storage requirements, according to Qing Nu’s idea, every medicine cabinet space should be independently sealed and adaptable to the stored material.

Chen Mobai couldn’t guarantee if such technology existed within the Immortal Gate.

“Hmm, if not possible, a naturally wild treasure gourd is also good...”

Qing Nu realized her request was a bit excessive and quickly adjusted.

“Oh, there are two loquat trees in that treasure land; I’ve picked some fruits from them.”

Chen Mobai never liked showing off; even in front of Qing Nu, he smoothly shifted the topic, taking out twenty-four golden fruits.

The Immortal Gate side also has loquat spirit plants, with a Blessed Earth City famous for them.

It’s said that children eating them frequently can develop wisdom and stimulate thinking.

Though Chen Mobai and Qing Nu are adults, it doesn’t stop them from tasting this spirit fruit.

“I have the Vermilion Phoenix Facing the Sun Diagram, immune to all poisons, let me try first.”

Being cautious, Chen Mobai decided to try the loquat fruit first despite its seemingly pure nature.

As he took a bite, the juice overflowed between his lips, the flesh smooth and sweet, with a refreshing aroma pervading his being.

Slowly, Chen Mobai felt a hint of coolness emerging in his Sea of Knowledge at the Purple Mansion.

He closed his eyes to savor the experience and documented his bodily changes using the Guidance Book.

After about a cup of tea’s time, Chen Mobai opened his eyes, sensing a slight stimulation in his thoughts.

This loquat fruit, after all, was only a Rank-3 spirit fruit, its efficacy slightly weak for a Nascent Soul cultivator like him.

Yet its usefulness signifies it’s a good fruit.

Seeing Chen Mobai nod, Qing Nu took a fruit and tried it, her eyes brightening with delight from its pleasing taste.

As she ate halfway, she saw Chen Mobai pulling out a Spirit-Testing Instrument.

[Metal 24, Wood 50, Water 39, Fire 100, Earth 88.]

Seeing the Five Elements Spiritual Root values displayed on the screen, Qing Nu widened her eyes.

“This loquat can actually increase Metal and Wood Spiritual Roots!”

Qing Nu remembered Chen Mobai’s spiritual root values, with Earth slowly increasing due to the Earth Gathering Art, but both Metal and Wood roots unexpectedly increased by 1 point.

“My little disciple’s roots total 108, the extra must be due to the loquat fruit. Today’s test showed it indeed.”

Chen Mobai explained with a smile, deciding not to take it back to Giant Tree Ridge since only the last of the Twenty-Four Great Dao Techniques remained.

Upon hearing this, Qing Nu quickly picked another fruit, peeled it, and handed it to Chen Mobai.

“You eat too. My little disciple ate many, only gaining 8 points; after four, the effect waned.”

In his speech, Chen Mobai took another fruit, sending it to Qing Nu’s lips.

They exchanged sweet glances.

After finishing four loquats, Chen Mobai tested his spiritual roots again, confirming both Metal and Wood increased by four points.

Whether it was him or Qing Nu, it was the same.

However, compared to the spiritual root, another thing made him even happier.

The clarity in his mind was more intense, and his thoughts were more active.

Chen Mobai immediately took out the book “Mysterious Gold Body” by Golden Wind Ancestor and started reading it. This body refining technique of the metal attribute had some Rank-4 content in the latter part that he didn’t quite understand before.

Especially a spell called “Mystical Gold Talisman.”

Now, after consuming the loquat fruit, he read it again and found some enlightenment.

It turns out that this “Mystical Gold Talisman” requires the essence blood of the heart of a cultivator with the Mysterious Gold Body to be cast, belonging to a desperate spell.

After casting, it can raise metal attribute spells by a small tier.

For example, a spell originally of fourth-grade lower class, after being enhanced with this, can be raised to fourth-rank mid-grade. Although fourth-grade superior cannot be raised to true Rank-5, it can be considered quasi-Rank-5.

Back then, the Golden Wind Ancestor used this to enhance the Precious Golden Light to seal the Purple Lightning Sword.

However, because it wasn’t truly Rank-5, the Purple Lightning Sword later broke the seal and cut off his head.

After finishing reading the Mysterious Gold Body, Chen Mobai confirmed that the loquat fruit could enhance a cultivator's comprehension.

At this time, Qing Nu also put down the alchemy recipe of Wood Essence Golden Core Pill, frowned and shook her head.

“What's wrong?”

Curiously asked Chen Mobai. Qing Nu said that after consuming the loquat fruit, although she felt that refreshing sensation, she didn't feel any improvement in her comprehension.

[Huh? Could it be that this loquat fruit only enhances those who originally don't have high comprehension?] Chen Mobai suddenly thought of this.

“You should feel about the same as I do.”

At this moment, Qing Nu collected the loquat seeds she had eaten. These were also good materials for medicine and casually asked Chen Mobai.

“Ah, yes, about the same, I also didn't feel much improvement!”

While speaking, Chen Mobai quietly put the Mysterious Gold Body back into his storage bag, then, feeling more and more uneasy, found a sense of superiority in another aspect from Qing Nu.

After indulging in Mount Tianpeng for a few more days, Chen Mobai reluctantly returned to Giant Tree Ridge.

After familiarly stepping into the Divine Tree Secret Realm, he came to the Talent Tree and took the last Grand Spell.

Its name was simple, known as “Heart Fire Wildfire.”

Only cultivators of the Chidi Puzhao Jing could practice it. It could ignite the opponent's heart fire, burning their essence, Qi, and spirit.

According to Elder Ming's introduction, the sect legend says that it was comprehended during the process when the Heavenly Sovereign witnessed the Green Yang Spiritual Wood igniting inner fire and transforming into the Golden Yang Wood.

Except that this Grand Spell doesn't stop until the Universal Illumination Divine Light turns the opponent into ashes.

After obtaining this, a concern in Chen Mobai's mind was also relieved.

In this inheritance space of the Longevity Sect's Talent Tree, he had collected all five of the Great Immortal Sutras and twenty-four Great Dao Techniques.

The remaining ones were the Magic Treasure Tree and the Great Dao Tree.

Thinking of this, Chen Mobai immediately left here and went first to the Magic Treasure Tree.

After observing for a while, Chen Mobai discovered that there was actually a hidden space in the crown of this Magic Treasure Tree.

The disciples who entered previously were teleported into that space.

Clearly, those fruits containing various exotic treasures are within.

If other Nascent Soul cultivators came over, even if they found it, they might not be able to enter.

After all, the Magic Treasure Tree was a Rank-4 pinnacle spirit plant, its elemental energy abundance was almost equivalent to a Nascent Soul complete cultivator.

That space also seemed to be its fundamental part; breaking in forcefully requires the power to suppress all the elemental energy of the Magic Treasure Tree.

But for Chen Mobai, this was a minor task.

He smiled slightly, and had already used void walking to enter within.

After a flash of silver light, Chen Mobai found himself on a giant tree crown like a jade umbrella,

With green branches, there were dazzling fruits hanging, each one vibrant in color; red like fire, yellow like gold, blue like jewels, as scattered stars.

Chen Mobai used Echoes in the Void and quickly listened to the treasures contained within each fruit.

Except these things, for Foundation Establishment cultivators, are exotic treasures, but for him as a Nascent Soul cultivator, they are just fairly decent.

Chen Mobai thought about it and decided not to take them all, even considering ways to replenish some in the future, transforming this place into rewards for outstanding Foundation Establishment disciples during the Five Veins contests of the sect.

Upon leaving, he picked a few fruits of Everlife Soil.

This was quite useful as the Five Elements Sect's territory had expanded, requiring more places for Rank-4 spirit plants. Chen Mobai could send them to the East Barbarians, and later transplant Rank-3 peak Golden Yang Wood for enlightenment and elevation.

With Rank-4 Everlife Wood arrays, the Five Elements Sect could control the vast medicine fields of Rank-4 elixirs located with few hands.

After leaving the Magic Treasure Tree's space, Chen Mobai looked towards the last Great Dao Tree.

He took out the Purple Lightning Sword and Heavenly Origin Pearl and flew towards that side.

[Master, rest assured, if this demon tree dares to disrespect you, I will chop it to pieces in minutes!]

The Purple Lightning Sword evidently had a deep impression of the Great Dao Tree, as the two had once faced off, only now, having risen to Rank-5, its words seemed a bit inflated.

After hearing this, Chen Mobai nodded, indicating that if the Great Dao Tree indeed showed any movement, there's no need to hesitate, just chop away.

The Purple Lightning Sword, wanting to improve its impression score, was very much looking forward to it!

#### Chapter 1673: Entering the Great Dao Tree

Chen Mobai stood before the Great Dao Tree, gazing at its enormous trunk that seemed to support the heavens and earth, feeling deeply moved.

The achievements he has today, this Great Dao Tree can be said to have played an immense role.

Without its empowerment, many things might still be incomplete to this day.

Such as the Sword Dao Realm, or the Grand Spells like One-Leaf Blindness.

Without the Fourth Rank's Pulling Seedlings to Promote Growth, the development of the Five Elements Sect wouldn't have been this fast, and Zhou Shengqing's achievement of the Legal Body Nascent Soul also benefitted from it.

However, this Great Dao Tree, while providing various creation foundations to the Longevity Sect, has also left him with profound shadows.

The scene nearly being absorbed as a Saint Embryo surged into his mind, and Chen Mobai couldn't help but grip the Purple Electric Sword.

[Master, shall we cut it now?]

The Purple Electric Sword sensed Chen Mobai's somewhat fluctuating emotions and immediately became excited.

"Not for now!"

Chen Mobai shook his head, holding the Purple Electric Sword, he effortlessly took thirteen steps, perfectly passing the Longevity Trials.

The enormous pressure that could previously make his Divine Sense and body tremble, now in front of him, felt as gentle as a breeze.

During this process, he paused a bit at the last two steps, hoping the Great Dao Tree would empower him again.

To see if he could directly empower the Grand Spell he practiced to the Fifth Rank.

But unfortunately, the Great Dao Tree's limit is the Fourth Rank. Multiple empowerments can at most deepen his comprehension at the Fourth Rank, but can't help him cross that substantial bottleneck.

For this, Chen Mobai felt slightly disappointed.

Thinking that he'd need to rely on himself to breakthrough the Grand Spell to the Fifth Rank felt like a waste of time.

Just then, a verdant green leaf drifted down from the sky, merging with the leaf mark glowing on his forehead.

[Thirteen steps before the Great Dao Tree, achievement of immortal quality, can be the Saint Embryo of my Longevity Sect.]

Chen Mobai felt the information arising in his Sea of Consciousness and couldn't help but nod lightly.

It's still that familiar taste.

This time, however, the Great Dao Tree did not immediately absorb him.

Could it be that after being cut by the Purple Electric Sword, it hasn't recovered yet?

While waiting, Chen Mobai saw the latest deep sword mark on the Great Dao Tree's rough bark, thinking along these lines.

Echoes in the Void had already been pushed to its limit by him, and he heard inside the Great Dao Tree, itself hiding a secret space.

But this time, he did not rashly use Void Walking to step in.

Finally, a powerful green light surged out of thin air, enveloping him entirely, and then a black crack split in the center of the Great Dao Tree, the inner space opened a door, trying to pull him in.

Chen Mobai first attempted with Tai Yi Wu Yan Luo, discovering this Fourth Grade Superior Magic Artifact could only contend with the Great Dao Tree's green light, and as time passed, his body along with the five-colored smoke clouds on the surface, were still slowly drawn by the green light towards the crack.

He immediately switched to the Heavenly Bead in his palm.

The Fifth Rank Magic Artifacts are different.

Under the Heavenly Bead, Chen Mobai's form was like the Sea God Needle, no matter how powerful the green light was, it remained firmly in place before the Great Dao Tree, unmoved by an inch.

Though having already achieved Nascent Soul Formation, Chen Mobai's cautious nature wouldn't change.

Since this Great Dao Tree is the fundamental source of the Longevity Sect's heritage, and also shoulders the task of selecting a Saint Embryo for the Heavenly Sovereign, it certainly wouldn't be so simple.

Perhaps inside it holds restrictions of the Fifth Rank or similar, and without understanding the details, it's best not to risk entering with the true body.

Chen Mobai took out the Formless Puppet he had prepared long ago, infused his Divine Sense within, and then, along with the Purple Electric Sword, followed the green light into the crack of the Great Dao Tree.

Once the Formless Puppet was absorbed, the green light of the Great Dao Tree paused, seemingly sensing that the Saint Embryo had already entered, it gradually faded away.

Chen Mobai's true body guarded with the Heavenly Bead, Divine Sense began to control the Formless Puppet to explore the deepest secrets hidden by the Great Dao Tree.

About a few breaths later, the Formless Puppet arrived inside a mysterious hall.

The Purple Electric Sword circled around Chen Mobai's puppet body, somewhat unused to it, took a spin.

This Formless Puppet, installed with a Supreme-grade Spirit Stone by Chen Mobai, along with his modifications, can wield the power of a normal Core Formation cultivator.

[Master, why did you suddenly become weaker?]

Chen Mobai explained it was an embodiment, then, with the Purple Electric Sword, moved towards the interior of the hall.

The footsteps of the Formless Puppet echoed through the ancient corridor, meanwhile, with the energy support of the Supreme-grade Spirit Stone, the exploration mode launched at full power, soon the structure of the hall appeared on the screen.

Passing through the long corridor, he entered the central area of the hall.

To his surprise, it was a dry pool.

Divine Liquid Purification!

The term surfaced in Chen Mobai's mind.

To become a Saint Embryo, one must first purify the body, then infuse it with the Heavenly Sovereign's Spiritual Sense.

This is known as "Divine Liquid Purification" and "Soul Sensing Enlightenment."

This pool should be where Divine Liquid Purification takes place, except, to his surprise, over the long years, the divine liquid had dried up.

As Chen Mobai thought along these lines, he suddenly noticed something amiss.

He saw fragments like some kind of debris in the pool, picked up a piece, analyzed it with the Formless Puppet, discovering it was human skin.

[Someone was refined into a Saint Embryo here!]

This thought suddenly flashed through Chen Mobai's mind.

If that's the case, then the divine liquid in this pool isn't dried up, but used up.

Who could it be?

In Chen Mobai's mind, a figure quickly emerged.

True Lord Yuan!

This ascended cultivator, having acquired the divine legacy of the Longevity Sect in the Eastern Wilderness, was already a well-known fact.

Could it be that it was here that he laid down his supreme foundation!?

Or could it be...

Chen Mobai thought of the soul-sensing enlightenment after the purification by divine liquid, and his heart surged with immense waves.

After scanning the entire dried-up pool, Chen Mobai saw more fragments of human skin and bits of hair in the corner.

Upon confirming there was no other information, he took the Purple Electric Sword and proceeded towards the rear hall.

As soon as he entered, his gaze was captivated.

It was a tree branch rooted in the void, half a meter long.

The branch was completely crystalline, with seven leaves as green as jade, exuding an incredibly profound aura.

Beep beep beep!

As the scanning halo of the Formless Puppet landed on the tree branch, it erupted with a bright red warning, the highest level of alarm.

[Master, this branch... seems... more powerful than me...]

At this moment, the Purple Electric Sword also stammered out a sentence.

Chen Mobai was instantly shocked.

Even though his true body hadn't entered, he could roughly analyze that this branch might be a sixth-rank item.

Or even beyond the sixth rank!

[Could this be a branch from the Heavenly Sovereign's true form?]

Thought Chen Mobai, relieved that he had let the Formless Puppet test the waters first.

But after waiting for a while, he still didn't reach the stage of soul-sensing enlightenment.

The Formless Puppet had scanned the rear hall by now, discovering that there should have been a lot of books and items, but the shelves were empty.

It was evident that someone had taken them all, leaving him nothing.

Thinking of this, Chen Mobai felt that True Lord Yuan was a bit excessive.

But immediately, he turned his gaze to the green tree branch suspended in the void.

If it is indeed True Lord Yuan, why would he leave this behind?

Chen Mobai quickly figured out this problem; by the local customs, they would take all the benefits with them. Since it was left behind, there was only one answer.

It couldn't be taken!

Having understood this point, Chen Mobai increasingly felt that this tree branch must have been plucked from the Heavenly Sovereign's true form.

Given the realm of the Heavenly Sovereign, even before True Lord Yuan's ascension, he probably couldn't move it.

But upon understanding, Chen Mobai felt discouraged.

If True Lord Yuan couldn't take it, there's no way he could either!

However, he soon adjusted his mindset.

Although he couldn't take it, the Divine Tree Secret Realm and the Great Dao Tree were now in his hands, equating to an indirect possession.

Thinking this, Chen Mobai commanded the Formless Puppet to approach the green tree branch.

This branch seemed devoid of consciousness, yet the immense energy it contained caused the Formless Puppet's warning signal to grow louder and louder.

Chen Mobai hesitated for a moment but still reached out to grasp the branch.

At the moment of contact, a vast torrent surged in, instantly filling the Formless Puppet's memory.

The Purple Electric Sword immediately knocked him away from the branch.

After a while, Chen Mobai cleared part of the memory, and driving the Formless Puppet, he stood up again.

From the contact just now, he finally understood why the Great Dao Tree could empower.

The source was this branch.

It contained all the inheritances of the Longevity Sect, be it the Five Great Immortal Sutras or the Twenty-Four Great Dao Techniques, even skills related to Sword Dao, talisman crafting, artifact refining, alchemy, and others could all be found within it.

And this branch was precisely the source of the Divine Tree Secret Realm.

The Three Divine Trees and all the spirit woods originated from this.

If one could absorb all the inheritances on this branch, it would be equivalent to obtaining the spirit of the Heavenly Sovereign.

Those with insufficient cultivation level would be irresistibly overwhelmed by this knowledge during the inheritance process, thus becoming a minor Heavenly Sovereign.

If one's willpower was strong enough, they could, conversely, digest the spirit of the Heavenly Sovereign, transforming all of the Longevity Sect's legacies into their own foundation and heritage.

Fortunately, he had the Purple Electric Sword by his side this time and had given prior instructions, otherwise, facing this green tree branch, at least the Formless Puppet's divine consciousness would be overshadowed, leading to the loss of this Formless Puppet.

With a sense of relief, Chen Mobai suddenly thought of a question.

Was True Lord Yuan back then overshadowed by the spirit of the Heavenly Sovereign?

Being able to leap from an ordinary pioneer cultivator to become one of the pinnacle divinity-transcending True Monarchs in the Tianhe Realm, True Lord Yuan's experience is legendary.

It was precisely because this experience was so mystical that Chen Mobai had deep suspicions.

After all, the atmosphere in the Tianhe Realm was exceedingly perilous, with countless examples of those who acquired mighty legacies falling midway.

Yet True Lord Yuan ascended!

Chapter 1674: Cultivation of the Devour God Technique

This branch is the Dao of the Heavenly Sovereign!

Chen Mobai suddenly understood the reputation of the Great Dao Tree.

However, he still didn't know if the Longevity Sect's sudden disappearance overnight was due to being taken by the Heavenly Sovereign to ascend with the entire sect.

Chen Mobai then searched the side hall with the Purple Electric Sword. There should have been some items here, but now the restrictions were fully open, leaving it empty.

One could only say the locals were thorough in their actions!

Chen Mobai cursed inwardly, but there was nothing he could do.

After completing his exploration, it was time to leave.

Even though there was no danger here as long as he didn't actively touch the Heavenly Venerate Tree Branch, Chen Mobai still didn't want to enter.

Outside, he used the Blade of the Void, slicing through the weak point of the space with the Echoes in the Void, and brought out the Formless Puppet and the Purple Electric Sword.

[Master...]

The Purple Electric Sword, a bit embarrassed, accepted a piece of fifth-order Mysterious Gold handed to it by Chen Mobai. This was found in the Golden Wind Ancestor's storage bag, likely leftover material from refining the Golden Halberd.

[Take it. We owe this success to you as well.]

After being upgraded to fifth order, only fifth-order materials were useful to the Purple Electric Sword. Although it hadn't used its power during the exploration of the Great Dao Tree, it had helped, so it deserved a reward.

[Thank you, Master. I will head back now.]

Upon hearing Chen Mobai's words, the Purple Electric Sword accepted without reservation and entered the domain to absorb the thumb-sized piece of fifth-order Mysterious Gold.

At this point, Chen Mobai had also finished reading the contents within the Formless Puppet, learning that the branch contained the Heavenly Sovereign's Dao.

If in the future, his divine sense became strong enough to fully absorb the Heavenly Sovereign's Dao, then elevating all grand spells to the fifth order would be effortless, and even reaching the sixth order might be possible.

Unfortunately, with his current Nascent Soul Realm, that was just a dream.

Is there a way to gradually glean from the Heavenly Sovereign's Dao?

Chen Mobai began to brainstorm.

However, his knowledge base lacked information on existences of the Heavenly Sovereign's level, leaving him at a loss.

After pondering for a long time, he decided to set the matter aside for now.

Then, Chen Mobai held the Heavenly Bead, gazing at the Great Dao Tree before him.

He started recalling all the materials he had on the Devour God Technique.

After consuming the Loquat Fruit, his comprehension ability improved, and the content in the e-book passed down by the Leading Star Ancestor began to unfold before him.

He had set his sights on this forbidden technique long ago.

Especially given the slow progress in the Vermilion Phoenix Facing the Sun Diagram.

The Devour God Technique section in the Immortal Gate's library was similar to what the Leading Star Ancestor provided, but the Huashen Ancestor's understanding was even more valuable.

The Devour God Technique, a secret technique of the ancient evil path union, is taboo for using one's own divine sense as a God Seed, cultivating a furnace, known as: the Way of Humanity, to supplement what is lacking with abundance.

However, the Devour God Technique also has the Way of Heaven method.

This method is available for Nascent Soul cultivators in the Immortal Gate to apply for cultivation.

The Way of Heaven involves viewing oneself as the lacking part and drawing from the surplus, converting it into one's divine sense for enhancement.

Chen Mobai's original plan was to use the Way of Heaven to build a bridge between himself and the Biyu Wutong, converting the vast unconscious spiritual sense of this fourth-order spirit plant for his own use.

Because Biyu Wutong had reached the fourth-stage pinnacle long ago, its daily spiritual power intake and spiritual sense generation would unconsciously dissipate into the world, so cultivating the Way of Heaven in this manner wouldn't deplete it.

However, Chen Mobai was aware that the former Master Huakai had planted a hidden hand in Biyu Wutong and had practiced the Devour God Technique with that spirit plant before, so he prudently decided to give up on Biyu Wutong.

Most importantly, Chen Mobai had many fourth-stage pinnacle spirit plants in the Eastern Wilderness.

He originally thought the most powerful was the Five Elements Spirit Tree, fallen in realm within the Yiyuan Mijing, but now it seemed it was the Great Dao Tree in front of him.

Because the core of the Great Dao Tree is the Heavenly Venerate Tree Branch.

Even surpassing the fifth order.

Precisely because of this, the Great Dao Tree, though immensely powerful, lacked a strong autonomous consciousness, as it was merely a shell bearing the Heavenly Sovereign's Dao.

Absorbing its spiritual sense and refining it would thus be easier for Chen Mobai.

This would save considerable time in performing the Flame Lighting Technique to purify the divine sense.

At this moment, Chen Mobai even contemplated whether, after absorbing the Great Dao Tree with the Devour God Technique in the future, he could also devour and digest the Heavenly Sovereign's Dao using this method!

After all, he was currently in the Nascent Soul Realm, and although the Great Dao Tree had deep foundations, it could only support his divine sense realm up to Nascent Soul Complete at most.

But soon, Chen Mobai suppressed this dangerous thought.

After all, that was the Heavenly Sovereign Great Dao, and the greatest possibility was that at the moment of establishing a connection with the Path of Heaven, one's entire consciousness would be overwhelmed by the vast spiritual sense of the Heavenly Sovereign.

It's better to honestly devour the Great Dao Tree first.

Thinking in this way, Chen Mobai finally recalled the cultivation method related to the Devour God Technique once more. After confirming there were no problems, he began operating the Nascent Soul, executing this secret technique.

With the assistance of Echoes in the Void, Chen Mobai easily established a connection with the Path of Heaven of the Great Dao Tree.

Soon, a ripple appeared at the center of his brow, and then from nothing, it transformed into a small vortex, like a black hole, starting to devour and absorb the freely emitted divine sense from the Great Dao Tree.

Gradually, Chen Mobai felt his divine sense growing, which made him very pleased.

As you know, after reaching the Nascent Soul Formation, he had meditated beside the Biyu Wutong for a month to achieve this level of improvement, whereas now it was just within the time of a stick of incense.

Such enormous efficiency increase surely is due to the Devour God Technique!

Of course, this process is not without risks.

Though the self-consciousness of the Great Dao Tree is weak, it is still a Fourth Stage Pinnacle Spirit Plant, and even within the remaining divine sense, it bears the imprint of its most instinctual traces.

During the process of absorbing and devouring with the Devour God Technique, Chen Mobai gradually understood the Great Dao Tree.

Its accumulation is indeed so profound; if the Spirit Vein of this Divine Tree Secret Realm were Rank-5, it might have broken through to Rank-5 long ago.

Chen Mobai remained highly vigilant, devouring the divine sense while sifting and digesting, to avoid being contaminated by the colossal divine sense of the Great Dao Tree.

As his cultivation of the Devour God Technique deepened, he felt a subtle resonance forming between his divine sense and the Great Dao Tree.

He began to perceive deeper secrets within the Great Dao Tree and discovered the Heavenly Sovereign Great Dao hidden in the core of space.

However, in the absence of the activation of the Longevity Trial, the Great Dao Tree was also not qualified to mobilize the Heavenly Sovereign Great Dao, so Chen Mobai could confidently execute the Devour God Technique.

No need to worry that while devouring, he might suddenly consume the Heavenly Sovereign Great Dao.

This discovery inspired Chen Mobai, pondering whether he could utilize this point, using the Great Dao Tree as a filter, to slowly consume the Heavenly Sovereign Great Dao bit by bit?

With this thought emerging, Chen Mobai noted it down, contemplating how in the future he might design a perfect plan to devour the Heavenly Sovereign Great Dao.

In the ensuing times, Chen Mobai focused intently on the cultivation of the Devour God Technique.

Time passed bit by bit, and he thoroughly established a bridge of divine sense between him and the Great Dao Tree; the surrounding colossal yet weak-willed divine sense began to continuously stream towards the vortex on his brow, absorbed and devoured by him.

Gradually, Chen Mobai felt his divine sense had grown by nearly one-tenth.

Within the Sea of Knowledge at the Purple Mansion, the Phoenix phantom had a colored spiritual light condensing into substance.

And it was precisely at that moment that the Morning Bell suddenly struck.

Chen Mobai immediately awoke, severing the connection with the Great Dao Tree.

He slowly opened his eyes, but an undeniable bright brilliance flickered within them.

This represented that his divine sense enhanced greatly within a short span, which was somewhat uncontrollable.

Chen Mobai immediately performed the Flame Lighting Technique, igniting the scattered divine sense from the Great Dao Tree within the Sea of Knowledge at the Purple Mansion, and then refined and purified his own fused divine sense.

Precisely because of the existence of the Flame Lighting Technique, he dared to absorb so much of the Great Dao Tree's divine sense on his first cultivation.

Feeling his significantly boosted divine sense, a trace of excitement flashed in Chen Mobai's eyes.

With this rate of progress, it might be possible that by the time he cultivates to the second layer of Nascent Soul, his Vermilion Phoenix Facing the Sun Diagram could be elevated to the next realm of "Response Earth Spirit".

At that time, he would be a true child of heaven and earth.

The moment he sets foot on a mountain peak, he will be able to sense all the mineral deposits, spirit veins, and geological conditions of that area.

For example, when excavating a Spirit Stone Mine, the hardest part is not knowing where those Spirit Stones are hidden underground. The further a cultivator's divine sense goes underground, the harder it becomes; only an Earth Master is slightly better.

But if Chen Mobai attains the "Response Earth Spirit" realm, he could instantly map out the distribution of all hidden Spirit Stones throughout the mountains if he visits Dongyi Duojushan.

Moreover, during his previous time in Loquat Valley, he wouldn't have had to go to such great lengths; upon arrival, he could have directly locked onto the core gourd vine through the movement of underground spirit veins.

"Heavenly Blessing" allows him to perceive all things above ground with the Heavenly Heart, while "Response Earth Spirit" enables him to instantly understand the infinite mysteries that have evolved in the depths underground over billions of years upon setting foot.

With that realm, his Earth Master skills would instantly be elevated to Rank-5.

This is still because he is only at the Nascent Soul Realm, with the ceiling capped at Rank-5; if he were in Divinity Transformation, it would be directly Rank-6.

And the realms of “Heavenly Blessing” and “Response Earth Spirit” complement each other.

After mastering them, Chen Mobai could lightly invest efforts into array formations and easily achieve the realm of a Fifth Order Formation Master.

However, what Chen Mobai considered to be the first thing after mastering Response Earth Spirit was to be pleased he could once again teach Zhuo Ming.

This beloved disciple, due to having All Things Spiritual Communication, had long surpassed him in the two major skills of spirit plants and Earth Master; although Chen Mobai never spoke of it, inwardly, he was somewhat begrudged.

Chapter 1675: Returning Immortal Sect

After consolidating his divine sense before the Great Dao Tree, Chen Mobai left.

Since he still needed the Flame Lighting Technique to further refine and purify his divine sense, Chen Mobai planned to cultivate in seclusion at Giant Tree Ridge for the time being. Meanwhile, he could return to the Returning Immortal Sect to attend to accumulated matters.

Just as he returned to his Longevity Wood Dojo, the informed Gu Yan came to pay her respects.

Since Zhou Wangshen left the Flying Dragon Pool, Gu Yan, who was responsible for communicating with him, had nothing to do. Everyone in the Wood Vein knew she was close to Chen Mobai, and dared not assign her any other tasks.

Usually, Gu Yan practiced in her cave dwelling, only requiring to await instructions whenever Chen Mobai returned.

“Not bad, your cultivation level is almost at the late phase of Foundation Establishment.”

Seeing Gu Yan, Chen Mobai nodded slightly and began to guide her cultivation.

Gu Yan was overjoyed at this. She entered Foundation Establishment alongside Jiang Zongheng, the latter being almost at Foundation Establishment Completion now, while she was still stuck at the bottleneck before the late phase.

Given Chen Mobai’s current realm, even without the Formless Puppet, his casual guidance provided immense benefit to Gu Yan.

“If you intend to form a core in the future, you should best break through this bottleneck on your own. Overcoming it through your efforts will yield endless benefits in the future.”

Chen Mobai was genuine with those around him. Although Gu Yan’s chances of forming a core were slim, he still endeavored to inform her of this.

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

Gu Yan’s face was full of gratitude.

After she left, Chen Mobai thought, since the year was drawing to a close, it was time to head back to Returning Immortal Sect to address accumulated trivial matters.

Before that, however, he made a detour to Northern Abyss City.

Quickly, the news that ten Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicines had been put up for sale at the Spirit Treasure Pavilion of Northern Abyss City spread throughout the Eastern Wilderness.

Disciples of the Five Elements Sect, and even Foundation Establishment practitioners from all major powers, were inquiring about the origins and effects of these Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicines.

The Spirit Treasure Pavilion's listing information contained only a brief line: "Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine, helpful for core formation."

To this, Chen Mobai had given instructions. If people learned the detailed effects of the Golden Liquid Jade Pill and the Five Elements Golden Core Pill, the entire East Continent would be in an uproar.

A twenty percent probability was enough to make any Foundation Establishment practitioner longing for core formation take the risk.

Currently, the Five Elements Sect is a Nascent Soul Major Faction, but in the Tianhe Realm, Chen Mobai thought it best to keep wealth under wraps.

Only the sect's core cultivators knew the specific information about the Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine.

Such brief information also made many Foundation Establishment practitioners hesitate.

Many sects in the Tianhe Realm have spiritual materials specifically targeting their own cultivation techniques for core formation, such as Snow-blowing Palace's Ice Marrow Pure Jade and Water Mist Ice Crystal, or Back to Sky Valley's Earth Heart Three Fire Pills.

It was unclear whether the Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine listed at the Spirit Treasure Pavilion would be useful to them.

Some risk-taking Foundation Establishment practitioners wanted to trade for them, only to be told that these Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicines had already been exchanged.

This left many people very curious, wanting to know who exactly had obtained them.

Although those who exchanged for the Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine wanted to keep a low profile, the list still leaked out.

After all, there were only so many practitioners at Foundation Establishment Completion.

Furthermore, those Five Elements Sect disciples who acquired the Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine mostly went into seclusion, confirming the list.

The Five Elements Sect took stock and found that besides the Wood Vein, practitioners from the other four veins also managed to obtain it.

This excited and thrilled all Foundation Establishment practitioners in the Five Elements Sect.

Though they didn't personally trade for it, it at least proved that the core-forming spiritual medicine refined by the Wood Vein was accessible to all five veins.

This meant that if they reached the Foundation Establishment Completion realm in the future, they too would have the opportunity for an exchange.

The other four veins' Foundation Establishment Completion practitioners, upon obtaining the Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine, immediately returned to prepare for core formation in the most suitable Spirit Vein land.

Since there were more people in the Wood Vein, Chen Mobai made some arrangements.

Jiang Zongheng intended to go into seclusion in Loquat Valley, but would wait until Yi Shaoqing completed the Formation setup, using the time to practice the last few drops of liquid spiritual power.

E Yun wanted to be in Northern Abyss City because the Immortal City there held his fondest memories of Foundation Establishment, a place of his hard striving.

Moreover, the place now housed a fourth-grade spirit vein with a large formation of the same grade, ensuring security.

After hearing this, Chen Mobai allocated him a fourth-grade cave abode with the best spiritual energy beside the Longevity Wood on the mountain's peak.

Zhou Wangshen, without saying much, returned directly to Giant Tree Ridge. With Zhou Shengqing's spirit talisman, he could freely enter and exit the Longevity Wood Dojo, a place with a fourth-grade superior spirit vein.

Luo Xue'er chose to go to Wind Rain Hamlet, where the fourth-grade water vein suited her better. Chen Mobai also liaised with Nu Jiang, for he cultivated the Heavenly Waterfall Cultivation and could share his experience.

Nu Jiang cordially obliged, personally escorting Luo Xue'er and two other Foundation Establishment Completion practitioners from the Water Vein back with him.

Finally, only Zheng Deming was left.

He was relatively poor; without arrangements, he'd at best rent a Rank-3 cave abode in Northern Abyss City.

Chen Mobai offered him two choices: One was to go to Hunyuan Immortal City with Kong Shanxu, where a fourth-grade lower-class spiritual cave abode would be arranged for him.

The second option was the Longevity Wood Dojo at Giant Tree Ridge, as Chen Mobai planned to return to the sect to handle matters soon. Leaving it unused, letting Zheng Deming form his core there was indeed making the best use of things.

Ultimately, Zheng Deming chose the second option and followed Chen Mobai back to Giant Tree Ridge.

"Thank you, Sect Leader, for your great kindness and virtue, which I will never forget!"

Having never experienced the superior Rank-4 spiritual energy in his life, upon entering the Longevity Wood Dojo, Zheng Deming paid great respect to Chen Mobai.

"If you need anything, look for Gu Yan."

As Chen Mobai spoke, Gu Yan happened to be by his side and gave a slight bow to Zheng Deming after hearing this.

Under Gu Yan's guidance, Zheng Deming found a secluded corner and built a small clay house.

Chen Mobai directly flew into the treetop wooden house, then activated the restriction and instructed Turtle Treasure to return to the Immortal Gate.

After taking control of the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, he frequently made time to return to the Eastern Wilderness. After all, he was a prominent figure in the Three Great Halls, attracting much attention.

By the end of last year, through the efforts of the Dance Instruments and Jumang branches, Chen Mobai had been promoted to Director of the Department of Law Enforcement.

Patching Heaven and Kunpeng did not obstruct him, choosing to abstain during the vote.

Chen Mobai understood that the main reason was that the position of Director of the Department of Law Enforcement was not particularly important for the overall strategy of the Immortal Gate.

His next step, becoming Deputy Hall Master of the Hall of Orthodox Law, was the real key.

After his promotion, Chen Mobai did not resign from the position of General Leader of the Sky-Mending Group, as Hua Zijing had just returned from the Core Formation, and it would have been too hasty to immediately elevate her to a higher position.

Zhuang Jialan was brought into the Department of Law Enforcement by Chen Mobai. After familiarizing herself over the year, she was able to handle the department's various affairs on his behalf.

This was mainly because many people in the Department of Law Enforcement were graduates of the Dance Tool Dao Academy, and with Wang Shuye's help, Zhuang Jialan managed everything seamlessly.

In the Immortal Gate, it was common for Nascent Soul superiors not to meddle in affairs.

So everyone accepted Chen Mobai's reclusive behavior without issue.

In his fourth-grade courtyard, Chen Mobai met with Wang Shuye, Hua Zijing, Zhuang Jialan, and others. With a few words, he had already understood various matters of the year and then formulated a work plan for the coming years.

"In a few years, when I am promoted to Deputy Hall Master of the Hall of Orthodox Law, Jialan will surely follow me, so we need to cultivate someone trustworthy to succeed me as Director of the Department of Law Enforcement."

Upon hearing this, Wang Shuye thought for a moment and proposed a candidate.

"How about Zhongli Tianyu? He has also successfully formed his core, and with his connections, taking over the Department of Law Enforcement would not require much effort from us."

Wang Shuye's thinking aligned with Chen Mobai's.

With Zhongli Tianyu's talent and family background, it was indeed wasteful for him to remain as a property guard at the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains.

Previously, the Zhongli family was reluctant to have him serve because he hadn't formed his core, and he was also content with idleness.

Now, after forming his core, he has no choice in the matter.

"Then it's settled."

Chen Mobai nodded and then personally called the Zhongli family leader, Zhongli Zheng, who was very pleased upon hearing the news.

As one of the two major departments of the Hall of Orthodox Law, if Zhongli Tianyu performs well, when Chen Mobai takes charge of the Hall of Orthodox Law, combined with their family's network, there is a strong possibility of naturally promoting him to Deputy Hall Master.

In this way, Zhongli Tianyu could acquire a kind of Nascent Soul Formation spirit medicine from the Immortal Gate, along with the family's inheritance, making his hopes of forming the nascent soul very high.

In the Immortal Gate, having or not having a Nascent Soul makes a significant difference.

On Zhongli Tianyu's shoulders rests the hope of the Zhongli family returning to its peak.

"Thank you, Elder Chunyang, for your support."

The next day, Zhongli Zheng personally brought Zhongli Tianyu to pay a visit. The latter's face showed some discomfort.

Chen Mobai chuckled, invited them to a meal, and then also invited Wang Shuye to join.

How to maneuver Zhongli Tianyu to succeed him as Director of the Department of Law Enforcement was left to them to discuss and implement, as he didn't want to deal with these trifling matters.

After finishing his current tasks, Chen Mobai checked on Yan Bingxuan.

He currently had seven Water Primordial Golden Core Pills, and the effect of this elixir could be cumulative. Although the effect would greatly diminish, Chen Mobai still planned to find an excuse to give one to Yan Bingxuan, along with one refined by the Immortal Gate.

With two Water Primordial Golden Core Pills, Yan Bingxuan's core formation should be assured.

After Yan Bingxuan, Chen Mobai remembered Meng Huang.

Since she was also in the process of forming her core, he couldn't call her directly and had to inquire with the Dao Academy staff.

Chen Mobai certainly felt too embarrassed to trouble Che Yucheng, so he asked Bian Jingchun to check.

Bian Jingchun went deep into the Treasure Trove and informed him that there was a strong gathering of spiritual energy, indicating an imminent success in core formation.

This news slightly eased Chen Mobai's mind.

Yet he found it peculiar, as in his mind, even with Meng Huang's abilities, the probability of forming a core was not high, despite having the Golden Liquid Jade Pill.

After making two calls, Chen Mobai dispatched Zhuang Jialan to the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains to bring back Shi Wanyu and her daughter.

He prepared for a harmonious family reunion for the New Year.

Chapter 1676: The Beginning of the Minor Immortal Gate

Another year has passed.

On this day, after finishing the meeting, Chen Mobai returned to his courtyard.

He had remodeled one of the rooms for artifact refining purposes.

After informing Shi Wanyu, he once again began his seclusion.

A simple red copper bell fell into Chen Mobai's palm—his Lifespan Artifact, the Morning Bell.

Because he had previously spent all his time on enhancing his cultivation realm, the Morning Bell was only nourished to the Third Rank Peak.

This was quite rare within the Immortal Gate.

Many cultivators capable of breaking through realms would train to the limits of their current realm early on, then pour their energy into their Lifespan Artifacts while waiting for elixirs.

Sometimes, the Lifespan Artifact would break through before the cultivator.

But for Chen Mobai, this process was reversed.

He cultivated too quickly; before the Morning Bell could react, he had already achieved Nascent Soul Formation.

Now, Chen Mobai intended to use higher-grade materials to enhance it.

For other cultivators within the Immortal Gate, this process was extremely difficult. It required Fourth-Grade Spirit Materials and high-level Artifact Refiner skills.

But for Chen Mobai, it posed no problem.

Under the upgrading technique of “The Union of Differences,” he concentrated and used the Tuśita Fire to melt the Spirit Materials that gleamed with various hues, bit by bit, replacing the Third Rank Red Copper within the Morning Bell.

About a tenth of these Spirit Materials were acquired from the Immortal Gate.

The vast majority, however, were found in the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace archive, and the abundance of Fourth-Grade Spirit Materials was overwhelming.

Eventually, he matched the existing materials within the Immortal Gate to form this set for leveling up.

With Chen Mobai's current realm, upgrading his Lifespan Artifact from the Third Rank to the Fourth Rank was not effortless but posed no difficulty.

As the last piece of Third-Rank material in the Morning Bell was replaced by Fifth-Order Profound Gold, a strong, profound bell chime echoed within the Artifact Refining Room.

Fortunately, considering the secrecy of many materials during artifact refining, Chen Mobai had reinforced the room's restrictions. The bell chimes were completely isolated inside.

Otherwise, half of Wangwu Cave Heaven might have heard the sound.

Under the effects of "The Union of Differences" and Tušita Fire, the Morning Bell gradually merged with the Spirit Materials and began its transformation.

During this process, Chen Mobai multitasked, using the Flame Lighting Technique to purify and refine the Divine Sense increased by the Devour God Technique.

Uncertain of how much time had passed, a clear bell chime sounded, signaling the Morning Bell's successful upgrade.

Chen Mobai opened his eyes, and with a summoning gesture, the Morning Bell floated above his palm, emanating a soft, red-gold glow.

Compared to its Third Rank incarnation, the bell's body was now broader and thicker; a light shake produced a clearer and more resonant tone, as if refining the well-honed Divine Sense anew.

Chen Mobai looked satisfied.

This Lifespan Artifact, next primarily needs to cultivate spirituality to reach the Fourth Rank Peak, and with the Fifth-Order Profound Gold, it might even attain the Fifth Rank.

After upgrading the Morning Bell, he continued without pause, taking out the Haotian Mirror, intending to enhance this artifact as well.

Having acquired a vast amount of Spirit Materials, including Fifth-Order Profound Gold, from the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, Chen Mobai planned to upgrade all his artifacts.

Since the Haotian Mirror was originally at the Fourth Rank level and already had slight spirituality, Chen Mobai easily upgraded it from Fourth-Grade lower class to Fourth-Grade mid-grade.

Once the Haotian Mirror fully absorbed the new Spirit Materials, it could soon ascend to Fourth-Grade superior.

However, progressing from Fourth Rank to Fifth Rank was not a mere material issue.

It mainly required nurturing the artifact's spirituality.

After enhancing both of his Lifespan Artifacts, Chen Mobai brought out the Qing Shuang Sword.

Though not his own, this sword played a significant role in refining the Tuśita Fire, and Chen Mobai wouldn't neglect it now that the means were available.

[Master!]

Yet as the Qing Shuang Sword emerged, it charmingly called out.

This made Chen Mobai rather embarrassed, shaking his head repeatedly.

He expressed that he only borrowed it from Pei Qingshuang, and its rightful master remained Pei Qingshuang.

[Alright, Master!]

The Qing Shuang Sword's reply was the opposite of Chen Mobai's correction.

Chen Mobai shook his head helplessly, taking out the last piece of Fifth-Order Profound Gold scrap.

The Qing Shuang Sword immediately swirled lightly, transforming into a green stream of light, orbiting around him.

Chen Mobai calmed it with a gentle pat, then wielded Tu'sita Fire to melt the Fifth-Order Profound Gold...

The spiritual nature of the Qing Shuang Sword is only slightly inferior to the Purple Electric Sword. During the absorption of Mysterious Gold, it didn't even require Chen Mobai's attention. Once guided at the start, it was able to refine itself.

After enhancing all three magic artifacts, three months had passed.

After checking the time, Chen Mobai clicked on Turtle Treasure and went to the Tianhe Realm.

Gu Yan soon came over, and he inquired her about recent events.

However, both the Eastern Wilderness and the Eastern Barbarians were calm and peaceful. The Five Elements Sect, under his new policy as the guiding principle, began to develop and improve steadily.

Currently, the number of Qi Cultivating disciples across the Five Elements Meridians had reached nearly thirty thousand.

This scale was now comparable to the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace.

And it continues to grow.

Since recruiting sect disciples once every ten years often overlooked many people with Spiritual Roots, Chen Mobai decided to change it to annual recruitment.

Of course, they weren't admitted directly into the Five Elements Sect.

Instead, modeled after the Longevity Academy in Northern Abyss City, new scholarly mansions were established in the counties where the Five Elements Meridians were located. As long as the disciples met the criteria with Spiritual Roots, they could enroll for free.

Those lacking in Spiritual Root Talent could also enroll as self-funded.

Sheng Zhaoxi, who had long coveted Beiyuan City's real estate, was the first to respond to the call, establishing the Fire Truth Academy in Yan Prefecture, emulating the sale of school district housing and making a fortune.

However, according to Chen Mobai's wishes, the Spirit Stones she earned were to be used to build an Immortal City.

With the high development of society, urbanization is an inevitable process. Not only could it broaden cultivators' horizons, but it could also promote economic development and prosperity, facilitate resource flow in the Eastern Wilderness, and create more opportunities.

Beiyuan City is a very good example.

Because this Immortal City gathered nearly half of the cultivators from the Eastern Wilderness, resources from Rank-1 to Rank-3 could basically be purchased here.

Just last year, seven family-affiliated cultivators and three Loose Cultivators successfully established their Foundation in Beiyuan City.

In the past, they wouldn't even think about Foundation Building Pills, and their breakthroughs might have been disturbed and failed.

The existence of Beiyuan City gave Loose Cultivators the confidence to seclude themselves for breakthroughs safely.

As a result, all Loose Cultivators in the Eastern Wilderness regard owning property in Beiyuan City as an honor.

Having a house equates to a sense of security.

This sense of security comes from the two Nascent Soul cultivators of the Five Elements Sect!

Chen Mobai wants to expand the success of Beiyuan Immortal City to the entire Eastern Wilderness.

The Five Elements Meridians are all in support of this.

After all, Beiyuan is at the northernmost end of the Eastern Wilderness and cannot radiate to many remote areas.

Chen Mobai plans to first establish five Immortal Cities with the Five Elements Meridians as the core. This requires many Spirit Stones, with part sponsored by the Five Elements Sect, and part from pre-sales of school district housing, which should be enough.

If this step succeeds, it will then be gradually promoted, establishing secondary cities in the other fourteen counties and more scholarly mansions.

Ultimately transforming the entire Eastern Wilderness step by step towards the model of an Immortal Gate.

Chen Mobai doesn't know if this idea will succeed, but it is within his ability, and he will attempt it as much as possible.

If he could transform the Eastern Wilderness into a Minor Immortal Gate, he might cultivate a new, uniquely his own, perfectly compatible Fruit of Dao's Rule here.

After inquiring about the construction status of the five new scholarly mansions and Immortal Cities, Chen Mobai first went to Mount Tianpeng.

The Cloud County, where Mount Tianpeng is located, is the location chosen by the Water Vein for its academy and Immortal City.

Because of the perennial war in Wind Rain Hamlet, which is too dangerous, Nu Jiang investigated five counties on the edge of Yun Meng Ze and finally chose the centrally located Cloud County.

The name of this academy and Immortal City is "Cloud Dream".

At Giant Tree Ridge, a Divine Wood Academy was constructed according to Chen Mobai's instructions, with the Immortal City expanding from Divine Wood City as the center.

The Earth Vein has the existing Hunyuan Immortal City, only a new Earth Stem Academy needs to be built.

Finally, the Metal Vein found it troublesome, and even with Chen Mobai's orders, they procrastinated with low work efficiency.

Chen Mobai could only send people to assist the Metal Vein in completing this task.

When the Metal Vein heard they didn't have to work, they were immediately elated, handing over all their tasks to the people Chen Mobai sent, Ding Ying and Qi Rui.

As time passed, the Kaiyuan Hall assembly also arrived on schedule. Chen Mobai appeared at the assembly with Wang Shuye and several other fellow sect members, causing quite a stir. After all, Chen Mobai is now a prominent figure in the Immortal Gate, and his every move captures people's attention.

At the assembly, Chen Mobai did not speak much. He quietly listened to the speeches of others, occasionally nodding or smiling. He knew that his current position was different, and every word he said could cause ripples, so he chose to be cautious.

However, despite Chen Mobai maintaining a low profile, his strength and influence were undeniable. As he left the assembly with Wang Shuye and others, he left behind whispers of admiration and gazes of respect. They knew that every step Chen Mobai took was paving the way for the future of the Immortal Gate, and he himself was continuously ascending to greater heights.

The materials used were mostly sourced from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, with very few collected from within the Immortal Gate.

After allowing the Qing Shuang Sword and Haotian Mirror to undergo Fifth Order Profound Gold cultivation aided by the Heavenly Bead,

Coincidentally, it was year-end again, and Chen Mobai attended the Kaiyuan Hall assembly with Wang Shuye and the others.

Chapter 1677: Snow-blowing Palace Submits

Although the Snow-blowing Palace was sealed off, it could still receive information from the outside.

Because when Lan Lingping sealed the mountain, she led one-third of the disciples away from the sect and had been living in Northern Abyss City.

She originally intended to transition in Northern Abyss City for a while, then go to Yun Meng Ze to find a spiritual island and lead the disciples to establish a branch sect to continue the Snow-blowing Palace's legacy.

But later she found it more convenient to cultivate on this side of Northern Abyss City.

Over the years, leveraging the large amount of Spirit Stones she brought from the sect, she purchased many resources that were previously unattainable by Snow-blowing Palace, elevating her cultivation level to the completion of Foundation Establishment.

She even had a Rank-4 Water Mist Ice Crystal, which could be used to assist in Core Formation.

However, despite having the conditions, Lan Lingping did not dare to risk forming her core.

After all, she was in Northern Abyss City, although the Five Elements Sect promised that as long as she bought a house, they would protect the safety of the homeowner.

But she was not just a Foundation Establishment practitioner; she intended Core Formation.

And the locals' style, those in the know, understand!

In such circumstances, Lan Lingping lived cautiously in Northern Abyss City for twenty years. She originally intended to lead the disciples to Yun Meng Ze, but during her seclusion for cultivation, the disciples accepted various tasks from the Spirit Treasure Pavilion to pay the high rental costs in Northern Abyss City.

Because the disciples of Snow-blowing Palace were adept at the Cloud and Rain Technique, with some training, they could easily tend to the Spirit Field Spirit Rice and such.

Some whose precipitation techniques were outstanding were even offered double the Spirit Stones by Zhuo Ming to plant trees and combat desertification in Rainbow County.

When Lan Lingping emerged from seclusion, many outstanding disciples had saved enough Spirit Stones from their hard work to pay the down payment for a place in Northern Abyss City.

Those disciples settled in Northern Abyss City naturally didn't want to follow Lan Lingping to Yun Meng Ze.

After all, here, as long as one worked hard, they could earn Spirit Stones, and even get free Spirit Rice if working on Five Elements Sect projects.

But if they went to Yun Meng Ze, life and death would be beyond their control.

Even Foundation Establishment practitioners faced death when encountering Third-Order Demonic beasts during a beast tide.

Any sensible cultivator would choose to stay in Northern Abyss City.

Seeing that only a handful of loyal disciples were willing to follow her, Lan Lingping decided to remain where she could make use of herself, avoiding the dangers of Yun Meng Ze.

After all, she took plenty of Snow-blowing Palace's belongings, not only purchasing a Rank-3 Cave Dwelling but also being able to buy any needed elixirs or resources, becoming accustomed to living a life of status in Northern Abyss City.

Later, Lan Lingping witnessed the mighty power of the Five Elements Sect, as rapid and drastic changes occurred.

When news arrived that Chen Mobai and Zhou Shengqing, the two Nascent Soul cultivators, had been revealed and destroyed the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, she utterly abandoned the idea of revenge.

She even took pride in being a registered resident of Northern Abyss City.

Because after the fall of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, Northern Abyss City's property prices tripled within a short time.

The protection offered by a Golden Core major faction paled in comparison to that provided by a Nascent Soul major faction.

Northern Abyss City's protectors upgraded from Golden Core to two Nascent Souls, and any sharp-eyed cultivator knew the value of property in this Immortal City.

This meant that as long as they didn't offend the Eastern Earth Holy Land, the Five Elements Sect could ensure their safety.

During this time, Lan Lingping began writing letters urging Zhu Jinyu to concede, saying haven't you seen Yan Shaoyin, a Golden Core cultivator, also offered the millennia-old foundation of Back to Sky Valley to the Five Elements Sect?

After all, while Sect Master Chen of the Five Elements Sect was an honest gentleman, Zhou Shengqing was not, having had many grievances with Kong Lingling before. Once the Five Elements Sect digested the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace's territory, the next target would surely be clearing out the forces that still didn't belong to Five Elements Sect in the Eastern Wilderness.

Facing Nascent Soul cultivators, even with a Rank-4 Large Formation, it's merely a matter of sooner or later before death.

And since Kong Lingling was tainted by the Demon Path, for the Five Elements Sect to eliminate Snow-blowing Palace would even be seen as upholding justice.

Without the Ice Palace to support them, if they didn't adapt to the circumstances, it would likely mean their extermination once the mountain sealing ended.

In this regard, Zhu Jinyu was also very hesitant, as her heart wavered between the grandmaster's foundation and her own life.

Ultimately, her own life prevailed.

Who wants to die if they can live?

Furthermore, after hearing from Lan Lingping about the changes in the Eastern Wilderness under Five Elements Sect's rule, Zhu Jinyu felt she might also manage to form her core.

After all, to a Golden Core major faction, the presence of other Core Formation cultivators in their territory was naturally an eye sore.

But for the current Five Elements Sect, if they attempt Core Formation, the two Nascent Soul cultivators might just shrug indifferently.

With this in mind, Zhu Jinyu decided to give away the grandmaster's millennia-old foundation to gain freedom in the Eastern Wilderness.

When Chen Mobai arrived in Northern Abyss City, Liu Wenbo brought Xue Ting over.

"Greetings, superior!"

After many years of not seeing each other, Xue Ting was still much the same, graceful and polite.

Chen Mobai greeted her with a smile as he did with familiar faces, and after taking her letter, he invited her to sit down.

But Xue Ting repeatedly declined, choosing to stand with Liu Wenbo while he finished reading.

"Sect Master Zhu's actions are in accordance with the heavenly way and align with the grand trend. This will certainly lead to remarkable achievements in the future."

After reading, Chen Mobai praised her with these words.

After all, being able to take over the last force in the Eastern Wilderness without bloodshed was beneficial to both him and the Five Elements Sect.

This success was also attributed to Chen Mobai's long-standing good reputation in the Eastern Wilderness.

If it were someone else, Zhu Jinyu and Lan Lingping might have fled with the assets of the Snow-blowing Palace and abandoned their disciples upon realizing the Five Elements Sect had two Nascent Soul Cultivators.

“Sect Master Zhu stated that after submitting to the Five Elements Sect, all spirit veins and resources of the Snow-blowing Palace are offered willingly, in exchange for a place for herself and her disciples in Northern Abyss City.”

Xue Ting expressed with some embarrassment.

After all, with Northern Abyss City’s current housing prices, even a cultivation family would have to bite the bullet to purchase a house.

With so many from the Snow-blowing Palace, if we arranged housing for all of them, it would amount to an astronomical figure in Spirit Stones.

“Northern Abyss City no longer has that many vacant houses, and I can’t force other residents to give up their properties either. At most, I can only arrange one for Sect Master Zhu.”

Chen Mobai shook his head and directly refused the request.

“Yes, I will report truthfully after I return.”

Upon hearing this, Xue Ting said no more.

In her view, Zhu Jinyu would surely agree.

After all, it was the Snow-blowing Palace seeking to join the Five Elements Sect, with arrangements made for her in Northern Abyss City.

“I will write a letter for you, Nephew Xue Ting, to take back to Zhu Jinyu. Tell her that after the Snow-blowing Palace submits, it should disband immediately, so the vow to seal the mountain need not be upheld.”

“However, to prevent any gathering and disturbances by the disciples after disbandment, I will arrange work for each of them. As long as they work hard, supporting their cultivation shouldn’t be an issue.”

“The Fourth Grade Spirit Vein left by the Snow-blowing Palace, I plan to develop into a new Scholarly Mansion and Immortal City. Once the Immortal City is established, all former disciples of the Snow-blowing Palace can receive a Cave Dwelling according to their cultivation level.”

The concept of resettlement housing was thus introduced by Chen Mobai.

Xue Ting listened, half-understanding, but Chen Mobai wrote down everything he said.

“Esteemed one, then I shall take my leave now.”

Xue Ting received the letter with a respectful demeanor and saluted.

“No need to hurry. Ming’er is coming over today, too. Why not have a gathering together?”

Chen Mobai stopped her and asked Liu Wenbo to make tea, inquiring about her recent years.

Xue Ting only briefly mentioned a few things.

During the Snow-blowing Palace’s mountain closure, she was the only one allowed to enter and exit. All kinds of resources, including Spirit Rice, had to be delivered through her, earning her respect.

This matter was quite simple because many supplies had already been prepared by Lan Lingping in Northern Abyss City, and she only needed to collect them over time.

However, there were rumors that she was a traitor to the Snow-blowing Palace, having long submitted to the Five Elements Sect, which was why she received such preferential treatment.

Xue Ting did not respond to this when she heard such rumors.

After the Five Elements Sect destroyed Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace and the existence of two Nascent Soul Cultivators was revealed, many of her senior and junior sisters at the Snow-blowing Palace actively approached her, hoping to find out if there was still an opportunity to join the Five Elements Sect.

Once the Five Elements Sect demonstrated its formidable strength, the idea of submission and allegiance was already surging among many disciples of the Snow-blowing Palace.

Zhu Jinyu realized this point, so she didn't hesitate any longer.

Before long, Zhuo Ming arrived as well.

She was very happy to see Xue Ting there.

The two were truly close confidants, and Zhuo Ming was Xue Ting's first heartfelt friend. The latter's somewhat aloof expression blossomed into a rare gentle smile upon seeing Zhuo Ming.

"Master, I feel signs of attaining Core Formation."

After the two old friends caught up, Zhuo Ming revealed the purpose of her visit.

Chen Mobai was delighted to hear this.

Chapter 1678: Comprehension Path Golden Core

Zhuo Ming followed Chen Mobai's orders and came to the Eastern Desolation Plateau. She's been here for a full forty years.

In these forty years, she first opened up a massive river in Yan County, and then in the lands irrigated by White River and Mo River, cultivated thirty million mu of spirit fields, allowing all cultivators of the Five Elements Sect to eat spirit rice for every meal.

Afterward, she planted trees and managed the sand in Rainbow County, transforming desert into fertile land.

To this day, even loose cultivators can eat spirit rice every day.

And not long ago, the plants Zhuo Ming had grown over the years finally covered the entire Rainbow County, and under her careful care along with many cultivators, they thrived.

In other words, Zhuo Ming achieved the small goal set by Chen Mobai.

She transformed the desert-covered surface of Rainbow County back into lush green mountains and clear waters.

Starting this year, Zhuo Ming feels that whenever she steps onto the earth, pure currents surge up from deep within the Earth's crust towards her.

This earth energy doesn't even need her to guide it; it actively drills into her body, willingly refined by her.

Zhuo Ming's cultivation level is thus becoming increasingly profound, and soon, she was at the threshold of Core Formation.

Yet reaching this point, she felt somewhat panicked.

Although Chen Mobai had spoken to her about Comprehension Path Golden Core, she hadn't experienced it, and feared failing after taking that step, or possibly perishing under the heavenly tribulation.

Therefore, Zhuo Ming voluntarily sealed her cultivation level, though wasting such pure earth energy was a shame, so she stored it in the All-things Altruistic Cauldron.

Then she went to Northern Abyss City to find her master Chen Mobai.

“I’ve only heard about Comprehension Path Golden Core, but your concerns are not without reason. From now until you form your core, I’ll accompany you.”

Even within the Immortal Gate, examples of Comprehension Path Golden Core are few and far between.

Yet for his apprentice, Chen Mobai is willing to spend time accompanying her.

“Thank you, Master!”

Hearing this, Zhuo Ming was very happy.

Xue Ting, who was beside them, looked very envious. After all, this is personal protection by a Nascent Soul cultivator, a privilege likely enjoyed only by the Xiao Nanshan lineage in the entire Eastern Wilderness.

Before long, Yuan Chiye, who received the message, also arrived.

Chen Mobai entrusted the reception of Snow-blowing Palace to him and Liu Wenbo. This is a significant contribution to the Five Elements Sect, but he no longer needed it, so he simply distributed it to these two.

After making the arrangements, Chen Mobai instructed them to take Xue Ting to find Lan Lingping and Zhu Jinyu to discuss specifics of allegiance.

Chen Mobai: “Have you thought about where to form your core?”

When only the master and apprentice were left in the hall, they began discussing the crucial matter of core formation.

“Master, I wish to return to Xiao Nanshan.”

Zhuo Ming’s choice of location surprised Chen Mobai slightly, as it’s merely an intermediate-grade spirit vein.

However, for Zhuo Ming, the level of the spirit vein was irrelevant; even in the wilderness, endless earth energy would flow forth, assisting her greatly.

The key is to understand her own Dao!

“You can, but before returning, I’ll take you on a trip to the Eastern Desolation Plateau.”

Among the Immortal Gate, recent examples of Comprehension Path Golden Core, excluding Chen Mobai’s fake one, include the former head of Xianwu Hall, Lin Daoming.

After forming his core, he wrote a paper detailing the entire process.

The most crucial point was to reflect one’s own completed path in the heart before core formation.

Zhuo Ming listened to Chen Mobai’s explanation, somewhat understanding.

Instead of using the teleportation array, Chen Mobai directly piloted the Tai Yi Wu Yan Luo, flying to the origin of the Eastern Desolation Plateau.

That was the snowy mountain in Frost County.

Here, the melted snow water is directed by modified terrain and formation, becoming the source of the White River.

The master and apprentice arrived at the peak of the snowy mountain.

“What do you sense?”

“Silent, cold... yet seemingly containing endless vitality...”

Though Zhuo Ming’s cultivation wasn’t sufficient, due to All Things Spiritual Communication, she could faintly perceive the small lives tenaciously existing and struggling in the cold and desolate mountain depths, waiting for the glacier to melt into snow water to carry them away.

Hearing this, Chen Mobai smiled and led Zhuo Ming to step onto the icy snow water, descending from the mountain into the lake at the foot, then following the opened river channel into the White River of Yan County.

Upon reaching here, Zhuo Ming suddenly felt invigorated.

The scenes along both banks of White River—the lush trees atop the river banks, the countless mu of spirit rice, vigorous spirit grass scattered everywhere, and the spirit sheep and spirit cattle eating spirit grass, marching in groups—vividly entered her Sea of Knowledge at the Purple Mansion. It felt like she had transformed into this piece of land, with everything happening within her.

The spectacle of life flourishing entranced Zhuo Ming.

She gradually forgot her need to form her core, and followed Chen Mobai, journeying throughout White River and Mo River.

By the shores of Xiao County, she gazed at the billowing Yun Meng Ze, sensing the slow yet inevitable erosion of the land, hinting at images from the earliest times when the earth hadn’t emerged from the water, and the Tianhe Realm was engulfed by an endless ocean.

This vision made her furrow her brows, her heart tightening, as anxiety surged within her, feeling an inability to breathe.

At this moment, a bell rang, awakening Zhuo Ming.

“You carry the Dao of Earth; you must respect water, but cannot fear it.”

Chen Mobai spoke a few words, and Zhuo Ming nodded lightly.

Just now, she had overly merged with the earth here, feeling its slow fading after thousands of years of being washed by Yun Meng Ze, that sense of powerlessness was like being possessed by demons.

Zhuo Ming knew she couldn't indulge at this moment, but she didn't know what to do.

Thankfully, Chen Mobai sounded the Morning Bell beside her.

After leaving Xiao County, the master and disciple went to the final destination, Rainbow County.

This was also where Zhuo Ming spent the most effort and time, and upon arriving here, even without invoking the Echoes in the Void, Chen Mobai could sense the endless Earth Spirit Qi from deep within the earth rushing towards Zhuo Ming.

Under Chen Mobai's guidance, Zhuo Ming released the seal on the Ninefold Law Body, allowing the vast Earth Spirit Qi to enter her body. Her already perfected Mother Earth Cultivation began to operate automatically, helping her absorb and refine it.

The master and disciple walked along the Dark Water to Luo Yixuan's Cold Jade Lake, and the latter flew out with a face full of surprise.

After spending two days here, Chen Mobai took Zhuo Ming to the Boundless Sand Sea.

This time, however, Luo Yixuan joined them.

“Ming’er, this is also a part of the earth, feel it,” Chen Mobai’s voice sounded gently in Zhuo Ming’s ear, like a spring breeze, bringing her peace.

As she could sense the emotions of the earth, each time she arrived at the Boundless Sand Sea, she would empathize deeply, as if she herself were gravely ill, filled with fear.

But this time, with Chen Mobai by her side, she summoned the courage to enter once again.

The further they walked into the Sand Sea, the more she felt the earth’s silence like dead ashes, like boundless darkness devoid of life, enveloping her. That depth and gloom made the always bright Zhuo Ming show helplessness on her face.

At a critical moment, a chime resounded, and a flame appeared next to Zhuo Ming, illuminating the darkness, bringing light.

With Chen Mobai and Luo Yixuan appearing, Zhuo Ming found strength while attuning with this Sand Sea.

Chen Mobai held the flame high, shaking the Morning Bell in his hand, walking in the front, while Luo Yixuan reached out and held Zhuo Ming’s hand, accompanying her through the darkness.

It was not known how long they had walked before they reached the depths of the Boundless Sand Sea.

Few people ventured here, and the silence was boundless.

Chen Mobai found a relatively high dune and stopped, then guided Zhuo Ming to awaken from the darkness of attuning with the Boundless Sand Sea.

“Core Formation through Enlightenment is not just about the enhancement of cultivation level but also the sublimation of the mind. What you need to do is see through your own heart, understand what you truly desire; it’s that simple.”

This was the last sentence in Lin Daoming’s thesis, spoken through Chen Mobai and reaching Zhuo Ming’s ears, and she seemed to have an epiphany.

She emptied her mind, resonating with this Boundless Sand Sea once more.

But this time, amidst the deathly silence and darkness, she heard the hidden lamentations within.

This place was once green hills and waters, fertile lands, but over time, an endless swarm of locusts came, devouring everything they could.

Eventually, the soil became weak and sick, turning into what it is now.

Zhuo Ming saw the past of the Sand Sea beneath her, layers of tender green vegetation thriving. Each time rain fell, new green shoots would burst from the earth, clothing the land in green.

Understanding this, Zhuo Ming no longer found the darkness terrifying.

It was at this moment that the Boundless Sand Sea began to tremble softly.

Luo Yixuan, witnessing this scene, was surprised, but seeing the unprecedented calm and peace on Zhuo Ming’s face, Chen Mobai just smiled slightly.

Under the Echoes in the Void, he heard the pure and extremely dense Qi of Creation from some unmeasurable depth in the ground, starting to rise.

The gravels, originally an obstacle accumulating over countless eons, at this moment, parted ways, allowing this Qi of Creation to break through and surge towards Zhuo Ming.

Soon, a small green grass sprouted at Zhuo Ming's feet, and shortly after, a pale yellow flower bloomed...

In this lifeless and desolate Boundless Sand Sea, suddenly there appeared such a vibrant scene, leaving Luo Yixuan shocked.

And at this moment, a dark cloud gathered suddenly in the sky.

This signified that Zhuo Ming's Gold Core had formed inside her, and she was about to transcend the tribulation.

Seeing this, Chen Mobai raised the Morning Bell in his hand, just about to make a move when a drizzle suddenly began to fall.

It started as a light drizzle and then turned into a torrential downpour, water cascading from the sky, forming a white mist over the yellow sands of the sea.

This rain seemed intent on submerging all of heaven and earth.

Yet Chen Mobai felt no signs of heavenly tribulation but instead sensed vitality and essence within it, as though guided by an unseen hand, slowly flowing into Zhuo Ming.

Where was the tribulation?

Amid Chen Mobai's surprise, Zhuo Ming, who was receiving the essence of heaven and earth, underwent a transformative change.

She, having already reached the third rank of the Ninefold Law Body, rapidly ascended to the perfection of the Fifth Level and her skin turned as pristine as yellow jade, crystal clear. Then she swiftly broke through the bottleneck, reaching the Sixth Level, which is the intermediate grade of the Rank-3 Body Refinement Realm.

And at her brow, a complete circular apricot yellow pattern appeared.

This was the “Earth Mother Seal,” the ultimate attainment in Mother Earth Cultivation.

With this, she could manipulate the power of the Earth’s Elemental Magnetism.

This also signified that Zhuo Ming had successfully formed her core and found her own path, taking the most critical step in her cultivation journey.

Seeing this, Chen Mobai felt relieved.

Next, he quietly stood guard beside her, waiting for her to consolidate her realm.

Chapter 1679: Immortal Earth Spiritual Root

It was only after seven days that Zhuo Ming awoke from the realm of enlightenment.

She slowly opened her eyes, her gaze clearer than before, yet carrying a maturity that was not there before.

She gently spread her palm open, an apricot-yellow Earth Mother Seal flickering at her brow, sending out a faint wave, causing the sand around her to move on its own without wind.

With her breath, the sand sea began to rise and fall, swirling and drifting, forming pictures of bountiful harvests.

This was Zhuo Ming experimenting with her power of the Earth’s Elemental Magnetism.

Soon, a sand dune not far away began to move under her will, as if some gigantic creature was swimming slowly underground. Then, the entire sand dune rose, under her control, transformed into an exquisite sand tower.

Seeing this, Zhuo Ming smiled in satisfaction.

She felt that her All Things Spiritual Communication had advanced a step further, under the marvelous perception, the sand particles of the Boundless Sand Sea began to emit a faint glow, as if celebrating her Core Formation.

Zhuo Ming's body, surrounded by sand particles, was light as the wind, floating into the air.

Chen Mobai could naturally see that she had not used any flying technique, but that it was the magnetic field of the earth lifting her up.

All things have magnetic fields.

The Yin Yang sections of the Six Dominions Scripture of the Immortal Gate are about harnessing the Yin Yang Yuan Magnetic Force of all things, cultivated to the highest realm, anything with a magnetic field can be controlled and harnessed by it.

Zhuo Ming, although only able to harness the Earth's Elemental Magnetism, this Earth's Elemental Magnetism is the largest magnetic field in the world, and all things will evolve and transform under the influence of the Earth's Magnetic Field.

This is also the highest realm envisioned in the Mother Earth Cultivation, but according to what Chen Mobai knows, he has not heard of anyone successfully mastering it.

After all, the Mother Earth Cultivation can only be cultivated to Core Formation, and it does not greatly enhance combat power, it is specifically for Spirit Plant Masters to cultivate. Those with outstanding Earth Spirit Root talent, in an environment like the Tianhe Realm, would not waste time cultivating such a technique.

Chen Mobai felt that if it were not for Zhuo Ming, even if someone else managed to cultivate the Mother Earth Cultivation to the highest realm, they should not be able to condense the Earth Mother Seal.

For example, his Crown of Heaven and Earth was achieved through an alternate enlightenment by completing the grand wish of unifying the Eastern Wilderness. Whether it is inner observation of oneself or outward observation of heaven and earth, it is his unique ability.

Or perhaps, it was because Zhuo Ming had achieved enlightenment that the heavens naturally allowed her to condense the Earth Mother Seal!

“Thank you, Master, for imparting the Way!”

After trying out her newly acquired power of Earth’s Elemental Magnetism, Zhuo Ming lightly landed on the dune and showed Chen Mobai a bright smile.

“No need for such courtesy, all of this is merely the result of your own hard work and effort.”

Chen Mobai shook his head with a smile, and at this time, Zhuo Ming also thanked Luo Yixuan. The two sisters held hands, the former displaying the Earth’s Elemental Magnetism, allowing the latter to experience the sensation of being lifted by the Yuan Magnetic Force.

“If not for Master taking me across the Eastern Desolation Plateau, I would never have heard the many voices of the earth, felt its joy, pain, expectations, and so on...”

Zhuo Ming’s voice was full of excitement and emotion.

“Besides the Earth Mother Seal, were there any other gains from this Comprehension Path Golden Core?”

Chen Mobai asked curiously, as his Crown of Heaven and Earth had two abilities, he wondered if Zhuo Ming had a second one?

“I don’t think so.”

Zhuo Ming shook her head uncertainly, at least from her own feeling, she had only condensed one Earth Mother Seal.

“Transfer a strand of spiritual power to me.”

Chen Mobai took out a Spirit Instrument and said to Zhuo Ming, who nodded and, as though familiar, transferred the Mother Qi of All Things after her Core Formation.

Zhuo Ming: [Metal 3, Wood 22, Water 23, Fire 9, Earth 100].

Looking at the Earth 100 displayed on the screen, Chen Mobai’s mouth involuntarily opened slightly, had it not been for maintaining the demeanor of a master, he might have been unable to contain his shock.

It had already become an Immortal Earth Spirit Root!

So, the previous Comprehension Path Golden Core was actually overlapping with the process of the Immortal Spirit Roots Wenda, thus allowing the condensation of the Earth Mother Seal.

Or was it because she became an Immortal Earth Spirit Root, that led to this Comprehension Path Golden Core?

Chen Mobai was also a bit puzzled by this.

But he quickly stopped thinking about it, after all, no matter what, this was a good thing for Zhuo Ming.

Before, this disciple had taken an Earth Veins Elixir refined by Qing Nu, although unlike Chen Mobai with auspicious blessings, her Earth Spirit Root had actually increased to 93 points.

This Comprehension Path Golden Core directly reached 100 perfection, which is just an increase of 7 Earth Spirit Root points, nothing too exaggerated.

However, while Chen Mobai thought this way, his cautious nature still led him to personally check Zhuo Ming's pulse, listening to her current essence, Qi, and spirit with Echoes in the Void.

Upon hearing, he immediately noticed something different.

In Zhuo Ming's body, the spleen and stomach, where the incomplete innate Earth Element Essence Qi had gathered due to the refining of the Qi of Creation, was now replenished, becoming a complete entity.

It was unclear whether this was the opportunity of the Comprehension Path Golden Core or the blessing of the Immortal Spirit Roots Wenda.

For Zhuo Ming, this was a great fortune.

Although she had traveled around the Eastern Desolation Plateau finding Qi of Creation, it was only enough to condense a tenth or a twelfth of innate Earth Element Essence Qi, and this time the earth had replenished the remaining nine-tenths or so in full.

Chapter 1680: Immortal Earth Spiritual Root\_2

With this, her cultivation of the Yellow Emperor's Benevolence Scripture faced no obstacles.

Furthermore, she could even cultivate the Primordial Dao Fruit simultaneously.

Zhuo Ming's current talent is even more astounding than Zhou Ye's Heavenly Earth Spirit Root.

If the First Origin Dao Palace knew about this, they would certainly vie to recruit her.

[Indeed, the only one who can inherit my mantle is Ming'er!]

Chen Mobai grew more satisfied with Zhuo Ming with each passing moment.

The future of this disciple is destined to be extraordinary.

However, without him, the great sage and perceptive teacher, Zhuo Ming might still be struggling at the bottom of the Five Elements Sect, possibly finding it difficult to even reach Foundation Establishment.

Indeed, a good educational system and strong faculty are the key to a sect's growth and strength.

Thinking of this gave Chen Mobai more motivation to establish scholarly mansions throughout the Eastern Wilderness.

After Zhuo Ming's Core Formation, their journey as master and disciples marked a perfect ending.

"Ming'er, do you have any plans next?"

On the way back, Chen Mobai asked. Now that Zhuo Ming had completed several earth-shaking projects on the Eastern Desolation Plateau, he was curious.

"Master, I plan to continue leading the cultivators in Rainbow County to manage this boundless sand sea."

Zhuo Ming said, feeling the earth's lament during her Core Formation enlightenment. Although it was severely deteriorated, she still wished to try saving it.

"Not bad. But this endless sand sea is almost boundless. Even if you command all the disciples of the Five Elements Sect, it might take a thousand years to fully manage it. If you want to accomplish this, I suggest prioritizing the enhancement of your cultivation level while managing the boundless sand sea. If you achieve Nascent Soul Formation or even Divinity Transformation in the future, managing here will be much more effective."

Chen Mobai naturally nodded at his disciple's idea but hoped Zhuo Ming would consider the practicality.

“Then Master, what should I do next?”

Having followed Chen Mobai’s guidance throughout her cultivation journey, Zhuo Ming respectfully sought his advice now, as usual.

“Since Snow-blowing Palace submitted, the Eastern Wasteland has entirely fallen under our Five Elements Sect. Although this area has been developed for thousands of years since True Lord Yuan, much of the soil resources have been wasted or damaged.”

“I have a dream; that is to plant rice, fruit trees, and other crops on all open lands of the Eastern Wasteland. In autumn, the aroma of rice fills the air, fruits ripen, and everyone, whether cultivator or common man, can eat to their fill.”

“This is one of the new policies I wish to implement in the Eastern Wilderness, named the Eastern Wilderness Agricultural Reform Plan, aiming to develop all idle lands and mountains for the upcoming population explosion.”

“I’ve had Zong Heng draft a full map of the Eastern Desolation Nineteen Prefectures. A rough estimate shows that if all arable land is developed, it could yield about 400 million acres of fertile land, capable of feeding one to two billion people.”

“With a base population of two hundred million in the Eastern Wilderness, the probability of children with Spiritual Roots naturally increases, enabling our Five Elements Sect to select more legacy disciples.”

In Chen Mobai’s estimation, his forces at that time should amount to a million cultivators.

But this number was truly astounding, as even the Eastern Earth Holy Land did not have such a number of cultivators. Of course, this is because the Holy Land generally selects only the best.

But in the East Barbarians, Eastern Wilderness, and East Wu combined, all sects, cultivator families, loose practitioners, rogue cultivators, and all combined amount to less than two hundred thousand cultivators.

If the Five Elements Sect truly had a million disciples, using this as a foundation, with sufficient resources, Foundation Establishment and Golden Core realm cultivators would surely be abundant.

Even for the Nascent Soul, if Qing Nu refines Infant Forming Spirit Medicine, the numbers might not be fewer than the Star Heaven Dao Sect.

Chen Mobai had considered this idea long ago, but it was too advanced for this world, so he had kept it to himself.

But he always wanted to implement the idea of governing the Eastern Wilderness as a small Immortal Gate and worked continuously toward this ambition.

Unifying the Eastern Wilderness, ending external threats like the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, creating a peaceful environment.

Now, after Zhuo Ming's Core Formation, it was time to start the next phase.

In the peaceful environment, the Eastern Wilderness population had already begun to explode. Eighteen years ago, Jiang Zongheng's survey showed less than ten million people.

Now, they were nearing twenty million.

A unified regime, peaceful environment, abundant lands, fertile fields, coupled with Zhuo Ming's hybrid rice yielding three harvests a year, laid all the groundwork for the Eastern Wilderness population boom.

Because of this, the Five Elements Sect, in just a few decades post-unification, saw its disciples' numbers surge to thirty thousand. If the scholarly mansions were established across all nineteen prefectures of the Eastern Desolation, Chen Mobai estimated the number might surge to one hundred thousand swiftly.

And five arrays of ten thousand cultivators each could maximize the power of the Five Elements Dao Soldiers.

At that time, Chen Mobai estimated he could feel the power of Nascent Soul Perfection Realm.

To achieve these, besides a unified environment among the common people and the Cultivation World of the Eastern Wilderness, adequate food supply is crucial.

Having enough to eat is the foundation of this grand ambition's realization.

"Yes, Master!"

Zhuo Ming might not fully grasp Chen Mobai's unspoken vision, but she continued to comply obediently.

When Chen Mobai instructed her to reform the entire Eastern Wilderness's agriculture, she unhesitatingly agreed.

"Then let me brief you on the outline of this agricultural reform plan..."

Chen Mobai thoroughly explained his plan tailored to the region's mountainous terrains and sparse plains to Zhuo Ming, who offered insights based on her expertise.

Beside them, Luo Yixuan attentively nodded in agreement.

Upon reaching Rainbow County, Zhuo Ming was still eager for more guidance from Chen Mobai.

"By the way, how many minerals has your All-things Altruistic Cauldron refined now?"

Arriving at Liu Jia Mountain, Zhuo Ming's usual cultivation location, Chen Mobai suddenly remembered this matter.

"Reporting to Master, over these years, I've collected and refined two hundred and sixty-seven kinds in my spare time."

Zhuo Ming truthfully replied, and Chen Mobai nodded lightly upon hearing this, then handed her a storage bag.

“Inside are one hundred sixty-five kinds I collected from the East Barbarians. After removing duplicates, refine the rest into your All-things Altruistic Cauldron. After your enlightenment and Core Formation, you now meet all the requirements to cultivate the Longevity Sect’s Earth Immortal Classic. You can now switch your main cultivation technique to this one.”

Having reached the pinnacle with the Mother Earth Cultivation Core Formation, Zhuo Ming had been contemplating which Earth Element technique to switch to. Hearing Chen Mobai’s suggestion, she thought it was due to her Ninefold Law Body reaching the sixth level and nodded happily.

“Thank you, Master!”

As Zhuo Ming accepted the storage bag filled with minerals, Chen Mobai smiled, telling her it was a Core Formation gift.

However, in his mind, Chen Mobai pondered how many of the Immortal Gate’s 4,236 minerals he could purchase and collect with his current status.

Some rare and superb ones might be out of reach.

But two to three thousand kinds should be achievable.

I wonder, after refining all these in the All-things Altruistic Cauldron, what grade it could reach?

This lifespan magic artifact associated with the Yellow Emperor’s Benevolence Scripture, if perfectly refined with ten thousand kinds of minerals, would be called the “All-things Meritorious Deed Cauldron,” equivalent to the Fifth Order Peak.

Chen Mobai, using his Artifact Refiner expertise, estimated that a Fourth Order was certainly attainable.

Luo Yixuan possesses the Fourth Order Moonlight Blade, and now that Zhuo Ming has achieved Core Formation, as his most cherished disciple, she warrants a Fourth Order magic artifact for protection.

With this thought, Chen Mobai felt eager to return to the Immortal Gate and shop online at mineral stores.