

Worth 901

Chapter 901: Who's Hunting?

"Fellow Daoist Dan Zhouzi, that brat tried to activate the storage ring multiple times. That must mean that although his cultivation is insufficient, he has other people beside him or has some special Dharmic treasures!" Shan Lingzi hesitated before reminding Dan Zhouzi.

"So what?" Dan Zhouzi had an expression of disdain as he looked coldly at Shan Lingzi.

"You've only had your Dao karma destroyed. Don't tell me your guts were destroyed as well. Even if that brat has someone beside him, there's no way they're a Planet realm. If they were, your storage ring would have been opened a long time ago. And if he has Dharmic treasures, wouldn't that be better? Besides, he doesn't know we're chasing after him, so finding him will be a piece of cake!" As he spoke, Dan Zhouzi raised his right hand, and early-stage Planet realm cultivation disturbances spread forth from his body, gushing into the golden beetle.

As it was activated, the golden beetle's wings spread and flapped rapidly on the spot. Layers of waves invisible to the naked eye spread out rapidly and covered quite a large area.

"My mount's intrinsic divine power can check signs of abnormal movement from Eternal Star realms and below. If that brat is traveling quickly, I'll notice him in a short while!" Dan Zhouzi narrowed his eyes and controlled the golden beetle to fly towards the front, using its intrinsic divine power to search the surroundings for all signs of movement.

The golden beetle's search could make Dan Zhouzi so confident because of its incisiveness. However, Wang Baole was cautious, having hidden in the meteorite. Hence, the golden beetle's search failed.

After all, he didn't move, making use of the meteorite's trajectory instead. That way, unless his Divine Sense swept over him at close range, it was impossible to detect him with Dan Zhouzi's early-stage Planet realm cultivation.

Moreover... since Wang Baole's plan was great and he was cautious enough, he could avoid Shan Lingzi and Dan Zhouzi, causing them to be unable to pick up on his trail again. They could only continue expanding their search radius.

That way, the possibility of them accurately finding Wang Baole's location at the earliest possible time was greatly reduced. And once Wang Baole really managed to hide for several months, it would be highly possible to return safely to the Divine Eye civilization when he left again.

Of course, the prerequisite of all of that was that Wang Baole didn't know that he was only facing an early-stage Planet realm. As for Shan Lingzi... in his current state, he couldn't even take one hit when facing Wang Baole.

If he knew his opponents were only that strong, with Wang Baole's personality, there was a 90% chance that he would choose to actively attack and try to kill them, choosing to kill off his future threats.

However... although he didn't know that his opponents weren't out of his league, his hiding spot was still found by Shan Lingzi and Dan Zhouzi after half a month.

It wasn't that Wang Baole was exposed, but... the paper human cutout in the storage ring he sealed somehow broke open the seal again, and the strange laughter rang in Wang Baole's mind once more. Although the laughter only lasted for a moment, Wang Baole's soul still jolted.

The laughter didn't bring the ethereal spirit boat this time, but Wang Baole was extremely troubled. He felt an indescribable feeling in his heart towards the strangeness of the paper human cutout. Just as he was about to reseal it, Wang Baole's expression suddenly changed as he raised his head to look upwards. His Divine Sense also spread out to look at the cosmos.

When he looked towards the cosmos, his Divine Sense instantly locked onto an area in the distance that suddenly went blurry. Following that, a giant golden beetle appeared from that area!

Within the golden beetle were Shan Lingzi and Dan Zhouzi. They previously searched for half a month but couldn't find Wang Baole's trail. While that made Shan Lingzi feel anxious, it also made Dan Zhouzi feel that his reputation had taken a hit. After all, he vowed solemnly previously. However, just as he was also starting to feel anxious and impatient, Shan Lingzi suddenly found the storage ring's disturbances again.

And coincidentally... their position wasn't far away from where the disturbances came from. So, Dan Zhouzi didn't hesitate to use some of his cultivation to control the golden beetle and unleash a cosmos teleportation!

Such a teleportation used up his cultivation and would also drain the golden beetle, but now, he no longer cared. So, as Wang Baole felt that the paper human cutout was acting weird, the golden beetle that Shan Lingzi and Dan Zhouzi were on had already appeared there!

He knew the identities of those who arrived with just one look at the golden beetle. Wang Baole instantly judged that the Planet realm cultivator whose physical body died back then was definitely inside the golden beetle. They found him by tracking the storage ring.

So, he also instantly understood that his previous caution wasn't wrong. It was just that the paper human cutout's actions weren't something he could control.

That paper human cutout did it on purpose! Wang Baole's expression turned ugly, but he knew that now wasn't the time to consider that. Instinctively, he chanted the Dao Scripture silently in his heart!

Chanting silently in his heart had basically become a habit of his before attacking. He did it at the Eye of the Eternal Star and the imperial cemetery.

After all, the power of the Dao Scripture didn't descend immediately, and there was some delay. At the same time, to those who had never faced it, they would normally feel their souls being shaken after suddenly experiencing it, thereby giving Wang Baole a chance to attack...

But this time, after Wang Baole silently chanted the Dao Scripture in his heart, he suddenly felt something amiss. It seemed that the paper human cutout in the storage ring spread out some slight disturbances after originally being calm. However, the disturbances were so weak that Wang Baole almost thought it was an illusion.

But he still paid attention and spread a wisp of his Divine Will to gather onto the storage ring. At the same time, he narrowed his eyes to look at the golden beetle that was speeding towards him in the

cosmos. He saw two silhouettes fly out from within the golden beetle. He had seen one of them before. It was Shan Lingzi, whose physical body got destroyed previously and who had obviously reconstructed it.

But his injuries back then were too serious. Furthermore, Wang Baole experienced the incidents after the Divine Eye civilization's left-hand elder lost his physical body. Hence, he understood more about the consequences of Planet realm cultivators losing their physical bodies and wasn't surprised to see that Shan Lingzi only had a late-stage Spirit Immortal realm cultivation.

As for the other, he had an arrogant expression. He didn't hide his Planet realm disturbances at all, and they spread and headed straight for the meteorite. Looking from afar, it seemed like a planet was about to crash into it.

This scene made Wang Baole's expression become slightly weird. Within the boundaries of his Divine Will, he only saw the golden beetle and nothing else. There were also only two people who came. Moreover, the Planet realm cultivator was only at the early-stage Planet realm. This made Wang Baole slightly confused.

You dare chase after me with just an early-stage Planet realm? Wang Baole narrowed his eyes and suddenly laughed. He already understood that his opponents might have thought that he was still a Soul Conduit. They didn't expect him to reach the perfected stage Spirit Immortal realm in such a short period of time. Moreover, he was an extraordinary cultivator at the level of a Planet realm!

If this is the case, whether I hide or not doesn't matter! A cold glint flashed between Wang Baole's eyes. He had a decisive and vicious personality, after all, so he instantly made a decision to kill off his future threats once and for all now.

As he had that thought, Shan Lingzi and Dan Zhouzi's silhouettes rumbled over. Compared to Dan Zhouzi, Shan Lingzi was slightly slower. He purposely did that, but it was also caused by the differences in their cultivations. But Dan Zhouzi wasn't foolish. He naturally saw through Shan Lingzi's plans and sensed that there were some array formations on the meteorite. At the same time, with a sweep of his Divine Will, he found Wang Baole inside the meteorite. In fact, he even saw that Wang Baole wasn't a Soul Conduit, being a Spirit Immortal instead.

But he didn't care!

So what if he's a Spirit Immortal? In front of absolute cultivation, all resistance turns to dust! Dan Zhouzi neared with a vicious smile, and as he raised his right hand, his Planet realm power exploded forth. A giant illusory image of a planet transmogrified behind his body. But just as it was about to land on the meteorite, the power of the Dao Scripture suddenly descended.

Silent rumbles instantly exploded forth in Shan Lingzi and Dan Zhouzi's minds. Moreover, a horrifying suppressive force seemed to spread from deep within the cosmos as it engulfed the surroundings and descended upon their souls. It caused their bodies to tremble violently and their expressions to change immensely.

At the same time, a cold glint flashed between the eyes of Wang Baole, who was sitting cross-legged in the meteorite. He immediately weaved hand seals with both hands. Instantly, the meteorite he was on actually... self-destructed!

Chapter 902: Being Tough Until the End!

As rumbles echoed in the surroundings, the exploded meteorite turned into countless pieces of debris. Every piece contained the power of the array formation and sped towards the two of them like a violent downpour.

If the Dao Scripture didn't descend, with Dan Zhouzi's Planet realm cultivation, he could naturally wave those meteorite shards away. But the Dao Scripture descended suddenly, and the meteorite self-destructed without any warning. So, although he took action in time, due to his soul being unsteady, he still missed some shards under the shard storm.

And that was exactly what Wang Baole wanted...

In an instant, his silhouette charged out. Weaving hand seals with his left hand, he first pointed. Instantly, the meteorite shards he missed headed straight for Shan Lingzi. Shan Lingzi's expression changed as he tried to dodge, but the shards engulfed him. With a bang, he was sealed within them.

Although Shan Lingzi was only a Spirit Immortal, he used to be a Planet realm, and he was also the owner of the storage ring. Therefore, Wang Baole didn't decide to give him any chances. After sealing Shan Lingzi, with a flick of his body, the Emperor Armor appeared and covered him. The Dharmic Battleship also appeared and fused with him. As he was boosted, he was like a shooting star bursting through the heavens, darting towards Dan Zhouzi, whose expression changed and whose pupils shrunk. He was still shocked by the power of the Dao Scripture!

He neared in the blink of an eye and slashed with his right hand Divine Armament without hesitation!

The slash gathered Wang Baole's perfected stage Spirit Immortal cultivation disturbances and incorporated his astonishing speed. So, as it came out, its power was heaven-shaking and imposing.

The slash even cut open the void, causing the cosmos in Wang Baole's surroundings to disperse a bone-piercing chill as though a rift had appeared.

Even though Dan Zhouzi was a Planet realm cultivator, his expression still changed after sensing it. He didn't have time to think too much or even speak, because, at that moment, the feeling Wang Baole gave him was that he was definitely not a Spirit Immortal!

But he had gone through many battles after all. As he was met with danger, his pupils shrunk, and his hands rapidly weaved hand seals and formed a diamond light screen in front of him. Meanwhile, his body retreated quickly. As his body retreated, Wang Baole had already neared. The Divine Armament created a long, resplendent rainbow as it landed on the diamond light screen in front of Dan Zhouzi.

Rumbles shook the heavens, and as they echoed, ear-piercing cracks sounded. The diamond light screen only withstood the blow for a few breaths' time before collapsing and turning into countless shards that shot into the surroundings.

But with the momentary shielding of the diamond light screen, Dan Zhouzi still created some distance between himself and Wang Baole by retreating. But even then, the storm created by the slash of Wang

Baole's Divine Armament and that astonishing aura still made Dan Zhouzi's soul buzz. He could no longer hold it back as he screamed.

"You're not a Spirit Immortal, you're a Planet realm!"

Equally shocked was the sealed Shan Lingzi. His expression had already completely changed. The gaze on his pale face was filled with disbelief and incredulity and even more shock and despair!

The first thought that appeared in his mind was that... he was tricked. Everything was done on purpose by Wang Baole, with the motive being to bait him to appear!

"Damn it!" Shan Lingzi was in an extreme state of panic. He unleashed all his power in an attempt to break through the seal, but his cultivation had fallen, and he was only a Spirit Immortal. Although it wasn't impossible to break through the seal that Wang Baole spent some time to form, he still needed quite a bit of time to do so.

And Wang Baole naturally noticed the changes in the expressions of the both of them. His gaze flashed slightly as he suddenly laughed.

"I've finally baited the both of you. I guess my planning hasn't gone to waste after all." After his words sounded, Shan Lingzi panicked even more, and even Dan Zhouzi was anxious and doubtful. Even if he swept across the surroundings with his Divine Sense and confirmed that there was no one else, he still couldn't help but split his attention to pay attention to the surroundings.

This was where Wang Baole's motives laid. As Dan Zhouzi split his attention, he stepped out with a boom. Like an unsheathed sharp blade, he charged towards Dan Zhouzi again.

And as he charged out, the Emperor Armor unleashed all of its power. Wang Baole grabbed with his left hand, and it instantly seemed to turn into a giant vortex. While it formed a pulling force, it turned into the Supernova.

Although such a technique was an ordinary divine power from his time in the Federation, with Wang Baole's current cultivation and the power of his essence, combined with the boost from his Emperor Armor, its power had already become extraordinary. To a certain extent, it was really close to being an actual Supernova!

The Supernova would shatter planets and cause them to explode!

Dan Zhouzi felt anxious and doubtful in his heart and had an ugly expression on his face. He was very clear that the braver one would win in this situation. If he didn't dissipate his opponent's aura, it was very likely that he would die there. So even though he felt uneasy, his fighting spirit still exploded forth from his eyes. As Wang Baole charged over, he growled.

"Never-Ending Dao Body!" As he spoke, heaven-shaking rumbles sounded from his body. An extra four arms and two heads sprouted from his body, giving him three heads and six arms!

This was the true body that all Never-Ending Clan members possessed. And as his true body appeared, his cultivation and combat strength exploded forth more intensely. A storm was also formed outside his body, and it swept towards Wang Baole.

The both of them were lightning quick. If ordinary cultivators were there, they probably couldn't even make out their bodies properly. They could only see two blurry patches of light clashing together in an instant.

As a loud boom echoed in the surroundings, Wang Baole's Supernova was completely blocked by two of Dan Zhouzi's arms, and the sound instantly spread. Although the punch that contained Wang Baole's Supernova didn't push Dan Zhouzi back, his two arms trembled violently.

As the impact from their clash spread outwards, a cold glint flashed between Dan Zhouzi's eyes. As he used two hands to block, he raised his other two arms quickly, smashing them towards Wang Baole's head.

His aura was imposing, and one could imagine that once they landed, Wang Baole's head would definitely collapse. But Wang Baole's counterattack was extremely fast and furious as well. His right hand Divine Armament transmogrified instantly, and he didn't dodge at all as he slashed towards Dan Zhouzi's neck!

The kamikaze-like attack made Dan Zhouzi's soul jolt. He felt that he had met a madman whose attacks were all extremely vicious. But he reacted extremely quickly as well. As he gritted his teeth, he also had viciousness in his eyes. The two arms continued smashing towards Wang Baole's head as he raised his other two arms rapidly to forcefully block Wang Baole's Divine Armament.

The power of the Divine Armament couldn't be completely stopped by two arms, but Dan Zhouzi's viciousness exploded forth at that moment. He actually self-destructed those two arms without hesitation and forcefully blocked the attack.

All of that seemed to happen in slow motion, but in reality, it all happened the moment they clashed. Every attack seemed to be able to decide whether they would live or die. Dan Zhouzi was a Planet realm, after all, and he unleashed his Never-Ending Dao Body. He had the advantage in that regard. He had resisted the divine powers of Wang Baole's left and right hand, and his two arms neared Wang Baole's head like two mountains...

This scene made the sealed Shan Lingzi stop struggling for a moment, and he had an excited expression. In the next moment... the scene he wished to see, actually appeared!

As rumbles sounded, frenzy appeared in Wang Baole's eyes. But it was of no use. Even though he unleashed all his might to try and retreat, there was no way Dan Zhouzi would give him the chance to do so. In an instant, his two arms landed, and Wang Baole's body trembled violently as he let out a shrill scream. His head exploded, and his body also seemed to be unable to withstand Dan Zhouzi's violent power as it exploded as well, turning into blood and gore that spread outwards.

His death came too suddenly, such that Dan Zhouzi was stunned by his success. In his heart, he still felt that something was amiss at that moment. But just as that feeling appeared, and before he could do anything about it, the dispersed blood and gore turned into mist in a heartbeat.

Because of the dispersal of the blood and gore, the mist spread all around Dan Zhouzi, seemingly surrounding him. As the blood and gore turned into mist, and as Dan Zhouzi panicked and his pupils narrowed, the mist moved and gushed towards his body!

Chapter 903: I'm Revealing My Identity!

He was so fast that he gave Dan Zhouzi absolutely no time to resist. As Dan Zhouzi's expression changed, the mist neared and gushed into his body.

The intense pain made Dan Zhouzi let out a shrill cry of pain, and an extremely strong sense of danger made him feel shocked in his heart while his body shivered. That was especially so because he felt that his soul was being shaken. It was like there was fire spreading both inside and outside his body, threatening to incinerate him.

In this time of danger, Dan Zhouzi was clear that he couldn't hesitate. His eyes turned red instantly as he screamed, and one of his heads exploded. Using the power of the head's self-destruction, he tried to force the mist out of his body. It was pretty effective. One could see that the mist, which had mostly gushed into his body originally, was blocked outside his body, and it showed signs of being forced out.

But, obviously, that wasn't enough. So, Dan Zhouzi roared and made two of his four remaining arms self-destruct!

With the explosive power of one head and two arms, which turned into a powerful repelling force, he finally completely forced out all of the mist that had gushed into his body.

As the mist dispersed, Dan Zhouzi rapidly retreated, his face turning pale. Where he was previously, the mist he forced out quickly gathered and turned into Wang Baole's silhouette.

"Who the heck are you!" Seeing such a demonic scene, an intense fear appeared in Dan Zhouzi's eyes as he growled.

There was no way for him not to be scared. Truly, although he didn't fight Wang Baole for long, his life hung in the balance every time they clashed. Wang Baole's kamikaze style made his head hurt.

And the thing that made his head hurt the most was his weird divine powers. He already collapsed after being hit by him just now, but he somehow turned into mist in the next moment and almost killed him. Such a weird technique gave him no choice but to take his opponent much more seriously than before.

But he also knew that the Never-Ending Dao Domain was too huge and contained countless different races. Even if he was a Never-Ending Clan member, there were still many races and civilizations he had never seen before. So, his first judgment now was that... the opponent in front of him must be a cultivator from a certain special race.

That was why he let out that doubtful growl. In reality, asking that question represented that he intended to retreat. Obviously, he didn't want to risk his life to obtain the opportunity Shan Lingzi spoke of.

In fact, he even suspected that the opportunity Shan Lingzi spoke of might not be that way. Otherwise... with the cultivation of the person in front of him, if he really had the imitation of the Galaxy Bow, he only needed to pull the bow with all his strength. Then, it would be difficult for him to escape, and he would definitely die.

Moreover, it was obvious that he had fallen for a trap this time. Therefore, Dan Zhouzi wanted to retreat more and more. That being said, he was still a little indignant. After all, he had been chasing Wang Baole

for quite a while and had wasted a lot of time. He was unable to just return empty-handed. Hence, he decided to see if he could ask something to prepare for his future revenge.

As for Wang Baole, after he heard Dan Zhouzi's words, a smile appeared on his face. The thing he loved the most was for others to ask him that question. So, after his silhouette gathered, Wang Baole licked his lips and laughed as he looked at the cautious Dan Zhouzi.

"I'm your daddy!"

He spoke using the Dark Sect's language, which was also the language of the Never-Ending Clan now, so Dan Zhouzi heard him loud and clear, and his expression became uglier. After taking a deep look at Wang Baole, he humphed. Since he didn't get the answer that he wanted, a cold glint flashed between his eyes.

No matter what, I have to try again! I can't just leave like this! Thinking to this point, Dan Zhouzi flicked his body and charged out towards Wang Baole.

Wang Baole narrowed his eyes and also charged out. Instantly, the two of them attacked rapidly in the cosmos. Divine powers transmogrified, and rumbles rose from all around. In a short amount of time, they exchanged blows up to a hundred times.

Although Dan Zhouzi was strong and unleashed his Planet realm power, Wang Baole was even weirder. Occasionally, his body would turn into mist. With that, he could avoid Dan Zhouzi's trump card while also being able to counterattack. This made it so that Dan Zhouzi couldn't help but avoid it.

That way, the waves created in the cosmos in their surroundings got bigger and bigger. In the end, a cosmos storm was created. While it rumbled towards all directions, Dan Zhouzi's body retreated rapidly under Wang Baole's Supernova. But while he retreated, he raised his right hand and growled.

"Golden beetle seal!" As his growl sounded, the golden beetle, which was floating in the distance, suddenly spread its wings and emitted a shrill sound. Its body also instantly became blurry as it headed straight for Dan Zhouzi. And as it sped towards him, its appearance changed. In the blink of an eye, it turned into a giant golden seal. Dan Zhouzi unleashed all of his cultivation, and his veins bulged on his forehead as the shadow of a planet transmogrified behind him. The light of the seal shone brightly as it suppressed Wang Baole.

Seeing that, Wang Baole's pupils shrunk as he tried to avoid it. However, he immediately felt the extraordinariness of the golden beetle seal. It actually suppressed the surrounding void and caused Wang Baole to feel like he had nowhere to hide. And that was only one of the effects...

At that moment, the runes on the golden beetle seal shone, and its suppressive force even affected Wang Baole's cultivation and soul. This made Wang Baole's heart tremble. Although he had a way to resist it, any method would drain him and make him sustain losses.

And if such a draining happened while he was returning to the Divine Eye civilization, it would affect him after he returned. At the same time, it was okay if it drained him while also killing or heavily injuring his opponent. But under the effects of the golden beetle seal, the draining could only allow him to resist the golden beetle seal. If he continued fighting Dan Zhouzi, he would be drained even more... But if he waited to reduce his losses, it would be difficult for him to charge out under the golden beetle seal.

Once he was suppressed, he would lose all his previous agency and land himself into a completely passive situation.

This made Wang Baole's head hurt. In reality, although he was a perfected stage Spirit Immortal now and had a foundation that far exceeded that of ordinary cultivators, which allowed him to hold his own against Planet realms, he still felt that there was some distance between him and Dan Zhouzi.

Such a difference was manifested in terms of their techniques and ability to sustain in battle. For example, although the two of them seemed evenly matched as they clashed, with Wang Baole even seeming to have the upper hand, he was drained several times more than Dan Zhouzi. After all, the quality of his spirit energy was different from that of Dan Zhouzi.

If I reached the Planet realm... with my reserves, it wouldn't be so tiring for me to kill this guy. In fact, it wouldn't be impossible for me to kill him instantly! Wang Baole felt a tinge of regret in his heart. But his sense of regret was a luxury. If any other Spirit Immortal saw the fight between the two of them, they would definitely be extremely shocked and even filled with disbelief.

Truly... to be able to have such an upper hand against an early-stage Planet realm with just a perfected stage Spirit Immortal realm cultivation, although not unheard of in the entire Never-Ending Dao Domain, only chosen ones from top family clans or factions could achieve it.

So, while Wang Baole was filled with emotion, Dan Zhouzi, who unleashed the golden beetle seal, was guessing the identity of the person in front of him in his heart. At this moment, he had already realized that Wang Baole wasn't a Planet realm and was instead a Spirit Immortal. But because of that, he felt even more anxious and doubtful. He couldn't believe that Wang Baole had an ordinary background. To him, Wang Baole's background had to be extraordinary.

Wang Baole didn't hide his frustration. The expression he displayed and his furrowed eyebrows made it very obvious. He was pondering how to charge out without being drained. Then, even if he was drained, he would have already maximized the value... So, as the suppression of the golden beetle seal arrived, Wang Baole suddenly heaved a long sigh.

"So be it. As the chosen one of my family clan's current generation, I don't wanna play with you anymore. I'll reveal my identity. You really want to know my identity, right? I'll tell you then." As he spoke, Wang Baole raised his right hand and grabbed something from his storage bag. Instantly, a jade token appeared in his hand!

It was... the Peace Token that Xie Haiyang gave him.

But it wasn't the real one. The real one had dissipated a long time ago and had become an ordinary voice transmission jade slip. This one... was created by Wang Baole when he was on the meteorite. He decided to use it to scare people.

After taking it out, Wang Baole raised it high, an arrogant expression on his face as he spoke calmly.

"Xie family, Xie Dalu!"

Chapter 904: Going Overboard!

As the jade token was taken out and as he spoke, Dan Zhouzi, who was controlling the golden beetle seal, had a huge change in his expression as waves crashed in his heart. He had previously seen that kind of jade token before. When he saw it now, he couldn't help but have a change in expression. What was most important was that he was already guessing Wang Baole's background previously. Now that he heard that, he couldn't help but feel uneasy. If anyone else called himself that in front of him, he wouldn't believe them.

But, because of Wang Baole's cultivation and background, he wouldn't completely doubt him, though he wouldn't completely believe him either. So, he split some of his Divine Sense to check the authenticity of the jade token. While his soul was unsteady, his control over the golden beetle seal got delayed. Although he recovered control of it instantly, it was still too late.

After all, timing was most important in the clash between him and Wang Baole. Moreover, the delay was his own mistake, so the momentary delay was enough for Wang Baole. A strange glint flashed in his eyes as he dispersed his body and turned it into mist. With lightning-quick speed, he charged out of the boundary of the golden beetle seal. After he appeared, as Dan Zhouzi's expression changed again, the killing intent in Wang Baole's eyes exploded forth.

Behind him, the Demonic Eye Art transmogrified, forming a giant black eye that opened and stared at Dan Zhouzi. Instantly, an invisible binding force descended and caused Dan Zhouzi's body to freeze for a moment. His heart trembled, and while he secretly cursed, Wang Baole's body blurred, and four silhouettes flew out from his body in the next moment!

The four silhouettes were all silhouettes formed with his essence. They were like four sharp blades that charged towards Dan Zhouzi. But they didn't attack, instead... they self-destructed!

This was the fastest and most destructive attacking method Wang Baole could think of. And all that was extremely violent. Just as Dan Zhouzi's body recovered, Wang Baole's four avatars neared and... self-destructed in unison!

Rumbles exploded forth in the cosmos and instantly drowned out Dan Zhouzi's shrill cries of pain!

Wang Baole's attacks were fast, furious, and extremely powerful. One could say they were extremely incisive. But... there was still a little difference in foundation between him and Planet realms. Although he could heavily injure Dan Zhouzi, it would be somewhat difficult for him to kill Dan Zhouzi instantly.

And Never-Ending Clan Planet realms were slightly different from Planet realms of other races. To a certain extent, after they displayed their true bodies, the difficulty of killing them would shoot up drastically. After all, the name of the Dao Domain was the Never-Ending Dao Domain, so Never-Ending Clan members were destined to have it much better than those of other clans.

That was especially so because all Never-Ending Clan members had an intrinsic divine power, which was the ability to self-destruct their limbs. Their extra two heads and four arms had both offensive and defensive capabilities. They could self-destruct to harm foes, and they could also be used to resist life-threatening damage. In fact, it wouldn't be ridiculous to say that Never-Ending Clan members had three lives.

That was unless one could completely crush Never-Ending Clan members in terms of cultivation and combat strength and kill them extremely quickly. But Wang Baole obviously couldn't do that currently.

So, although Dan Zhouzi let out shrill cries of pain, he only had to pay a huge price, sacrificing one of his heads and an arm while also using the golden beetle seal to resist. With that, he finally survived the self-destruction of Wang Baole's four avatars.

It was just that the price he had to pay was too huge. The golden beetle seal was damaged, and his true body was also almost crippled as his cultivation started becoming unsteady. He was in an extremely bad state and only had a left hand remaining. As blood spread around his body, Dan Zhouzi's silhouette rapidly retreated. Waves of fear and shock had already crashed onto his heart, and at this moment, he didn't have any thoughts of continuing the battle. The only thought he had in his mind was to escape no matter what!

So, after charging out of the blast radius, Dan Zhouzi used his only remaining left hand to weave hand seals without hesitation, causing the golden beetle seal to change back into the golden beetle. He stepped into it with a flicker of his body and used all his might to control it. It turned into a golden ray of light and escaped towards the cosmos in the distance.

He felt extreme fear towards this weird foe, and his escape caused Shan Lingzi, who was sealed at one corner, to turn even paler as desperation appeared in his eyes.

Wang Baole was also feeling upset. Creating four avatars and making them self-destruct also drained him greatly. But he gritted his teeth, and the killing intent in his eyes was abnormally steady and intense.

I've already experienced the consequences of being pursued after not eliminating threats from the root of the problem. Although my cultivation level wasn't high enough that time and the conditions didn't allow me to, this time... I absolutely can't allow myself to always be in the mind of and hated by someone in the future! Wang Baole was very clear that if he completely exterminated Shan Lingzi during the Flame Patriarch's mission back then, he wouldn't have encountered this situation.

Moreover, he was lucky this time. He had just achieved a breakthrough and went into this battle in peak condition. But he didn't know whether he would be so lucky the next time. As those thoughts flashed in his mind, Wang Baole raised his right hand and grabbed towards the sealed Shan Lingzi.

Instantly, he pulled Shan Lingzi's body over, sealed him again, and threw him into his storage bag. Afterward, his body turned into a large amount of mist that sped in the direction that Dan Zhouzi escaped to!

The pursuit continued for over twenty days. In the end, as Wang Baole kept chasing, the golden beetle got slower and slower because of its previous injuries, allowing Wang Baole to finally catch up with it and fight Dan Zhouzi again!

For this battle, their battle location was the cosmos of an extinct civilization. Rumbles echoed in their surroundings, and while the spread of waves didn't cause any planets to collapse, the meteorites floating in all directions broke apart.

Although Dan Zhouzi escaped, his only remaining arm was cut down by Wang Baole. As for the golden beetle, it already lacked the strength to escape. It was taken away by Wang Baole while on its dying breath and thrown into his storage bag after being sealed. Although he was tired and the Emperor Armor was greatly drained, he still gave chase.

“Xie Dalu, this was a misunderstanding. We don’t have any grievances against each other. Why are you giving your all just to chase me!” Dan Zhouzi was in a state of frenzy and sent his Divine Will out towards Wang Baole while escaping.

Wang Baole also admitted that what Dan Zhouzi said made sense, and those words would indeed have been effective if said before they fought. But... Wang Baole thought to himself that if he had been heavily injured by someone and had his true body destroyed, he would definitely feel indignant. He would also definitely seek revenge if given a chance to in the future.

After all, this didn’t only involve revenge, it also contained an opportunity. So, once he allowed his opponent to escape, it would basically guarantee that he would have to deal with many problems in the future.

“Don’t worry, I can swear that I’ll never seek revenge in the future. If I knew you were a disciple of the Xie family earlier, I would never have given chase.” Seeing that Wang Baole was unmoved, Dan Zhouzi immediately got anxious and explained hurriedly. But in return were Wang Baole’s cold words.

“I don’t believe you!” As he spoke, Wang Baole accelerated. As the Emperor Armor unleashed all its power, he caught up in an instant and slashed with his Divine Armament again!

Dan Zhouzi became even more frenzied as he tried his best to resist. As rumbles sounded, Wang Baole put him in such a passive situation that he had no choice but to fight. Within this foreign cosmos, he kept fighting as blood spread all around!

“You’ve gone overboard!” Seeing that he was getting weaker and weaker and that his cultivation was highly unstable, Dan Zhouzi went crazy as his body trembled. Even he didn’t believe that he wouldn’t seek revenge. It was highly likely that once he escaped, he would carry out a secret investigation. Afterward, he would seek help and search for Wang Baole. If he couldn’t find Wang Baole himself, he would probably spread the information about the Galaxy Bow imitation. That could bring trouble for Wang Baole. It would bring him solace even if it indirectly caused Wang Baole’s death.

But it was fine for him not to believe himself. The fact that Wang Baole didn’t believe him made him frustrated. Coupled with how he was suppressed all the way, there was only one option in front of him.

That was... to create an opportunity by self-destructing his physical body to allow his soul to escape like what Shan Lingzi did previously. Although that had huge consequences, it was his only option now. Moreover, he had a mystic technique that allowed him to hide his soul, making it undetectable as he escaped. So, as he growled, his eyes turned red. In the next moment, his body instantly emitted a golden glow. The light intensified instantly, and the illusory image of a planet transmogrified behind him, spreading outwards violently. As cracks sounded, his body and planet collapsed and exploded!

Chapter 905: Pretty Gutsy!

The shockwaves it created turned into a destructive storm that swept in all directions. Wang Baole’s pupils shrunk. Being daring enough to give chase, he naturally knew the explosive power of a Planet realm that was forced to self-destruct. So, as his opponent self-destructed, Wang Baole rapidly weaved hand seals with both hands and unleashed all the power of the Emperor Armor. While retreating, he

also activated the Divine Justice Shield and took out the twelve emperor puppets and extra Dharmic Battleships from his storage bag. Even the sealed Shan Lingzi, who couldn't resist, was taken out to defend him!

At that moment, he wasn't worried about being identified. While the full power of the Demonic Eye Art was unleashed, Dark Fire dispersed in the surroundings and formed a giant black fireball.

All that setup was completed in the blink of an eye. In the next moment, the impact from Dan Zhouzi's self-destruction exploded forth in the cosmos. Looking from afar, the self-destruction formed a light that became extremely resplendent. As rumbles sounded, Wang Baole's body retreated more quickly, but it was still engulfed within it.

The Dark Fire burnt for about three breaths before dissipating, and the demonic eye was also sustained for three breaths. Afterward, the twelve emperor puppets' souls were stored away in time, though their bodies were wiped out. They held on for two breaths. Then, Shan Lingzi was forced to self-destruct in exchange for two breaths, but his soul was also pulled away by Wang Baole in time!

That way, the impact of Dan Zhouzi's self-destruction was resisted by Wang Baole, with him barely taking any damage during that ten breaths. The impact only hit Wang Baole after that. That meant that he used external power to neutralize most of the self-destruction's power. Although the remaining impact still damaged him, it didn't deal much damage.

And as a cold glint shone in Wang Baole's eyes, he raised his right hand and gathered the Dark Fire again. Sounds of complicated chants spread, and after they gathered, they formed an imposing sound that echoed through the cosmos.

"Dark Art, Soul Guidance!" The sound turned into invisible waves that ignored the disturbances of Dan Zhouzi's self-destruction as they swept and spread towards the surroundings. Meanwhile, an illusory shadow appeared in the southeast direction as the waves engulfed it!

The illusory shadow was Dan Zhouzi's soul, which was making use of the self-destruction to escape!

"Impossible! You, you... you're someone from the Dark Sect!" Dan Zhouzi's expression completely changed as intense disbelief and desperation appeared in his eyes. While he let out a shrill cry, it was also difficult for him to escape as Wang Baole grabbed with his right hand. He was bound by the waves that quickly gathered from the surroundings, and no matter how he struggled, it had no effect. In the next moment, he was pulled in front of Wang Baole and grabbed by him!

Killing a Planet realm really does take quite a bit of effort. Wang Baole humphed and looked at Dan Zhouzi's soul in his hands. Although the soul looked illusory, it was still similar to Dan Zhouzi's appearance. At the same time, it also gave him a feeling of highly concentrated soul power.

As for Dan Zhouzi's soul, which was bound by the Dark Art, it couldn't struggle at all. He also couldn't self-destruct his soul and even slipped into a coma slowly. It seemed that under the Dark Art, all his resistance was futile.

Wang Baole observed for a while. After all, this was his first time capturing a Planet realm cultivator's soul. He also sensed that a pulling force seemed to exist deep within the cosmos that seemed to want to

take away the soul. It was just that the pulling force wasn't very powerful and was disrupted by the Dark Art, so Wang Baole could still resist it.

But he had a gut feeling that if he didn't attack using his Dark Art and destroyed the soul, the pulling force would have increased infinitely in the next moment until it sucked away the soul he destroyed. If all conditions were met, it would still be possible for Dan Zhouzi to revive several years later.

But if his soul was wiped away by the Dark Art, that possibility would disappear.

Is that the Never-Ending Clan's Heavenly Dao... Wang Baole pondered as the demonic eye behind him transmogrified again. The black eye opened, showing a cold gaze. If one looked closely, those familiar with Wang Baole would realize that the gaze of the black eye came from the same source as Wang Baole!

This was the change in the Demonic Eye Art that happened after he wiped away the Divine Eye civilization's first generation patriarch. It meant that the Demonic Eye Art had completely become his personal divine power, and there were no future threats.

After sensing the Demonic Eye Art's black eye, a strange glint flashed between Wang Baole's eyes. He was about to throw the soul in his hands towards the demonic eye behind him, to let it absorb the soul and turn it into his cultivation. But very quickly, he paused. After thinking, he took out Shan Lingzi's soul from his storage bag.

When Shan Lingzi appeared, his whole body trembled. His eyes were full of intense fear and desperation as he looked towards Wang Baole. Although he didn't see the entire battle, Dan Zhouzi's escape previously and the self-destruction of his physical body made him understand how scary the pig-headed man from before was. That was especially so considering Dan Zhouzi's soul was captured alive. This made him feel extremely bitter.

"Just kill me. I've accepted my fate!" He felt bitter, but a resolute will spread from Shan Lingzi's soul. He was prepared to die. In fact, after experiencing the collapse of his physical body back then, he had prepared before coming. He had some confidence that he could find a chance to revive many years later after he died.

"Pretty gutsy, eh?" Wang Baole looked at Shan Lingzi and suddenly laughed. In front of Shan Lingzi, he threw Dan Zhouzi's soul towards the giant demonic eye behind him. Instantly, the demonic eye's pupil expanded. It was like a black hole and a giant mouth as it sucked Dan Zhouzi's soul into it.

Afterward, the demonic eye swelled rapidly as though a storm was spreading within it. In fact, it was even trembling uncontrollably. Obviously, to the demonic eye, the absorption this time was unprecedentedly huge nourishment!

After all, this was... killing a Planet realm and absorbing his soul!

Rumbles exploded forth from within the demonic eye. As they sounded out consecutively, and as the demonic eye absorbed, the backlash also started. A stream of heat gushed into Wang Baole's body from the demonic eye, causing his body to tremble violently. All the losses of the Emperor Armor were instantly replenished. At the same time, his cultivation also rose from its original foundation, reaching the maximum point of what he could withstand.

Wang Baole understood that he could no longer continue staying at the Spirit Immortal realm. So, although there was still a lot of Dan Zhouzi's soul power left, it was difficult for him to continue absorbing it, as though he was a fully filled bottle. That was unless he broke through to the Planet realm and exchanged for an even bigger bottle...

Although that was the case, the benefits of absorbing a Planet realm soul hadn't ended. The changes in the demonic eye became more obvious and, faintly, within its pupil... a double-image appeared as though a second pupil was growing!

Such a change was unexpected, even for Wang Baole. The Divine Eye Art didn't mention this, so it was obviously a change that happened on its own after the Divine Eye Art was modified by the Dark Art!

After all, the Dark Sect only had the Nascent Soul Demonic Eye Art. Everything that followed was cultivated by Wang Baole using the Divine Eye Art. So now, his Demonic Eye Art was an unprecedented path of evolution to a certain extent!

While such gains made Wang Baole feel extremely comfortable, excitement also appeared in his eyes. Although killing a Planet realm was difficult and drained him a lot, he gained a lot from it too. Getting rid of a future threat was just one of the benefits. Even though Dan Zhouzi's storage bag collapsed, the increase in cultivation and replenishing of the Emperor Armor made Wang Baole feel that it was worth it. That was especially so considering he still had much of Dan Zhouzi's soul power stored away.

At the same time, his gains also included the golden beetle. Although the beetle was on its dying breath, Wang Baole felt that he could repair and completely control it. After all, the beetle could turn into the golden beetle seal and could be considered a kind of Dharmic treasure to a certain extent. So, while feeling extremely satisfied, Wang Baole purposely licked his lips and displayed a look of greed as he looked towards Shan Lingzi, who was already scared out of his wits by that scene.

Chapter 906: Don't Be Rash, Fellow Daoist!

He didn't need to threaten him at all. After seeing that Wang Baole had a way to indirectly absorb Dan Zhouzi's soul and that his body had grown, Shan Lingzi immediately felt frightened. He didn't feel that there was still a chance to revive after being absorbed like that. Although he didn't know how Wang Baole did it, the weirdness coming from Wang Baole's body still made Shan Lingzi's heart tremble. His gaze was completely filled with fear.

"Fellow Daoist, let's talk things through nicely. Don't be rash..." Shan Lingzi shivered as he spoke anxiously. He was scared that he would have no time to say it. But as he spoke, Wang Baole raised his right hand and grabbed him. He feigned the action of throwing him towards the demonic eye behind him and spoke calmly.

"I wasn't rash, it's just that there's no use in letting you live!"

"There is a use!" Shan Lingzi screamed in horror rapidly.

"Fellow Daoist, I... I can recognize you as my master! Master, so long as you promise not to kill me, I... I can help you open the storage ring, I... I can tell you the origins of the three items inside the storage ring.

I can also tell you how to use them. Please don't be rash, Master, I'm very useful!" Shan Lingzi, who became completely submissive as he tried not to get absorbed, spoke extremely hurriedly.

And that was exactly what Wang Baole needed. So before absorbing Dan Zhouzi just now, he purposely took out Shan Lingzi. His goal was to let him see all that. That way, he wouldn't have to interrogate Shan Lingzi.

Now, it looked to be pretty effective, and Shan Lingzi had already started recognizing him as his master. Wang Baole was pretty satisfied with his intelligence, but he furrowed his eyebrows and displayed a little hesitation, looking as though he was deliberating about whether it was worth it.

He guessed that Wang Baole's hesitation was displayed on purpose to frighten him, but there was nothing Shan Lingzi could do about it. He could only grit his teeth and say some valuable information first to gain Wang Baole's trust.

"Master, I obtained the three items in the storage ring from ruins. The three items are the paper human cutout, one of the nine great imitations of the Galaxy Bow, and the... wishing bottle!"

Listening to this point, Wang Baole got interested and looked towards Shan Lingzi.

Noticing Wang Baole's gaze, Shan Lingzi heaved a sigh of relief in his heart. But he knew that he couldn't hesitate now. So, he gritted his teeth again and continued speaking.

"The paper human cutout has mysterious origins, but according to my research and checking the ancient literature for all these years, I'm guessing it's connected to the legendary Graveyard of Stars!

"Legend has it that every time the Graveyard of Stars is activated, several boats go out to ferry all those who have places. After gathering everyone, the boats take them back to the Graveyard of Stars, which no one knows the specific location of. And the boats are very special. Only those with places can see them. For others, the boats are invisible!

"And legend has it that the ferrymen on the boats from the Graveyard of Stars are... paper human cutouts!

"So, I'm guessing that the paper human cutout in the storage ring should have been a ferryman of one of the boats previously. But for some reason, he didn't return after going out..."

Speaking to that point, Shan Lingzi didn't continue. Instead, he looked piteously towards Wang Baole. Obviously, he wanted Wang Baole to guarantee that he wouldn't kill him.

Even if the so-called guarantee was just a spoken promise, Shan Lingzi would be willing to accept that. He knew that he had no right to make Wang Baole swear that he wouldn't kill him and that a spoken promise wasn't safe. However, he had no other choice, and there wasn't much use in keeping information about the items in the storage ring from Wang Baole.

After all... since he could discover the information, it wasn't that much of a secret. One portion came from ancient literature, and he learned the other portion by himself. If Wang Baole spent a little time, he would be able to find the information.

Shan Lingzi thought that if he used that to threaten Wang Baole, he would be looking for death. Instead, if he just told Wang Baole everything, he might still have a chance of survival. So, he begged piteously as he displayed the unease and fear in his heart.

Shan Lingzi's choice was correct. If he really used the information to threaten Wang Baole previously, with Wang Baole's personality, it was highly likely that Wang Baole would seal him and forcefully search his soul after he reached the Planet realm.

As for whether he was dead or alive, Wang Baole wouldn't care. But Shan Lingzi's active cooperation made Wang Baole very satisfied. He also felt that his plan had worked. Wang Baole didn't speak immediately, pondering in his mind instead. After cross-checking his previous encounter with the ethereal spirit boat with Shan Lingzi's words, his soul kept trembling.

It seems that my previous guesses were correct! Wang Baole narrowed his eyes. When he suddenly looked in the direction of the Divine Eye civilization, another thought arose in his mind.

Could it be that the ethereal spirit boat's original destination was... the Divine Eye civilization? Because the Divine Eye civilization's royalty has a place... Yameng previously said that the Divine Eye civilization's place seemed to be infused into the royal bloodline, and it was very difficult for outsiders to obtain it. They could only willingly transfer it to others at the moment the Graveyard of Stars was activated!

If that's the case, maybe Yameng didn't know everything. The transfer of the Divine Eye civilization's place doesn't happen during the activation of the Graveyard of Stars, but... the arrival of the Fallen Star Boat? Multiple thoughts spun in Wang Baole's mind as a glimmer flashed between his eyes.

Maybe I also have a place? Wang Baole thought about it and brushed away that thought. Although he seemed to possess the royal bloodline, it was tied to the Demonic Eye Art and not truly possessed by his physical body. So, he wasn't naturally related by blood to the real royalty.

Therefore, it was extremely improbable for him to have that place.

But there's no harm in... Wang Baole narrowed his eyes. He thought about how the paper human cutout seemed to purposely tremble previously to guide Shan Lingzi and Dan Zhouzi to him. He also thought of the abnormality of the paper human cutout after he used the Dao Scripture.

All those signs weaved together in his mind. Although he wasn't completely clear of the truth, he wasn't too far from it. So, after pondering, he looked at Shan Lingzi's soul.

He nodded his head slightly and spoke calmly.

"That's enough. If you have any other information about the paper human cutout, don't hide it. Tell me immediately, and I can consider your future mercifully."

Those words weren't the perfect promise Shan Lingzi wanted, but he dared not ask for too much. So, he quickly spoke obsequiously as he told Wang Baole all he knew truthfully.

"Master, I dare not offend the paper human cutout. I only know this much... But, I know more about the other items in the storage ring..." Shan Lingzi was a little nervous. He noticed that Wang Baole seemed to be more interested in the paper human cutout, and he was scared of activating Wang Baole's killing intent because he didn't know enough. Because of that, he spoke quickly.

“The power of the bow in the storage ring can be said to be heaven-shaking. Master, this bow has an extraordinary background. According to my many years of research, I can finally confirm that this bow is one of the legendary nine great Galaxy Bow imitations in the Never-Ending Dao Domain!”

“Galaxy Bow?” Wang Baole focused his gaze on the bow in the storage ring. He remembered that it was embellished with ten Eternal Star-like spheres and looked very astonishing while feeling very majestic. After hearing Shan Lingzi’s words, he finally knew the bow’s name.

“Master is indeed knowledgeable. You’ve recognized the origins of this bow. Indeed, this bow is an imitation of the Galaxy Bow. In the Never-Ending Dao Domain, there are ten Star Domain Absolute treasures that are extremely famous. Six of them already have owners, but four of them have been missing for many years. No one knows where they are. And among them is the Galaxy Bow!” Shan Lingzi bootlicked without a trace as he continued speaking hurriedly.

“The true Galaxy Bow has 30,000 Eternal Stars embellished on it. Once pulled, it can make galaxies and laws collapse, shattering all laws. Its sheer power is simply indescribable!”

“An artifact-refinement master followed some clues and used his entire life to create nine imitations. Every one of them is embellished with ten Eternal Stars. Although they’re worlds apart from the true Galaxy Bow, to Eternal Star cultivators, they are worth a fortune and are things they could only dream of possessing!” Speaking to that point, Shan Lingzi swept his gaze at Wang Baole.

Chapter 907: Mysterious Side Effects...

To increase his persuasiveness and make Wang Baole ignore the fact that he didn’t know much about the paper human cutout, Shan Lingzi gave an example.

“Master, I didn’t dare reveal that I had the imitation of the Galaxy Bow previously. If not, with the bow’s value, if I could have sold it safely, I could have bought a thousand civilizations. In fact, if I contacted Star Domain realm mighty figures, I could have used it to exchange for a favor from them. But I would have had to be able to withstand it and have the right to have such a favor. If not, it would have been all too easy for me to be swallowed alive...” Shan Lingzi felt a little bitter in his heart. He lost precisely because he didn’t have that right.

Although he was a Planet realm, he didn’t have much background within the Never-Ending Clan. Because of that, even though he possessed an absolute treasure, he still had to tread very carefully and dared not reveal it. As for presenting it to his higher-ups, he dared not do that either. That was more dangerous than simply revealing that he possessed the Galaxy Bow imitation. That was because he knew that he couldn’t survive getting checked and would get his other two items confiscated as well.

A favor from a Star Domain realm mighty figure? Wang Baole had a weird expression. When Shan Lingzi told him it could be exchanged for a thousand civilizations, he thought it was really valuable. But after hearing the second half of the sentence, he suddenly thought that it wasn’t that valuable.

After all, his senior brother was at least a Star Domain realm mighty figure. Wang Baole felt that even if he wanted thousands of favors... it wouldn’t be too difficult.

If Shan Lingzi knew all his thoughts, he would probably have spit out a mouthful of blood. Truly, the difference between them was even greater than the distance between heaven and earth.

“That’s enough. Tell me about the bottle.” Wang Baole waved his hand and asked about the mysterious little bottle. In reality, Shan Lingzi’s judgment about the three items in the storage ring was incorrect. What Wang Baole cared most about was neither the paper human cutout nor the Galaxy Bow.

He only cared about the former because it was weird and connected to the Graveyard of Stars, which he actually cared about. As for the latter... Wang Baole felt that he had no use for it now, so it was enough to just know its value.

The item he really cared about was the little bottle. His instincts told him that the mysteriousness of the bottle might far exceed that of the paper human cutout.

In reality, that was indeed the case because... Shan Lingzi, who kept recounting information smoothly from the start, paused at that moment. He didn’t do it on purpose, as it was simply his instinct that made him do so. But after seeing the hostility in Wang Baole’s gaze, he shuddered and immediately told him everything he knew, not daring to hide anything.

“Master... I don’t know the origins of the little bottle. I couldn’t find any clues about the item from any ancient literature. I only know that this bottle seems to have existed for an extremely long time. And its use... according to my many years of research, I finally found something. This item seems to be... a wishing bottle!” Shan Lingzi spoke carefully. He feared that he wasn’t detailed enough and thus elaborated.

“The bottle can’t be opened, and the words on the paper in it have become blurry. I can’t see what’s written on the paper...”

The words are unclear? Wang Baole narrowed his eyes and took a close look at Shan Lingzi. He didn’t think that Shan Lingzi would deceive him about that, but he remembered seeing the words “a rich person” in it previously.

This made Wang Baole feel astonished in his heart, but he didn’t display it at all in his expression.

“I can’t see the words clearly, but I can confirm that this is a wishing bottle. It’s just that it’s only effective occasionally. Sometimes, it doesn’t work... However, when it’s actually effective, while it grants the wish of the one who made it, unimaginable side effects descend...” Speaking to that point, bitterness and fear appeared in Shan Lingzi’s eyes as though some horrifying side effects had happened to him before.

“Side effects?” Wang Baole raised his eyebrows.

“You must have wished successfully before. Tell me about the side effects!”

Shan Lingzi immediately went silent. After a while, he seemed to lose all his strength as he lowered his head and spoke softly.

“Master, I used to... be a female cultivator.”

"Female cultivator? The heck? What are you saying... Ugh..." Wang Baole didn't really understand Shan Lingzi's words at first, but when he was halfway through his sentence, Wang Baole stared wide and looked blankly at Shan Lingzi's soul. Confusion appeared in his eyes.

"Female? You used to be a female?"

Shan Lingzi smiled bitterly as he looked at Wang Baole and nodded.

"You're kidding me, right? Ah? Even your soul is male..." Wang Baole felt his mind turn upside down, and his first reaction was that Shan Lingzi was too bold and actually dared to mess with him. So, he stared as a killing aura rose.

This made Shan Lingzi shudder in fear as he quickly explained everything.

"Hear me out, Master. Although I used to be a female cultivator, men enjoy a higher status than women in the Never-Ending Clan. Therefore, I always hid my gender. After obtaining the wishing bottle back then, I researched it for many years. And the reason I could successfully become a Planet realm was that I wished successfully at a crucial moment."

"It was just that the consequence was me turning into a male cultivator. I wished myself back into a female cultivator before, but as I made other wishes, I changed back into a male cultivator... Besides that, the wishing bottle's side effects are exceedingly strange... I remember that there was once when I actually turned into a tree after a successful wish... That continued for three years." Shan Lingzi had a bitter expression. Normally, there was no way he could tell this to anyone. But right now, he finally vented his frustrations in front of Wang Baole, and every word was filled with ruefulness.

As Wang Baole listened to Shan Lingzi's words, his eyes stared wider, his heart shaken. He also felt intense shock. Nonetheless, he couldn't help but be interested... Truly, if the wishing bottle was really like how Shan Lingzi described it, it would be way too overpowered.

You could even achieve a breakthrough just by wishing for it... what a treasure. Wang Baole was moved, but he also hesitated about the side effects Shan Lingzi talked about. However, when he thought about how his cultivation could possibly increase drastically, he thought that turning into a female cultivator for a few years wasn't something he couldn't accept.

Anyway, this Shan Lingzi said that he changed back... It'll be fine so long as it isn't permanent. Wang Baole felt more excited the more he thought about it. He felt that if he really became a female, he would just go into seclusion for a few years and keep trying to wish himself back to being male.

Thinking to this point, decisiveness appeared in Wang Baole's eyes as he took out the storage ring. After trying to infuse his Divine Will into it, he discovered that although the paper human cutout opened its eyes and exposed an ethereal glint, it didn't stop him. So, Wang Baole quickly took out the little bottle. When holding it in his hands, Wang Baole couldn't help but feel a little nervous. After gritting his teeth, he instantly made a wish loudly.

"I want to become the strongest person in the Never-Ending Dao Domain!"

The little bottle didn't react, and even Shan Lingzi's face twitched. But after noticing Wang Baole's hostile gaze sweeping towards him, Shan Lingzi sighed in his heart and quickly spoke.

“Master... I’ve made that wish before, but there’s no use... The wishing bottle is sometimes effective and sometimes not...”

Wang Baole had a doubtful expression. After thinking, he humphed and wished loudly again.

“I want to become a Star Domain realm mighty figure!”

The bottle still didn’t react.

“I want to become an Eternal Star realm mighty figure!” Wang Baole couldn’t believe it and roared. But... the bottle remained the same and didn’t change at all. This made Wang Baole very angry as he stared viciously at Shan Lingzi.

“Shan Lingzi, you dare lie to me?” Wang Baole raised his left hand and immediately pulled Shan Lingzi over. His expression showed anger and frustration, and the killing intent in his eyes was intense. Shan Lingzi was so scared that he screamed.

“Master, Master, listen to me. This isn’t my fault. The bottle is really only occasionally effective. You can’t control it...” Shan Lingzi was about to cry. He really spoke the truth without hiding anything. He felt horrified at the volatility of Wang Baole’s emotions and felt resentment as well. Truly, he felt that Wang Baole’s wishes were obviously unattainable. If he really could succeed, he would already be the strongest person in the Never-Ending Dao Domain, not captured alive and in the sorry state he was in right now.

Seeing Shan Lingzi’s expression, Wang Baole furrowed his eyebrows, and doubt still showed in his eyes. After thinking, he held the little bottle and wished again.

“I want to become a Planet realm!”

This was already Wang Baole’s bottom line. Shan Lingzi said previously that he used the little bottle to wish himself a breakthrough from the Spirit Immortal realm to the Planet realm. Therefore, Wang Baole felt that he might have indeed been too greedy previously and decided to make a small wish this time. However... after he spoke, the little bottle was exactly the same as before and didn’t change at all. This made Wang Baole’s expression turn extremely gloomy.

Chapter 908: Your Wish Is Granted!

He had a feeling that Shan Lingzi must be hiding something and that saying that the bottle only worked half the time was only a lie to hoodwink him. Even though the chances of Shan Lingzi lying were really slim, the fact that the bottle hadn’t worked angered Wang Baole. Fury rose within him, and he turned around and leveled a piercing look at Shan Lingzi. He spoke frostily.

“Shan Lingzi, I should applaud you for your bravery. Who could’ve thought that you had the guts to lie right to my face. I might have to kill you after all!” Wang Baole pretended that he was about to mete out punishment in an attempt to find out if Shan Lingzi had lied to him. But as those threatening words spilled from his lips... a sudden heat erupted from the wishing bottle in his right hand!

Shan Lingzi had been desperate to explain himself. He had barely opened his mouth before his Divine Soul suddenly shuddered and caved in right before Wang Baole's eyes. He turned to dust, his body and spirit destroyed completely and erased from this world without a trace!

Wang Baole was momentarily stunned by the scene that had just unfolded before him. He was certain that he hadn't done anything. He looked down abruptly at the wishing bottle in his hand, his eyes widening instantly. Incredulity appeared in his eyes.

"Did I just... somehow make a wish and get it fulfilled?" Wang Baole muttered to himself. He recalled how he had threatened to kill Shan Lingzi earlier, then stared at the spot where Shan Lingzi had turned to dust. He began to sulk. Sure, the wishing bottle seemed to work, but that hadn't been what he had truly wanted to wish for...

Is there something wrong with this thing? Wang Baole thought sullenly before inspecting his essence body hastily. He looked down and eyed his crotch, then patted his chest. There hadn't been any non-consensual changes to his sex. That gave him slight comfort.

He couldn't let it go, though. He held onto the wishing bottle and attempted to make another wish. He didn't wish for anything grand. Instead, he made a simple one. In fact, he made several at one go. The wishing bottle didn't erupt into a sudden burst of heat again.

Wang Baole had no choice but to give up out of exasperation.

This is just a useless piece of trash! Wang Baole concluded that the bottle was just a piece of junk. Sullenly, he stared at the piece of paper inside. He could only make out the three words that he had originally been able to read—a rich person. He had no way to open the bottle. In the end, he put the bottle away. Then, he released a long sigh and decided not to dwell on the bottle. Instead, his gaze turned towards the Divine Eye civilization. With a single bound, he sped off and headed for the Divine Eye civilization.

A few moments after he started flying, a bolt of white lightning suddenly appeared in the distant cosmos. Its appearance was abrupt. It was as if it had come out of nowhere. It raced towards Wang Baole at lightning speed, and Wang Baole barely noticed it until it was near him.

A sneak attack? Alarm flashed across Wang Baole's face as he retreated hastily. His Emperor Armor materialized over his form as he dodged the attack, and he snapped his head in the direction the bolt of lightning had come from. No matter how hard he inspected the area, he couldn't locate any enemy presence, which confounded him. This was the first time he had been struck by a sudden bolt of lightning that had appeared out of nowhere in the middle of space. He couldn't help but be reminded of what Shan Lingzi had said about the consequences of using the wishing bottle.

Is this the result of wishing upon the wishing bottle? Wang Baole blinked and wondered if something like this could even be deemed consequential. It seemed too weak to be of any significant consequence. He didn't pay it too much heed and continued his journey instead. However, he was soon struck by alarm again. His body shuddered, and waves of shock surged through his mind.

He simply couldn't believe it... Bolts of lightning began to appear time and again. Each lightning bolt wasn't incredibly powerful on its own, but with each new appearance, the number of lightning bolts that appeared increased, soon reaching a shocking figure...

He was eventually faced with a mass of lightning bolts that clustered together and filled the cosmos like a sea of lightning. It was a sea so vast it could blanket a good half of a civilization. It was impossible to count the number of lightning bolts in that sea. The bolts of lightning charged at him thunderously with the intention to wipe him out of existence.

Wang Baole emitted a shrill scream at the sight of the lightning bolts as he made a desperate escape.

Is there really a need to come to this?

Wang Baole's scalp was prickling with numbness. He hadn't thought much about the initial bolt of lightning. Even when the number of lightning bolts had risen to a few hundred bolts, he had remained unfazed. The lightning bolts were only at the Soul Conduit realm, after all. He could evade them easily. Even if he didn't manage to dodge them in time, it wouldn't be a big deal. It would be akin to scratching an itch he had.

But... the situation had evolved rapidly thereafter. The lightning bolts that had appeared in the cosmos around him had grown to an alarming number before he could set aside his initial unfazed attitude.

There were simply too many of them... billions and trillions of them. The numbers were beyond what a human mind could fathom. The countless lightning bolts gathered together and formed a sea of lightning so vast that it could drown half a civilization. The power that the sea possessed was akin to the joint attack of the same number of Soul Conduit realm cultivators... The attack could probably blow up the Divine Eye civilization and cause the civilization severe, irreparable damage. Compared to the Divine Eye civilization, Wang Baole was but a mere human.

Wang Baole... was on the verge of a mental breakdown. His eyes were red, and he was being overwhelmed by sheer terror. He knew that there was no chance he would survive if a blast from the sea of lightning were to land on him.

I've outlived the Heavenly Spirit Sect's right-hand elder, survived a trip to the Earth Spirit civilization, and killed a Planet realm cultivator. I've endured and survived numerous hardships and challenges. I'm just a few steps away from the Divine Eye civilization. Please don't let me die from some stupid consequences of wishing upon a bottle! Wang Baole was filled with immense regret. He knew that he shouldn't have made a wish on that bottle.

He shouldn't have underestimated the consequences of wishing upon the bottle.

I'll admit it. I was wrong... Wang Baole was on the verge of tears. He was giving all that he had as he ran desperately towards the Divine Eye civilization. He looked to be in a sorry state, but he couldn't be bothered about his appearances right now. He wished badly that he could appear at his destination with a snap of his fingers and put more distance between himself and the lightning bolts.

Of course... if the lightning bolts were to continue their pursuit all the way to the Divine Eye civilization and land a powerful blast on the civilization, he might be fine with that too... The price that he would have to bear for that to happen was too great, though, and Wang Baole couldn't help but feel torn.

There was no point in being distracted by such thoughts now. The most important thing now was to stay alive. But no matter how fast he ran, the lightning bolts that came after him remained in relentless pursuit. In fact, they seemed slightly more powerful than they had been a moment ago. Wang Baole

shuddered fearfully at that realization. This reminded him of his childhood days of being chased down by feral dogs.

Fortunately, he was extraordinarily quick on his feet. There was also a possibility that there was a presence hidden within the sea of lightning and that it had no genuine intention of killing Wang Baole. If that weren't the case, the sea of lightning could have easily caught up with Wang Baole or surrounded him. The incredible power that it exhibited was proof of what it was truly capable of.

Wang Baole had realized that, but he dared not risk his life on that possibility. He could only continue to flee sullenly. He continued to run, and the massive sea of lightning, which was the size of half a civilization, continued to pursue him. It was inevitable that minor civilizations in the area would notice them.

These small civilizations were relatively primitive civilizations of low intelligence. They were still in the primitive stages of tribal worship. Their people trembled fearfully when they looked up into the skies and saw vast regions of the heavens lit up in sudden blinding light. Everyone fell to their knees and began to kowtow. Some other civilizations had acquired the ability to observe the cosmos around them. Through various equipment and means, they caught sight of the awe-inspiring, massive sea of lightning in space and were seized by shock and awe.

What had shocked them the most was... their discovery of an extraterrestrial life form traveling in front of the sea of lightning that was moving at high speed. Intense shock coursed through their minds.

Numerous legends came to their minds instinctively. They realized that there was a great chance that the extraterrestrial life form was a cultivator that legends spoke of. They fell to their knees instantly and kowtowed.

Wang Baole didn't notice them at all. He was going out of his mind. He realized that the lightning bolts pursuing him would pick up speed the moment he let his guard down and slowed down slightly. When he picked up speed instead, they would slow down slightly in turn. As a result, a steady distance remained between Wang Baole and the sea of lightning.

Someone was clearly out to torment Wang Baole by using such tactics. Fury filled Wang Baole. What a horrible thing the wishing bottle was. The fact that Wang Baole had made a wish that hadn't been of any use to him at all made things worse.

I would've accepted the consequences readily if I'd wished for a breakthrough to the Planet realm and gotten it. But I didn't make a wish at all. I merely said something casually. Is that wishing bottle stupid? Wang Baole thought furiously. But there was nothing he could do about that besides clenching his jaw and continuing to flee. A few ships and a couple of cultivators who were capable of space travel across short distances came across the sight of Wang Baole's mad escape. Gasps of shock were a constant companion as Wang Baole raced madly into the distant cosmos.

Chapter 909: Return to the Divine Eye Civilization!

The pursuit lasted a full month. Just as Wang Baole had reached his limits and his mind was on the verge of a breakdown, the pursuing lightning bolts began showing signs of dissipating. It was as if a time limit

for their pursuit had been set, and they had finally reached the end of that time limit. Wang Baole's spirits soared at the sign of their dissipation. Expendng the last of his energy, he made a final charge into the distance. Finally, after three days, the last of the lightning bolts vanished without a trace.

Wang Baole turned back and stared at the cosmos. It had returned to its initial peaceful silence. He had a feeling that he had barely escaped death. At the same time, he was overcome by intense and growing fury and resentment. He had made up his mind. He wasn't going to make another wish unless it was his last resort!

"What a stupid bottle!" Wang Baole said furiously. He found himself a meteorite and sat down to catch his breath. He could sense that he was near the edge of the Divine Eye civilization.

It's probably going to take me another three days to reach the Divine Eye civilization. Those lightning bolts sure chose the right time to disappear... Wang Baole sighed. After a brief meditation session, he looked down and peeped into his storage bag. The golden beetle that he had gotten from Dan Zhouzi was resting inside. It appeared to be on its last leg.

However, it was being fed Red Crystals, which kept it alive for the moment. Now that Wang Baole had finally managed to catch his breath, he sent his Divine Will into the golden beetle and tried to imprint his will onto the creature. This would force the beetle to recognize Wang Baole as its master instead and allow Wang Baole to gain control over the creature.

Despite its severely weakened state, the beetle's mind resisted Wang Baole's intrusions. He could sense an extremely strong will that resisted subjugation. It appeared ready to die instead of submitting itself to Wang Baole's will.

That displeased Wang Baole tremendously. He had been hunted by lightning for a month and was in a terrible mood because of that. The foolhardy defiance that the golden beetle was displaying made him scoff. He was going to show the beetle who the boss was.

"Enlightened..." Wang Baole said casually as he invoked the all-powerful Dao Scripture.

It didn't take long before a will that didn't seem to belong to this world surged from what seemed like the farthest part of the cosmos. It descended with incredible power and let the weight of that vast power fall... upon a tiny bug.

The obstinate golden beetle let out a pained howl almost immediately. It abandoned all resistance and began to shudder violently. Extremely pleased, Wang Baole imprinted his Divine Sense on the creature.

"I see that you finally know who the boss around here is now." Wang Baole rose proudly to his feet and, with a wave of his sleeves, decided to leave the meteorite and continue his journey. The power of the Dao Scripture had begun to fade away. As he got ready to step off the meteorite, he thought he heard a scoff in his ear.

It seemed to have come from the farthest depths of the universe. At the same time, it seemed to not be of this universe. It seemed to come from the same source that the will in the Dao Scripture had come from. Wang Baole shuddered instantly, and shock flashed across his face. He looked around hastily as his heart began to race.

After searching the surrounding cosmos fearfully and with suspicion, Wang Baole finally rubbed his nose and left the area with haste. He remained vigilant and tense until he managed to put considerable distance between himself and the meteorite. That was when he allowed himself to release a long sigh.

It seems like I have to use the Dao Scripture sparingly now. I have a feeling... that the unknown presence in the Dao Scripture might just wake up if I keep invoking it... Wang Baole's face fell. He was putting himself in the other entity's shoes. If a mosquito were to start buzzing around him when he was about to doze off, the first thing he would probably do when he shook himself awake... was squash the mosquito.

That thought sent fear rippling through Wang Baole. He repeatedly sighed as he made his way towards the borders of the Divine Eye civilization. Days later, he finally reached his destination. He set aside the depressing thoughts that had been plaguing him and narrowed his eyes. An icy light flashed across his eyes as he eyed the Divine Eye civilization before him.

"I'm back!" Wang Baole said mildly. He had been forced to run away and had been chased relentlessly by his pursuers. Now that he was back, he was filled with endless questions and doubts!

Do I really get control over the Eye of the Eternal Star if I kill He Yunzi?

What was the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect's patriarch hiding? Did he really have nothing to do with me being set up?

Did anything important happen in the Divine Eye Civilization while I was gone?

Wang Baole came to a decision as these doubts plagued his mind!

He decided... that he couldn't return just like that. He had the advantage of being hidden from his enemies' eyes, and he would be wasting it. On the other hand, he didn't want everyone to be completely unaware that he was now back. That might seem to be to his advantage, but he wasn't going to be able to unveil any secrets and get to the bottom of things if no one was aware of his presence and stirring things up!

That's why... I have to create an avatar and place it somewhere where people can see it! Wang Baole narrowed his eyes. He wasn't sure if the Heavenly Spirit Sect was aware of the right-hand elder's death. A considerable distance had separated the Heavenly Spirit Sect and the right-hand elder when he had died. That would have affected the transmission of news of the right-hand elder's death.

Even if news of the right-hand elder's death were to get back to the Heavenly Spirit Sect, Wang Baole wasn't going to be particularly worried. That was because the Heavenly Spirit Sect was still not aware that he had a breakthrough from the late-stage Spirit Immortal realm to the perfected Spirit Immortal realm.

That means that it doesn't matter if the avatar that I create... is only at the mid-stage Spirit Immortal realm. The Heavenly Spirit Sect and the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect's patriarch won't suspect anything. After all, while they are aware that I possess the strength of a Planet realm in battle, they also know that I'm only at the late-stage Spirit Immortal realm. Besides, I'm supposed to be on the run now. Even if I were to escape my pursuers and return safely... I would've had to pay a heavy price in exchange for my

life. It makes perfect sense for me to return as a mid-stage Spirit Immortal realm cultivator! Wang Baole's eyes narrowed as he thought through his plan. He came to an immediate decision.

After a quick series of hand seals, his physical form began to blur. An avatar stepped out of his body in the next moment. This avatar possessed a third of Wang Baole's essence. Even though it might appear to be at the mid-stage Spirit Immortal realm, its true strength definitely surpassed that of a cultivator at the same cultivation level. Even a late-stage Spirit Immortal realm cultivator might not be his match.

Having completed a series of detailed inspections, Wang Baole's true essence body blurred instantly and transformed into mist. His aura was now completely hidden.

He took control over his avatar and unleashed his full speed, charging straight into the Divine Eye civilization. While he kept his speed up after entering the civilization, he also carried out the perfunctory measures of hiding his avatar's presence. Of course, such attempts at concealment wouldn't work with a Planet realm cultivator. He might escape the eyes of a Planet realm cultivator if the latter was distracted, but as soon as the Planet realm cultivator focused his attention and kept his Divine Sense on a constant vigilance over the civilization, he would immediately discover Wang Baole's presence.

Wang Baole waited a moment before sneaking his true essence body into the Divine Eye civilization. His essence body took off in a different direction. His avatar was like fire now. The brighter it burned, and the better it was at drawing the attention of others, the safer his true essence form was!

However, if the Planet realm cultivators of the Heavenly Spirit Sect weren't on their guard and didn't sense the presence of Wang Baole's mid-stage Spirit Immortal realm avatar, Wang Baole's goal to keep his essence form hidden would still be accomplished.

The fact was that Wang Baole wasn't sure of what state the Divine Eye civilization was currently in. He also couldn't trust the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect's patriarch or anyone else in the Divine Eye civilization. That was why he had sent his mid-stage Spirit Immortal realm avatar out running around while his hidden essence body sneakily made its way towards the Eternal Star.

He didn't get too close to the Eternal Star. He could sense that it was heavily guarded. Besides, the Heavenly Spirit Sect had set up camp on the Eternal Star. Wang Baole's essence body found a meteorite that was within the vicinity of the Eternal Star and hid inside. Then, he began to pour his full concentration into maneuvering his mid-stage Spirit Immortal realm avatar.

He was going to let the intentional bait out into the open and try to get a big fish to bite the hook.

If the Heavenly Spirit Sect doesn't realize that I've come back, I'll send my avatar to the patriarch of the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect. Appearing at their doorsteps so openly might arouse suspicions, but that's alright!

But if the Heavenly Spirit Sect manages to sense my avatar's presence and tries to corner my avatar, it'll present me with a great chance to see how the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect's patriarch reacts. The battle that ensues will allow me to see what exactly is going on!

With a plan established, Wang Baole concealed both the presence of his essence body and his mid-stage Spirit Immortal realm avatar while allowing slight traces of the latter to be visible as he made his way across the cosmos, racing past the stars as he surveyed the current state of the Divine Eye civilization.

Piecing together the current situation of the Divine Eye civilization posed no difficulty for Wang Baole. His mid-stage Spirit Immortal realm avatar possessed the ability to change its appearance. It didn't take him long to find out what had happened after he left the civilization. The war between the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect and Violet Gold New Dao Sect's allied forces and the Heavenly Spirit Sect had to cease because of the sun's blinding appearance.

They were still in the midst of war, though. The Divine Eye civilization had been split into two. The Eye of the Eternal Star was still under the Heavenly Spirit Sect's control. They had set up camp in the civilization and set up a defensive array formation on the Eye of the Eternal Star. The next wave of reinforcements from the Violet Gold civilization hadn't made their appearance. The Eye of the Eternal Star hadn't been activated a second time.

Chapter 910: A Mystery!

Wang Baole analyzed the information he had just gathered alongside what he had already known. He immediately reached a conclusion. Both he and He Yunzi possessed the mandate at the same time. One of them had to die in order for the other to gain the full mandate!

The conclusion that Wang Baole had reached and pieced together from the information that he had just acquired didn't deviate much from the guesses that he had made during his journey back to the Divine Eye civilization. Even though nothing seemed to be out of place, Wang Baole still felt that something wasn't quite right. He might not have felt so intensely if not for what he had just gone through. Having discovered that the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect's patriarch was hiding something and survived the Heavenly Spirit Sect's scheme, Wang Baole had raised his guard considerably.

That was why he realized there was something wrong here!

It was... the array formation outside the Eternal Star!

His instincts told him that... there was something wrong with the array formation. Its presence seemed unnecessary when seen in the context of the present Divine Eye civilization. Even when allied, the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect and Violet Gold New Dao Sect were still not as powerful as the Heavenly Spirit Sect.

Besides, the Heavenly Spirit Sect had He Yunzi, so there was no need to set up such an array formation at all. It seemed completely superfluous, no matter how one looked at it...

Why would the Heavenly Spirit Sect do something so superfluous then? Is the array formation meant to defend themselves against someone... someone like me, perhaps? Wang Baole frowned. He couldn't pin down exactly what was wrong. There was no need for the Heavenly Spirit Sect to set up an array formation as a defense mechanism against Wang Baole. After all, He Yunzi was still alive, so control over the Eternal Star wouldn't fall into Wang Baole's hands.

If he were the Heavenly Spirit Sect, he wouldn't set up the array formation to keep him out. Instead, he would clear the path and wait impatiently for him to make his way to the Eternal Star instead.

Is He Yunzi dead? The thought popped into Wang Baole's head as he contemplated the various possibilities. That didn't seem likely, though everything would make sense if that were true.

Perhaps... this is yet another trap? Wang Baole could feel a headache coming on. He was missing some very important clues here. Without them, he was stuck and couldn't think his way out of the puzzle.

It doesn't matter. With this mid-stage Spirit Immortal realm avatar of mine as bait, I'll be able to dig out what I'm looking for and uncover the truth! Wang Baole's avatar narrowed his eyes and stared into the distant Eye of the Eternal Star. With a single bound, he headed for the camp where the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect's patriarch was located. He was going to reveal his presence deliberately.

Wang Baole's eyes narrowed just as he was about to take flight, and he looked up suddenly. Thunder rumbled as lightning started to crackle in the cosmos above him, and a blurry array formation that seemed to look like a seal appeared in the middle of space. Waves of suppressive force descended suddenly around Wang Baole and trapped him within a seal instantly.

Have I been discovered? A dark look appeared on Wang Baole's face. However, he was secretly smirking as a dozen figures materialized inside the array formation as its waves of suppressive force surged outwards.

Standing at the front of the group was the sect lord of the Heavenly Spirit Sect. Next to him stood an old woman with a dazed look on her face. The other cultivators were all at the perfected or late-stage Spirit Immortal realm.

"Long Nanzi!" Murderous intent colored the eyes of the Heavenly Spirit Sect's sect lord. As he shouted, he lifted his right hand, pointed at Wang Baole, and let his hand swoop downwards. The other cultivators charged at Wang Baole instantly, ready for a fight.

He doesn't seem surprised to see me. Does that mean that he already knows that the right-hand elder is dead? He might even know that the Xie family's been helping me. The left-hand elder isn't present. Does that mean that he didn't manage to escape from the Eternal Star? Was his Divine Soul destroyed? Wang Baole's eyes flashed as numerous thoughts raced through his head. At the same time, he retreated hastily.

He had been right. The right-hand elder had died on the Earth Spirit civilization's man-made Eternal Star, which fell within the Violet Gold civilization's protectorate. This was the death of a Planet realm cultivator, and the Xie family had its hand in it. It was clearly a matter of grave importance. There was something that Wang Baole wasn't aware of. Even though the Violet Gold civilization hadn't activated the Eye of the Eternal Star again and hence couldn't send reinforcements to the Divine Eye civilization, they could still manage communications from both ends of the Eye of the Eternal Star. It simply required a bit more effort and resources.

That was why... the sect lord of the Heavenly Spirit Sect couldn't hide the errors that he had committed even if he wanted to. He had to provide an honest account of what had happened and let the Violet Gold civilization know that their war efforts in the Divine Eye civilization weren't going well. The death of his right-hand elder, the Xie family's involvement, and now, Long Nanzi's apparent return, had driven the sect lord into a state of intense hatred for Wang Baole. He had been prepared and had waited for his return.

As soon as he discovered Wang Baole's presence, he summoned his cultivators, initiated the seal, and led the charge!

Wang Baole might be able to hold his ground against the Heavenly Spirit Sect's sect lord and the Planet realm old woman if he had been in his essence body. After all, his essence body was at the perfected Spirit Immortal realm and was capable of fighting an ordinary early-stage Planet realm cultivator. He might not be as powerful as a mid-stage Planet realm cultivator, but he would still be able to hold his own in a fight.

But this was his mid-stage Spirit Immortal realm avatar, an avatar that he had created in order to conceal his essence body. It was no match for the two Planet realm cultivators in a fight. Wang Baole's eyes flashed as soon as he saw the arrival of the Heavenly Spirit Sect's sect lord. He transformed into a huge cloud of mist and started to retreat hastily.

He unleashed his Demonic Eye Art as he retreated, and an enormous black eye appeared in the mist. As the eye opened, an incredible power surged towards the Heavenly Spirit Sect's forces in an attempt to bind them.

The Spirit Immortal realm cultivators shuddered instantly, and none escaped unscathed. They stopped their pursuit. It was as if countless invisible threads had wound themselves around these cultivators' bodies and held them frozen in place. It would have been a piece of cake for Wang Baole to kill these cultivators after they had been ensnared by the demonic eye.

But this wasn't the time or occasion for that. The Demonic Eye Art might be powerful, but it hardly posed a threat to the Heavenly Spirit Sect's sect lord and the Planet realm old woman. The sect lord's gigantic handprint appeared in the next moment, descending upon Wang Baole with a power that threatened to flatten both heaven and earth.

It was a power that mowed down everything in its path, threatening to destroy everything that stood in its way. Even though Wang Baole had transformed himself into mist, he couldn't escape the attack. He felt as if a net was closing in around him. The handprint fell on the retreating mist instantly.

The mist appeared as if it were boiling as it began to dissipate. This was a blow from a mid-stage Planet realm cultivator, and Wang Baole was in his avatar form. A great portion of the mist turned to dust and faded away as it dissipated.

Wang Baole had expected something like this to happen when he had created this avatar. That was why he had kept some Dharmic treasures like the Divine Justice Shield on the avatar. They might not be of much use in a fight against a mid-stage Planet realm cultivator, but he wasn't afraid to self-destruct in order to gain himself some time. That was why his avatar blew up without any warning in the next second!

The price he paid was the destruction of half of his avatar form. The explosion sent the faint cloud of mist flying back. He struggled to gather what remained of his form together. His newly materialized appearance was a sight for sore eyes, and there was a crazed look in his eyes. Madness and vindication shone brightly in them as he stared unblinkingly at the expressionless sect lord of the Heavenly Spirit Sect.

"First, I was hunted down by your right-hand elder, and now, you're trying to kill me, all for control over an Eternal Star... You're doing everything just to fulfill He Yunzi's desire, right? He Yunzi, show yourself

right now!” Wang Baole hollered. He looked like a small beast that had been driven into the corner, yapping helplessly at its tormentors to no avail.

“He Yunzi?” The Heavenly Spirit Sect’s sect lord sneered, and faint fury flickered in his eyes. The fleeting emotion was caught by Wang Baole, who had been watching him closely. Wang Baole had also noticed the looks on the other Spirit Immortal realm cultivators’ faces. They seemed to display similar emotions.

Incomprehension filled his mind. However, it was overshadowed by doubt and suspicion.

“Long Nanzi, I didn’t expect that you would dare to come back!” The sect lord of the Heavenly Spirit Sect didn’t bring up He Yunzi again. He narrowed his eyes and approached Wang Baole instead. He had made preparations for the likelihood of Long Nanzi turning tail and not coming back, but it seemed that he wouldn’t need them.

It might have seemed as if Long Nanzi had successfully defended himself from the earlier attack, but everyone present could tell that Wang Baole was now cornered. This was the final struggle he was attempting before his death.

“Heavenly Spirit Sect, you dare try to kill me?” Panic flashed across Wang Baole’s eyes as danger loomed. He retreated again. He then flipped his palm over, raised his hand into the air, and brandished a jade token.