

World 961

Chapter 961: The Order of Cultivation (Makeup 2) Chen Mobai's three points were swiftly acted upon.

He was, in his own way, beginning to subtly change the atmosphere within the Divine Wood Sect.

With positive responses from the upper ranks of the sect, disciples of Qi Cultivation who had been harboring grievances and unease could now set their minds at ease.

Whether they carried out tasks outside or stayed within the sect, there were choices for everyone.

However, the formation for normalizing spiritual energy and the designated area needed more time to be completed, so most disciples opted to take on the ample tasks offered by the Spirit Treasure Pavilion.

"Thank you, Master!"

In Xiao Nanshan, Zhuo Ming was overjoyed as she received a whole set of Talisman Brushes from Chen Mobai.

Apart from the two main Talisman Brushes, the "Tian Shu Talisman Brush Set" purchased from the Immortal Gate was included. For Chen Mobai, now wealthy, buying another set was merely a drop in the bucket.

Zhuo Ming used to serve at Chen Mobai's side, grinding ink and laying out paper before she established her foundation, and she had long envied this functionally-complete set of Talisman Brushes.

In her dreams, she had wondered if one day her master would pass this set down to her.

After all, within the Xiao Nanshan lineage, she was the only Talisman Maker.

Now that it truly came into her hands, Zhuo Ming still felt as if she were dreaming, a dream come true, filled with happiness.

At this moment, she felt as if she had taken up Chen Mobai's mantle, truly inheriting her master's two most outstanding skills.

[Indeed, I am the most like my master.]

Thinking thus, Zhuo Ming's lips curved slightly upwards, hardly able to contain her joy.

Just then, a refreshing fragrance wafted from halfway up the mountain, a scent so revitalizing that even Chen Mobai, a Golden Core Cultivator, couldn't help but feel clear-headed and refreshed.

"Master, the Enlightenment White Tea has reached Rank-2. It seems it knew you were coming today and chose today to successfully transform," said Zhuo Ming, sensing the reason with a shift of her consciousness and spoke a pleasing remark.

"Hahaha, what a coincidence, let's go have a look," replied Chen Mobai.

Chen Mobai had great hopes for this Enlightenment White Tea, for it was the product of decades of cultivation by Wen Ren Xuewei, aimed at reproducing the effects of "Enlightenment Tea."

According to her, once the tea plant reached Rank-3, it would possess a tenth of the Enlightenment Tea's effects.

And importantly, once mature, the tea plant could yield leaves every year – a critical aid for someone with merely average enlightenment like Chen Mobai, who saw it as a key to potentially advancing further.

Master and disciple arrived at the Enlightenment White Tea. Zhuo Ming immediately picked some tender shoots, and Chen Mobai personally stir-fried them with Pure Yang Fire.

This Pure Yang Fire is the most balanced and neutral True Fire when not used against evil spirits, making it perfect for stir-frying tea leaves, which turned into flat and lustrous pieces like green jade, perfectly sealing in the aroma and flavor.

After boiling some Mountain Spring Water, they steeped the tea leaves, and the light green tea, once sipped, cleansed and refreshed the palate, even the troubles and distractions in one's mind seemed washed away by the tea.

Chen Mobai meditated with closed eyes and, after the time it took an incense stick to burn, opened his clear eyes with a smile on his lips.

This Rank-2 tea leaf possessed roughly one percent of the Enlightenment Tea's efficacy.

During that cup of tea, he had understood a difficult aspect of a Rank-3 talisman.

Seeing its effectiveness, Chen Mobai was not one to be shy, promptly picking all the leaves from the newly advanced Enlightenment White Tea plant.

A pity, though, that even so, it would only suffice for about ten days' use.

"Ming'er, your talent in Spirit Plant cultivation is exceptional. If you focus deeply on this path, your achievements will be limitless. As for Talismans, just dabble in your spare time, and remember not to get too distracted by them."

Before leaving, Chen Mobai somewhat regretted giving Zhuo Ming the set of Talisman Brushes he had used during his Foundation Establishment period; his disciple could have brought out the maximum value by focusing wholeheartedly on Spirit Plant cultivation.

"Master, don't worry. I will definitely inherit all of your mantle, no matter how hard or tiring it is. I will make progress in both Spirit Plants and Talismans and won't let you down," said Zhuo Ming, who mistook Chen Mobai's concern as a reflection on her talent in talismans. Clutching the set of brushes tightly, she spoke with firm resolve.

"Alright then, carry on with your work," Chen Mobai's lips twitched slightly, and with nothing more to say, he left the rest of the tea water with Zhuo Ming before returning to his Longevity Wood Dojo.

Yue Zutao was a very capable man.

In the decades of his suppressed cultivation, he had learned about astronomy, geography, Spirit Plants, Elixirs, Artifact Refining, and more, almost a master of all. And in the three major battles with the Shake Mountain Top South Xuan Sect, he had proved his ability to handle troops, manage the Fang Market, and even lead a country.

With his wholehearted support, Chen Mobai, as Sect Leader, only needed to make key decisions; Yue Zutao would handle the myriad minor details.

But even so, Chen Mobai still felt his time was too limited.

After Core Formation, aside from meditating to cultivate Spiritual Power, the Pure Yang Daoist Body, Precious Golden Light, the Longevity Dao Body, and also the Red Flame Sword Jue, various Rank-3 talismans, and more required time.

Luckily, he had over five hundred years of lifespan left; otherwise, with so many things to cultivate, he truly felt he might not be able to perfect them all.

Chapter 962: But in order to avoid affecting the progress of his cultivation level, Chen Mobai still prioritized these matters.

The Pure Yang Scroll naturally took first place!

It was not only the foundation of his cultivation technique, but also the reliance on whether he could achieve “Nascent Soul Formation” or even Divinity Transformation!

Therefore, the Pure Yang Daoist Body was also very important. Since he began cultivating this technique, Chen Mobai had not wasted a single day in refining spirit stones to improve.

To refine his body into the Seven Yang, he needed to refine nine top-grade spirit stones, and as of today, he had already refined two.

According to his estimate, in about a year and a half, he would be able to refine the third one, enhancing his Fire Spirit Root once again.

Besides the Pure Yang Scroll and the Pure Yang Daoist Body, the second priority for Chen Mobai was originally the Red Flame Sword Jue.

After all, it was necessary to conceal his true foundation in the Eastern Wilderness, and this sword technique seemed to suit him very well.

After Core Formation, Chen Mobai's Fire Spirit Body progressed further, and the Heavenly Fire Spiritual Root had already been aroused.

With his current talent, if those from the era of Fen Tianjing Di saw him, they would snatch him up to make him a Taoist Child, no matter what.

In terms of fire attribute cultivation techniques, there were no better talents than his.

Therefore, after thoroughly understanding the essence of the Red Flame Sword Jue, Chen Mobai easily grasped all of its intricacies.

Whether it was executing the Flame Sun Slash or the Extreme Sun Slash, he already had the correct method for handling and displaying them in his mind.

However, as he had yet to elevate the Green Flames Sword Slaughter into "Golden Flame" due to insufficient power, he could not utilize them yet.

But the condensing and elevation of this Golden Flame demanded a dedication of time and hard work!

According to the Red Flame Sword Jue, a person of supreme talent could use alchemy flames and spiritual power to condense and, in ten years, obtain a Golden Flame.

To this, Chen Mobai felt it was simply too wasteful of time.

With that time, he would rather cultivate the Longevity Dao Body or the Precious Golden Light.

After all, the Golden Flame wouldn't bring much improvement to him. It was only useful in a Magic Duel and redundant with the Purple Electric Sword.

And even if he managed to cultivate it, he feared its power might not even match the Purple Electric Sword!

Luckily, he had just recently succeeded the role of Sect Leader and had not yet had the chance to waste time on the Red Flame Sword Jue. Now, after opening the storage bag from Nanxuan Jing and acquiring so many Golden Crystals, he could shift that portion of time to cultivate the Precious Golden Light.

According to his estimate, after completing the Seven Yang Body, he should be able to cultivate this secret technique to the third layer.

What remained was the Longevity Dao Body.

This Body Refining Technique required "Longevity Dew" made by blending the sap from the Longevity Tree.

This was an alchemy recipe Luo Yixuan obtained from the Talent Tree.

Chen Mobai had already given the recipe to Zeng Woyou to ponder upon, while also having him prepare the other auxiliary medicines for starting the alchemy process.

It was fortunate that Gu Yan had offered up the secret technique for extracting Longevity Tree sap; otherwise, Chen Mobai might have already given up on the Longevity Dao Body.

At that thought, a message suddenly arrived through the Heavenly Communication Device.

It was from Chu Zuoshu.

He tactfully indicated that he had finished refining the Longevity Tree Sap bestowed by Elder Chen.

After reading the message, Chen Mobai once again took action, spending a day to extract ten drops of Longevity Tree Sap and sealed them in a White Jade Vase.

The next day, Chu Zuoshu came in person.

After stepping down as Sect Leader, his complexion had improved greatly. Having refined the Longevity Tree Sap, his skin had begun to turn fair, seemingly making him look years younger.

After receiving the White Jade Vase, Chu Zuoshu was extremely grateful.

Since Chen Mobai wasn't sure to what extent Chu Zuoshu could cultivate his Wood Spirit Body before Nascent Soul Formation, he instructed him to inform him each time he finished using the Longevity Tree Sap, so he could provide ample resources as much as possible.

After all, with his Nascent Soul cultivation level, the ten drops he could extract in a day were enough for Chu Zuoshu to refine for nearly half a year.

But if in the future he himself was to cultivate the Longevity Dao Body while Zeng Woyou needed to continually refine the Longevity Dew, no amount of Longevity Tree Sap would be enough.

Chen Mobai thought about the prospect of having to extract Longevity Tree Sap day after day, year after year, and felt that his life as a Nascent Soul Ancestor and leader of the Divine Wood Sect was a bit too strenuous.

"It won't do, I must utilize the advantages of my identity and find someone to take my place."

With that thought, Chen Mobai immediately thought of someone.

He quickly contacted Zhuo Ming using the Heavenly Communication Device, and soon enough, she arrived with another close friend.

“Greetings to the Sect Leader Ancestor!”

Upon entering, Gu Yan, with her clear and graceful demeanor, somewhat nervously saluted Chen Mobai.

“Niece Gu, I have a task for you, consider it a personal mission I’m entrusting you with...”

With a pleasant expression, Chen Mobai explained his intentions to Gu Yan, asking her to help extract the Longevity Tree Sap.

This secret technique was something she had acquired from the Talent Tree, and given that she also practiced Water Attribute Cultivation Techniques, her efficiency might not match that of a Golden Core Cultivator like him, but among all the Foundation Establishment practitioners in the Divine Wood Sect, she was definitely the most suitable candidate.

“Graced by the trust of the Sect Leader Ancestor, I am very willing,” replied Gu Yan, nodding continuously.

For her, this was an immense opportunity; not just anyone in the sect could get so close to a Nascent Soul Ancestor.

Moreover, she hadn’t been able to make much use of this secret technique; after all, the Divine Wood Sect had only three Everlife Woods.

Gu Yan had already decided to give her best performance, hoping that one day Elder Chen would take notice and accept her into Xiao Nanshan, elevating her to the honored position of a direct disciple.

Holding on to this thought, Gu Yan would come to Chen Mobai’s Longevity Wood Dojo whenever she had the time.

However, since her cultivation was only at Foundation Establishment, the efficiency of her extraction wasn’t high.

Even with Chen Mobai's guidance on some tricks, at best she could only extract one drop per day.

But with her assistance, Chen Mobai was able to set this matter aside, freeing up more time for himself to cultivate and comprehend other matters.

Time flew by, and half a year had passed.

Zeng Woyou initiated an alchemy process to refine the Longevity Dew, but unfortunately, since it was an Ancient Elixir Method and differed somewhat from the current alchemy system, he failed.

Although disappointed, Chen Mobai had been prepared for this and asked Gu Yan to continue extracting the Longevity Tree Sap, to assist Zeng Woyou in refining the second batch of Longevity Dew.

That day, he took Yue Zutao to inspect the three peaceful spiritual energy cultivation fields established by the Formation Division and Spirit Vein Division within Giant Tree Ridge.

Originally, there was only one area, but Chen Mobai had planned according to the standards of the Immortal Gate's cultivation rooms, where each Qi Cultivating Disciple could train for free for an hour each day.

However, as many disciples returned from their missions, that single area became insufficient.

Now, apart from these three, a fourth cultivation area with Rank-2 spiritual energy was also under construction, reserved for those in the later stages of Qi Cultivation.

Each area was divided into a hundred Cultivation Rooms, ensuring that everyone could have their turn each day.

"Sect Leader, is it possible to also allocate areas with Rank-3 or even Rank-4 spiritual energy?"

Seeing such great benefits for the Qi Cultivating Disciples, some Foundation Establishment Practitioners grew restless and voiced their opinions during a sect meeting.

In response, Chen Mobai stated that it was in the plans. The distribution of the spirit vein aura in Giant Tree Ridge was too scattered, and he planned to reassess everything after Zhou Shengqing completed his Nascent Soul Formation. Ideally, all spiritual energy distribution would be controlled by the sect, with cultivators using the grade of spiritual energy corresponding to their cultivation level. To access higher grades, they would need to exchange sect contributions or Spirit Stones.

But these things would have to proceed slowly; Chen Mobai was not in a rush.

After the meeting, he visited Fu Zongjue and Mo Douguang. Zhou Shengqing was absorbing more and more spiritual energy, and his Nascent Soul Formation was likely within the next two or three months.

The closer it got to that time, the less they could afford to lower their guard.

Chen Mobai immediately ordered the Formation Division to ensure the Array of Ten Thousand Woods was in a state of readiness, then also instructed each national Town Guard to keep a close eye on the major factions nearby.

This included Xuan Shu from Nanxuan Sect, Yan Shaoyin from Back to Sky Valley, and Kong Lingling from Snow-blowing Palace.

Even the Five Elements Sect was advised to be vigilant, with Hong He paying special attention.

That day, above Giant Tree Ridge!

Drops of crystal-clear Spirit Dew shone brilliantly as they drizzled onto the tallest Longevity Wood. An immense and unprecedented surge of power began to rise...

Chapter 963: Fall

Ming Nation, Hunyuan Immortal City.

After waiting for a month, Zhao Xuankang finally met the person he wished to see.

Kong Shanxu led him into a vast courtyard within the Immortal City, which even boasted a lake. The crystal-clear waters were home to various colored Spirit Fish, whose movements shimmered in the sunlight, casting a spectrum of rainbow ripples.

On a pavilion by the lake stood a refined and handsome male Cultivator.

Dressed in dark cyan robes, with a high headpiece and wide belt, a piece of white jade hung at his waist. From time to time, he scattered a handful of fish food into the lake, drawing the multitude of colorful Spirit Fish towards him as they vied for the treat.

“True Person Zhou really knows how to keep his composure, to be so leisurely even now,”

Upon seeing this scene, Zhao Xuankang couldn't help but speak to the man by the lake.

This person was none other than the Golden Core Ancestor of the Earth Vein of the Five Elements Sect, Zhou Ye, who had inherited most of Ancestor Hunyuan's legacy.

“I was at a critical moment in my recent closed-door cultivation, which made you, True Person Zhao, wait for a long time.”

Zhou Ye said evenly, slowly scattering the rest of the fish food over the lake's surface before turning around and gesturing for Zhao Xuankang to sit down.

“Between us, there's no longer any need for such courteous words. Zhou Shengqing is undergoing 'Nascent Soul Formation,' and yet you truly do nothing?”

Zhao Xuankang asked Zhou Ye with a frown.

“And what should I do? Mobilize all the cultivators from the Five Elements Sect to attack Giant Tree Ridge?”

Zhou Ye remained unfazed. A beautiful and tall Female Cultivator in a white dress came over to prepare tea for the two Golden Core Cultivators, while Kong Shanxu fetched another box of feed.

“Don’t forget, Zhou Shengqing was personally expelled from the Five Elements Sect by you. Once he succeeds in ‘Nascent Soul Formation,’ the first vendetta he’ll want to avenge is to unseat you and take back Hunyuan Immortal City for himself,”

Zhao Xuankang’s words elicited a wordless chuckle from Zhou Ye. He took the tea from the Female Cultivator beside him, took a gentle sip, and then picked up more feed from the table and walked to the edge of the lake.

“True Person Zhao is mistaken. My second senior brother and I only had a clash of principles; thus we split our ways after the passing of our master. If he can succeed in ‘Nascent Soul Formation,’ I would willingly give him not just Hunyuan Immortal City, but even the entire Five Elements Sect,”

Zhou Ye said with a smile even as he continued to sprinkle feed over the lake.

The Spirit Fish that had scattered after their meal were once again attracted back towards him.

“Do you believe your own words?”

Zhao Xuankang didn’t take the tea, standing instead beside Zhou Ye and staring at him coldly.

“Whether I believe it or not is irrelevant. Seventy years ago, I clearly recognized that my third and fourth seniors didn’t share the same heart as I, and if it’s just me, the first thing on my mind when facing three Nascent-soul cultivators from the Divine Wood Sect would be to preserve what I have now, not to risk my life with you on an impractical venture.”

After Zhou Ye said this, Zhao Xuankang knew that it would be impossible to incite him to act against the Divine Wood Sect.

“If you’re willing to act, I can muster seven Golden Core Cultivators. All we need to do is take a round over Giant Tree Ridge. Even if we cannot break the Array of Ten Thousand Woods, we could affect Zhou Shengqing’s ‘Nascent Soul Formation.’”

Hearing this, Zhou Ye’s eyebrows twitched in surprise, giving Zhao Xuankang an unexpected glance.

“Which seven?”

“Me, junior brother Xuan Shu, a Loose cultivator Nascent-soul from the East Barbarians, and three side sect cultivators who wish to keep their identities confidential. If you join us, we could together persuade Yan Shaoyin and Kong Lingling, with more than a fifty percent chance of success.”

Such words meant at most, they could rally nine Nascent-soul cultivators!

If Zhou Ye could persuade the other two from the Five Elements Sect as well, their assembly would be all the more formidable.

With eleven Nascent-soul cultivators willing to go all out, even a Rank-4 Array of Ten Thousand Woods might not be able to withstand their assault!

“How about that, are you tempted?”

Zhao Xuankang pursued the question when he saw Zhou Ye’s silence. Over the past half a year, he had used up over three hundred years’ worth of connections built during his time at the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace to scrape together such an array of allies.

It was all to succeed in one fell swoop, to utterly destroy the Divine Wood Sect.

“True Person Zhao, which of these Spirit Fish do you find the most beautiful?”

At that moment, Zhou Ye suddenly spoke, but pointed at the colorful fish in the lake, diverting the topic.

“That one.”

Zhao Xuankang didn’t understand his intention but casually pointed to a translucent Spirit Fish, shiny as white jade.

Indeed, it was the most beautiful, encircled by the other fish at the center, leisurely swallowing the fish food falling from above. The colorful scales of the surrounding fish reflected upon it, enveloping it in a radiant, multi-colored light, stunningly beautiful.

“In a year’s time, this fish will grow to its most plump state. When True Person Zhao comes by then, how about I treat you to this Spirit Fish?”

Zhou Ye laughed as he pointed to the white jade-like transparent Spirit Fish, marking its back with a golden streak using his Spiritual Power, before scattering all of the remaining feed into the water.

“If you enjoy it, then do so. Ever since junior brother Nanxuan Jing died, I’ve hardly had any appetite,” Zhao Xuankang said coldly, trying to bring the conversation back to the Divine Wood Sect.

“Life is brief. We, Golden Core Cultivators, live at most for five hundred years. We should enjoy life while we can. The taste of this colorful Spirit Fish is quite rare; even my respected master used to praise it unceasingly when he was alive.”

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When he reached this point, Zhao Xuankang had already understood Zhou Ye’s intentions.

The two exchanged glances but said no more.

“I won’t wait for a year. If you miss this opportunity, when we eventually overthrow the Divine Wood Sect, don’t regret it,” Zhao Xuankang said.

After uttering these words, Zhao Xuankang turned and left the pavilion.

“Senior Zhao, let me see you out...”

Kong Shanxu, witnessing this scene, immediately followed Zhao Xuankang out.

Within the Hunyuan Immortal City, a no-fly formation was in place, and this courtyard was one of its hubs, hence Zhao Xuankang needed guidance to come and go.

“Master, why did you invite him for a year later?”

After Zhao Xuankang left, the maid in a white gown who had been silently serving tea lifted her head. She got up and handed over the cup of tea she held in her hands to Zhou Ye, asking curiously.

“I’m familiar with Zhou Shengqing’s foundation. By then, the results of his ‘Nascent Soul Formation’ would definitely be out,” said Zhou Ye as he calmly accepted the porcelain tea cup.

“If this second senior brother truly succeeds, then the two of us will take our master’s legacy and leave the Eastern Wilderness, leaving this Hunyuan Immortal City to him.”

“But if he fails, then no one can blame me for being heartless and putting righteousness before family.”

Zhou Ye, after taking a sip from the tea cup, spoke of his plans matter-of-factly.

“If that’s the case, why not join forces with Zhao Xuankang now to eliminate any possibility of Zhou Shengqing achieving ‘Nascent Soul Formation’?”

The beautiful woman known as Green Pearl had followed Zhou Ye for over a hundred years; they had developed the closest of bonds.

Zhou Ye hails from a cultivator family within the Eastern Wu Territory. Having fallen on hard times, he, along with his maid Green Pearl, set up a stall in Yun Meng Ze to hunt demonic beasts. On a fateful day, they caught the eye of Ancestor Hunyuan, who was passing by, and Zhou Ye was taken as a disciple. He then soared to great heights and now governed the number one Immortal City of the Eastern Wilderness, commanding the Five Elements.

It wasn’t just his exceptional talent that allowed Zhou Ye to reach his present status. His intelligence and wisdom were also top-notch, which is why Ancestor Hunyuan singled him out to inherit his mantle before passing away in meditation.

Zhou Ye: "If I did this, then my third junior brother and fourth junior sister would never wholeheartedly align themselves with me."

Green Pearl: "They're just fickle opportunists; why bother about them?"

Zhou Ye: "If I relied on myself to cultivate that Primordial Dao Fruit, I'm afraid it wouldn't happen until my dying days. They will surely pass away in meditation before I do. If they willingly bestow their spiritual power to me before they pass, at the very least it would save me a hundred years' worth of hard cultivation."

Green Pearl: "They are all such ungrateful people. Ancestor Hunyuan specified that you should inherit the Immortal City, yet they are unwilling and have even caused division within the family."

Zhou Ye did not respond to this, his gaze fixed upon a spirit fish in the lake which he had tagged, as he revealed the final reason.

"My second senior brother is bound to fail in 'Nascent Soul Formation.' Since his failure is inevitable, why should I risk alienating my third junior brother and fourth junior sister by joining forces with outsiders to attack Giant Tree Ridge?"

Green Pearl was baffled by his words.

"Master, why is Zhou Shengqing bound to fail in his 'Nascent Soul Formation'?"

"If 'Nascent Soul Formation' were that simple, then why would I bother with the strenuous cultivation of the Primordial Dao Fruit?" Zhou Ye said, his words heavy with implication.

He downed the tea in his cup, gazing at the tagged spirit fish swimming in the lake, his eyes deep with thought.

...

Giant Tree Ridge.

The signs of Zhou Shengqing's 'Nascent Soul Formation' were approaching the final moment.

Even Chen Mobai, a Golden Core Cultivator, found it challenging to control nature's spiritual energy surrounding the Everlife Wood.

The guardians, Fu Zongjue, and Mo Douguang, could only stay away from Zhou Shengqing's seclusion area.

They took turns patrolling the surroundings, sweeping continuously with their Divine Sense in addition to the Array of Ten Thousand Woods, to prevent equally ranked enemies from lurking in the shadows.

As expected, before long, a pitch-black cloud approach from the distant horizon, which Chen Mobai dispersed, leaving only the head of an underworld official accompanied by two other ghost cultivators, their presence flickering in and out of sight.

The other two ghost cultivators were familiar to Chen Mobai as well; they were the same pair who had shown up during Meng Hong's 'Golden Core Formation.'

One of them was indeed the ghost cultivator who had taken possession of Lady Guo's corpse.

Chen Mobai had the mind to test his Pure Yang Scroll once more, to see if the Divine Transformation Technique had an upper limit against demonic traits.

However, on the other side of the sky, another familiar figure appeared.

It was Xuan Shu from the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace.

This was indeed a formidable enemy, and Chen Mobai admitted that he was no match for him. In order to avoid being blocked by him and unable to return to the Array of Ten Thousand Woods, he had to temporarily let go of the three Ghost Cultivators.

Besides Xuan Shu, there was also a figure, elusive as a ghost, hiding in another part of the sky. This person seemed to have cultivated a secret technique that could shield from Divine Sense, and the three of them had not discovered it at first.

Luckily, Chen Mobai's cultivation of the Void Spirit Eye had reached peak mastery. Once he noticed that the clouds at the edge of the sky were somewhat discordant and observed them carefully, he indeed discerned the shape of a person concealed within them.

To be able to achieve this was, without question, the work of a Golden Core Cultivator.

But who could it be?

After learning of this, Fu Zongjue speculated that it might be Zhao Xuankang.

However, he soon overturned this conclusion, because a few days later, Zhao Xuankang also appeared openly, standing together with Xuan Shu without assaulting Giant Tree Ridge—merely standing there, exerting pressure.

“As long as we don't leave the Large Formation, the ambush lying in wait in the dark is useless.”

Chen Mobai and his two companions had always remained still, focusing on protecting Zhou Shengqing's Nascent Soul Formation.

Once they confirmed this, the three of them faced off against Xuan Shu and the others from across the Array of Ten Thousand Woods.

Neither side spoke a word, simply waiting in silence.

After an unknown number of days and nights, the nature's spiritual energy within Giant Tree Ridge had gathered to its peak, turning into tangible clusters of Spiritual Light, resembling fist-sized hailstones pelting toward Zhou Shengqing.

A colossal phantom rose from the top of Zhou Shengqing's head, an immense light so vast it seemed to cover the sky, swallowing all the Spiritual Light and converting it into nourishment for itself.

The Light became increasingly intense, from the initially human-shaped outline, the seven orifices gradually emerged, followed by the features and limbs becoming defined and more and more visually aligned with Zhou Shengqing's physical form.

At that moment, a dazzling golden radiance like a meteor from beyond the heavens flared up in Xuan Shu's palm, crossing half the sky in an instant, and fell above Giant Tree Ridge.

Chen Mobai immediately flew out the Six Yang God Fire Mirror, using his own strength to block the Sun Shooting Halberd Technique.

The Array of Ten Thousand Woods, when activated, would consume the Qi of the Spirit Veins, and right now Zhou Shengqing's Nascent Soul Formation required an immense amount of spiritual energy.

Unless it was a matter of life and death, they were reluctant to activate the Array of Ten Thousand Woods!

There was a dull clang!

The golden meteor struck the hemispherical barrier above, igniting brilliant sparks in the air above Giant Tree Ridge and causing the air to explode and roar with the force.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

At this time, Xuan Shu and Zhao Xuankang unexpectedly made their move again, each hurling out four Golden Halberds with their hands.

Amid the clanging sounds, Mo Douguang's Longevity Sword unsheathed, deflecting one of the halberds in an instant, and Fu Zongjue also brought out his ultimate weapon, the Purple Sun Puppet, forcibly grasping another.

But there was no way to stop the remaining two!

The Array of Ten Thousand Woods had to be activated!

A bright emerald green barrier suddenly lit up, enveloping the entire Giant Tree Ridge. The two halberds hit it, causing only a ripple before their force was neutralized, and they fell to the ground.

But Xuan Shu and the others had achieved their goal.

After the Array of Ten Thousand Woods was activated, it passively drained the Spirit Vein of Giant Tree Ridge.

Zhou Shengqing's already precarious phantom significantly wobbled, as if it would disintegrate at any moment!

Sss! Sss! Sss!

At this crucial moment, the three Ghost Cultivators acted at the same time. Crimson, pitch-black, and dark green Spiritual Power burst forth, each controlling a Red Flower, a Bone Pearl, and a Curved Knife Artifact to strike the Array of Ten Thousand Woods.

Chen Mobai's Purple Electric Sword leapt into action, intending to stop them, but Xuan Shu also spat out his Gold Jade Treasure Pearl, stubbornly coming forward to intercept.

With a boom, the Array of Ten Thousand Woods shook again after being struck by the three Ghost Cultivators.

Following this, a sigh resonated!

At mid-air, the grand phantom of Zhou Shengqing completely disintegrated, turning into a sky full of Light as it fell!

Chapter 965: Zhou Shengqing's Nascent Soul phantom shattered, and the Golden Core Cultivators who were currently attacking the Array of Ten Thousand Woods became even more vigorous.

This signified that their objective had been realized.

They might even push further, perhaps eradicating the Divine Wood Sect in the near future.

A Nascent-soul Loose Cultivator, who had been watching from the shadows, finally couldn't sit still any longer. He cast off his disguise, revealing a thin and comely middle-aged man. He took out a Flying Sword, which transformed into a surge of blue waves, and joined Xuan Shu and the others in attacking the Array of Ten Thousand Woods!

With six Golden Core Cultivators making their move, the Array of Ten Thousand Woods could still hold on, but if this were to persist over time, there would eventually come a day when it could no longer withstand the assault.

The Cultivators within the Divine Wood Sect who witnessed this scene, some of them even grabbed all their belongings and ran towards the Teleportation Array, preparing to flee Giant Tree Ridge before the Sect's Large Formation could be breached.

However, many more Cultivators, under the leadership of steadfast Sect members like Chu Zuoshu, continued to maintain the Large Formation's operation and resisted the invaders.

"Brother Zhou!"

By this time, Chen Mobai and the other two had transformed into Escaping Light and rushed to the front of the Everlife Wood where Zhou Shengqing was in seclusion.

Zhou Shengqing struggled to lift his head to look at them, then raised his head and faintly smiled, propping his right hand on the branch of the Everlife Wood beneath him as if trying to stand up.

Mo Douguang immediately went over to help him; the two of them had supported each other since their days in the Five Elements Sect, and they were closer than real brothers.

“Do you remember what Master said before his Passing Away in Meditation, Junior Brother Mo?” Zhou Shengqing suddenly asked.

Mo Douguang: “Master said too much before his Passing Away in Meditation. I’m not sure which words you are referring to, Elder Brother.”

Zhou Shengqing: “The words that hurt us the most.”

Upon hearing this, Mo Douguang’s expression cleared, but then he frowned slightly, as if he did not wish to recall those words.

Zhou Shengqing: “Master said that among us, only Junior Brother had the potential for Nascent Soul Formation. If we were to forcefully attempt it, we would just waste resources. It would be better to provide our own spiritual power source to him to assist in his cultivation of the Primordial Dao Fruit. In doing so, even if he passed away, the Five Elements Sect would soon have a new Nascent Soul Cultivator to hold the fort, without being overrun and consumed by the surrounding major factions.”

At that time, Zhou Shengqing and the others, without having tried, would not feel that they had no chance of forming a Nascent Soul, and naturally rejected this arrangement in their hearts.

Mo Douguang: “Why do you bring up these words now, Elder Brother?”

Zhou Shengqing: “It’s just that after failing now, I understand Master a bit more...”

After a sigh, Zhou Shengqing lifted his head to look at the six Golden Core Cultivators who were still bombarding the light shield of the Array of Ten Thousand Woods with various colored Spiritual Power. The dullness in his eyes suddenly brightened with a sharp gleam.

“Before I die, I’ll sweep some of the Universe clean for the Sect.”

After speaking these words, Zhou Shengqing turned to Chen Mobai and beckoned. The latter promptly walked over with respect.

“I remember Junior Brother Chen, you have a Soul Summoning Lamp, could you give it to me?”

“Elder Brother, please!”

Chen Mobai nearly forgot he had this Ghost Dao magical instrument without Zhou Shengqing mentioning it.

“Elder Brother, are you planning to turn into a Ghost Cultivator?”

Fu Zongjue, who was beside them, asked with some concern upon seeing this. Ghost Cultivators and Corpse Cultivators were those who gave up their chance for reincarnation and forcibly remained in the world seeking to continue their cultivation.

Within the Tianhe Realm, Cultivators believed in reincarnation.

Thus, many Cultivators thought that after death, they might be reborn and return with better Spiritual Roots and aptitudes in the next life. Despite the sorrow, this also offered a form of solace, especially to those of the lower strata.

The few who could not bear to die and turned into Ghost Cultivators or Corpse Cultivators to forcibly linger were extremely rare.

However, if Zhou Shengqing truly decided to take this step, Fu Zongjue would not stop him.

“Not really, I need this magical instrument to protect my Heart and Mind when I use the Longevity Technique in reverse.”

The Longevity Technique in reverse!

What Technique was that?

Not only Chen Mobai but also Fu Zongjue and Mo Douguang did not know this; all three looked at each other in bewilderment after hearing it.

“This is what Master passed on to me before he died, which he said was left by True Lord Yuan. I never thought I would use it in my lifetime...”

As Zhou Shengqing spoke, he grabbed the Soul Summoning Lamp. He then flew up, taking one last look at Giant Tree Ridge.

Following that, his Dantian Qi Sea and the Sea of Knowledge at the Purple Mansion erupted with two streams of light, one green and one cyan. They converged and merged in the Soul Summoning Lamp in his palm, turning into a dark green Spiritual Light that heavily surged into the trunk of the Everlife Wood below.

After all the Spiritual Power and Divine Sense were drained out of his physical body, Zhou Shengqing's body, suspended in mid-air, aged instantaneously to a state beyond recognition and plummeted toward the ground.

Mo Douguang immediately flew up to catch him.

At that moment, the Soul Summoning Lamp had already fallen onto the Everlife Wood branch where Zhou Shengqing was attempting “Nascent Soul Formation.”

The dark green Spiritual Light seeped into the branch like water, and as it spread and diluted across the entire Everlife Wood, it hardly caused any change to the bark or the leaves.

But Chen Mobai and the others knew that Zhou Shengqing's entire spirit had merged into it!

Rumble!

In the sky, Xuan Shu and the other six Golden Core Cultivators were still maneuvering their Magic Artifacts and attacking the Array of Ten Thousand Woods.

They blocked all six cardinal positions, preventing anyone in the Divine Wood Sect from escaping. As long as they were willing to spend the time, the day would come when the Large Formation would be breached.

Chapter 966: Reverse Longevity Technique_2

The speed might have been even faster than they had imagined, for within the Divine Wood Sect, many disciples were already in a state of panic.

Even though Chu Zuoshu personally led the Foundation Establishment Practitioners of the Three Halls and Twelve Divisions to suppress them, there were still three Foundation Establishment Practitioners who rushed ahead into the location of the Teleportation Array and escaped.

There were quite a few Qi Practitioners who wanted to escape as well, but apart from a few exceptions, the rest were stopped in time by the Foundation Establishment Practitioners of the Penalty Evil Hall who had hurriedly arrived.

Under the suppression of the Foundation Establishment Practitioners of the Three Halls and Twelve Divisions, the entire Divine Wood Sect could at least maintain the full operation of the Large Formation.

But there were already many disciples who were thinking about how to make a run for it in their hearts.

And it was at this moment that a stripe of clear light rose from the Everlife Wood at the very center of Giant Tree Ridge, and in an instant, it transformed into an enormous phantom with its head against the blue sky and its body merged with the Divine Wood.

The visage of the phantom was as lifelike as real, and it was Zhou Shengqing!

His eyes were like stars, his beard and hair like lightning, and when he opened his mouth to breathe out, it was a piece of the blue sky falling, heavily crashing down on the tops of the heads of the three Ghost Cultivators grouped together.

Bang bang bang!

Like watermelons exploding, the three Ghost Cultivators, along with their magic artifacts and bodies, disintegrated into a rain of blood in an instant.

Only a solitary pale Bone Pearl cracked open a few gaps, radiating a pale jade light, forcefully charged out among the falling blue sky.

But Zhou Shengqing's phantom incarnation simply pointed his right index finger at the Bone Pearl, and a deep green stream of air burst forth like lightning, traversing the vast Void in the blink of an eye and landing upon the Bone Pearl.

With a bang!

The Bone Pearl, along with the Underworld Officer Spiritual Perception within it, screamed in agony as it turned into a puff of white ash, completely disintegrating.

"Not good..."

Seeing this scene, Xuan Shu and others, though not understanding what was happening, did not hesitate and immediately fled in different directions.

But Zhou Shengqing continued to write in the Void with his finger as the pen, Spiritual Energy as the ink, and the sky as the paper, completing a Wind Character Talisman in one breath!

In that instant, all the air above Giant Tree Ridge transformed under this talisman into countless azure Wind Blades, densely packed and numbering in the tens of thousands.

With a flick of Zhou Shengqing's fingertip, the Wind Blades formed three surges of gigantic waves of light, overwhelming Xuan Shu and the other two who had already used the Blood Transference Technique to escape far away.

The sound “pu” echoed.

The nameless, skinny, Loose Cultivator had over a dozen talismans and a Defensive Magic Weapon sliced through by the Wind Blades. In despair, he swallowed one elixir after another, dumping everything out of his Storage Bag, desperately trying to survive.

However, after blocking only one hundred and thirty-seven Wind Blades, he was sliced into countless threads of blood that stained a patch of the sky red.

“You go quick...”

On the other side, Zhao Xuankang, knowing he couldn’t escape today’s fate, suddenly gave up on life and death. After swallowing a pitch-black elixir, his Spiritual Power surged, and withstanding the raging Wind Blades, he dashed towards where Xuan Shu was to use his life to help the latter escape to freedom.

But Zhou Shengqing, who had performed the Longevity Technique, could temporarily borrow the power of the Fourth Order Longevity Wood, breaking through the bottleneck, and advancing to the highest realm of the Longevity Scripture.

The twenty levels of the Longevity Scripture were equivalent to the Mid Nascent Soul stage.

Zhou Shengqing even glimpsed the domain of the conjectured twenty-first level, a pity that he didn’t have much time left, or else he could definitely have completed it.

A simple Clear Wind Talisman in Zhou Shengqing’s hand, however, displayed unstoppable might!

Zhao Xuankang, even after exerting all his strength and using all his magical instruments and talismans, couldn’t reach Xuan Shu’s side.

After all defenses were broken by the Wind Blades, Zhao Xuankang’s face was filled with sorrow as he watched the azure blade of light falling before his eyes and closed his eyes to await death.

On the other side, Xuan Shu revealed his true capabilities.

After spitting out a Rank-4 Gold Jade Treasure Bead, he surprisingly took out a deep blue talisman and at the moment of activation, an ocean descended from the Void, appearing above Giant Tree Ridge.

The blue ocean clashed with the azure Wind Blades, unleashing a terrible and vast surge of Spiritual Energy.

Seizing this moment, Xuan Shu produced a silver talisman and slapped it onto his body.

“Escape Sky Talisman!”

Zhou Shengqing frowned slightly when he saw this, once again writing in the Void, etching another talisman.

“

Green thunderbolts lit up one after another around Xuan Shu, constantly bombarding his Gold Jade Treasure Pearl, and after three or four rounds of strikes, they finally managed to forcefully break through the golden tempest.

But at this time, silver radiance had already enveloped Xuan Shu’s entire body, and the power of the Rank-4 Escape Sky Talisman was something that even Zhou Shengqing could not break in the blink of an eye.

A strand of dark green lightning, at the very moment of Xuan Shu’s disappearance, drilled into the silver glow, piercing a bloody hole through his shoulder.

But in the end, he was still unable to retain this great enemy of the Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace.

“What a pity.”

Zhou Shengqing himself had only recently ascended to such a realm for the first time and found the control of this immense power quite difficult to master. He also felt his divine consciousness fading, a sign that he was close to being fully assimilated by the Everlife Wood.

The effect of the Reverse Longevity Technique was about to take hold!

He sighed and turned his head to look at Zhao Xuankang, who had one last breath left.

To counter Xuan Shu's Rank-4 blue talisman, he had gathered all the power of the Clear Wind Talisman a moment ago, hence preserving Zhao Xuankang's complete form.

"You... formed your Nascent Soul..."

Zhao Xuankang, covered in blood, was drawn to Zhou Shengqing. He looked up at the huge phantom in midair, his eyes wide with disbelief.

"I have a few questions to ask you."

As he spoke, Zhou Shengqing's giant phantom suddenly shrank, returning to the size of an ordinary person, though only his upper body was normal, as his lower body was like a wisp of blue smoke connected to the Soul Summoning Lamp.

But at this moment, the Ghost Dao magical instrument was cracked open with a deep fissure that nearly split it, and with time passing, small cracks kept appearing.

Everyone knew that when this Soul Summoning Lamp completely shattered, it would be when Zhou Shengqing perished.

Chen Mobai couldn't help but feel a wave of sorrow.

Meanwhile, Zhou Shengqing had already finished speaking with Zhao Xuankang, and it was unclear what the two had discussed. He then called over Mo Douguang, likely concerning matters related to Ancestor Hunyuan or the Five Elements Sect.

“We have been openly and secretly fighting for so many years. In the end, you die at my hands. Do you have any last words?”

After asking the question, Zhou Shengqing’s phantom smiled and asked Zhao Xuankang.

The latter, at this moment turned his head to look at Chen Mobai, and then said something that made the latter’s complexion change drastically.

“Your young disciple has disappeared, right? Do you want to know who kidnapped her?”

“It was you!”

Fury filled Chen Mobai’s eyes. In the Eastern Wilderness, he always acted low-key, either cultivating at the sect or farming, with only the remnants from Mountain Shaker Peak and the Nanxuan Sect having the motive to do such a thing.

“Heh, it wasn’t me. But that is someone even we from the Xuan Xiao Dao Palace do not wish to provoke. If you really want to know, when you have time, you could take a trip to Yunmeng Marsh and find a demon cultivator named Tu Daohua...”

After uttering these words, Zhao Xuankang raised his finger, a flash of gold shimmered, and he had already slit his own throat.

“Damn it, not even completing the sentence, Yunmeng Marsh is so vast...”

Chen Mobai rushed over and grabbed Zhao Xuankang, but the latter had already died with a bitter smile.

“Junior Brother, at least now we have a clue, which is better than having no direction before.”

Fu Zongjue, on the side, spoke up to console him, as he had also been helping in the search for Luo Yixuan’s whereabouts.

“Both of you junior brothers, come here. I have some final words to say to you.”

At this point, Zhou Shengqing called out to them. Chen Mobai immediately put down Zhao Xuankang’s body and walked over with Fu Zongjue to the front of the Soul Summoning Lamp.

“This is my Infant Formation Experience, remember this...”

In the Tianhe Realm, the dying cultivators would pass on such knowledge, although many might not have the time and could only take it with them to Hades.

Fortunately, Zhou Shengqing’s estimation of time was still decent, and before the Soul Summoning Lamp completely shattered, he managed to convey most of it.

“And the Reverse Longevity Technique...”

“^

Chapter 967: Legal Body Nascent Soul, Return to the Sun Spirit Water

Zhou Shengqing had long considered the possibility of failing his “Nascent Soul Formation”.

Thus, he had already written down the Reverse Longevity Technique on paper, and both Chen Mobai and Fu Zongjue had each taken a copy.

“This technique requires the cultivation of the Longevity Scripture to the eighteenth layer before it can be executed. Once it’s activated, the complete consumption of one’s spiritual power will result in certain death. Furthermore, during the operation of the technique, the vast spiritual consciousness of the

Everlife Wood will continuously assimilate your divine sense. If you can't hold on, it will reverse and turn you into nourishment for the tree."

As Zhou Shengqing spoke, the Soul Summoning Lamp cracked open once again.

"Brother..."

Seeing this, Mo Douguang started to say something but then hesitated.

"The sect will be entrusted to you in the future. After I am gone, cremate my body and, if there's a chance, bury me next to our master's grave."

Before his death, Zhou Shengqing had completely let go. What emerged in his mind were scenes from his youth, of chopping logs in the mountains and encountering Ancestor Hunyuan falling from the sky.

"Yes, Brother."

After hearing this, Fu Zongjue and Chen Mobai solemnly paid their respects to Zhou Shengqing's apparition.

"This is my storage bag, the spirit stones and miscellaneous items inside are all left for the sect."

Zhou Shengqing waved his hand, and a cyan storage bag already opened. He took out a set of wooden armor and three Taoist talisman papers.

"Junior Brother Chen, you have many magical tools, so I will leave this set of Divine Wood Armor for Junior Brother Fu."

Chen Mobai nodded upon hearing this, and Fu Zongjue immediately took the Lifespan Artifact that had belonged to Zhou Shengqing with great care.

“The talisman papers are Rank-4 Spirit Leaf Talismans; each of you take one.”

Chen Mobai, Fu Zongjue, and Mo Douguang all nodded and each received one.

Afterwards, Zhou Shengqing took out a golden talisman brush, his face showing a hint of reluctance, and he tossed it to Chen Mobai.

“Junior Brother Chen, this is a Third Rank Superior Grade Sun Chasing Talisman Brush, a gift from the master and our Fourth Sister on my two-hundredth birthday. Only you within the sect are proficient in the way of talismans, so I am giving this to you.”

“Thank you, Brother, for this treasure!”

When Chen Mobai received the talisman brush, he felt an unprecedented weight.

“Junior Brother Mo, thank you for guarding me and the Divine Wood Sect all these years. Take this storage bag.”

Mo Douguang did not say much, silently taking the small storage bag Zhou Shengqing passed to him.

“And these, I do not know what treasures they may yield.”

After distributing all his valuables, Zhou Shengqing smiled and took out four more storage bags, which belonged to the Golden Core Cultivators he had slain.

All but Zhao Xuankang, who with his old cunning had destroyed his own bag, were there.

Zhou Shengqing first opened the storage bag that belonged to a loose cultivator. Aside from twenty or so top-grade spirit stones, a few water attribute Cultivation Technique manuals was a bottle sealed with a strong barrier.

But with Zhou Shengqing's current realm, he easily broke the seal.

Inside were three blood-red spirit pills radiating a faint fragrance. Chen Mobai was completely unfamiliar with the pills of the Tianhe Realm, but Zhou Shengqing seemed to recognize them.

"These should be Blood Spirit Pills; they are useful for Golden Core Cultivators looking to break through their bottlenecks. However, whether they are or not, you should have Zeng Woyou or perhaps consult Yan Shaoyin to identify them later."

Zhou Shengqing was mainly proficient in talisman paper and his knowledge of elixirs was limited to what he had heard.

If they were indeed Blood Spirit Pills, then the gains from this first storage bag were quite reasonable.

Zhou Shengqing smiled as he opened the remaining three storage bags of the Ghost Cultivators, a potted plant as black as ink, thick as an arm and shaped like a coiling dragon immediately drew all of their attention.

This potted plant had no leaves, and its branches were like ink jade, shimmering with a dark green luster under the spiritual light, deep and soul captivating.

"A Rank-4 Soul Nourishing Wood!"

After Fu Zongjue appraised it, he couldn't help but exclaim, but then his face was filled with regret.

"If only it were Rank-5!"

A Rank-5 Soul Nourishing Wood could allow a Golden Core Cultivator who failed at Nascent Soul Formation to give up their physical body and transform into a Legal Body Nascent Soul, which would perfectly suit Zhou Shengqing's current situation.

“Even if it were Rank-5, without the Method for Legal Body Nascent Soul and the Return to the Sun Spirit Water, what use would it be?”

When Zhou Shengqing first saw the Soul Nourishing Wood, he was somewhat pleasantly surprised, but he quickly realized the situation and couldn't help but sigh.

To transform into a Legal Body Nascent Soul, besides the Soul Nourishing Wood, one would also need a Spiritual Liquid called “Return to the Sun Spirit Water” to protect the Divine Sense.

The Divine Wood Sect had none of these three requirements.

“Brother, take a look at this alchemy recipe!”

At that moment, Fu Zongjue, who had scanned all the items from the storage bags of the three ghost cultivators with his Divine Sense, instantly discovered something valuable.

It happened to be the alchemy recipe for Return to the Sun Spirit Water.

Just by looking at the elegant appearance of the storage bag, it likely belonged to the ghost cultivator who had taken possession of Madame Guo's corpse. It was unclear why she had such a recipe in her collection.

“It is a Fourth Grade Superior alchemy recipe. Even Yan Shaoyin might not be confident about refining it. Many of the medicinal ingredients listed are remarkably precious, and many can only be found in the Underworld...”

After looking at the recipe, everyone shook their heads and sighed once more.

“Brother Zhou, how long could your soul last if it were sheltered within this Soul Nourishing Wood?”

Chen Mobai suddenly asked.

He himself possessed a piece of Rank-3 Soul Nourishing Wood and was deeply knowledgeable about such rare treasures of heaven and earth. He knew that in Zhou Shengqing's current condition, with his essence completely drained by the Everlife Wood, it was possible to transfer his soul and Divine Sense into the Soul Nourishing Wood to cling onto life.

"This Soul Nourishing Wood belonged to that Dark Lord, who himself was on the verge of becoming a Ghost King; likely, it was prepared for his own ascension. The grade is almost Rank-5, so if I transfer my soul into it, I should be able to sustain for about a hundred years or so."

Zhou Shengqing estimated his own situation and made a judgment.

But once he entered the Soul Nourishing Wood, he could only transform into a ghost cultivator, or a Legal Body Nascent Soul, and would no longer be able to undergo reincarnation.

If he became a ghost cultivator, there would be no talk of an afterlife.

As for the Legal Body Nascent Soul, at the end of his life span, he would need to use a Pure Yang Magical Tool to liberate himself and dissolve into reincarnation.

Coincidentally, what Chen Mobai lacked the least was the Pure Yang Magical Tool.

"If you trust me, brother, I guarantee that within a hundred years, I can find you the Method for Legal Body Nascent Soul and the Return to the Sun Spirit Water."

When Chen Mobai said this, his tone was firm and confident.

But this meant Zhou Shengqing had to make a choice.

What the next life held, nobody could say for sure.

According to the situation in the Tianhe Realm, there was a ninety-nine percent chance of being a mortal without a Spiritual Root.

Having glimpsed the Realm of Core Formation, how could Zhou Shengqing be willing to give up everything in this life to gamble on such a minuscule future possibility?

“Hahaha, if there’s a chance to ascend further in this life, what is a hundred years of solitude?”

Seeing the opportunity for a Legal Body Nascent Soul, Zhou Shengqing thought it over and no longer hesitated. He immediately extracted his soul and Heart and Mind from the Soul Lantern, transforming into a wisp of blue smoke that settled into the Soul Nourishing Wood.

Chapter 968: Huangquan Soil After Zhou Shengqing took up residence within the Soul Nourishing Wood, the potted plant lit up with a layer of lustrous sheen, as if it had been consecrated.

“The soil in this pot must be from the Yellow Springs, but to ensure that the Soul Nourishing Wood can level up, I think it’s still better to find a place with heavy Yin energy to nurture it,” Zhou Shengqing said.

Upon hearing Fu Zongjue’s words, Chen Mobai reached out and pinched a bit of the dark yellow soil from the pot, and a cold Yin energy instantly shot through his fingertips, racing toward his whole body.

However, what Chen Mobai’s Pure Yang Scroll feared the least were these things.

When the Yin energy encountered the Pure Yang Spiritual Power, it melted away like ice and snow, turning into a wisp of black smoke that seeped out from his fingertips.

“Lonely Spirit Ridge isn’t bad.”

Zhou Shengqing took the initiative to speak up. Although there were many places under the Divine Wood Sect’s seven countries in the Eastern Wilderness with heavy Yin energy, the most suitable one was, without a doubt, this Void Mysterious Stone Mine that was discovered more than a decade ago.

It was chosen by the Flying Void Daoist as a burial ground, located in a secluded area of the Rain Country. Zhou Shengqing had personally explored it and found that the deeper one went, the heavier the Yin energy became.

Later, in order to excavate the Void Mysterious Stone Mine, the Divine Wood Sect set up a Formation there to isolate the Yin energy, otherwise those commoners and Qi Cultivating Disciples simply couldn't withstand it.

"This Yellow Springs soil is Rank-5 and can sustain this Soul Nourishing Wood for a decade or two. Lonely Spirit Ridge can be an option for transplanting it when the time comes, but it's still best to find the Yellow Springs Path. That's the most suitable place," said Fu Zongjue, speaking once again.

Zhou Shengqing had just entered the Soul Nourishing Wood, and he certainly needed them to look after him for a while.

"After Master sealed the Yellow Springs Path back in the day, the Spirit Talisman he left behind should have fallen into the hands of Zhou Ye," Mo Douguang suddenly said at this point.

Zhou Shengqing had a chance to survive and even to rise higher, and Mo Douguang was very pleased about this. Now he was also thinking about how he could help Zhou Shengqing.

"Five Elements Sect, huh..."

Hearing this, Chen Mobai and the others exchanged glances, knowing that if the Divine Wood Sect wanted to climb higher, they would have to find a way to either move or retrieve it from the biggest Sect in the Eastern Wilderness.

Chen Mobai said, "My disciple has good skills in cultivating Spirit Plants, could we let her come over and take care of Brother Zhou first?"

The Five Elements Sect is a target for later, but the most important thing right now is to take care of Zhou Shengqing, who has only his soul left.

Although the Soul Nourishing Wood is mysterious, it is still a Spirit Plant, and it needs to rank up in the future to transform into an Embodiment Nascent Soul. Therefore, it requires the care of an exceptional Spirit Plant Master.

“That’s your true disciple, Zuoming, right? It seems she will have to suffer for quite a while.”

Although the Divine Skill All Things Spiritual Communication was not publicized, Zuoming’s talent and skills in the field of Spirit Plants were well known among the upper echelons of the Divine Wood Sect.

However, most people believed that Chen Mobai was more formidable in the field of Spirit Plants and that Zuoming’s achievements were due to the guidance of her good master.

“Then I will bring her over later. Brother Zhou, you don’t need to show up, just let her think that she is caring for a precious Spirit Plant.”

The matter of the Legal Body Nascent Soul was best known by as few people as possible. Chen Mobai did not mistrust Zuoming, but she was still too naive. If she inadvertently revealed anything, it could provoke a greater war.

A nearly Rank-5 Soul Nourishing Wood would be coveted vehemently by the three major factions of the Eastern Barbarians if they knew about it.

After all, an Embodiment Nascent Soul is still a Nascent Soul, capable of overwhelming any Golden Core Cultivator.

Having explained everything, Chen Mobai left to preside over the Sect’s affairs, and Fu Zongjue accompanied him, as it was a particularly tumultuous time for the Divine Wood Sect, and it was better for them to appear together.

Mo Douguang, on the other hand, stayed to speak with Zhou Shengqing, who had become an ethereal soul.

“Brother Zhou deployed a secret technique to kill the invading enemies, but he himself suffered severe damage to his vital energy and needs a long period of seclusion to recuperate...”

Inside Shenmu Hall, Chen Mobai began to utter the words they had previously agreed upon.

In the eyes of outsiders, Zhou Shengqing had failed his “Nascent Soul Formation” and was surely doomed.

But when he had just struck out with the Longevity Technique, killing five Gold Core Cultivators with absolute power, his Nascent Soul Realm status became unmistakable.

Chen Mobai’s statement was meant to confuse the enemy about whether Zhou Shengqing was alive or dead, and after this battle, it was unlikely that any Golden Core Cultivators would dare venture to Giant Tree Ridge to test this truth.

True or false, the idea was to instill fear in anyone harboring ulterior motives towards the Divine Wood Sect.

However, one thing was certain: the corpses of those five Golden Core Cultivators would make the Divine Wood Sect a no-go zone for all high-order Cultivators for some time to come.

When the Golden Wind Ancestor from the Eastern Barbarian Profound Arrogance Dao Palace heard of this, he would probably be even less willing to make the trip to the Eastern Wilderness.

Actually, some Cultivators from the Sects, led by Chu Zuoshu, had already guessed the truth behind Zhou Shengqing’s “death,” but at this time, they had to outwardly believe what Chen Mobai said and be convinced that Zhou Shengqing was just severely injured and in seclusion.

To the outside world, and to the Qi Cultivating Disciples within the Sect, they had to adhere to this narrative.

The Divine Wood Sect still has three Nascent Soul Ancestors!

No one present was foolish enough to directly ask Zhou Shengqing whether he had succeeded in his “Nascent Soul Formation.”

“Everything in the Sect goes on as usual. The disciples who retreated during the battle will have their crimes confirmed by the Penalty Evil Hall, and then their cultivation levels will be sealed before they are sent to the mines in the three northern countries. Those who fled through the Teleportation Array are to be issued a wanted order. The Penalty Evil Hall will dispatch men to hunt them down and kill them without mercy.”

The lands of Rock Country, Sky Country, and Rainbow Country, which the Divine Wood Sect had recently conquered, were barren and hardly conducive to the growth of green plants but contained rich mineral deposits. Qi Practitioners were far stronger than ordinary people and would make excellent miners with just a bit of training.

Chapter 969: Huangquan Soil_2

Vice Hall Master Quan Shanlin of Penalty Evil Hall, after hearing this, exchanged a look with Fu Zongjue and immediately went out to carry out the task with murderous aura.

The news that Zhou Shengqing had killed five Golden Core cultivators quickly spread throughout the Eastern Wilderness, drawing astonishment and reverence from all cultivators, with many even believing that Zhou Shengqing had successfully achieved “Nascent Soul Formation”.

When the Five Elements Sect, Back to Sky Valley, and Snow-blowing Palace heard this news, their entire sects were shaken, with several Golden Core cultivators immediately inquiring and even sending people to Giant Tree Ridge to offer condolences and probe the situation.

It was still those three familiar faces, Chen Mobai met with Xue Ting once and then sent Yue Zutao to deal with the other two.

“Ming’er, can you communicate with this Spirit Plant?”

After dealing with sect affairs, Chen Mobai brought Zhuo Ming over to the Soul Nourishing Wood, and she nodded, walking over to begin the attempt.

“Wait, this Spirit Plant is a Yin object from the Underworld, take this mirror with you.”

Chen Mobai instantly stopped the rash Zhuo Ming and placed the Six Yang Divine Fire Mirror in her palm to prevent her from being harmed by the Yin Qi of the Soul Nourishing Wood.

“Yes, Master.”

Zhuo Ming took the mirror, closed her eyes, and touched one of the branches of the Soul Nourishing Wood, only to release it a moment later with a pale face.

If not for the Six Yang Divine Fire Mirror, she likely would have been invaded by the Yin Qi and suffered loss of Qi and blood.

“The grade is too high, and it’s not planted on the Earth Vein of Xiao Nanshan, so I can’t communicate with it for now.”

Zhuo Ming spoke the truth, and Chen Mobai nodded, the result within his expectations.

“Within this pot is Rank-5 Huangquan soil, a high-grade Spirit Soil, greatly beneficial for your practice of Mother Earth Cultivation. In the future, when you have time, come here to try to communicate. I will transfer a stream of Spiritual Power into you with the Flame Lighting Technique, to ensure you are unharmed while making contact.”

Chen Mobai asked Zhuo Ming to help, not only because her Ten Thousand Spirit Rhinoceros Abilities could aid in the rank increase of the Soul Nourishing Wood, but also because Rank-5 Spirit Soil is exceedingly rare.

Even inside the Divine Tree Secret Realm, one could only obtain Rank-4 Everlife Soil.

Zhuo Ming’s practice of Mother Earth Cultivation required integrating the essence of myriads of Spirit Soils, achieving the Mother Qi of All Things to cultivate and nurture various Spirit Plants in the world.

This pot of Rank-5 Huangquan soil was more precious to her than any Elixir, heavenly and earthly treasures.

“Thank you, Master.”

After Chen Mobai had transferred Pure Yang Spiritual Power into Zhuo Ming, he also thoroughly cleansed the residual cold Qi inside her, making her face bloom with a healthy glow that left her feeling spirited and revitalized.

“Junior Brother Chen, would you mind if I give some instruction to your disciple?”

After Zhuo Ming left, the apparition of Zhou Shengqing emerged from the Soul Nourishing Wood, asking something that surprised Chen Mobai.

“Ming’er’s practice differs from Brother Zhou’s technique, but if Brother Zhou is willing to provide guidance, I would be deeply grateful.”

Regardless, Zhou Shengqing was a grand cultivator who had stepped into the Nascent Soul Realm, and even if his teaching skills were not as strong as Chen Mobai’s, his experience in cultivation was surely far greater. His willingness to instruct Zhuo Ming was certainly favourable.

“I cannot move while inside the Soul Nourishing Wood, and I will invariably be lonely in the coming days. Having a disciple to teach will serve as a pastime for me.”

Chen Mobai nodded and expressed his gratitude to Zhou Shengqing.

“Ming’er is somewhat slow and has many questions. Brother Zhou, please be patient with her in the future.”

Zhou Shengqing waved his hand after hearing this, indicating that even if he had to teach a rather slow student, he could cultivate them into talents like Meng Hong and Chu Zuoshu in the coming century.

What he did not realize was that Chen Mobai was being modest.

After staying for half a month to ensure that Zhou Shengqing's soul had adjusted, Mo Douguang also prepared to leave.

Chen Mobai and Fu Zongjue personally escorted him to the Teleportation Array, carrying the pot with the Soul Nourishing Wood.

At that time, more good news arrived.

It came from the Town Guard of Rock Country, a E Yun Sect envoy, who confirmed through his own informants that Xuan Shu of the Nanxuan Sect, after fleeing from Giant Tree Ridge, had not returned to Treasure Color Mountain.

In other words, Nanxuan Sect was now without a Golden Core cultivator to sit in charge.

"According to our previous discussion, we will gradually nibble away at Nanxuan sect's share of the Fang Market. As long as achievements are made there, supporting him to become the Sect Leader after I step down will be justified,"

The one who conveyed this message was Yu Lian. Chen Mobai trusted him greatly. After giving him some instructions, Chen Mobai also wrote a letter for him to take to E Yun.

"When Xuan Shu fled, he was severely injured by a blast of my Longevity True Qi. With his cultivation level, suppressing and expelling it would be quite troublesome, so he must have gone back to Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace to seek help from Golden Wind Ancestor."

After hearing about this, Zhou Shengqing expressed his own thoughts.

After using the Reversed Longevity Technique, his strength was so formidable that even if Golden Wind Ancestor came, he would not be afraid. Although Xuan Shu managed to escape from his grasp, he was still unable to get away unscathed.

Longevity True Qi is ordinary in Magic Duels; however, it has a long-lasting aftereffect, and at that time, it was at the Rank-4 level. Without heavenly and earthly treasures, the most likely scenario for Xuan Shu, given his cultivation level, was to leave the Eastern Wilderness to heal first.

“Let him live a little longer then. After I make my breakthrough, I will slay him,”

Chen Mobai spoke calmly. Zhou Shengqing and Fu Zongjue both took it for granted that sword cultivators are invincible among equals in the same realm.

Not to mention someone like Chen Mobai, an unparalleled genius of the Sword Dao.

“Apprentice nephew Zeng has appraised them. Those three pills are indeed Blood Spirit Pills. It’s a mystery how such a precious elixir came into the hands of a mere loose cultivator.”

After finishing the discussion about Xuan Shu, Fu Zongjue brought out the elixirs Zhou Shengqing had obtained from killing an enemy.

The Blood Spirit Pill is used by Golden Core Cultivators in the Tianhe Realm to break through their bottlenecks, quite similar to an upgraded version of the Big Barrier Breaking Pill from the Immortal Gates.

Although Chen Mobai does not advocate using elixirs to enhance cultivation levels, he believes it is acceptable to assist with elixirs when breaking through barriers.

It just so happened that Fu Zongjue had been stuck at the peak of the early Golden Core Stage for decades, and the Blood Spirit Pill was perfect for him to take.

“Fu Shixiong, take them all for your use. There’s no need to save any for me,”

Chen Mobai generously gave all three Blood Spirit Pills to Fu Zongjue. Although he possessed the Flame Lighting Technique to neutralize pill toxins, it was better not to take any elixirs from the Tianhe Realm if possible.

Fu Zongjue did not stand on ceremony. Divine Wood Sect needed him to ascend.

It was unclear whether it was due to the pressure or the readiness of his realm, but Fu Zongjue only needed to take one Blood Spirit Pill to successfully break through to the Mid Foundation Establishment Stage.

After consolidating his realm, he emerged from seclusion, full of vigor.

“Junior Brother Chen, I do not need these two Blood Spirit Pills anymore. You can have them.”

The Blood Spirit Pills were useful for breaking through from the early to the mid stage, but almost useless from the mid to the late stage. Therefore, after his breakthrough, Fu Zongjue gave the remaining pills to Chen Mobai.

Chen Mobai did not refuse and accepted them, planning to have Qing Nu help appraise them later.

“Sect Leader, I have decided to go to Golden Crow Immortal City.”

One day, Chu Zuoshu came to visit and shared his decision.

Just like when Chen Mobai reached the Foundation Establishment stage, Fu Zongjue and Zhou Shengqing suggested that he go to Golden Crow Immortal City to keep a low profile and see whether it was possible to create a new channel for the sect there.

“Hmm, take these with you. If you encounter any unsolvable problems, seek out a loose cultivator Nascent Soul named Huyan Zhenglai. He has a good relationship with me,”

As Zhou Shengqing spoke, he asked Fu Zongjue to give a token to Chu Zuoshu.

“Isn’t Ancestor Hunyuan said to have good relations with the Nascent Soul Ancestor of Sun Bathing Sea? Why go to Golden Crow Immortal City and not pay a visit to him?”

After Chu Zuoshu left, Chen Mobai asked with some surprise.

“He is a friend of our master, but we are not our master, only his disciples, and merely at the Foundation Establishment stage at that.”

“Besides, the one to inherit our master’s mantle is ultimately Zhou Ye. We are considered to be renegades, and going to visit Baiwu Ancestor without being scolded would already be fortunate,”

Zhou Shengqing’s words made Chen Mobai realize something once again.

Only when one is strong in oneself, is one truly powerful.

Chapter 970: The Purpose of the Visit

Hunyuan Immortal City.

Zhou Ye received the invitation brought by Kong Shanxu and couldn’t help but show a look of puzzlement.

[“I have often heard the two senior brothers talk about the prosperity of the Immortal City. As the newly in charge of Divine Wood Sect, I wish to come for a visit...”]

The invitation was from Chen Mobai. It said that at the beginning of next year, he planned to visit the Five Elements Sect.

“What does he mean by this?”

Although the Five Elements Sect had signed a non-aggression pact with the Divine Wood Sect, Zhou Ye could still vividly remember the fight to the death between the two sides during their division.

Now, Chen Mobai, the first genius of the Divine Wood Sect since its establishment and the new Golden Core Sect Leader, actually wanted to visit the Five Elements Sect, which really left Zhou Ye confused.

“Could it be that Zhou Shengqing has indeed achieved ‘Nascent Soul Formation’ and is preparing to come back to reclaim this Immortal City, having him come over first to probe?”

Green Pearl, who was beside him, frowned with worry upon hearing this.

“If Second Senior Brother achieves Nascent Soul Formation and takes charge of Hunyuan Immortal City or even the Five Elements Sect, isn’t that only natural?”

Zhou Ye said calmly and then put down the invitation, signaling Kong Shanxu to go down and prepare for this matter.

Since Chen Mobai wanted to come, they would certainly not refuse.

Whether it is goodwill or malice, they need to meet him first to find out.

Moreover, within this Hunyuan Immortal City, even if a Nascent Soul came, Zhou Ye was confident he could retreat with ease.

“In addition to our Five Elements Sect, it seems that Sect Master Chen from the Divine Wood Sect also plans to visit Back to Sky Valley and Snow-blowing Palace.”

After Kong Shanxu left, he mentioned another matter.

After Zhou Shengqing took action and killed five Golden Core Cultivators, he, Ye Bopei, and Xue Ting once again rushed to Giant Tree Ridge. Although they were unable to meet Sect Master Chen, they exchanged thoughts when leaving and found that they all had received the same type of invitation.

“Is he preparing to rule over The Barren?”

Zhou Ye suddenly thought of this, stood up, and his expression turned solemn.

He wasn't the only one with these thoughts; Yan Shaoyin of Back to Sky Valley and Kong Lingling of Snow-blowing Palace felt similarly.

...

“Sigh...”

Yan Shaoyin let out a sigh. After hearing about Zhou Shengqing taking action and killing five Golden Core Cultivators, he felt both encouraged and despondent.

Encouragement because in the Eastern Wilderness, besides Zhou Shengqing, he was the closest to achieving Nascent Soul Formation.

If Zhou Shengqing could succeed, then theoretically, it was possible for him as well.

But after harboring such hope, Yan Shaoyin was reminded of the experience a hundred years ago when, under the pressure of Ancestor Hunyuan, he had no choice but to submit to the Five Elements Sect and make elixirs for them.

The only thing worth being fortunate about was that the Divine Wood Sect had not held a Nascent Soul Formation ceremony.

That meant there was a very good chance Zhou Shengqing had failed, or perhaps he had never attempted Nascent Soul Formation and it was merely a strategy to lure out Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace and those Ghost Cultivators.

In any case, the most pressing matter currently was this invitation.

The new Sect Master Chen of the Divine Wood Sect wanted to come for a visit. In theory, the Sect Leader of Back to Sky Valley should receive him, but Sect Master Chen was a Golden Core Cultivator.

Yan Shaoyin could only instruct Ye Bopei to make preparations, readying himself to personally receive Chen Mobai when the time came.

“Master, there is one more thing.”

When Ye Bopei was about to leave, he hesitated but eventually handed over a message talisman recently delivered by the Starry Sky Commerce Guild to Yan Shaoyin, who turned slightly pale upon reading it. He sat down on the chair with a long sigh.

It read that his disciple, He Jintong, had failed in his Golden Core formation. Fortunately, thanks to the elixirs Yan Shaoyin had prepared in advance, his life was spared. Recently, the Starry Sky Commerce Guild would transport a batch of goods to the Eastern Yi Territory. They would also bring He Jintong back, advising them to prepare in advance at Back to Sky Valley.

Yan Shaoyin had spoiled several batches before he barely managed to concoct four Golden Liquid Jade Pills, of which the Divine Wood Sect took two, and soon after the news of Chen Mobai's Core Formation spread.

Yan Shaoyin's eldest disciple, He Jintong, had also reached Completion of Foundation Establishment long ago. Inspired by this news, he no longer hesitated and, taking the Golden Liquid Jade Pill, was arranged to go to the place of the Star Heaven Dao Sect for a secret Core Formation.

Unfortunately, not everyone is Chen Mobai, and the cultivators of Back to Sky Valley mostly advanced through consuming elixirs, their innate foundations unstable. Even the wondrous Golden Liquid Jade Pill was powerless in the face of such cultivators.

"You make the arrangements, and when the time comes go to the Eastern Yi Territory to bring Jintong back..."

Upon hearing this news, Yan Shaoyin seemed to age a decade, sighing as he waved his hand to dismiss Ye Bopei.

Compared to the thriving Divine Wood Sect, their Back to Sky Valley, even though they monopolized the high-end alchemy industry of the Eastern Wilderness, making a fortune,

outstanding disciples could even receive two Foundation Building Pills at once.

Thus they amassed the greatest number of Foundation Establishment Practitioners among the major sects of the Eastern Wilderness, but not to mention a top talent like Chen Mobai, they didn't even have one as outstanding as Hong He.

He Jintong was already among those with the best foundations in Back to Sky Valley.

But even he failed to cross the step of Core Formation.

Just thinking about this made Yan Shaoyin feel weary.

He truly wanted to leave Back to Sky Valley behind and unreservedly pursue the realm of “Nascent Soul Formation”.

With his skills as a Rank-4 Alchemist, no matter where he went, he would not lack for Spirit Stones.

However, this was just a thought. Alchemists needed the backing of a power most of all, after all, high-ranked elixirs required many auxiliary materials, and it was too time-consuming to gather them alone.

...

Snow-blowing Palace, still that ice palace.

“Disciple Xue Ting, your hard work is appreciated.”

After hearing about Chen Mobai’s visit, Kong Lingling spoke indifferently.

Once Xue Ting had left, Kong Lingling discussed the matter for a while with Zhu Jinyu and Lan Lingping, but in the face of Zhou Shengqing’s impressive feat of slaying five Golden Core Cultivators by herself, they could think of no reason to refuse.

“I am at a critical moment in my cultivation, so when the time comes, you might still need to take Sect Master Chen around for me.”

Kong Lingling helplessly stated, her Cultivation Technique being special, requiring her physical body to be frozen in ice at a place with abundant Spiritual Energy during her breakthrough, unable to move.

“Master, rest assured. Since Xue Ting is also considered an unregistered disciple of Sect Master Chen, let her help with receiving him on behalf of our sect when the time comes. We will also show our respect, and I believe Sect Master Chen won’t take offense.”

“For now, that will have to do.”

Kong Lingling spoke, and as she recalled a matter weighing on her mind, she felt an inexplicable irritability rise within her.

...

Naturally, Chen Mobai had no idea that his planned visit had made the Golden Core Cultivators of the three great sects of the Eastern Wilderness nervous.

Actually, he didn't have much interest in Back to Sky Valley or Snow-blowing Palace.

He merely wanted to make a trip to Ming Nation where the Hunyuan Immortal City, under the Five Elements Sect, was located to investigate Guiyuan Sect, where Luo Yixuan had disappeared last.

But if he only visited the Five Elements Sect, it would be too targeted, likely drawing the attention of the other two Golden Core Cultivators of the Water Vein and Fire Vein.

Therefore, to cover his true purpose, Chen Mobai included Back to Sky Valley and Snow-blowing Palace in his plans, presenting it as an official visit after taking charge of the Divine Wood Sect.

The visit was set for the next year, to give the other three sects and the Divine Wood Sect time to prepare, but also because he needed to return to the Immortal Gate to handle some matters.

With his oversight, the inner cabinet was already operating very well.

Yue Zutao proved to be a talent of the world, with Meng Hong at his side to assist, and on the surface with Chen Mobai's Core Formation, as well as Zhou Shengqing, who was suspected of "Nascent Soul Formation", overseeing the sect, the guards of the six nations were striving for excellence. Inside and outside, the Divine Wood Sect was flourishing.

Chen Mobai, reassured, left the Formless Puppet behind while his real body returned to the Immortal Gate.