

World 1691

Chapter 1691: Appointed as Deputy Hall Master of the Hall of Orthodox Law

After Master Chengxuan emerged from seclusion, the Dance Tool Dao Academy had a strong leadership core, so Chen Mobai no longer needed to stay here.

Before leaving, he left Zhuang Jialan behind.

Ming Yuhua and Yunyang Bing had successfully formed their cores last year, while Zhuang Jialan, who also held a Golden Liquid Jade Pill, had been delayed due to Chen Mobai's affairs until now.

Although the Spirit Vein of the Treasure Trove had been significantly absorbed by Master Chengxuan when he took that half-step, it was still more than enough for cultivators to use for Core Formation.

Upon hearing this, Master Chengxuan immediately said there was no problem and even offered to send her into the Yuping Small Realm.

After arranging Zhuang Jialan's Spirit Land for Core Formation, Chen Mobai showed concern for Meng Huang.

After over two years of recuperation, her injuries had completely healed.

However, due to her previous failure, she still harbored some mental shadows. Even with the Golden Liquid Jade Pill and the Water Primordial Golden Core Pill in hand, she lacked confidence.

"Take this; if you have any questions during Core Formation, I will be here to help you."

Considering this might be Meng Huang's last peak attempt at Core Formation, Chen Mobai gave her one of his Formless Puppets, into which he left a trace of his Divine Sense, able to guide her any time.

Generally, cultivators prefer solitude during Core Formation.

But Meng Huang felt the opposite, thrilled to have Chen Mobai's Formless Puppet accompany her.

"You've arranged everything so well."

She opened and closed the box containing the Formless Puppet with a joyful expression.

With it, she dared to head towards Danxia Mountain for Core Formation.

After seeing Meng Huang off on the plane, Chen Mobai took his private flight back to Wangwu Cave Heaven.

Upon returning, everything felt different.

Within the Three Great Halls, the people of the Weapon Dancing Sect were now somewhat arrogant.

Meanwhile, the Patching Heaven and Kunpeng Sects pretended not to see and let them be.

Chen Mobai knew this was because the news of Master Chengxuan's emergence and improved cultivation had spread.

Although he hadn't achieved Divinity Transformation, Master Chengxuan, being the second in the Immortal Gate at the Nascent Soul Realm to master Fifth Order Body Refining Technique, was now viewed as on par with Qi Yuheng.

They were seen as the strongest below Divinity Transformation in the Immortal Gate.

Some even blindly claimed Master Chengxuan was the number one, even above Qi Yuheng.

Chen Mobai felt this trend was unhealthy, so he summoned key figures like Wang Shuye from the Three Great Halls to educate them, since pride inevitably leads to downfall.

This action was necessary because, later, Chen Mobai learned from Hua Zijing that a few from the Dance Tool Dao Academy had even begun to look down on their ally, the Jumang Academy.

After harshly dealing with some arrogant youngsters, this unruly trend finally halted.

This was rather unfortunate for the Patching Heaven and Kunpeng lineages.

They had hoped the Weapon Dancing Sect's arrogance would grow, leading to a split from the Jumang Lineage. However, Chen Mobai, despite his youth, was so steady and cautious that he nipped the unfavorable tendencies in the bud as soon as he detected them.

Until the end of the year, Chen Mobai focused on enforcing discipline.

He didn't hold back, dismissing several of his own people from Wangwu Cave Heaven and delegating them to local areas.

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[Following the Kaiyuan Hall's vote resolution, Enforcement Department Director Chen Mobai is elected as the new Deputy Hall Master of the Hall of Orthodox Law!]

On this day, the Kaiyuan Hall members' congress convened as scheduled; Gongsun Jieli, citing personal health reasons, resigned, and with a democratic vote, Chen Mobai was almost unanimously elected to succeed.

This matter had been planned well in advance.

However, due to Chen Mobai spending the last two years protecting Master Chengxuan in the Treasure Trove, it was delayed until this year.

Nevertheless, it made the transition all the more stable.

During these two years, Zhongli Tianyu fully mastered the Enforcement Department, leading many major cases, earning quite a reputation in the Immortal Gate, and being regarded as the brightest star of his generation, second only to Chen Mobai.

Most of Zhongli Tianyu's credit for solving cases was definitely attributed to Chen Mobai as the Enforcement Department Director. With such a glowing track record and a smooth transition, Chen Mobai's promotion to Deputy Hall Master of the Hall of Orthodox Law happened naturally.

Unlike Nangong Xuanyu, who had directly assumed the military department post right after Nascent Soul Formation, causing public discussion over his ungracefulness.

Watching Chen Mobai ascend to replace her position, Gongsun Jieli, who chose to resign, felt a sense of relief.

Finally, no more overtime working!

Despite Narcissus' indifference towards affairs and Chen Mobai's reluctance to manage them, even Nangong Xuanyu, under Chen Mobai's suppression, couldn't fully control the military department and mostly kept his distance.

This left Gongsun Jieli, the Deputy Hall Master, to handle and coordinate many matters within the Hall of Orthodox Law.

Sandwiched between the three Nascent Soul Superiors, she truly felt exhausted.

So the day after the council meeting ended, she called upon Chen Mobai, handing over everything she had prepared, and only took the Infant-Feeding Elixir, then happily left the Wangwu Cave Heaven.

Chen Mobai was not a diligent person, so he directly called Hua Zijing over.

“Jialan is still in Core Formation, Zijing, you’ll have to take on these matters for now.”

Hua Zijing naturally had no objections, she was already prepared for this.

“Master, how about the Sky-Mending Group, should I still manage that as well?”

Hua Zijing wasn’t afraid of hard work, but worried that her ability and energy might not be sufficient. After all, the matters handled by the Deputy Hall Master of the Dharma Hall were numerous compared to those of the Sky-Mending Group.

Especially with Narcissus not taking charge, almost all the affairs of the Dharma Hall would be sent this way.

“I’ll ask Ming Yuhua and Yunyang Bing if they’re interested.”

As newly minted Golden Core Masters, Chen Mobai’s two good brothers also attended this council, but they could only sit in the last row.

Ming Yuhua had some grievances about this, stating how could seating be determined by seniority...

During the evening gathering, Chen Mobai also called Zhongli Tianyu over.

This constituted his most core circle.

“Count me out, the director has been good to me, and he’s hoping I succeed him. If I take over the Sky-Mending Group, I’d be doing him a disservice.”

Ming Yuhua, upon hearing Chen Mobai’s offer, shook his head in refusal without a second thought.

“If there’s really no one else, I can leave the Sky-Net Management Bureau.”

Yunyang Bing said with great loyalty.

But Chen Mobai thought it over carefully and felt it was better for him to stay at the Sky-Net Management Bureau, considering that although the place wasn’t highly ranked, it controlled the Immortal Gate’s only Sixth Rank Great Array. If a war were to break out, having someone of his own there would make him more at ease.

“Then let’s have Lin Yin return, she’s been at the Extreme North Cave Heaven for quite some time now.”

Chen Mobai said to Hua Zijing beside him, who nodded immediately and arranged for the matter the next day.

With arrangements made for both the Enforcement Department and the Sky-Mending Group, Chen Mobai then turned his attention to the Military Department.

As the Deputy Hall Master of the Dharma Hall, theoretically, he had no authority over the Military Department, but all the major factions within the Military Department wanted to lean towards him.

Moreover, over many years, the Dharma Hall had mostly been under the control of the Dance Tool Dao Academy, so within the Military Department, Chen Mobai, who was the head of the Weapon Lineage, was greatly renowned.

Nangong Xuanyu soon discovered that only two factions originating from the Sky-Mending supported him.

The rest had all defected to Chen Mobai, the Deputy Hall Master.

Given Nangong Xuanyu’s temper, faced with such a situation, even though he couldn’t win against Chen Mobai, he’d stubbornly stay within the Military Department, making things unpleasant for him.

But Nangong Xuanyu no longer had the mood for this, for he received orders from the Leading Star Ancestor, which commanded him to lead a group from the Immortal Gate as the vanguard, to be sent into the Different World through the portal six years later to investigate what's on the other side.

This would undoubtedly be the most dangerous mission of the Immortal Gate.

If the Different World is akin to Ming Wang Star or the Three-Eyed Tribe, even as a Nascent Soul Superior, he would likely face grave danger.

But these were orders from the Ancestor; unless Nangong Xuanyu wished to betray to the Ascension Sect, he could only obediently comply.

Given such circumstances, Nangong Xuanyu had completely lost interest in any disputes with Chen Mobai.

Because he needed to enhance his strength as quickly as possible to increase his survival chances upon entering the Different World.

However, the improvement of cultivation level is not achieved overnight.

Thus, Magic Artifacts became Nangong Xuanyu's target.

Because in the Immortal Gate, there happened to be the Yuanyang Ancestor Primordial Yang Set capable of dramatically boosting his strength.

Nangong Xuanyu's application to refine the Primordial Yang Set quickly reached Chen Mobai's ears.

If it were merely for one or two items, he might've let it pass, but the fact that Nangong Xuanyu wished for a complete set was something Chen Mobai couldn't tolerate.

The high-ranked Magic Artifacts of the Immortal Gate were under the jurisdiction of the Xianwu Hall's Magic Artifact Division, and today was an unusually bustling day.

“Nascent Soul Superior can only be supplied with at most one Rank-4 Magic Artifact, even if the Financial Department allocates Spirit Stones, only one more can be added. Minister Nangong wishes to refine all six pieces of the Primordial Yang Set, I find this inappropriate.”

As the Refining Ancestral Court of the Immortal Gate, the majority of the Magic Artifact Division naturally consisted of Chen Mobai’s people. At his behest, a deputy minister stepped forward to reject Nangong Xuanyu’s application.

The Magic Artifact Division’s Director Jiang Shaopeng was from the Sky-Mending background, but couldn’t push Nangong Xuanyu’s application forward due to most of his inner staff being from the Weapon Lineage, and he dared not force the matter through.

Because he knew very well, although his subordinate was opposing, the person backing them was the Pure Yang Superior of the Dharma Hall!

“Then let’s discuss it further.”

Jiang Shaopeng could only sigh and put the application on hold.

That was all he could do.

Chapter 1692: Acquiring the Fairy Garment and Treasure Cauldron

After the meeting of the Magic Instrument Department, Lan Haitian came to the Hall of Orthodox Law.

“Elder, regarding the Primordial Yang Set, I ask you to be kind, as Palace Master Ying mentioned any requests you may have, feel free to propose.”

Lan Haitian was aware of Chen Mobai’s personality, so after being brought in by Hua Zijing, he went straight to the point.

“I have no personal issues with Nangong Xuanyu, but his desire for six pieces of the Primordial Yang Set is truly greedy. Not to mention, the Primordial Yang Sword is currently the core of Little Red Sky, which is the best platform we have for improving combat experience. How can it be used for his personal gain at the expense of all Immortal Gate citizens and even sea creatures?”

Chen Mobai started with the typical rhetoric, declaring that his considerations are for the greater good, not out of personal grudges.

“Elder Chunyang, your argument is valid. So let’s first remove the Primordial Yang Sword from the list. As for the remaining five pieces of the Primordial Yang Set, can we discuss them?”

Lan Haitian expressed his agreement with Chen Mobai, continuing the discussion.

“We must also consider if the other side resembles Ming Wang Star’s Different World. Once Minister Nangong goes there, he may never return. If he takes these precious and historically significant five pieces of the Primordial Yang Set and they get lost, it would be an irreparable loss for future generations who would want to admire the legacy of the Yuanyang Ancestor...”

Chen Mobai reiterated his official script, causing Lan Haitian to smile bitterly. Thankfully, Nangong Xuanyu wasn’t present; otherwise, he might have stormed out in anger upon hearing this.

Already cursing him for failure before he even departs!

“Palace Master Ying suggests that since Elder and Minister Nangong are the two accomplishments of the Pure Yang Lineage, as the war approaches, why not first divide the Primordial Yang Set to enhance the strength of the Immortal Gate.”

“How should we divide? The Primordial Yang Sword is precious, so it absolutely cannot be taken by Nangong Xuanyu!”

After hearing this, Chen Mobai immediately expressed his bottom line.

Although the Yuanyang Ancestor's Primordial Yang Set sounds appealing, the other five pieces combined do not compare to the Rank-5 Superior Primordial Yang Sword!

If he could acquire the Primordial Yang Sword, Chen Mobai truly wouldn't mind giving the other five pieces to Nangong Xuanyu.

Just as he would prevent Nangong Xuanyu if he applied for the Primordial Yang Sword, the Heaven-Repairing Lineage would surely block it.

If it weren't for Nangong Xuanyu's urgent need this time, coupled with the impending war, even the Kunpeng Lineage would have stepped in to stop it.

"Since the Primordial Yang Sword is the core of Little Red Sky and exceptionally precious, let's not talk about it for now; the focus is on the other five pieces of the Primordial Yang Set."

"After all, these are the relics of Yuanyang Ancestor, and although Elder Chunyang is the legitimate heir, the inheritance right was officially passed down through the Pure Yang Academy, held by Minister Nangong."

"How about Elder selects two pieces, leaving the remaining three for Minister Nangong?"

Lan Haitian conveyed what was undoubtedly Ying Guanghua's intention.

Chen Mobai pondered silently after hearing this.

He already owns a mirror and a bell, though not quite matching the Yuanyang Ancestor's, but with the resources of the Tianhe Realm, they can eventually be upgraded to Fourth Grade Superior.

"I feel that with Minister Nangong's cultivation level, refining two pieces of the Primordial Yang Set is most suitable, any more would burden him regardless of available Spirit Stones."

Chen Mobai argued for acquiring three pieces, while Lan Haitian shook his head with a bitter smile, indicating that Ying Guanghua had set this as the limit.

“Elder, please don’t make things difficult for me, someone from the Pure Yang Academy must be the primary heir.”

Lan Haitian omitted saying that although Chen Mobai is the orthodox Pure Yang heir, in reality, he has no inheritance rights over the Yuanyang Ancestor’s Primordial Yang Set.

Being allocated two pieces is already Ying Guanghua’s means of apologizing for previous matters.

“Since Brother Lan puts it this way, I will certainly respect you, so I’ll choose the Pure Yang Immortal Robe and Primordial Yang Treasure Bead.”

Chen Mobai wasn’t the kind to overreach; acquiring two pieces from the Primordial Yang Set in this opportunity was significant for him.

Moreover, the most crucial Primordial Yang Sword remains at the Immortal Gate.

As long as Nangong Xuanyu does not take it away, Chen Mobai isn’t deeply concerned about the others.

“Elder, in fact, before Minister Nangong departs, he plans to leave the Primordial Yang Treasure Bead behind; perhaps you should select another.”

At this point, Lan Haitian suggested again, prompting Chen Mobai to frown before seemingly realizing something, resulting in a gentle nod.

The Primordial Yang Treasure Bead symbolizes each generation of Pure Yang Academy Presidents and is the foundation of the legacy. Nangong Xuanyu leaving it behind before venturing to the Different World slightly alters Chen Mobai’s view of him.

“It seems he hasn’t forgotten his roots. I’ll opt for the Treasure Cauldron then.”

This reasoning was acceptable to Chen Mobai, who nodded in agreement.

“Thank you, Elder, for being considerate!”

Lan Haitian breathed a sigh of relief after hearing this.

After concluding, Lan Haitian bid farewell and departed, with Chen Mobai instructing Hua Zijing to escort him out, then proceeded to call the people on the Magic Instrument Department’s side.

Shortly after, Nangong Xuanyu’s application received a discounted approval from the Magic Instrument Department.

He obtained the Pure Yang Mirror and Pure Yang Golden Bell.

The Pure Yang Mirror, besides condensing Purple Qi, can also see thousands of miles, making it very useful for venturing into Different Worlds.

Meanwhile, the Pure Yang Bell protects the heart and mind from external demonic invasions, which is especially suitable for environments like the Ming Wang Star.

Ying Guanghua thought that in the face of major issues of warfare, Chen Mobai put aside personal grievances, and thus left these two Primordial Yang Set items to Nangong Xuanyu.

Consequently, Ying Guanghua and Nangong Xuanyu’s opinion of Chen Mobai changed a bit.

Soon afterwards, Chen Mobai’s application to refine the Pure Yang Immortal Robe and the Pure Yang Treasure Cauldron was approved the same day by the Immortal Artifact Department.

These items were all located at Yuanyang View in the Five Peaks Immortal Mountains.

Chen Mobai intentionally avoided Nangong Xuanyu and went there only after the latter had taken the Pure Yang Mirror and Pure Yang Bell.

Inside Yuanyang View, the Minister of the Immortal Artifact Department, Jiang Shaopeng, was already waiting.

“Elder, please sign here, and then all the procedures will be completed.”

Jiang Shaopeng handed over a receipt, which had already been signed by both himself and Yuanyang View, only missing Chen Mobai, the receiver of the Magic Artifact.

“Thanks for your hard work, Minister Jiang.”

“Not at all, Elder is too kind. There is one more thing to explain: After you sign off on the two items of the Primordial Yang Set, they will temporarily become your personal property, and the maintenance of the Magic Artifact will have to be done by yourself.”

Taking the three-party document, Jiang Shaopeng immediately mentioned these points that needed attention.

Regarding high-grade Magic Artifacts of the Immortal Gate, if they have an owner, the Immortal Gate will not provide additional Spiritual Stone Spiritual Qi subsidies.

This, however, didn't bother Chen Mobai at all.

Currently, the thing he lacks the least is Spirit Stones.

It was Nangong Xuanyu who needed them, for he was going to execute dangerous missions in the Different World, so Ying Guanghua had the Finance Department approve one hundred Top-grade Spirit Stones for him.

People from the Dance Tool Dao Academy were in the Finance Department and informed Chen Mobai after learning about this.

Having just fed him two items from the Primordial Yang Set, Chen Mobai decided to play ignorant about this matter.

After all, those hundred Top-grade Spirit Stones were meant to nurture Nangong Xuanyu's Primordial Yang Set and also served as his settlement fee.

Taking the Pure Yang Immortal Robe and Pure Yang Treasure Cauldron, Chen Mobai used the excuse of refining the Magic Artifact to once again commence seclusion.

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"Is this Treasure Cauldron for me?"

At Mount Tianpeng, Qing Nu looked at the Pure Yang Treasure Cauldron Chen Mobai handed over with surprise and delight.

"This Treasure Cauldron contains various storage spaces forged by Yuanyang Ancestor and is an excellent furnace for refining elixirs and Magic Artifacts, most suitable for you."

Chen Mobai already donned the Pure Yang Immortal Robe himself.

The Pure Yang Immortal Robe is entirely white, with nine red sun flame patterns on the chest, waist, and cuffs, as if the cultivator wearing it is shrouded in nine blazing suns, adding an unintended heroic spirit.

Once donned, the Pure Yang Immortal Robe automatically generates a ninth-layer fourth-tier protective enchantment in case of danger.

If Chen Mobai actively infuses Pure Yang True Qi, the ninth-layer protective enchantment can even be upgraded to fourth-grade superior, though Chen Mobai once tried this and found the True Qi consumption was extremely intense, even for him.

Besides defense, the Pure Yang Immortal Robe can also activate the red sun flame patterns on the garment to attack, forming a Nine Yang Fierce Flame Formation.

The consumption of True Qi, naturally, is even more intense.

Wearing the Pure Yang Vestment robe, Chen Mobai only needed it for round-the-clock defense; after all, even as a supreme in the Tianhe Realm, he needed to be cautious.

To truly confront an opponent, however, the fifth-rank Heavenly Bead and Purple Electric Sword were more suitable.

Taking the Pure Yang Treasure Cauldron from Chen Mobai, Qing Nu immediately began trying it out in excitement.

She chose a set of Foundation Establishment Trithings to start refining.

First, she put all the herbs into the Treasure Cauldron, where small Voids floated up and absorbed the herbs, which were then released one by one under Qing Nu's Divine Sense control.

Legend says there are nine thousand storage spaces set by Yuanyang Ancestor in the Pure Yang Treasure Cauldron, used for storing various medicinal-herbs and minerals.

The more Qing Nu experimented, the more she liked it.

She promptly took out the Red Gourd, ejecting the Hearth Spirit Flame from within.

Under Qing Nu's Divine Sense grasp, herbs fell from the storage spaces into the Treasure Cauldron.

Half an hour later, a batch of flawlessly made Ningqi scattered was completed.

Chapter 1693: How Many Formed the Core? (16,000 Monthly Ticket Bonus)

When the Pure Yang Treasure Cauldron was obtained, Chen Mobai knew it was suitable for Qing Nu.

Just as he didn't yet have the ability to refine the Taiyuan Blue Pearl into the type of magic artifact Qing Nu needed, he decided to let her use the cauldron for now.

Unfortunately, the attributes of the Pure Yang Treasure Cauldron didn't align with her, preventing the full expression of its power. Yet, for her, its ability to store herbs and perform alchemy was sufficient.

After all, Chen Mobai had no intention of involving her in combat.

"Who would have thought," he continued, "the seemingly distant world-founding war is about to commence so swiftly."

Listening to Chen Mobai's recount of the recent state of the Immortal Gate, Qing Nu couldn't help but feel deeply moved.

For many cultivators in the Immortal Gate, they might never encounter a war on a world-founding scale in their entire lives.

Always believing it to be the stuff of television novels, now that it's truly approaching, even Qing Nu, having already left Di Yuan Star, was curious and astonished.

"Little Dust mentioned that each time a world-founding war occurs, the Ascension Sect seizes the opportunity to seek resources for further advancement. As the different worlds draw closer, the evil path giants outside Di Yuan Star might enter first."

In previous world-founding wars, the Ancient Evil Path Union had entered a different world before the junction of realms to plunder resources, and some even managed to cultivate their primordial spirit.

“That young man is lurking within the Ascension Sect, hoping to use this opportunity to break away with Yang Jing once the world-founding war offers a chance.”

Chen Mobai sighed and said, before Qing Nu left, she had contacted Kong Feichen several times, revealing the possibility that Yang Jing might be seized by the Ascension Sect Master. Naturally, he was reluctant to leave.

The only good news was that he could still communicate with Yang Jing, briefly departing every decade from his desolate planet to meet her once. Unfortunately, a skilled member of the Ascension Sect shadowed Yang Jing, preventing him from finding an opportunity to help her escape.

After learning this, Chen Mobai advised Qing Nu to inform Kong Feichen to protect himself well.

In case he truly perceives danger, he could return and be imprisoned at the Immortal Gate.

With Chen Mobai’s arrangements, Kong Feichen would only face life imprisonment at most, ensuring his survival.

For this, Kong Feichen was extremely grateful.

However, he insisted he wouldn’t return alone, vowing that if he did return, he would bring Yang Jing with him.

Moved by Kong Feichen’s resolve, Chen Mobai even specifically searched through the Immortal Gate to find where imprisonment held the best conditions, planning a place for the two of them.

“By the way, Jing’er seems about to level up recently; you’re here just in time to help me have a look,”

Upon mentioning this, Qing Nu promptly patted the spirit beast bag at her waist, soon releasing the Devouring Heaven Serpent.

The serpent had grown to nearly thirty meters in length, true to Chen Mobai's philosophy of avoiding harm and mainly feeding on fruits and vegetables, making its body a dark jade green.

Upon seeing Chen Mobai, the serpent was very pleased, intimately flicking its tongue and approaching.

Chen Mobai reached out to stroke its head, employing Echoes in the Void to listen to its emotions.

When Qing Nu first arrived in the Eastern Wilderness, under her care, the Devouring Heaven Serpent ascended to Rank-2.

Now, after twenty years of her continuous allocation of spirit fruit and various nourishment, bolstered by abundant Spirit Rice and Spirit Stones, it showed signs of upgrading to intermediate grade Rank-2.

"The energy accumulated inside is sufficient; you could refine some barrier-breaking elixirs for it to consume. With both of us assisting, it should manage to succeed in breaking through easily."

Having completed his assessment, Chen Mobai advised Qing Nu, who was delighted. She promptly searched the Immortal Gate's alchemy recipe catalog and found an elixir beneficial for snakes in breaking barriers.

This elixir had been improved by Xu Yanhe, who bred Qing Snakes as Daoist companions. Initially, it aided diverse spirit beasts in breakthroughs, but after modification, it's even more effective for snakes.

Given the current strength of the Five Elements Sect, even though the elixir required some rare herbs, obeying Chen Mobai's orders ensured their assembly within a mere ten days, delivered right to Mount Tianpeng.

Immediately, Qing Nu began the refining process, while Chen Mobai unleashed Stat Fire, swiftly producing ten perfect-quality elixirs.

Under their care, the Devouring Heaven Serpent consumed the pills one by one.

Upon consuming the fourth pill, its body suddenly expanded by nearly half, coiling around fifty meters, resembling a dark jade mountain.

Subsequently, Chen Mobai dispersed the spiritual energy from one top-grade Spirit Stone, gently surrounding it, allowing the serpent to absorb this energy at its own pace.

Seven days later, the Devouring Heaven Serpent entered a deep slumber.

This was a custom of snakes breaking through, utilizing sleep to process spiritual energy and adapt to the surge in strength post-upgrade.

This phase might take a while.

Concerned, Qing Nu decided against placing it back in the spirit beast bag, instead creating a formation encircling it atop the mountain for continuous monitoring.

Chen Mobai, using Echoes in the Void to ensure the serpent's internal energies were stable, then returned to Giant Tree Ridge.

He re-entered the Divine Tree Secret Realm, employing Devour God Technique to absorb the Great Dao Tree's vast, wandering spiritual senses.

The Danfeng Chaoyang Diagram escalated rapidly.

Based on Chen Mobai's calculations, it might reach the "Response Earth Spirit" realm by the time Nangong Xuanyu ventures to the different world.

After performing the Devour God Technique, Chen Mobai returned to his Longevity Wood Dojo.

Upon arrival, he found Zheng Deming's wooden house unexpectedly empty.

Was it success or failure?

Chen Mobai promptly picked up the Heavenly Communication Device and called for Gu Yan.

“Greetings, Sect Leader!”

Soon, Gu Yan arrived before him and respectfully saluted.

“Has Nephew Zheng formed his Core?”

Chen Mobai asked.

“To report to the Sect Leader, Brother Zheng failed. He is currently recuperating in Giant Tree Ridge. Should I ask him to come see you?”

Zheng Deming, as a Foundation Establishment cultivator of the Wood Vein, also had his own cave dwelling in Giant Tree Ridge. After failing to form his Core, he felt too ashamed to stay there. As Chen Mobai was in ‘seclusion,’ he informed Gu Yan and then left.

“What a pity. Here is a bottle of healing elixir, please deliver it to him for me later.”

Chen Mobai was not a heartless person. Although Zheng Deming failed in forming his Core, he was still one of his people and deserved care.

After Gu Yan received the elixir, Chen Mobai inquired about the other Foundation Establishment practitioners of the Five Elements Sect who had exchanged for Core Formation spiritual medicines, wanting to know how many succeeded.

“Brother E and Brother Zhou both successfully emerged from seclusion, and it’s said that Brother Ning from the Metal Vein is consolidating his realm.”

“Sister Tan from the Fire Vein and Brother Kong from the Earth Vein, as well as the two brothers from the Water Vein, all failed.”

“Sister Luo from the Reward Virtue Hall is being cautious because she needs to break the heterodox Gold Core, so there’s no news of her emerging yet.”

“Brother Jiang completed the formation setup over at Loquat Valley with Brother Yi from the Formation Division last year, and he’s likely still in seclusion.”

Gu Yan promptly informed Chen Mobai of what he knew, and the latter nodded with satisfaction after listening.

This time, seven Golden Liquid Jade Pills and three Water Primordial Golden Core Pills were distributed.

Currently, three people succeeded in forming their Cores, achieving a success rate of thirty percent, which was quite impressive.

Among them, Zhou Wangshen and E Yun succeeded in forming their Cores, vindicating his years of dedicated guidance.

Clearly, the teachings he imparted back then were well-received by the two.

Over the years, both of them diligently cultivated, refined their essence, qi, and spirit, and eradicated Dan Poison, resulting in this successful achievement.

The other successful one, Ning Leshan, Chen Mobai remembered him too.

Back when he was making a living near Cloud Dream Marsh Qing Light Island, Ning Leshan was already a Foundation Establishment practitioner, clearly a person of exceptional talent.

However, Chen Mobai suspected that Ning Leshan’s success could also be largely attributed to the tenacity of a Sword Cultivator.

Especially in the competitive environment of the Tianhe Realm, having a courageous and undaunted mindset is crucial.

After Gu Yan left, Chen Mobai immediately summoned E Yun and Zhou Wangshen.

“Greetings, Sect Leader!”

Zhou Wangshen arrived first. After forming his Core, he had nothing else to do. Since Chen Mobai presently didn't require the Five Elements Essence, he stayed in Northern Abyss City and, upon receiving the message, hurried over using the medium transporting formation.

“Well done. Have you informed Brother Zhou of your successful Core Formation?”

Seeing Zhou Wangshen, Chen Mobai gave a slight smile.

“I sent someone to inform him immediately. It just so happens that I received a reply recently. The Ancestor advised me not to become conceited and to continue cultivating with humility. Also, there's a letter the Ancestor asked me to deliver to the Sect Leader.”

While speaking, Zhou Wangshen handed over Zhou Shengqing's reply, and Chen Mobai, after receiving it, nodded lightly. He then took out the Heavenly Communication Device to notify Zhuo Ming to come over and meet him.

After that, Chen Mobai inquired about Zhou Wangshen's cultivation after forming his Core.

As they conversed, E Yun arrived as well. After forming his Core, he barely rested, remaining mindful of his mission and continuing to lead the Five Elements Sect members in connecting projects across the Eastern Wilderness.

He had just about finished setting up locations with a medium transporting formation, but roughly three-quarters of the Eastern Wasteland still needed him and his team for the setup.

“Thank you for your hard work.”

Chen Mobai praised E Yun and contemplated in his mind that, upon returning to the Immortal Gate, he should urge Yunyang Bing to search for a few mostly intact satellites discarded in space and have them repaired.

Both E Yun and Zhou Wangshen practiced the Longevity Scripture, so Chen Mobai could only advise them on various matters to be mindful of after Core Formation, for which they were exceedingly grateful.

“There’s just the right mission that requires someone to go over to the East Barbarians. Both of you should take a trip and visit Brother Zhou while you’re at it. Within the Sect, he has the deepest understanding of the Longevity Scripture.”

After speaking about this, Chen Mobai added.

The two did not inquire about the mission but agreed to it promptly.

“The Spirit Stone Mine at the East Barbarians will resume sharing with the Sun Bathing Sea next year, but it’s reportedly already difficult to excavate large original Spirit Stone ores. Therefore, Brother Zhou sent a message requesting that all Earth Masters from the Sect proceed there to maximize excavation in the final year.”

Chen Mobai shared the details from the letter he received from Zhou Shengqing.

Before long, Zhuo Ming arrived.

“Ming’er, I’ll need to ask you to make a trip. E Yun and Zhou Wangshen will escort you.”

After outlining the task, Zhuo Ming nodded immediately.

Having formed her Core, her All Things Spiritual Communication could now connect more extensively and profoundly with the earth, and her Earth Mother Seal, harnessing Yuan Magnetic Force, could easily detect and scan various minerals hidden underground.

On her own, she could rival all the Earth Masters of the Five Elements Sect.

Chapter 1694: A Corner of Peace

Before leaving, Zhuo Ming and the other two entrusted their current tasks to others.

The task of cultivating fertile fields in the Eastern Wilderness was handed over to Han Zhiling, the third-generation eldest disciple of Xiao Nanshan.

As for the connecting project, Song Huangdae took charge.

A month later, Ning Leshan of the Metal Vein successfully achieved Core Formation and emerged from seclusion. The first thing he did after consolidating his realm was to pay a visit to Chen Mobai.

“Very good, very good. Cultivate well, and hopefully, among our generation, there will be you.”

Chen Mobai primarily encouraged his cultivators.

Ning Leshan listened humbly, not daring to accept too much praise.

Although he had confidence in himself, the Nascent Soul Realm was beyond the capability of Golden Cliff.

This was because, despite the Metal Vein’s cultivation technique being able to reach the early Nascent Soul stage like the Longevity Scripture, no one had ever successfully achieved it.

“This matter is not difficult. Take my order token to the Beiyuan City Library. There, you will find 1,200 Daoist scriptures collected from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, most of which are secret techniques and divine skills of the Metal Attribute. There’s also a Clear Mirror Calming Water Sword technique that can be cultivated to Nascent Soul Complete. If your attribute is suitable, you can switch to that.”

Magnanimously, Chen Mobai directly wrote a note, which Ning Leshan gratefully accepted.

With the comprehensive merger of the Five Element Meridians, aside from Spirit Treasure Pavilion managing various tasks and spirit stone resource distribution, the library collected all Daoist manuals and jade slip books from the five meridians.

Of these, Chen Mobai represented the Wood Vein, offering all cultivation technique manuals obtained from conquering various factions in the Eastern Wilderness over the years. The other four meridians responded immediately as well. After the downfall of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, he brought the Daoist scriptures there and placed them within, and any disciple with contributions could exchange for part of it according to their current cultivation level.

Chen Mobai even added his Core Formation Insights.

Because of this, cultivators in the Five Elements Sect who were ambitious mostly headed to Beiyuan City.

There, they could purchase various resources they needed and easily access diverse knowledge that was previously hard to obtain.

As a result, other major clans in the Eastern Wilderness and loose cultivators eagerly anticipated it, considering the Beiyuan City Library akin to a holy land.

If allowed to enter and take a look, they felt it was worth a shorter lifespan.

Originally, Chen Mobai considered opening the library to outsiders, but given the atmosphere here, he dismissed the notion.

However, he offered an opportunity; cultivators outside the Five Elements Sect could exchange their own books if the library did not possess them, and if the knowledge was useful to the sect, they could trade for three books of equivalent rank.

This rule was added by Chen Mobai after the fall of Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, when the Five Elements Sect had solidified its power, allowing him to easily maintain control, even if a few Golden Core cultivators emerged among the loose cultivators or cultivator families.

Regarding this rule, all cultivators in the Eastern Wilderness praised it unanimously, declaring that the sect leader of the Five Elements Sect, Master Chen, could not be adequately described by simply calling him a great sage and good teacher.

They deemed him akin to a living embodiment of an ancient saint!

After the rule was introduced, the collection of the Beiyuan City Library tripled in just one month.

Although many were Rank-1 or Rank-2 books, with few Rank-3 ones, the expansion and completion filled many gaps in the Hundred Arts of Cultivation Immortal.

This content, however, was mixed in quality.

It needed specialized individuals to organize it.

Chen Mobai had long planned for this and intended to personally lead Jiang Zongheng to manage it.

In the process of compiling these writings, past historical records could be preserved while transmitting various inheritances and simultaneously promoting the advancement of the entire Eastern Wilderness Cultivation World, developing a more splendid culture and technology.

At the same time, Chen Mobai also intended, using the philosophy of the Immortal Gate as his main theme, to create a scripture that combines the simple cultivation knowledge of the Tianhe Realm, one that can be passed down through ages, regarded as a guiding principle by millions of future cultivators!

Establish virtue, establish merit, establish words!

Writing scriptures not only serves as a moral teaching but also enlightens the mind, and more so as the discourse of legacy!

This idea had been growing in Chen Mobai's mind for a long time.

He felt that since coming to the Tianhe Realm, it was necessary to contribute something to this world.

Continuing the supreme knowledge of past saints, bringing eternal peace to generations, inheriting the wisdom of predecessors, and initiating future prosperity!

With peace now achieved, the time was right for establishing a scripture!

After seeing Ning Leshan off, Chen Mobai went to Loquat Valley.

"Master, why have you come?"

Jiang Zongheng had not yet entered seclusion and opened the formation to welcome him.

"I was worried you might rush forward upon hearing E Yun and others successfully formed their cores, so I came to check on you."

He had high expectations for this disciple, as out of four, only Jiang Zongheng had the wisdom and insight to inherit his philosophy.

However, growing up in the Eastern Wilderness necessitated the clarification of certain concepts.

Authoring scriptures, if there are no heirs, is like a castle in the air.

“Thank you, Master, I am planning to prepare for Core Formation...”

Jiang Zongheng refined the Yi wood power of the green-skinned gourd; last year, he already reached Foundation Establishment Completion. After honing it expertly this year, he felt that his Essence, Qi, and Spirit had reached the most perfect realm.

Chen Mobai guided him once more and shared Core Formation insights from E Yun and Zhou Wangshen.

With more people achieving Core Formation, future disciples can build on the wisdom of their predecessors, making breakthroughs increasingly easier.

This is why knowledge needs to be passed down!

“After forming your Core, help me pen a scripture!”

Before leaving, Chen Mobai said these words, greatly boosting Jiang Zongheng’s confidence, as it indicated the master’s confidence in his ability to achieve Core Formation.

“Master, what kind of scripture?”

“I haven’t decided on a name yet; essentially, it’s a compilation of fundamental immortal cultivation knowledge, to help future generations avoid detours on this path.”

Chen Mobai shared his heartfelt thoughts without concealing them from his disciple.

Upon hearing this, Jiang Zongheng deeply admired his master’s grand vision. He became more resolute in his desire to achieve Core Formation, as he eagerly wanted to help Chen Mobai write this scripture.

After leaving Loquat Valley, Chen Mobai visited Mount Tianpeng.

He discussed this matter with Qing Nu, who also lent her full support.

“Using the knowledge system of the Immortal Gate as the main theme, and the local heritage of the Tianhe Realm as branches, you can write a book of sages.”

“You’ll need to take the lead on the alchemy section.”

Chen Mobai, although knowledgeable about alchemy, is certainly not as skilled as Qing Nu, the genius. Moreover, he wanted to share part of this great merit with his Daoist couple.

“No problem.”

Qing Nu nodded in agreement with a smile.

After spending several days at Mount Tianpeng, Chen Mobai went to Northern Abyss City.

Now, it had fully transformed into the magnificent Immortal City he once planned, teeming with people and bustling with activity.

Upon stepping out from the medium transporting formation, the Five Elements Sect’s Foundation Establishment cultivator, who guarded this place, hurried over. He was formerly Guan Xiaolong of the Formation Division under the Divine Wood Sect, who successfully achieved Foundation Establishment during the second breakthrough, thanks to the resources of the Five Elements Sect.

Chen Mobai conversed with him without performing Void Walk, impulsively following the crowd of cultivators to board a flying boat heading to the center of the Immortal City.

Since the medium transporting formation was established here, and barring wartime periods, non-Five Elements Sect cultivators numbering in the thousands are transported daily. Because flying is forbidden below Core Formation level in Northern Abyss City, cultivators traveling between the main city and outskirts faced inconvenience. Yuan Chiye set up twelve flying boats that depart each hour on the dot.

The cost is one low-grade Spirit Stone for ten trips, which is not expensive.

You can buy them at shops outside the Five Elements Sect teleportation array, where you'll receive ten special talisman papers with the Five Elements Sect's Dharma Seal. Each time you board a flying boat, submit a paper.

However, for many who are short on funds, especially loose cultivators traveling from various parts of the Eastern Wilderness, even the minimum cost of one Spirit Stone is too expensive.

So, several savvy groups started offering ground transport using spirit beast caravans.

The pricing is flexible, involving fragmented Spirit Stones, herbs, elixirs, cultivation techniques, etc., depending mainly on a loose cultivator's bargaining skills.

"Usually, in the last few cases, you can easily get a ride by offering an elixir or any item of value. Thanks to our Five Elements Sect's rules, nobody dares to become rogue cultivators anymore, ensuring the loose cultivators are at ease—though it is slower."

Guan Xiaolong, responsible for the medium transporting formation here, knows all about these issues, as many groups have negotiated deals through him.

This phenomenon also gave Chen Mobai insights into the lifestyle on the side of the Immortal Gate.

With the peaceful era initiated by the Five Elements Sect spreading across the Eastern Wilderness, a glimpse unfolds before Chen Mobai's eyes, increasing his interest in the lives of the common people.

After alighting the flying boat and entering the main city, he felt like returning to the Immortal Gate.

Tall buildings constructed under his planning encircle the central North Abyss Mountain, reaching into the clouds and connecting with the sky. Along the streets are numerous shops, with an extensive range of spiritual herbs, Spirit Stones, elixirs, and legal treasures dazzling the eye.

Each cultivator busily navigates the city, some in groups chatting, others alone exploring various shop signs, presumably newcomers to Northern Abyss City, quickly coaxed inside by store clerks.

Upon leaving the central area, Chen Mobai visited a street designated for stalls, a fine tradition of the Tianhe Realm that he specially preserved in Northern Abyss City.

In several squares, there are arenas set up with restrictions, where cultivators can practice spells. There are even stages for alchemy and artifact refining—a place to showcase one's skills for employment.

The current Northern Abyss City is an unprecedentedly thriving Immortal City in the Eastern Wilderness.

Under the safety guarantee from the Five Elements Sect, cultivators can even make friends sharing like-minded interests here.

Previously, when a stranger approached, the locals' first thought would be: what does this person want from me?

Chapter 1695: Farewell to Hong He

After Chen Mobai finished visiting Northern Abyss City, he contentedly headed towards the North Abyss Mountain Peak.

Suddenly, he saw a person.

It was a male cultivator with a thin and delicate face, of average height—very ordinary in appearance, with the fluctuation of Qi Cultivation.

But these appearances and body shapes were all disguises; Chen Mobai could easily tell this person was a Foundation Establishment practitioner, and his cultivation was very powerful, nearly at Foundation Establishment Completion.

If he didn't know this person, Chen Mobai would probably just take a glance and leave a mark, and that would be it.

But as for this person, he actually piqued his curiosity.

...

Hong He was looking at a stall; he came to purchase elixirs that could enhance his cultivation, but how could there possibly be anything useful to him at this stall?

Nonetheless, it was just a way to pass the time; the main focus was on attending a trade meeting among fellow cultivators in the evening.

After purchasing a Rank-2 medicinal material, Hong He stood up planning to leave when suddenly his pupils widened.

Chen Mobai stood in front of him, smiling faintly.

Hong He instinctively wanted to escape, but when he remembered the cultivation realm of the sect leader before him, his whole body felt as if it was bound by a binding spell, stiffening in place.

“Come with me!”

Upon hearing these three words, Hong He let out a slight sigh of relief.

Chen Mobai had already turned around; Hong He dared not flee and followed the Nascent Soul cultivator in front of him with a respectful face heading towards the North Abyss Mountain Peak.

“You’ve been away from the sect for these years, have you been doing well?”

Upon sitting down, the first sentence from Chen Mobai made Hong He overwhelmed with a rush of emotion, almost bringing tears to his eyes.

To think he had entertained thoughts along his journey that Chen Mobai would act to eliminate him to keep the Five Elements Sect clear of the demon path.

To his surprise, it was such a warm and gentle greeting.

At this moment, Hong He regretted deeply why he chose to cultivate demonic arts after wandering outside for several decades.

“I’ve been... well, Sect Leader... can I return to the sect?”

Hong He restrained the surging emotions in his heart, trying to speak in a calm manner.

“When you left, you didn’t attack Gu Yan, which I’m pleased about.”

“Moreover, I have not heard of any disciple being harmed in the sect; from this aspect, you did not betray the sect.”

“Though you initially cultivated the Devouring Sea Demonic Art inadvertently, later you did act to devour quite a few loose cultivator rogues—this is something I cannot forgive. Mistakes made should be punished. You definitely cannot return to the Five Elements Sect.”

Chen Mobai was candid; no matter what, the fact that Hong He cultivated demonic arts was undeniable.

“Sect Leader, those I devoured all had experiences of robbing practitioners.”

Hong He immediately spoke to defend himself.

But Chen Mobai still shook his head.

“Even though the Five Elements Sect now has Brother Zhou and me as two Nascent Soul cultivators, compared to the Eastern Earth Holy Land’s Jiutian Dangmo Sect, our strength is still vastly inferior. I cannot allow an internal hazard like you to exist within the sect.”

Upon hearing these words, Hong He’s face turned sorrowful as he lowered his head.

“Did you come to Northern Abyss City to gather resources?”

Seeing this, Chen Mobai changed the subject.

Hong He quickly collected his emotions and explained his purpose for coming.

He needed an elixir to boost himself to Foundation Establishment Completion; this time a renowned loose practitioner, Yu Ji Hermit, was hosting a trade meeting in Northern Abyss City, and there was a Jade Water Spirit Pill that was greatly beneficial to Hong He, prompting his visit.

Yu Ji Hermit?

Chen Mobai didn’t recognize such a minor figure; Hong He promptly explained that she came from Dongwu, previously the clan leader of a small family.

In a previous massive demonic beast tide, the family disciples were conscripted by the Sun family and nearly all perished in Yun Meng Ze.

After receiving the news, in her grief she disbanded her family, taking a few bloodline descendants to cross Yun Meng Ze’s borders under the night, fleeing to Eastern Wilderness.

Coming with the family’s assets, Yu Ji Hermit thrived in Northern Abyss City; not only did her cultivation break through to Foundation Establishment Completion, but she also opened an exclusive Dongwu product shop, operating vibrantly.

Previously when Sun Huangji failed in Nascent Soul Formation and perished, and Sun Huanglong engaged in a massacre to maintain the Sun family's dominance across Dongwu, Yu Ji Hermit saw an opportunity and specifically sent her descendants back to Dongwu, promoting the grandeur of Northern Abyss City, the greatness of the Five Elements Sect, and Sect Master Chen's sincerity to the cultivator families there!

So anytime people uninterested in fearing for their lives among minor family powers in Dongwu were swayed, they followed and came to Northern Abyss City.

Of course, after arriving, these people undoubtedly sought introductions through Yu Ji Hermit, who helped them purchase real estate and start businesses, etc.

Yu Ji Hermit successfully profited greatly from this strategy.

This time the trade fair is being held because Yuji Hermit wants to collect some books and knowledge not found in the Bei Yuan City Library in order to exchange for those listed as Rank-3 Core Formation Insights.

Not only Yuji Hermit, but since Chen Mobai established that rule, the various Foundation Establishment ancestors among the major families in the Eastern Wilderness have almost without hesitation brought out their most treasured inherited knowledge in order to exchange for Core Formation Insights.

The most generous, of course, was Zhu Jinyu, the former Sect Leader of the Snow-blowing Palace. When she joined the Five Elements Sect, she learned about this matter from Lan Lingping and directly used the sect's accumulated texts over thousands of years to exchange for all the Core Formation Insights in the library.

She even had some surplus, but Zhu Jinyu saved these opportunities to exchange knowledge, intending to use them when the Five Elements Sect unveiled new Core Formation Insights in the future.

As it turned out, her foresight was quite far-reaching. In just three short years, the Five Elements Sect had acquired three more Core Formation Insights.

"I won't give you elixirs, here is the Core Formation Insight from Nu Jiang, you can jot it down."

After understanding Hong He's purpose for coming, Chen Mobai gently nodded and then took out pen and paper, retrieving the original text of Nu Jiang's insights from the Heavenly Calculation Bead's memory, writing it down before handing it to him.

"Thank you, Sect Leader!"

Hong He received it with tremulous hands, excitement flashing across his expression, and after reading and committing it to memory, burnt the paper on the spot.

"Once you step out of this door, I do not know you, and you are not a disciple of my Five Elements Sect."

Chen Mobai said this, and Hong He showed a slight sadness in his eyes but bowed deeply with a solemn expression.

"A disciple swears that even if I die, I will not cause trouble for the sect!"

After saying this, Hong He got up.

"Sect Leader, there is one more thing, that Yuji Hermit might have also practiced Demonic Cultivation."

Before leaving, Hong He shared this information.

Chen Mobai's pupils slightly squinted as he lightly nodded.

Soon after, Luo Yixuan arrived upon his notification.

"Master, you were looking for me."

Luo Yixuan has been in Beiyuan City during this period, not only interacting with the Starry Sky Commerce Guild but also managing the affairs of the Five Elements Commerce Association on behalf of Chen Mobai.

Yue Zutao, over in East Land, had already begun using industrialized talisman paper to occupy the low-end market. Now, each year, the Eastern Wilderness has to produce a massive amount of talisman paper to send there.

In addition to talisman paper, there are also some local specialties from the Eastern Wilderness.

Previously, this was handled by Liu Wenbo, but seeing his junior sisters all reaching Core Formation, even the most recent entrant Jiang Zongheng had stepped onto this path, he found it difficult to sit still and informed Chen Mobai of his desire to enter seclusion, aiming to at least cultivate to Foundation Establishment Completion first.

Of course, Chen Mobai agreed.

But he also told Liu Wenbo that while seclusion is acceptable, he must not rush it, nor should he use elixirs to force quick progress.

Liu Wenbo's greatest trait is being straightforward and obedient.

For most of these years, he has been cultivating within the Fourth-Grade Cave Abode arranged by Chen Mobai in Beiyuan City, though he still managed matters for the Little Nan Mountain Shop.

Besides this, the puppet factory, the Five Elements Commerce Association, and other responsibilities were transferred by Chen Mobai to Luo Yixuan.

"Understood, Master!"

Upon discussing Yuji Hermit with Luo Yixuan, a spark of interest shone in her eyes.

“When confirming a Devil Cultivator, remember to gather solid evidence, we must not take action; I will notify the Jiutian Dangmo Sect.”

Chen Mobai knew although this disciple had exquisite beauty and heavenly grace, due to her childhood experiences, her killing intent was quite strong.

“Yes, Master!”

Hearing Chen Mobai’s words, Luo Yixuan was somewhat slightly disappointed; after reaching Core Formation, she had not yet encountered an opponent that could test her newly learned ‘Mysterious Heavy Water.’

During the grand battle with the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, Golden Wind Ancestor was slain by Chen Mobai, and the remaining Golden Core Cultivators were taken down by Mo Douguang, Zhou Ye, and others from the older generation.

She was only able to engage some Foundation Establishment Practitioners.

How can progress be made like this!

Thus, upon hearing about the potential Devil Cultivator, Luo Yixuan was eager to follow the clues and discover the secrets behind Yuji Hermit to have a good exercise.

After all, she had Elder Ming by her side and a Rank-4 Moonlight Blade; unless facing the likes of Mo Douguang or Zhou Ye as Golden Core existences, she had the confidence to fight.

...

“Senior Zhu, everyone has been arranged.”

Within Yuji Hermit’s Cave Dwelling, she addressed Zhu Jun with a respectful expression.

“Hmm, this action must succeed, it must not fail. If it does succeed, I will give you a Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine from the Sun Bathing Sea.”

After hearing this, Zhu Jun calmly nodded, providing a promise.

Upon hearing it, Yuji Hermit’s face immediately flushed as if attracted by this condition.

Chapter 1696: Hong He’s Experience (17,000 Monthly Votes Added)

After Zhu Jun left, Yuji Hermit walked to a water-filled fish tank and dropped a talisman, causing ripples on the water surface, reflecting a blurry face.

“Master, everything is going according to plan.”

The blurry face nodded after hearing this, then disappeared.

...

The next day.

Hong He arrived at the site of the trading convention.

This was a very ordinary Rank-2 Cave Dwelling in Northern Abyss City, and as he entered, he saw Yuji Hermit sitting at the center, surrounded by six Foundation Establishment cultivators.

All of these people were sitting on meditation mats, observing Hong He with curious eyes.

“This is Fellow Daoist Chisha, an expert hidden in the southern region of Yun Meng Ze near the ruins, with a cultivation level not below mine.”

Yuji Hermit immediately introduced with a smile. She was a beautiful woman, and having lived well in Northern Abyss City over the years, she spoke with a slight pout, her demeanor relaxed.

“Greetings, Fellow Daoists.”

The other six Foundation Establishment cultivators greeted Hong He politely, and he responded with nods one by one before picking an empty meditation mat to sit down.

Soon, another few Foundation Establishment cultivators entered, and Yuji Hermit introduced them one by one as well.

Hong He observed carefully at the edge.

After leaving the Eastern Wilderness, he went to Yun Meng Ze in Dongwu.

Without the sect’s constraints, he indulged wildly for some time. As Dongwu was near water, there were many rogue cultivators practicing Azure Water Cultivation. Relying on his profound cultivation level, he captured many using Devouring Sea Demonic Art.

During that period, he naturally interacted with many forces in Dongwu and even encountered real demon path cultivators.

Due to his strong cultivation level, he was introduced to Dongwu’s families for hiring, replacing the Foundation Establishment ancestors of families, joining the coalition army formed by the Sun family.

That’s how he got to know Yuji Hermit.

Whenever the demonic beasts in Yun Meng Ze had a tendency to form a significant tide, the Sun family would impose the number of people each cultivator family must provide.

The Zhou family, where Zhou Ye belonged, was led by the Zhou family’s ancestor to join the coalition army, suffering heavy casualties in battles, with cultivators dying one after another. Ultimately, when

they had no one left, they were ironically deemed to be defying orders by the Sun family and exterminated as an example.

However, whenever the Sun family formed a coalition army, it was only necessary to have enough people, regardless of who they were, leading to the hiring practice.

Hong He led Yuji Hermit's family's people to participate in Dongwu's coalition twice.

Those two times were also life-and-death experiences, but yielded great gains, and along with Devouring Sea Demonic Art, Hong He quickly reached the realm of Foundation Establishment Completion.

Subsequently, Hong He passed through the ruins, went to Golden Crow Immortal City in East Barbarians, rented a Rank-3 Cave Dwelling, and attempted Core Formation.

Unfortunately, without Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine, it naturally ended in failure. Thankfully, he had learned a life-preserving secret technique for failed Core Formation as a core disciple in the Divine Wood Sect.

Due to the failure in Core Formation dissipating some of his cultivation level and damaging his essence, he still hadn't recovered until now.

Soon, all thirteen Foundation Establishment cultivators invited by Yuji Hermit arrived.

Six of them were clan leaders of cultivator families who escaped from Dongwu, three were loose cultivators like Hong He from Dongwu, and the remaining three were Foundation Establishment cultivators from the Eastern Wilderness.

Everyone began speaking, presenting their items, almost all Rank-3 spirit materials, and even good things like thousand-year medicine herbs.

Once the items were displayed, cultivators wishing for them could transmit their offers through sound. Some reached agreements, exchanged after on-site verification.

Others, however, showed regret.

Hong He also smoothly exchanged his large amount of Spirit Stones and a cultivation technique he didn't use for the needed elixirs.

The trading convention quickly approached its end.

Everyone turned their gaze towards Yuji Hermit. She smiled slightly, took out a Jade Vial, and poured it into a porcelain bowl. A pool of blue spiritual liquid emitting coldness fell into everyone's view.

"It's actually Spirit Ice Profound Liquid!"

Two Foundation Establishment alchemists checked it and exclaimed in shock.

Soon, the Foundation Establishment cultivators present began breathing more rapidly.

This pill was produced by Dao Morale Sect and was an elixir useful for Core Formation among East Continent cultivators, helping them harmonize Essence, Qi, and Spirit and condense liquid spiritual power into Gold Core.

This was comparable to the "Sunfire Liquid" extracted from the Rank-5 Sun God Tree by Sun Bathing Sea, considered one of the two great Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicines in East Continent.

It was precisely because Yuji Hermit claimed to possess this item that she attracted so many Foundation Establishment cultivators to attend.

Everyone quickly transmitted their offers to Yuji Hermit, but ultimately the clan leader from another family in Dongwu obtained this Spirit Ice Profound Liquid.

Facing the predatory gazes of the others, this clan leader appeared carefree, putting the Spirit Ice Profound Liquid back into the Jade Vial and storing it in his Storage Bag.

If it were before, he would surely participate in such a trading convention wearing a mask, fleeing immediately after obtaining the item.

But now he was not afraid.

After all, this was Northern Abyss City!

Daring to be a rogue cultivator here had already become a corpse.

After the completion of the Spirit Ice Profound Liquid trade, the other Foundation Establishment cultivators regretfully stood up, ready to bid farewell and leave.

However, at this moment, Yuji Hermit suddenly spoke: "Do you know where I obtained this Spirit Ice Profound Liquid?"

After hearing her words, everyone stopped their actions and looked at her with burning eyes.

"Hermit, do you have a channel from East Land, able to purchase Spirit Ice Profound Liquid long-term?"

This Spirit Ice Profound Liquid is occasionally put up for sale at the Grass Hall of the Dao Morale Sect in East Land, even the major sects in the East Land may not be able to acquire it.

"If I had such a channel, I would have sent it to the Five Elements Sect a long time ago, and maybe by now I'd be a guest of the two Nascent Soul Superiors."

Yuji Hermit jokingly said this, and everyone followed with a chuckle.

Currently, all major families and loose cultivators in the Eastern Wilderness take pride in joining the Five Elements Sect, as the sect's disciples, with contributions, can read tens of thousands of Daoist book jade slips in the library and even exchange for Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine in the Spirit Treasure Pavilion.

The news of E Yun, Zhou Wangshen, and Ning Leshan's successful Core Formation has recently spread throughout the Eastern Wilderness.

Even if the remaining cultivators in the Five Elements Sect failed, a thirty percent success rate is enough to make all Foundation Establishment cultivators envious.

Unfortunately, the Five Elements Sect has passed the stage of blind expansion. To join the sect, besides having a clean background, one must first pass through the Scholarly Mansion below.

Although the school district housing referral policy still exists, it restricts the age of cultivators joining the sect.

After the establishment of the Six Great Academies, unless a cultivator under the age of thirty has exceptionally outstanding Spiritual Root Aptitude, they are not accepted.

This left the Foundation Establishment ancestors of various families, who wanted to join the Five Elements Sect, sighing with disappointment.

Nonetheless, the open sharing of Core Formation Insights is enough to instill genuine respect for the Five Elements Sect among these Foundation Establishment cultivators.

In the past, if they dared to look at it, their families would be exterminated by the major sects the next day.

However, people are never satisfied—having Core Formation Insights leads to desiring Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine.

Thus, Yuji Hermit's next words caught everyone's attention.

"This bottle of Spirit Ice Profound Liquid was discovered in a mysterious Water Mansion deep in Yun Meng Ze, where powerful restrictions abound. However, due to the erosion of time and water, some gaps have appeared."

“My friend, Fellow Daoist Chisha, inadvertently discovered it while leading my family’s disciples in the Dongwu coalition army. After sacrificing many people, he barely managed to find a passage that could be entered.”

“Recently, with the assistance of a senior, I entered it again and acquired this bottle of Spirit Ice Profound Liquid. However, we’ve only explored a tenth or so of the Water Mansion, and I believe there are even more valuable resources in unexplored areas.”

“But the restrictions there are very strong, so I need to borrow the strength of you all to jointly perform a battle array. If successful, I am willing to share the contents with all of you.”

After Yuji Hermit finished speaking, everyone continually inquired about the location of the Water Mansion, the nature of the restrictions, and details about the battle array.

The cultivators here love to venture into cave dwellings.

Many ancestors of cultivator families made their fortunes this way.

“Here is the map of the Water Mansion’s location, but before viewing it, I need everyone to swear not to disclose this matter to anyone outside of here.”

Yuji Hermit placed a folded brocade letter beside her after speaking. Hearing this, several people showed hesitation on their faces.

“Dare I ask if the Hermit can guarantee there is enough Spirit Ice Profound Liquid inside?”

One local Foundation Establishment cultivator from the Eastern Wilderness asked.

“How would I dare guarantee that.”

Yuji Hermit immediately shook her head, jokingly implying that this bottle of Spirit Ice Profound Liquid was given to her by Zhu Jun.

“In that case, we might run a futile errand, and needing so many Foundation Establishment cultivators shows the risk is not small either.”

After saying this, the Foundation Establishment cultivator shook his head, indicating his decision not to participate.

Upon his withdrawal, another Foundation Establishment cultivator from the Eastern Wilderness also got up to take his leave.

“Before the two of you leave, please swear not to disclose what happened here.”

Yuji Hermit cursed inwardly that with the protection of the Five Elements Sect, these Foundation Establishment cultivators from the Eastern Wilderness had lost the spirit of seeking wealth in danger, but she still smiled and requested on the surface.

As the two left, they glanced at the last remaining Foundation Establishment cultivator from the Eastern Wilderness, who seemed quite elderly. After hesitating for a moment, he sighed, clasping his fists, and stayed behind.

“You two fellows are still young and can wait for the grace of the Five Elements Sect. I’m getting old, and this might be my last hope for Core Formation.”

After hearing his words, the two nodded, expressing their understanding.

After the two left, the Foundation Establishment cultivator who had already obtained the Spirit Ice Profound Liquid also left. However, he was actually a stooge arranged by Yuji Hermit.

The remaining people, enticed by the Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicine, all nodded in agreement, including Hong He.

Everyone agreed to practice the battle array for half a month and then head to Yun Meng Ze together.

Very soon, only Yuji Hermit was left in the cave dwelling.

But at nightfall, Hong He came.

“Junior Brother, is the Teleportation Array arranged properly?”

Seeing Hong He, Yuji Hermit asked, to which he softly nodded.

“After accomplishing this task, I will have our master teach you the true Demon Dao Great Method, which is a hundred times more powerful than your mediocre Devouring Sea Demonic Art. Do well, don’t let me down.”

Upon hearing Yuji Hermit’s words, Hong He nodded blankly.

While he was a rogue cultivator in Dongwu, he once accidentally fell into the hands of a powerful demon. Fortunately, because he had cultivated demonic arts, he was taken in as a disciple.

However, the disciples of the Demon Path are merely slaves, all subjected to a life-and-death restriction.

Because of this, Hong He could not mention his nominal master in front of Chen Mobai.

Yet, he subtly hinted about Yuji Hermit instead.

Hoping the Sect Leader would comprehend!

As Hong He left the cave dwelling, he secretly thought.

Chapter 1697: Luo Xue’er Core Formation

The news that Yuji Hermit had gathered a group of people quickly reached Chen Mobai's ears.

Although participants couldn't disclose anything due to an oath, their purchase of various elixirs, talismans, and magic artifacts in Northern Abyss City easily hinted at a plan to explore a cave dwelling.

As Chen Mobai expected, this group began to leave Northern Abyss City, traveling through the Five Elements Sect's teleportation array that spanned the Eastern Wilderness, heading to Yun Meng Ze.

"Master, do you need me to follow them?"

After Yuji Hermit also left Northern Abyss City, Luo Yixuan reported and asked Chen Mobai.

"This may involve devil cultivators, and the situation is unclear. I should personally go."

Chen Mobai was cautious and, after some thought, worried that Luo Yixuan might not be strong enough.

After all, Elder Ming had mentioned that there were still many devil cultivators hiding within the three domains of the East Continent's border, and her Moonlight Blade was obtained during a trade in the ruins with a cultivator from the Jade Mirror Demon Sect.

Although the Eastern Wilderness had been thoroughly cleared by Chen Mobai, no one knew what might still be hidden within the vast Yun Meng Ze.

"Understood, Master."

After listening, Luo Yixuan nodded and suggested that since her master was of great status, he should have someone to attend to him, and offered to accompany him.

"No need, I'll have a fellow Daoist assist me."

But Chen Mobai directly refused, stating that a Golden Core Cultivator was needed to guard Northern Abyss City.

Leaving a disappointed Luo Yixuan to guard the place, Chen Mobai redirected his path to Mount Tianpeng instead of going directly to Yun Meng Ze.

“Your Water Mirror Retrospection Art will be quite handy over in Yun Meng Ze.”

Qing Nu was very pleased to hear that Chen Mobai would be taking her out; coincidentally, the Devouring Heaven Serpent had stopped absorbing spiritual energy and was in a stable slumber.

After placing the Devouring Heaven Serpent into her Spirit Beast Bag, Qing Nu eagerly followed Chen Mobai out.

After all, her opportunities to venture out since coming to the Eastern Wilderness were few and far between.

...

Wind Rain Hamlet.

As the last to arrive, Yuji Hermit discussed the details of the mission with Hong He and then entered the agreed-upon cave dwelling.

Inside, six Foundation Establishment cultivators were already present.

After exchanging greetings, people gathered in small groups of threes and twos to chat. Soon, the remaining Foundation Establishment cultivators, who were still purchasing supplies at Wind Rain Hamlet, also arrived.

Hong He was the second last to arrive. Upon entering, he acted reclusive and sat in a corner.

Once everyone had gathered, Yuji Hermit distributed array flags.

This was for them to practice the Sky Strike Cloud Water Formation. If all these Foundation Establishment cultivators worked together, they could even break through some powerful Rank-3 restrictions.

Because practicing here in Wind Rain Hamlet would cause too much commotion, they decided to find a secluded water surface within Yun Meng Ze.

Such places were abundant there.

“We’re headed to Zhi Dao. Three hundred miles under the waters surrounding this island is an ancient teleportation array. Passing through it, we can reach our target Water Mansion. We can practice the formation near the ancient teleportation array...”

Upon hearing Yuji Hermit’s plan, everyone nodded in agreement, indicating no issues.

Just as they got up to leave together.

Suddenly, nature’s spiritual energy began to rise and surge with an unusual and violent fluctuation.

Everyone was startled and rushed out of the cave dwelling.

They then saw pure and dense water-blue spiritual energy like beams of light rushing to the central tower of Wind Rain Hamlet.

At the top of the tower, a powerful energy fluctuation continued to spread, finally transforming into a torrent waterfall that engulfed and absorbed the surrounding Water Spirit Qi.

Amid the waterfall, a point of brilliant golden light faintly shimmered.

“This is... Core Formation!”

The Foundation Establishment cultivators participating in this mission mostly aspired to Core Formation. Some who had read Core Formation Insights at the Beiyuan City Library immediately recognized what was happening and were shocked.

“I heard that the Vice Hall Master Luo of the Five Elements Sect’s Reward Virtue Hall practices the Heavenly Waterfall Cultivation and exchanged for Gold Core Spiritual Material over two years ago; it must be her now forming a core.”

Within the group, the only Foundation Establishment cultivator from the Eastern Wilderness, Xiang Xieyuan, couldn’t help expressing his envy at this sight.

The vigor and scene clearly indicated a successful core formation.

“Core Formation is immediately followed by a heavenly tribulation. Out of caution, the Five Elements Sect may close the teleportation array here at Wind Rain Hamlet. We should leave before the heavenly tribulation begins.”

Seeing this, Yuji Hermit, while envious, remained calm and analyzed the current situation, giving his suggestion.

“It’s not worth missing this opportunity; not everyone gets the chance to witness Core Formation. I think we should wait until after the heavenly tribulation before going to Zhi Dao.”

However, Xiang Xieyuan raised objections, and soon gained the support of many people.

It is only because the Five Elements Sect is powerful now, coupled with Sect Master Chen’s kind heart, that they have the opportunity to observe a major sect’s cultivator forming a core.

Before the Eastern Wilderness was unified, when a major sect’s cultivator formed a core, they would first activate the Mountain Protection Array, then ask all cultivators within a hundred miles who were not their own to leave.

Anyone who dared to refuse would be turned into a corpse on the spot.

“If that’s the case, let’s wait a bit longer.”

Yuji Hermit cursed silently in her heart but also understood that for this group of Foundation Establishment practitioners eager for core formation, witnessing a cultivator forming a core was something that nothing could make them leave, so she could only follow the crowd.

As soon as she finished speaking, Xiang Xieyuan was the first to head towards the central Fang Market of Wind Rain Hamlet, wanting to get closer to the tower for a better view.

The other Foundation Establishment practitioners also followed quickly, not wanting to be left behind.

Hong He, to avoid arousing suspicion, exchanged a glance with Yuji Hermit and also followed the main group.

After reaching the central Fang Market of Wind Rain Hamlet, they found that the area was already under lockdown.

Although Chen Mobai, after taking charge of the Five Elements Sect, had implemented more humane policies, the bottom line still remained for such matters as their sect’s cultivators forming a core.

Centered around the tower, a Rank-4 Large Formation had been activated, with Nu Jiang himself leading the water vein disciples to guard it, preventing external demons from disturbing Luo Xue’er’s core formation.

Even so, everyone could still observe from the Fang Market the extremely dense spiritual energy of nature converging towards the top of the tower from all directions, being swept up and devoured by the Heavenly Waterfall of spiritual power, pouring into that dazzling golden light, making it increasingly brilliant and dazzling.

During this process, dark clouds appeared in the sky, with flickers of crimson firelight and lightning, as if fiery dragons and thunder serpents were rolling, exuding a terrifying pressure that shocked the heart and mind of all Foundation Establishment cultivators!

Is this the Heavenly Tribulation!?

Even the cultivators of the Five Elements Water Vein in Wind Rain Hamlet were witnessing such a scene for the first time. Previously, neither Ji Guanhai nor the other had succeeded in the formation of their Gold Core after consuming the Water Primordial Golden Core Pill, so the Heavenly Tribulation was never triggered.

Underneath the tower, Nu Jiang saw this scene, a trace of relief flashed in his eyes, but his face showed a slight sigh.

The relief was for Luo Xue'er's core formation, adding another successor to the water vein, while the sigh was because neither Luo Xue'er nor Luo Yixuan were originally from Wind Rain Hamlet.

But at least they are all members of the Five Elements Sect!

Nu Jiang comforted himself this way!

Meanwhile, watching this scene from the distant Fang Market, Hong He again regretted why he practiced demonic cultivation.

If he were still in the Five Elements Sect now, the one successfully forming a core and triggering the Heavenly Tribulation would be him... no... he would have already succeeded in forming a core twenty years earlier.

However, there is no remedy for regret in this world, and Hong He could only seize the present. He carefully observed Luo Xue'er's various phenomena.

After all, they were all forming cores through water attribute cultivation techniques, and there are always commonalities.

In his mind, he recalled the Core Formation Insights given by Chen Mobai for Nu Jiang. Luo Xue'er practiced the Heavenly Waterfall Cultivation, and comparing with these contents, he vaguely understood some unclear points.

Soon after, the Heavenly Waterfall on top of the tower suddenly expanded severalfold, like a torrent rolling back towards heaven and earth, sweeping up the vast spiritual energy of nature around it.

Then, the heavens roared!

A crimson fiery rainbow, like a red sword descending from the sky, instantly pierced into the Heavenly Waterfall.

The fierce clash of water and fire immediately caused a terrifying disturbance in the spiritual energy of nature.

All the Foundation Establishment practitioners who saw this turned pale.

If they faced such a Heavenly Tribulation directly, they would have been turned to cinders by the Heavenly Tribulation's red sword in an instant, but Luo Xue'er withstood it with the Heavenly Waterfall Cultivation.

Yet this was just the first strike, followed by more dark red Divine Fire Thunder, like lasers, crisscrossing, smashing towards the enchanting female cultivator atop the tower.

Hong He couldn't help but clench his fists, worried for Luo Xue'er.

But soon, Luo Xue'er took out a piece of black cloth, and after injecting spiritual power into it, it blocked all the Divine Fire Thunder.

Among this batch of Foundation Establishment Completion disciples of the Five Elements Sect, Luo Xue'er had the highest success possibility. After all, with a Heterodox Golden Core paired with a Golden

Liquid Jade Pill, it was nearly fifty percent, plus she had some merit from pioneering the Mo River in Xiao County.

Therefore, before letting her seclude herself, Chen Mobai had her visit Mount Tianpeng to borrow a tribulation-passing magic artifact from Qing Nu.

This way, when Luo Xue'er successfully formed her core in the future, she would owe Qing Nu a favor.

Utilizing the mantra taught by Qing Nu, Luo Xue'er exerted half of the black cloth's power, easily passing her Core Formation Heavenly Tribulation.

As the final red flame sword and Divine Fire Thunder were blocked, the dark clouds in the sky transformed into a heavy rain and finally dissipated.

The core formation succeeded!

Upon realizing this, the disciples of the Five Elements Water Vein felt even more centripetal force towards the sect.

Luo Xue'er's success signified that they too had the opportunity to possibly form a core.

Xiang Xieyuan and the other outsiders were filled with envy.

If they were disciples of the Five Elements Sect, they wouldn't have to risk their lives by teaming up to explore cave dwellings.

Chapter 1698: Ancient Teleportation Array

Chen Mobai brought Qing Nu to Southstream Market in Cloud County, intending to use the teleportation array there to go to Wind Rain Hamlet.

However, they found that the teleportation array on the Wind Rain Hamlet side was closed.

If it's closed over there, then it's impossible to teleport from Southstream Market.

Chen Mobai went to another market in Cloud County, but found the same situation, and quickly realized the reason.

It should be because Luo Xue'er is forming her Core, and Nu Jiang is afraid of unexpected events, so Wind Rain Hamlet is sealed.

Thinking of this, he wasn't in a hurry, so he decided to ride the Tai Yi Wu Yan Luo, taking Qing Nu directly towards Wind Rain Hamlet.

At his current speed, flying from Cloud County to there would only take a few days.

...

When Nu Jiang received a message from Chen Mobai saying he was at the door, he was so shocked his mouth was agape.

"Sect Leader Junior Brother, you came here without notifying me in advance."

Nu Jiang brought them in, his expression solemn, because in the local mindset, if a Nascent Soul cultivator moves, it certainly means something earth-shattering is about to happen.

At any rate, Nu Jiang couldn't believe Chen Mobai would make a special trip to Wind Rain Hamlet just for Luo Xue'er's Core Formation.

"There is something that might involve devil cultivators..."

Chen Mobai didn't hide it, explaining the situation where Yuji Sanren gathered a group of people to Yun Meng Ze, which shocked Nu Jiang, and he immediately called the disciple responsible for recording the medium transporting formation in Wind Rain Hamlet.

Very quickly, they found the records of Yuji Sanren's group.

After Luo Xue'er's Core Formation, they teleported to a place called Zhi Dao, where there is a second order high-grade spirit vein, so the Five Elements Sect set up a market there with a small teleportation array.

Nu Jiang immediately sent disciples over to investigate, and soon after detailed information was relayed back.

The group of Foundation Establishment cultivators led by Yuji Sanren left immediately after arriving at Zhi Dao. Some of them, due to revealing their Foundation Establishment cultivation, were noticed by the disciples on the island, who found that they were heading towards the southern waters.

"Sect Leader Junior Brother, let me take care of this matter, I'll personally lead a team to investigate."

Nu Jiang offered to assist; he has been guarding Yun Meng Ze for nearly two hundred years, and knows it like the back of his hand.

"This matter involves devil cultivators, so it's more prudent for me to handle it."

Chen Mobai shook his head, having been cautious to this extent, he couldn't afford to give up halfway.

At this moment, Nu Jiang also shared the good news of Luo Xue'er's successful Core Formation.

Hearing this, Chen Mobai was very pleased.

Since Luo Xue'er was still consolidating her realm, he didn't disturb her. After leaving a few words, he took Qing Nu to Zhi Dao first.

Unfortunately, the waters of Yun Meng Ze are vast and boundless; trying to find eleven Foundation Establishment cultivators here is like searching for a needle in a haystack.

Fortunately, there was a general direction of their departure and the Longevity Sect's grand spell, "Water Mirror Reflection"!

Qing Nu is truly a genius; in order to catch up with Chen Mobai, she cultivates very diligently. She has already become proficient in the Longevity Sect's five grand spells.

A pool of Abyss True Water floated in her snow-white palm, like a circular light. After aligning it in the right direction, she quickly utilized the omnipresent moisture in the void, projecting reflections of everything within a hundred miles, clear and detailed!

Chen Mobai entered the realm of the Guidance Book, analyzing these reflections within the shortest time, pinpointing areas with anomalies in spiritual energy or under the water surface.

He performed void walking to investigate each one, finding that two places were hidden by demonic beasts; he casually cleared them out, then arrived at the third place, discovering a relatively rare Rank-3 Water Fairy Grass, guarded by a Rank-2 demonic beast, which naturally became a dead spirit under his hand.

"Unexpected gain."

After returning to Qing Nu's side, Chen Mobai handed her the Rank-3 Water Fairy Grass, which she delightedly placed into the Pure Yang Treasure Cauldron.

"Isn't it said that cultivators and demonic beasts are fighting every day in Yun Meng Ze, how come there are such good herbs?"

Qing Nu was a bit puzzled about finding Rank-3 herbs just by going out.

“It’s normal, Yun Meng Ze is so vast that it’s equivalent to the entire Eastern Wilderness and Dongwu put together. Although cultivators from both domains together aren’t few, compared to here, they are just a drop in the ocean, only occupying some crucial spirit islands and developing surrounding water resources.”

“For this reason, if the demonic beasts don’t go mad and attack, the two domains previously didn’t have the capability to clean out all the demonic beasts hidden in Yun Meng Ze.”

“Thus, underwater there are still many resources like Water Fairy Grass growing, which is also why the Tianhe Realm is better than the Immortal Gate. As long as one works hard, ordinary cultivators also have the opportunity to find heavenly and earthly treasures and change their fate.”

After hearing Chen Mobai’s words, Qing Nu nodded, then immediately performed the Water Mirror Reflection Art again, starting to inspect the next hundred-mile range.

This time, indeed, she discovered two different precious herbs, along with a group of Alligator Turtle Monsters.

Chen Mobai used the least noticeable Primordial Yang Sword Evil; an orange-red light burst from the sword box, slicing through the water several times soundlessly, chopping the group of demonic beasts into chunks.

“Could it be the wrong direction?”

After three consecutive Water Mirror Reflections, they still hadn’t located any signs of Yuji Sanren’s group, so Qing Nu hesitantly spoke.

“Let’s search a bit more; if it doesn’t work, we’ll investigate carefully after they return to Northern Abyss City.”

Chen Mobai said, expressing that he originally didn’t plan to act, but intended to verify Yuji Sanren’s identity as a devil cultivator first, then let the Jiutian Dangmo Sect handle it.

Qing Nu, upon hearing this, nodded gently.

On the fourth use of the Water Mirror Retrospection Art, Chen Mobai analyzed the reflected universe with the Guidance Book and finally discovered an anomaly in the water's distortion.

He immediately executed a Void Walk to appear above this water surface.

Soon, he found an illusory array below the water and, after deploying the Void Spirit Eye, quickly discovered it concealed a teleportation array.

After confirming there was no one within the illusory array, he stepped inside.

At the teleportation array's hub, several unused Spirit Stones were placed, indicating someone had just used it.

Chen Mobai immediately used Echoes in the Void to listen to the lingering power of the Void.

Unfortunately, Echoes in the Void clearly couldn't directly listen through the teleportation array to what's on the other side.

To find out where Yu Ji and others went using this teleportation array, he could only follow through after activation to see.

Soon after, Qing Nu arrived as well.

"Shall we teleport?"

When Qing Nu said this, she seemed eager, believing that, as a Nascent Soul Cultivator, her Daoist partner could go anywhere possible in this land.

“Better be cautious. This area once belonged to the Longevity Sect and had produced Ascended Monks like True Lord Yuan; there’s a possibility of being trapped if the other side of the teleportation array is a cave dwelling left by such beings.”

Chen Mobai’s cultivation to this stage was all owed to prudence; even at the Nascent Soul Realm, he took out the Formless Puppet to probe first.

Apart from his own, he even gave Qing Nu a Formless Puppet.

With his current status in the Immortal Gate, gathering materials to refine Formless Puppets required just one call, and upon hearing about his need, Wen Ren Xuewei immediately dropped everything to prepare the most challenging bionic materials.

Because of this, Chen Mobai had an extra Formless Puppet to give to Meng Huang’er.

Moreover, in refining Formless Puppets, aside from personal use, he intended to test if he could elevate them to Rank-4.

This was Che Yucheng’s lifelong wish, and as his disciple, with capability now, he surely had to try.

The newly refined Formless Puppets by Chen Mobai already differed from the original version with added understanding from Yan Xinji’s Puppetry Technique.

However, completing the theory of a Rank-4 Puppet within the knowledge and materials framework of the Immortal Gate remained a long journey ahead.

The Formless Puppet for Qing Nu was considered the current pinnacle of Chen Mobai’s Puppetry Technique.

Except for irreplaceable bionic materials in the Immortal Gate, all other high-grade materials were upgraded here.

And the puppet's energy core was the Supreme-grade Spirit Stone.

After Qing Nu's Dividing Mind into Thoughts entered, she immediately felt the power this Formless Puppet could exert was even more formidable than her own body.

Once both were ready, they activated the teleportation array.

Soon, the two puppet incarnations were bathed in a silver glow, but after the teleportation light faded, they still stood in the same spot.

Witnessing this scene, Chen Mobai was slightly taken aback.

As Qing Nu looked on in confusion, he maintained a calm demeanor and used the Guidance Book to thoroughly inspect the teleportation array.

Soon, he discovered the issue.

This teleportation array could only teleport individuals at the Foundation Establishment level or below.

No wonder the group led by Yu Ji was all Foundation Establishment Practitioners.

Understanding this, Chen Mobai quickly devised a solution.

He removed the Supreme-grade Spirit Stone from the puppet core and replaced it with an intermediate grade Spirit Stone.

Now, it emitted only Qi Cultivation fluctuations.

Qing Nu followed suit; of course, they still carried the Supreme-grade Spirit Stones to reinstall after teleporting.

Upon reactivating the teleportation array, the two puppet bodies finally vanished before them in a silver radiance.

...

After passing through the teleportation array, Chen Mobai and Qing Nu found themselves in an underwater world.

A vast, transparent shield, like a dome, enveloped the area, allowing water flow but trapping extensive and majestic spiritual energy.

Chen Mobai gently moved the puppet body, sensing the resistance of the water, and activated the scanning function of the Formless Puppets. The screens soon reflected scenes of schools of fish swimming around vibrant corals in abundance.

The water here was very clear, with coral radiance, forming what seemed like rainbows.

They now stood at the shield's edge, and in the center, they could see magnificent golden palaces.

"The spiritual energy here is surprisingly Rank-5!"

Qing Nu, using the Formless Puppet's built-in feature to detect the Spiritual Energy Value, was immensely shocked!

Chapter 1699: Discovering the Truth (Extra for 18,000 Monthly Votes)

The entire Eastern Wilderness has only the Yi Yuan Secret Realm as a Rank-5.

So when Qing Nu tested the Spiritual Energy Value, Chen Mobai immediately guessed where this place was.

Yellow Dragon Cave Mansion!

That teleportation array could actually freely enter and exit this place?

In shock, Chen Mobai quickly thought of the limitations of the teleportation array, which could only teleport those below Core Formation.

Instantly, he recalled the experience when he first arrived in the Eastern Wilderness, resisting the demonic beasts at Green Light Island.

That time, a Rank-3 demonic beast suddenly emerged with the tide, broke the large formation outside the fang market of Wind Rain Hamlet, and slaughtered many cultivators.

Thinking back now, it must have exited through that ancient teleportation array, then hid, trained to Rank-3, and organized the demonic beasts within Yun Meng Ze to attack, destroying the living forces of Eastern Wilderness cultivators.

Chen Mobai was also grateful that the ancient teleportation array could only transmit those below Core Formation.

If the Poisonous Dragon could also freely enter and exit, there was absolutely no way he could have grown up in the Eastern Wilderness.

After sharing his thoughts with Qing Nu and knowing that this place is home to a Rank-4 demonic beast, she was also shocked.

At this moment, she understood why Chen Mobai was so cautious even after reaching Nascent Soul Formation.

The Tianhe Realm is truly dangerous!

The two quickly replaced the Supreme-grade Spirit Stone, and only after the Formless Puppet had Golden Dan Level power did they feel slightly relieved.

But if discovered by the Poisonous Dragon, it still wouldn't be enough.

So they set the stealth mode to 100% and activated the surface environment simulation function, causing the Formless Puppet to suddenly become transparent, as if merging into the water.

They moved silently, like flowing streams, passing through coral clusters and swimming fish, unnoticed by any fish.

On the way, seeing signs of Yu Ji Hermit and others who had recently entered, they infiltrated toward a golden palace on the eastern side.

During this, a hint of unease flashed in Chen Mobai's mind.

He never expected that the purpose Yu Ji Hermit led this group of Foundation Establishment practitioners here was unknown, nor how she discovered the ancient teleportation array.

Was it simply boldness, seeking treasures and opportunities in the Yellow Dragon Cave Mansion? Or were devil cultivators behind it, intending to release the Rank-4 Poisonous Dragon sealed for centuries?

If the former, then fine, but if the latter, undoubtedly it targets the Five Elements Sect.

After all, once the Rank-4 Poisonous Dragon emerges, the first to suffer would be Eastern Wilderness and Dongwu, bordering Yun Meng Ze.

Although the current strength of the Five Elements Sect can withstand it, it would undeniably cause considerable loss of disciples and even harm to the coastal civilians.

This is unacceptable to Chen Mobai, who is about to implement rules.

If devil cultivators truly have such intentions, perhaps it's time for them to witness the means of Pure Yang demon refinement.

Thinking this, Chen Mobai saw the Formless Puppet signal from a golden palace in the distance, discovering traces of Yu Ji Hermit and others.

They were gathering, seemingly studying something.

Chen Mobai and Qing Nu paused, and the latter directly used Water Mirror Image to observe their every move.

Yu Ji Hermit and this group of Foundation Establishment practitioners were examining a stele at the palace entrance, covered in runes emitting a faint glow.

They circled the stele, attempting to decipher the text, occasionally taking out jade slips to compare with the runes.

Chen Mobai was struck, knowing they must have been deceived.

Unaware this was the Yellow Dragon Cave Mansion, they thought they had entered a Water Mansion left by a great power, trying to break the restriction to open the palace door.

But this was normal; these Foundation Establishment practitioners likely only enjoyed the Spiritual Vein of Rank-3.

Although they felt the spiritual energy in the Yellow Dragon Cave Mansion was overly abundant, they presumed it was merely Fourth Grade Superior.

In that group, Chen Mobai didn't see Hong He, and at this moment, a bearded Foundation Establishment was raising a talisman towards the stele, evidently preparing to break the restriction.

This action was undoubtedly dangerous.

Though it was unclear why no powerful demonic beasts had appeared yet, using violent means to break the restriction would emit intense spiritual power fluctuations, certainly alerting the Poisonous Dragon.

Upon careful reconsideration, Chen Mobai decided it was better to stay put.

Because he also wanted to see what the Poisonous Dragon, regarded as the greatest threat to Eastern Wilderness and Dongwu, actually was.

After all, he and Qing Nu were only here with puppet bodies.

Even if lost here, it would merely cost a divine sense.

Not knowing the origin of the bearded one's talisman, once it fell onto the stele, the runes started changing, and the glow gradually dimmed.

Before long, a gap opened in the door of the golden palace.

Yu Ji Hermit and others were overjoyed and, after some discussion, left two outside to keep watch while the rest proceeded into the palace.

Chen Mobai and Qing Nu waited outside for quite a while but did not see them come out.

The two Foundation Establishment guards outside began sensing something amiss; the agreed time had passed.

They took out message talismans, attempting to contact.

But once the talismans entered the palace's door cracks, there was no response.

The two hesitated, discussed, and decided to leave directly, heading toward the ancient teleportation array, clearly planning to retreat.

They are truly locals; even in such moments, they can remain calm.

Chen Mobai couldn't help but praise them.

Qing Nu split the perspective of the Water Mirror Reflection into two, one aimed at the palace gate and the other at the two individuals, but quickly discovered a troublesome issue.

The ancient Teleportation Array through which they came could not be activated from inside.

In other words, one could only enter from the outside!

This doesn't make sense; if that's the case, how do the demonic beasts in the Yellow Dragon Cave Mansion leave?

Amid Chen Mobai's suspicion, the two Foundation Establishment cultivators returned with grim faces.

Not long after, Hong He and two other Foundation Establishment cultivators arrived. It turned out their group split into two paths, but the palace barrier where Hong He was could not be opened, so they returned.

"Yu Ji Hermit must know how to exit from inside; we still need to find her,"

Hong He suddenly spoke, causing the remaining four Foundation Establishment cultivators to have a subtle change in expression.

To be cautious, they wanted to search around, but quickly retreated with ashen faces.

Because two powerful demon auras were flying toward them, clearly of Rank-3 level.

Confronting a Rank-3 existence head-on, they were certainly no match.

With no other option, the palace behind them was instead a slim chance for survival.

Without hesitation, everyone followed Hong He and entered one after another.

At this time, Chen Mobai also realized that Yu Ji Hermit brought these people over precisely to lead them into the palace.

What was inside?

Just as he was wondering, the two Rank-3 demonic auras finally arrived before the palace.

One was a unicorn-shaped demonic beast, and the other was surprisingly a cultivator.

Chen Mobai was astonished to see the cultivator.

Because he recognized her; it was Zhu Jun from the Sun Bathing Sea.

Why was she here?

Was the Sun Bathing Sea planning to release the Poisonous Dragon!?

Chen Mobai quickly realized this, and instantly, killing intent arose.

At that moment, two figures flew out from the crack of the golden palace door and landed in front of Zhu Jun; it was Yu Ji Hermit and Hong He.

Upon seeing Zhu Jun and the demonic beast, they both greeted respectfully.

Yu Ji Hermit said, "True Person Zhu, these Foundation Establishment cultivators were selected according to your request, those cultivating the Yin Water attribute techniques."

After hearing this, Zhu Jun nodded indifferently and then handed a bottle of Spiritual Liquid to Yu Ji Hermit, who opened it with a look of joy.

"Thank you, True Person Zhu, then my junior brother and I will take our leave first."

After saying this, Yu Ji Hermit glanced warily at the unicorn-shaped demonic beast beside Zhu Jun, and without hesitation, turned and left with Hong He.

Watching their backs, a cold glint flashed in Zhu Jun's eyes, but previously, to gain each other's trust, she had made a Daoist Heart Oath to ensure their safety for one year, and never to attack them throughout their lives.

But it didn't matter, a year later, she could simply find a junior brother to eliminate these two.

"True Person Zhu, let's get started, foster father has been waiting for a long time."

When Yu Ji Hermit finally left, the unicorn-shaped demonic beast spoke up.

The Essence, Qi, and Spirit of these Foundation Establishment cultivators, once refined by the large formation, could break some of the fiery seal's power.

"By then, please don't forget what the king promised."

Zhu Jun said, then raised her hand, about to strike the stele at the entrance of the golden palace.

But at that moment, a golden flame cut through the air, forcing Zhu Jun to defend against it.

“Who’s there?”

Zhu Jun coldly eyed the two hidden Formless Puppets. After her move, the intense spiritual power fluctuation could not be hidden.

“True Person Zhu, do you intend to oppose my Five Elements Sect!”

Chen Mobai manifested his form with a Formless Puppet, his gaze sharp.

“How can you be here?!”

Seeing Chen Mobai appear, Zhu Jun was shocked, but quickly realized something was off.

“Just a puppet incarnation!”

Meanwhile, the unicorn-shaped demonic beast had already drawn a Snake Spear, standing confidently and arrogantly in front of Chen Mobai and Qing Nu.

“True Person Zhu, just go ahead and break the seal, leave these two to me!”

The unicorn-shaped demonic beast was the foster son of the Poisonous Dragon, having refined a drop of the latter’s essence blood. So powerful was its cultivation level that even Zhu Jun would not underestimate it.

“Well then...”

Zhu Jun was about to assess the strength of Chen Mobai’s puppet incarnation when suddenly a faint white light flashed across the demonic beast’s body.

Soon after, the demonic beast, along with the Snake Spear in its hand, was smoothly split in half.

Blood and viscera splattered all over the ground.

Chapter 1700: Kill Zhu Jun

This newly refined Formless Puppet was tailor-made by Chen Mobai for himself, capable of reaching the power level of the Golden Core peak.

And under his Nascent Soul-level divine sense control, it could use this spiritual power to perform Rank-4 techniques.

This move, the Extreme Sun Slash, based on the Great Sun Qianyang Fire and the recently mastered Sword Wipeout Thunder Sound, nearly amounted to fifty percent of his Nascent Soul body's strength.

After this move instantly killed the demonic beast, Chen Mobai glanced at the energy bar in the upper right corner of the screen and found that it had consumed 17%, suddenly realizing that even supreme-grade Spirit Stones were somewhat insufficient.

However, the stunning effect was impressive.

At least Zhu Jun on the opposite side was already trembling.

"Surrender, and I'll spare your life."

Chen Mobai said calmly, contemplating how to substantiate the collusion between the Sun Bathing Sea and the demonic cultivators, thus giving the Jiutian Dangmo Sect a reason to deal with the Baiwu Ancestor.

"Sect Master Chen, this is all a misunderstanding. I am merely following my master's orders to strengthen the seal of this Yellow Dragon Cave Mansion. Given the time elapsed, my master is very concerned that the Poisonous Dragon might escape to wreak havoc on the world..."

Seeing the demonic beast split in two before her eyes, Zhu Jun realized that facing this Extreme Sun Slash, she would certainly meet the same fate, so her face changed dramatically, and she immediately began to explain.

“Reinforce the seal? How come I heard you talking to that demonic beast about joining forces to lift the seal!”

Chen Mobai mocked with a sneer, while Zhu Jun repeatedly shook her head, stating that this was because the demonic beast was deceived by her, which allowed her to enter here.

But even Zhu Jun herself didn't believe such words; she merely hoped that Chen Mobai would consider the Baiwu Ancestor.

As she spoke, she was thinking about how to find a way out for herself.

“I also saw you working with two demonic cultivators to deceive the cultivators under my Northern Abyss City's jurisdiction into coming here.”

At this moment, Chen Mobai pointed to the golden palace whose doors had already closed, speaking words that made Zhu Jun's pupils widen.

“Demonic cultivators? How is that possible!”

Zhu Jun truly did not know that the Yuji Hermit and Hong He were practicing demonic cultivation. Her mind spun rapidly, immediately wondering if Chen Mobai had discovered her long ago and deliberately wanted her to associate with demonic cultivators, hence waiting until now to act.

In this area of East Continent, everyone knew the consequences of associating with demonic cultivators.

At that moment, an unprecedented fear surged in Zhu Jun's heart.

If that were really the case, the first one to move to kill her would probably be Baiwu Ancestor!

In this situation, Zhu Jun made a decision instantly. Her knees softened, and she immediately bowed deeply to Chen Mobai: "Sect Master Chen, I did not know those two were demonic cultivators. I am willing to surrender. Please spare my life."

Seeing this, Chen Mobai spoke, his gaze as calm as ice: "I ask, you answer."

Zhu Jun: "Yes, yes, Sect Master Chen, please ask. I will reveal everything I know."

Chen Mobai: "Why did you come here?"

At this point, Zhu Jun no longer dared to fabricate lies: "I came here to undo the Bathing Fire Seal set up by my master and release that Poisonous Dragon."

Chen Mobai: "Is this something you wanted to do, or did Baiwu Ancestor order you to do it?"

Upon hearing this question, Zhu Jun hesitated momentarily.

At this time, Qing Nu, maneuvering the Formless Puppet, extracted the inner core from the demonic beast's corpse, then processed and separately sorted the flesh, skin, and scale armor.

Seeing this, Zhu Jun immediately spoke: "Before I left, I swore a Daoist Heart Oath."

Hearing this, Chen Mobai understood her implication.

Due to the oath, she could not admit that Baiwu Ancestor ordered her to do this, but mentioning it equated to confirming Chen Mobai's suspicion.

Subsequently, he asked several questions about the seal and the cave mansion, and how she managed to involve Yuji Hermit with the demonic beast.

Zhu Jun answered them all without daring to hide anything.

As it turns out, this was the place where Baiwu Ancestor initially set up the seal, also one of the three entrances to the Yellow Dragon Cave Mansion.

There were two other similar places, and Wind Rain Hamlet was one of them.

The third was located over by Dongwu, managed by the Sun family.

Opening any of these three entrances could release the Rank-4 Poisonous Dragon.

After sneaking into Yun Meng Ze, Zhu Jun spent quite some time locating this place. After entering, she tried to break the seal, but discovered that the seal also contained residual power from two other Nascent Souls.

If she forcibly broke through the Bathing Fire Seal left by Baiwu Ancestor, she would suffer backlash from the two other Nascent Soul powers.

So she conceived this method, finding nine substitutes with appropriate attributes to bear the backlash.

Over the past two years of continuous attempts, she alerted someone hidden within the Yellow Dragon Cave Mansion, who was sent by the Poison Dragon Patriarch long ago — a foster son residing in Yun Meng Ze found her.

After a confrontation, the two quickly reached an agreement.

They agreed that if Zhu Jun opened the seal, the Poison Dragon Patriarch would give her a vial of Azurefall Cold Water, a kind of heavenly spiritual water that could greatly enhance a cultivator's divine sense, requiring the pure spiritual energy of a Rank-5 water vein and Earth Essence to fuse, nurtured for billions of years.

If Zhu Jun could obtain a bottle, it might allow her to possess the divine sense of the Nascent Soul Realm despite being in the Golden Core Realm.

“Very well, I initially intended to coexist peacefully with your Sun Bathing Sea, yet I’ve received such venomous schemes in return. It appears only blood can bring peace!”

Having verified his suspicions, Chen Mobai’s heart surged with murderous intent.

At this moment, the Five Elements Sect’s next strategic plan had a clear target.

“Sect Master Chen, I know everything about Golden Crow Immortal City. Spare my life, and my usefulness will be proven.”

Facing Chen Mobai, Zhu Jun understood that unless she showed her value, she might be a corpse after questioning.

“Don’t worry, I won’t kill you, as I need you alive to confirm Sun Bathing Sea’s collusion with Devil Cultivators.”

Chen Mobai uttered a chilling statement, leaving Zhu Jun desperately trying to secure her life.

“Sect Master Chen, I swear I truly didn’t know those two were Devil Cultivators. Even if the Jiutian Dangmo Sect comes, they would only accuse me of cooperating with Devil Cultivators, causing no harm to my Master or Sun Bathing Sea. At most, they would act against me to clean house.”

Zhu Jun began to analyze for Chen Mobai, expressing the impracticality of using her to falsely accuse Baiwu Ancestor of being a Devil Cultivator, as the evidence sources can’t be connected through her.

“Are you really unaware?” Chen Mobai frowned upon hearing this.

After hearing this, Zhu Jun raised her right hand and swore to the heavens.

Seeing this, Chen Mobai's mood soured significantly.

But quickly, he found a solution.

"Your living presence can attest Baiwu Ancestor's innocence, but your death would silence any testimony."

Upon Chen Mobai's words, Zhu Jun widened her eyes, never expecting such cruel methods from this famously honest man of the Eastern Wilderness.

"Sect Master Chen, Golden Crow Immortal City has a fifth-rank great formation. Spare my life, let me return, and when your sect leads an army here, I can help you disable the formation and open the city gates."

Zhu Jun repeatedly kowtowed for mercy, yet Chen Mobai remained unmoved.

Given the local temperament, trust extended to no one but himself.

Chen Mobai doubted Zhu Jun's capability to disable the fifth-rank great formation while Baiwu Ancestor was in Golden Crow Immortal City.

Moreover, Zhu Jun, at Perfect Core Formation, was the most promising candidate for Nascent Soul Formation at Sun Bathing Sea. If spared, her future success and today's humiliation would undoubtedly spur vengeance.

A faint white glow began to shine, causing Zhu Jun's jade visage to blush as she was kneeling to plead for mercy, she unleashed her most powerful strength—a crimson flying sword emerged from her mouth, resembling a streak of red light aimed directly at Chen Mobai's face.

"A speck of light!"

Chen Mobai's expression remained unchanged as he raised the right hand of the Formless Puppet, and under the rapid consumption of supreme-grade Spirit Stones, five-colored Primordial True Qi was displayed.

In Zhu Jun's despairing eyes, her lifebound flying sword was pinched between the puppet's thumb and forefinger, while the Sun Bathing True Qi imbued in the sword was instantly reduced to pure fire spiritual power.

What kind of puppet is this?

It can exhibit the power of the Yuan Infant level!

In Zhu Jun's view, the Formless Puppet, having consecutively exhibited Extreme Sun Slash and Primordial True Qi, was undoubtedly a rank-4 layer of the Puppetry Technique, famous for the Five Elements Sect's Perennial Wood Dragon—it was nothing like this!

Zhu Jun then pulled out a talisman, silver light shimmering, preparing to envelop and whisk her away.

Chen Mobai condensed Void power at the fingertip of the Formless Puppet's other hand into a blade, slicing the Escape Sky Talisman of Zhu Jun's last hope.

"Qing Emperor Daozi, spare my life. I have a dual cultivation secret technique that can bring you pleasure..."

With nowhere to escape, Zhu Jun was about to remove her Palace Dress, exposing her snow-white shoulder, when she felt an invisible stream surging, firmly binding her.

She struggled but suddenly noticed a gleaming water droplet appearing before her, inducing an overwhelming sense of peril.

At the crucial moment, she performed a desperate secret technique, igniting her essence blood, and a crimson jade aura surged from her body, freeing her from the Azure Water Sky Net before the Water Droplet Sword pierced her Sea of Knowledge at the Purple Mansion!

However, the Water Droplet Sword still grazed her delicate cheek, leaving a deep scar, ruining her once striking beauty.

And it was at this time that Zhu Jun realized it was another female puppet who had attacked.

This was Qing Nu's first time desiring to kill someone.

Right before her, seducing her Daoist couple—she had never encountered such a brazen woman!

“Qing Emperor Daozi...”

Zhu Jun wanted to beg for mercy again, but Chen Mobai mercilessly activated Extreme Sun Slash, beheading her.

After the kill, Chen Mobai regretted why he hadn't done it sooner.

“Female cultivators here have no shame!”

Qing Nu spat at Zhu Jun's corpse.