

Y Master 1641

Chapter 1641 - Calamity

The Primordial Ancient Mine area was eerily silent, with only the occasional breeze stirring some dust.

After advancing another hundred miles, Ye Fan and his group began to see some towering stone pillars. Each one was immensely thick, standing tall on the ground despite the passage of countless years.

"Where did the first Earth Master go?"

Ye Fan pondered secretly. The Ancient Mine was incredibly vast, and without a specific target, finding traces of the Earth Master in this Forbidden Zone was like searching for a needle in a haystack.

Truth be told, although he also believed the Forbidden Zone was fraught with danger, he didn't think mere words would bring about inexplicable calamities. Liu Da and his companions were overly cautious.

However, he didn't voice this thought. Better safe than sorry; since even Liu Da and his companions, frequent visitors here, were so wary, there must be a reason.

"What are these relics? If they're buildings, they're too gigantic! Could they be the abodes of giants?" Shi Ye was astonished, touching the stone pillars with his hand.

"Everyone look, there are also cut marks on these stone pillars, as if they were slashed by some monster!" the young man exclaimed, calling everyone over to see.

"Boom!"

Before anyone could react, Liu Da and his companions decisively struck out, delivering a punch to the young man. The fierce Punch Ray hit him hard, sending him flying away.

"Cough, cough..."

The young man wasn't dead, coughing out a few mouthfuls of blood, angrily standing up and shouting, "Why did you hit me? I didn't say anything! Is even that taboo?"

"You need to realize where you are; the Primordial Ancient Mine is more unbelievable than you imagine!"

Liu Da and his companions scolded, "Five years ago, I witnessed over twenty cultivators die tragically in front of these relics. If you want to die, I won't stop you, but don't endanger us all."

"Over twenty cultivators died tragically? What's going on?"

Ye Fan couldn't help but ask, thinking that those who dared come here would likely have a higher cultivation than his, yet they also died tragically. Doesn't that imply this is a death trap?

"I don't know either. I was far away at the time and only saw from a distance that their blood shot skyward and was instantly vaporized, with their bodies turning to ashes." Liu Da and his companions seemed to have lingering fears.

Ye Fan used the Dragon Seeking Skill to observe the surrounding terrain, but found nothing suspicious. This indicated that the danger did not originate from the forces of heaven and earth.

The group continued forward, with Liu Da and his companions deliberately avoiding the young man. Though they hadn't killed him yet, they didn't make another move either, returning his Spirit Stone and saying, "From now on, you're no longer part of our group. Please don't follow us."

The group proceeded several hundred miles, stopping less than a hundred miles from the so-called Primordial Ancient Mine's edge. It was already considered a Forbidden Zone here, with many Waste Stones around and no grass growing.

"Alright, I suggest you don't go any further. Fly up to the sky here, utilize your Divine Skills, observe carefully, and then we'll retreat." Liu Da and his companions suggested.

"Aren't there still seventy or eighty miles left? We're still in the safe zone, so why not advance?"

"Master Ma, let's go a few dozen more miles. We can't see anything from here!"

"This... fine."

Liu Da and his companions hesitated for a moment, but ultimately couldn't resist everyone's persuasion and agreed.

After advancing another thirty miles, nearing the Primordial Ancient Mine's edge, he refused to go further.

"I think going another ten miles is fine. I still want to search for some stone materials on the edge of the Primordial Ancient Mine. Maybe if we're lucky, we'll gain something substantial."

The young man injured by Liu Da and his companions had fully recovered during the journey. Now, he spoke to everyone in a strongly persuasive voice: "Everyone, we've reached here. Don't you want to take back a few pieces of stone? If something valuable is cut out, it'll be a huge gain."

"What did you say?" Liu Da and his companions roared angrily, "Do you really want to get everyone killed?"

"I'm just speaking the truth. Master Ma, you're being overly cautious," the young man said.

"You..."

Without another word, Liu Da and his companions turned and left, instantly distancing themselves from the young man.

At that moment, a whooshing wind suddenly sounded in everyone's ears. A fierce wind whipped up, filling the sky with sand, and a sound of the wind came from afar.

"Not good!"

Ye Fan's face changed, immediately sending a message for Hu Fei, Shi Ye, and Wenren Jing to come closer to him before he approached Liu Da and his companions.

Earlier, Elder Xuan had warned him that something lurked within the wind. The Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor had once ventured deep into the Ancient Mine, and Elder Xuan had some impressions of this fierce wind.

Liu Da and his companions gaze was solemn as they looked ahead. The red sand filled the sky like a faint blood mist, moving closer over the group.

"Blood Tornado?"

Liu Da and his companions' expressions changed drastically, the pockmarks on his face seeming to squeeze together.

In the distant sky, large swaths of crimson shadows quickly approached, swirling like a black cloud pressing down from all directions. The red sand particles, as if soaked in blood, appeared particularly eerie.

"Woo woo..."

The blood-colored whirlwind swept up the sand in the sky, reaching them in an instant. The ground was a sea of blood-red, as if a Blood Pool, with the blood-colored whirlwind creating large vortices.

"Ah..."

A scream came, the young man who always argued with Liu Da and his companions seemed to have been strangled.

"Ah..."

Another person was shattered by the blood-colored whirlwind, only having time to let out a scream.

Within a few short minutes, seven or eight people met with unexpected death. Only Ye Fan and his four followers, and four or five cautious young people who stayed close to Liu Da and his companions escaped the ordeal.

"Run!"

Liu Da and his companions fled even faster than a rabbit. Ye Fan grabbed the wrists of Hu Fei and Shi Ye, and they in turn pulled along Wenren Jing. The three, led by Ye Fan, desperately chased after Liu Da and his companions.

The direction he took did not have the blood-colored whirlwind, but it was the direction into the primordial of the ancient mine. At this moment, nothing else mattered but escaping; they had to survive for as long as possible, and as for what to do next, they could only leave it to fate.

At this moment, Ye Fan deeply regretted. Had he known how sinister the primordial of the ancient mine were, he would not have come to trace the footsteps of the first Earth Master.

Now, it was too late to say anything. In this mining area, one absolutely couldn't fly, as doing so would be courting death. Liu Da and his companions repeatedly warned that flying into the sky would bring certain death.

Liu Da and his companions moved at an incredible speed. With three people in tow, Ye Fan had to exhaust his divine power using the Chasing Star Step just to barely keep up. The others didn't fall behind, especially the young man named Huai Gu, who seemed to have some energy to spare.

"This guy's cultivation must be at least at the mid-stage of the Lord Realm!" Ye Fan judged.

The speed of the blood-colored whirlwind exceeded their expectations and quickly caught up to them, making everyone turn pale with fear.

Now, with survival being paramount, Ye Fan no longer cared about revealing his identity; he directly summoned the Emperor Weapon, taking in Hu Fei, the three others, and himself completely.

Bang bang bang bang...

The blood-colored whirlwind came like a slashing Heavenly Sword, striking the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown and creating an earth-shattering noise.

Subsequently, the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown emitted a dazzling light, blocking all these blood-colored whirlwinds outside the light, unable to harm the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown in the slightest.

The Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, after all, is an Emperor Weapon. Although damaged and not fully restored, it still possesses the supreme power of the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor. In the world, other than Emperor Weapons of the same level, nothing can cause any damage to an Emperor Weapon.

"Dang, dang, dang, dang..."

Ye Fan heard the tumultuous roar outside. It seemed that others had also summoned their spiritual treasures to resist the blood-colored whirlwind, though the effect was far inferior compared to the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown.

"Ye Zi, what do we do now?" Within the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, Hu Fei asked Ye Fan, his face pale.

"At this point, all we can do is take one step at a time, but don't worry, I will make sure to get you all out safely," Ye Fan said with a bitter smile.

This is not blind confidence. With the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, Ye Fan believed that as long as they don't venture too deep into that sinister ancient mine, their safety could be ensured.

"Ah..."

In a daze, Ye Fan seemed to hear another scream accompanied by the sound of a vessel being shattered outside!

"Is this really just a blood-colored whirlwind? How can it have such power?"

Ye Fan was full of doubt and uncertainty, but he dared not risk going out to check, only hiding inside the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, enduring the clanging and deafening noise outside.

Vaguely, Ye Fan seemed to hear heavy breathing, as well as the sound of massive footsteps. The ground seemed to tremble slightly.

"Is there some unknown creature lurking in the blood-colored whirlwind?"

Ye Fan strongly suspected that there were some unknown creatures present in this forbidden zone.

"The ancient mining area, since ancient times, has had many legends. The most widespread is that there is something here comparable to a Great Emperor, and all who trespass become nutrition for replenishing its primordial life," Wenren Jing mentioned a rumor.

"Such rumors are not to be trusted. Some even say that each of the Five Life Forbidden Zones has a being comparable to a Great Emperor," Hu Fei dismissed it with a wave.

Ye Fan also felt such legends were unreliable. How could a Great Emperor seclude themselves and turn it into a forbidden zone?

Unless there is some unspeakable reason!

Moreover, there are no Great Emperors existing in the world right now. The last known Great Emperor, the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor, disappeared thousands of years ago, so it's impossible for there to be a being comparable to a Great Emperor in the forbidden zone.

If there truly was, each one emerging would be an apocalyptic catastrophe. The combat power of an Emperor Level being could destroy a world with a mere wave.

Who knows how much time passed, but the sound of the wind subsided, and tranquility returned to the world, with no special sounds heard anymore.

Ye Fan and the other three emerged from the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, then quickly put away the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, as he didn't want others to see it, lest it cause enormous trouble.

Looking as far as the eye could see, the surrounding environment had changed completely, having run countless miles, blown by the blood-colored whirlwind. No one could tell where they were now.

The area lay in ruins, red sand scattered everywhere. Besides Liu Da and his companions, only five people were lucky to survive, with everyone else dead, leaving not even blood or flesh behind!

Chapter 1642 - Heavenly Slaughter Array

Looking far into the distance, the wilderness appeared vast and quiet, scattered with a few large boulders on an expansive plain.

"Where are we now?" Ye Fan and the others approached, asking Liu Da and his companions.

"I don't know!"

Liu Da and his companions looked grim, then said, "Judging from the current situation, we might very well have already entered the Ancient Mine."

"What?"

"Impossible, right?"

Hu Fei and Wenren Jing turned pale instantly; being descendants of the Nine Great Bandits of the Northern Domain, they knew deeply how terrifying the Ancient Mine was, even their grandfathers dared not venture deep easily.

Only Shi Ye remained calm; coming from the Southern East Domain, he knew little about the horrors of the Ancient Mine, as they say, ignorance is fearless. However, he did not comment.

"Don't worry, we haven't fallen into that Demon Mine."

Liu Da and his companions' face was full of wrinkles, pacing back and forth for a few steps, saying, "It is said that the Forbidden Zone of the Ancient Mine spans hundreds of miles, some say thousands. We are most likely within the Forbidden Zone."

"Where is this?"

Soon, one of the five who had fainted got up, shook off the dust on his body, and asked Liu Da and his companions.

Ye Fan noticed that this person was Huai Gu. Clearly, he had not sustained any injuries, hiding his vitality well, but Ye Fan, using his Martial Arts Heavenly Eye, saw through his concealed strength.

"How could this happen?" The remaining four also woke up, faces pale, each filled with infinite fear.

"Even the Saint Lords who enter here turn to dust, can we die here too?" The newly awakened person was full of despair.

"Not necessarily!"

Liu Da and his companions gazed toward the distant horizon, leisurely saying, "They headed for the Ancient Mine, naturally with no return. I've said, this area is vast, and we haven't entered the central region; maybe there's still a chance for survival."

Subsequently, Ye Fan and the others set off again, Liu Da and his companions, relying on their intuition, determined a direction and took the lead.

Though not truly standing before the Ancient Mine, everyone dared not fly, but instead walked on foot.

There are many legends about the Ancient Mine, one being that birds don't cross its airspace. They've been in this area for a while, yet have never seen a bird fly overhead.

Legend has it that a powerful Forbidden exists over the Ancient Mine, daring any cultivator to soar, only to face destruction.

Though this is just a legend, none of them wanted to test whether it was true or false.

After traveling over a dozen miles, a dry riverbed stretched before them, extending for several miles.

Ye Fan frowned; such terrain shouldn't appear in this place, an arid desert suddenly showing a dry riverbed, where did the water come from?

Moreover, there's not a blade of grass here; if there were a river, there should at least be some vegetation, right? But there's nothing, only a dry riverbed, conspicuously abrupt.

After careful observation, Ye Fan felt chills run down his spine, unexpectedly encountering such a terrain in this Forbidden Zone, completely matching the descriptions in the Dragon Seeking Formulas.

"Don't get close!"

He saw a cultivator cautiously approaching the dry riverbed, wanting to stop him but it was already too late.

"Ah..."

The person screamed in agony, seemingly ignited instantly, turning to ashes.

"How could this be?"

The others were horrified, retreating in haste, faces devoid of blood. That person only took a few more steps, yet suddenly became ashes; witnessing it was truly chilling.

"What's going on?"

Liu Da and his companions' expression changed suddenly; he had sensed danger beforehand but didn't expect it to be so terrifying—it's simply a death trap.

Ye Fan's spine was constantly cold; this Forbidden Zone was too terrifying, far beyond imagination.

This is one of the death traps recorded in the Dragon Seeking Formulas, ranking in the top ten among Heavenly Slaughter Arrays, where Heaven and Earth come together, certainly harboring peerless treasures, but also stern warnings to avoid it, unless absolutely necessary, never approach, or face catastrophic disaster.

"What kind of place is this Ancient Mine, after all?"

Ye Fan's heart was turbulent, brewing surging waves; having seen such terrain outside, it's hard to imagine what kind of mountains and rivers surround that Ancient Mine.

At the same time, he admired the first Earth Master immensely; to tread on such death traps like solid ground, how profound must his mastery in Dragon Seeking Skill be?

"This is the terrain of the Heavenly Slaughter Array; it kills gods if they enter, kills buddhas if they enter; let's avoid this dry riverbed." Ye Fan solemnly reminded everyone.

"Indeed, I also feel this resembles a death trap; whoever enters, no matter how strong, might die." Liu Da and his companions nodded, showing agreement seriously.

All nine agreed, bypassing the seemingly harmless dry riverbed from its downstream end.

Just as they were about to bypass it, Shi Ye kicked a stone, which fell onto the dry riverbed, instantly releasing a Sword Radiance from the riverbed, targeting Shi Ye's forehead.

"Watch out!"

Ye Fan let out a loud roar, his feet blurred as he used the Chasing Star Step to stand firmly in front of Shi Ye. A flash of light emanated from his chest as he placed the Heart Protecting Armor, made from ancient shield fragments, in front of his brow.

Simultaneously, he used another piece of Ancient Shield Fragment obtained from the Immortal Mansion Ruins to shield himself, a double-layered safeguard.

If it weren't for Huai Gu being present, he would have directly used the Emperor Weapon. He strongly suspected that this young man named Huai Gu could very well be the Emperor's son of the Gu Family.

"Clang!"

A loud metallic clash echoed, and Ye Fan felt as if he'd been struck violently by a Saint Lord Level strong individual. His entire body collided with Shi Ye's, and the two of them flew backwards in the air, tumbling to the ground like rolling gourds.

"Chu Fan..."

"Brother Chu..."

Hu Fei and Wenren Jing shouted in surprise and hurriedly rushed over to help both of them up.

At the moment, Ye Fan was using the alias Chu Fan, partly to commemorate his master Chu Xuanji on Earth, and partly to avoid unnecessary trouble with a fake name.

"Ye... Brother Chu Fan, thank you. I owe you one this time; otherwise, I would've lost my life here."

Shi Ye, in his excitement, almost let the truth slip, but Hu Fei, quick-witted, pinched a soft spot at his waist, bringing him back to his senses.

"Think nothing of it, we're brothers. No need for thanks."

Ye Fan coughed up a mouthful of blood, but the Pure Yang Qi inside him rumbled, and his injuries healed instantly.

In that brief moment, a gray mist rose from the dry riverbed and rapidly spread towards everyone.

"Not good!"

Liu Da and his companions' faces turned ashen, and their natural spiritual sense made their hearts pound with fear.

"Retreat quickly, leave here at once!"

Ye Fan's hair stood on end as he led Hu Fei and the other three to quickly retreat to a distance.

Given past experiences, coupled with the eerie gray mist appearing out of nowhere on this dried riverbed, everyone was fearful, fleeing rapidly, lest they be overtaken by the mist and perish.

After retreating several hundred meters, the nine turned to look back, increasingly alarmed as they saw the gray mist covering an area more than a hundred meters beyond the riverbed, seemingly continuing to spread.

"What on earth is going on?"

One person's face was pale as he asked in a trembling voice, completely shocked by the previous scene.

The power of that sword radiance was tremendously overwhelming. If not for Ye Fan's two pieces of Ancient Shield Fragments shielding them from the killing intent, even someone with his Treasure Body would have been split in two by the sword radiance.

"Heavenly Slaughter Array, no living being should approach. Gods enter and gods are slain, Buddhas enter and Buddhas perish. This is a Killing Array naturally formed by heaven and earth. Once triggered, not even heroes can escape, and will surely die in grievance," Ye Fan explained.

Just as he finished speaking, Ye Fan's keen spiritual sense suddenly perceived immense danger, and without a word, he fled to a greater distance.

Shi Ye and Hu Fei, having received Ye Fan's warning, nearly simultaneously escaped to a further distance, with Liu Da and his companions closely following in Ye Fan's footsteps.

The others hurriedly gave chase. However, among the surviving nine, whose strengths varied, the weakest trailed a full mile behind, letting out a heart-wrenching scream.

The eight others looked back to see him fly backwards, pulled directly into the gray mist by a mysterious force.

The eight watched as he rapidly dissolved within the gray mist, like a candle softening from scorching flames.

The rest, terrified out of their wits, dared not fly and instead sprinted away, chasing after Ye Ye Fan, Hu Fei, and the others disappearing on the horizon.

After fleeing more than a dozen miles, Ye Fan and his group of four finally stopped. Hu Fei, Wenren Jing, and Shi Ye were all pale-faced, drenched in cold sweat, not from exhaustion but from sheer terror.

Once they caught their breath, the rest gradually caught up, all similarly sweating bullets, except Liu Da and his companions who remained comparatively calm.

"Damned place, it's far too sinister. Given the chance, I'd never come back to this ghostly place. No amount of Spirit Stones could tempt me." A young cultivator said, on the verge of tears.

The others deeply shared this sentiment, all looking pallid and full of regret.

"This Forbidden Zone is exceptionally unusual. Even at such a distance from the Ancient Mine, we encounter such a Demon Land. If we had recklessly pressed on, we would likely have perished there," Huai Gu said with a gloomy look, not expecting the Ancient Mine area to be so malevolent.

"It's a Heavenly Slaughter Array formed by nature. Even if a Saint Lord Level strong individual came, it would be useless. Enter, and one's death is inevitable!"

Liu Da and his companions said with solemn expressions.

Chapter 1643 - Nine Dragons Spitting Mist

The sky was dim, and Ye Fan and his group walked very slowly. Despite their formidable strength, they dared not hasten their steps, and all of them vigilantly scanned their surroundings, carefully observing the terrain, fearing they might inadvertently enter a perilous area.

Because such fateful places as the Heavenly Slaughter Array, formed between heaven and earth, are certainly not limited to one location. There must be other more uncanny places, so everyone had to be cautious.

"I say, Master Ma, are you sure this path leads outside the Forbidden Zone? Why does it feel like we're heading toward the Ancient Mine?" A cultivator said tremblingly.

At this moment, the sunset had long since vanished; the sky was devoid of stars and moon, shrouded in deep blue. A faint mist rose over the boundless red earth, making it difficult to discern direction.

Liu Da was also frowning, feeling increasingly disoriented as they proceeded, as if they had entered a maze. The silent expanse was dauntingly eerie.

Red sand and stones scattered across the ground gave off a soft rustling sound when stepped upon, which echoed far in this quiet and spacious night.

After a quarter of an hour, Ye Fan and his companions lost their sense of direction, as if they had wandered into a labyrinth and were utterly flustered.

"We can't continue!"

One cultivator halted, feeling apprehensive, saying: "I feel something is off about this direction..."

"I feel the same. This doesn't seem like the way out."

Another agreed, his eyes showing fear, saying: "If we stumble into the Primordial Ancient Mine, we truly will be beyond saving."

Everyone felt an overwhelming heaviness in their hearts, lost direction and unable to find a way back; in this Forbidden Zone of Life, it was akin to losing half their lives.

Liu Da was silent for a while, then sighed deeply and said: "We must move, staying in one place for too long might lead to unfortunate events..."

"We must not proceed further; otherwise, we may unwittingly step into the Ancient Mine and regret it deeply."

"It's better to rest here and wait till sunrise tomorrow."

"Staying here feels unsafe!"

There was a divergence of opinions among them, with some wanting to rest, others wanting to continue, arguing endlessly.

"Brother Chu Fan, what do you think?"

Hu Fei asked Ye Fan, trusting no one else here but Ye Fan.

"Let me carefully examine and ponder."

Ye Fan was worried; leading his three dear friends into this dire place, if he couldn't lead them out, he would feel immensely guilty. Thus, nothing could afford to go awry.

All eyes turned to him, including Bao Kuaihuai and Liu Da.

Now, they all knew Ye Fan possessed Absolute Techniques, able to detect terrains like the Heavenly Slaughter Array in advance, must be a descendant of the Dragon Seeking Earth Master lineage.

In such a place, cultivation and strength were useless; only the Dragon Seeking Skill was most effective. According to some secret techniques within the Dragon Seeking Skill, perhaps they still stood a chance of survival.

At this moment, Ye Fan wasn't only responsible for Hu Fei, Shi Ye, and Wenren Jing's lives but everyone else's as well, requiring utmost caution and precision.

Gazing up at the heavens, there were no stars and moon, only a murky haze akin to a black cloth draped over the sky; surveying the terrain, only mist hovered, as if they were enclosed in a giant box.

This was eerily reminiscent of the Nine Dragons Spitting Mist recorded in the Dragon Seeking Formulas; if it truly was Nine Dragons Spitting Mist, there must be a True Dragon Nest nearby.

A dragon, a legendary creature never seen in reality, whether on Earth or in the Xuan Realm, dragons existed only in legends, alongside immortals, unseen by the world.

The Dragon Seeking Formulas recorded are about seeking earth dragons rather than mythical true dragons, employing mountains and rivers as dragon veins.

As for the True Dragon Nest, it's merely a landform resembling a dragon, concealing endless peril, and although it may contain unparalleled Immortal Treasures, they are fundamentally unobtainable unless one possesses overwhelming combat power.

If one could achieve the combat power of a Great Emperor, nowhere in the vast world would be inaccessible?

Any Immortal Treasures cannot evade the Great Emperor's means and will be completely revealed.

Ye Fan grew increasingly astounded; this phenomenon truly resembled the Nine Dragons Spitting Mist, and according to the Dragon Seeking Formulas, encountering such terrain necessitated Yin to Yang.

What exactly does Yin to Yang mean?

Ye Fan pondered deeply, even wracking his brains, but couldn't comprehend the meaning of Yin to Yang.

At this moment, Elder Xuan suddenly spoke in his sea of consciousness: "Negative to positive, Yin to Yang, the full moon wanes, the noonday sun fades. It's the principle of extremes transforming into their opposites!"

Hmm?!

A single word awakened the dreamer, making Ye Fan suddenly realize, yes, it must mean exactly this.

But then he was puzzled again—Nine Dragons Spitting Mist itself is an extraordinary phenomenon, where touching it leads to death. Could it be that not avoiding it, but rather heading directly toward the Dragon Nest is correct?

Honestly, he really didn't want to try, but if he didn't, everyone would surely be enveloped by the floating mist, ultimately dissolving into pus and blood.

Weighing the pros and cons, Ye Fan finally decided to give it a try and move directly towards the True Dragon Nest. Perhaps by placing themselves in a position of life and death, they might find a way to survive.

Having made up his mind, Ye Fan wasted no time. He squatted down and drew on the ground with his fingers, deducing and calculating for a long time before saying, "There is a glimmer of hope, but it requires taking risks. Otherwise, it will be a certain death. Should we take the gamble or wait here to die?"

"Is there any need to ask? Of course, we should take the gamble. As long as there's a glimmer of hope, we must never give up," the others said in unison.

"Alright, let me explain the situation to everyone. This terrain is called Nine Dragons Spitting Mist. There must be a True Dragon Nest nearby, containing nine Dragon Veins. These mists are deadly to touch, yet we must go to the True Dragon Nest to find that glimmer of hope..."

Ye Fan shared his conclusions about the terrain with the others. Besides Hu Fei and the other two who expressed support, Huai Gu and the other two hesitated and turned their eyes to Liu Da and his companions.

After all, Liu Mazi was the guide, and in this Forbidden Zone of Life, only he could possibly lead them out of this desperate situation. If he had no solution, they would probably have to choose to trust Ye Fan.

"By placing oneself in a position of life and death, one can survive. There is no other choice. Let's go in the direction of the True Dragon Nest as the young man suggested."

At this moment, Liu Mazi also had no confidence, but he realized Ye Fan was quite skilled in the Dragon Seeking Skill, perhaps capable of creating a way out for everyone. Instead of leaving it to chance, it was better to follow Ye Fan and take the risk. The worst that could happen was death, but if they survived, they might live a long life.

Seeing Liu Mazi agree with Ye Fan's plan, Huai Gu and the other two had nothing more to say and reluctantly followed along.

"I say, brother Chu Fan, everyone's lives are in your hands. You must be responsible for our safety, and there mustn't be any mistakes!" One of them nagged beside Ye Fan.

Ye Fan smiled slightly. He knew this young man wasn't nagging of his own accord but was instructed by someone, and that someone was undoubtedly Huai Gu.

After repeated deductions and calculations, observing the surrounding terrain, Ye Fan already had a rough route in mind, but he couldn't afford any mistakes. Otherwise, everyone, including himself, would be doomed.

"Follow in my footsteps precisely. Any mistake will be at your own risk."

Ye Fan moved with an unusual step technique, twisting and turning as he led them across a plain. With each step, the fog around them parted, not touching anyone at all.

By this time, even Huai Gu and the other two were completely convinced, following Liu Da and his companions cautiously, not daring to step wrongly.

Hu Fei, Shi Ye, and Wenren Jing followed closely behind Ye Fan, stepping in his footprints.

Aooow! Aooow!

The wind rose again at some unknown time. The gale howled like ghostly wailing, like wolves howling, swirling around them, seemingly ready to sweep them into its vortex at any moment.

Yet Ye Fan ignored these fierce winds, as if he didn't care about these gales that could blow a Lord Realm Peak cultivator to pieces.

Strangely enough, the winds didn't harm them at all. Though the gales howled, there was not a breath of wind where Ye Fan and his group walked, as if they were walking in another world.

It was unclear how long passed, but the gales disappeared, leaving only the rustling sound of their footsteps, a monotonous sound driving them mad.

However—

Everyone remained tense, not daring to relax even slightly. They knew very well that until Ye Fan spoke, there was no room for complacency.

An hour is nothing to cultivators, even for ordinary people, it's just the time to have a meal.

But for Ye Fan and his group, that hour felt like an eternity.

"Phew~ Phew~"

Once Ye Fan announced the path was safe, everyone collapsed to the ground, panting heavily as if exhausted.

In particular, Hu Fei, who usually wasn't diligent in cultivation, already lagged far behind the others in strength and could barely hold on at this point.

Though Ye Fan was mentally exhausted too, he rallied his spirits and sent a stream of Pure Yang Qi into Hu Fei's body to help him recover quickly.

Physical fatigue is easy to eliminate, but mental exhaustion is harder to recover from in a short time. Ye Fan could only do so much for him, but fortunately, the place was temporarily safe, with no immediate life threats.

So, Ye Fan instructed everyone to sit and rest immediately, to recover their energy, and then decide their next move.

Upon hearing Ye Fan's instructions, they quickly sat cross-legged, operating their Kung Fu to replenish their spent physical and Divine Soul power.

Only Liu Da and Huai Gu remained energetic, showing no signs of fatigue.

"Is this the True Dragon Nest here?"

Huai Gu questioned Ye Fan, looking at a deep abyss ahead.

"Yes, it is indeed the True Dragon Nest."

Before Ye Fan could reply, Liu Da and his companion interjected, "The terrain here is very peculiar. Though not obviously varied, it clearly indicates that in ancient times it was a convergence of Dragon Veins, with True Dragon Energy steamed up."

A quarter of an hour later, Hu Fei and the others had recovered, looking at the abyss before them in disbelief. They never imagined the True Dragon Nest would be such a massive abyss.

Chapter 1644 - Bottom of the Abyss

Such a vast abyss made people stare in awe. Below was as dark as ink, and there was utterly nothing to be seen, truly making one's heart shiver.

However, the immense Dragon Energy mixed with the aura of Heaven Grade Spirit Stones kept surging from below the abyss, captivating everyone.

Those were Heaven Grade Spirit Stones, extremely rare even in the Holy Land and Wu Shang Sect. They are exceedingly precious, a cultivator's favorite.

Even those who were well-traveled were deeply shocked, each with mouths agape, dumbfounded.

Such a colossal abyss, like a bottomless pit, seemed to be able to swallow one's consciousness, making one sink into it.

"Why do I feel a chill down my spine? This place is full of demonic power." Hu Fei shivered, muttering to himself.

"I feel the same, as if some primordial beast is watching us from the depths of the abyss!" Shi Ye, with beast-like spiritual sense, also sensed danger.

The abyss was extremely vast and silent, seemingly connected to the netherworld, stirring unease in their hearts.

"Nine Dragons Spitting Mist, now I understand. This place is far more terrifying than the True Dragon Nest. This must be one of the strongest terrains in the world—the Jiu Long Nest!" Ye Fan observed for a long time, feeling increasingly alarmed.

Wenren Jing and Hu Fei were both filled with shock upon hearing this, and even the usually thick-skinned Shi Ye was a bit uneasy, muttering softly: "What kind of haunted place is this? Can we still get out?"

"We can! But we need to fight for it!"

Ye Fan also felt a chill. He never expected the place to be so strange and frightening. He always believed such a terrain could not exist in reality and only existed in speculation and legend, yet he truly encountered it.

Encountering such a terrain usually means Nine Deaths and One Life or even Ten Deaths No Life; he must deduce carefully to create a path of survival here.

Strictly speaking, this place is not far from the true Primordial Ancient Mine, which is exactly what he fears.

A slight mistake could summon them into the Ancient Mine area, and no help would come from heaven or earth then.

For his life and his friends' lives, he must make the most precise choice, especially now that Liu Da and his companions have no solution, and all hope rests on him alone.

Standing at the edge of the abyss, Ye Fan leaned forward and looked down, seeing Dragon Energy surging like tides below the endless dark abyss, with occasional divine brilliance, propelling upward a few Heaven Grade Spirit Stones, crystal clear and radiant.

Hu Fei said, "This is too absurd, even Heaven Grade Spirit Stones are coming up. Certainly, there's more than one. Below is surely a place of Divine Treasure!"

"You haven't seen it. The Heaven Grade Spirit Stone that came up just now was at least dozens of times bigger than this one. That is the real Divine Treasure!" Huai Gu smiled and said.

"Dozens of times bigger?"

Hu Fei nearly bit his tongue. What kind of concept is that? Though the one that just surfaced is only the size of a finger, if one dozens of times bigger appeared, it would be at least the size of a human head!

Though they have seen Heaven Grade Spirit Stones large enough to seal half a person in the Immortal Academy's spirit stone mine, those belong to the academy and have nothing to do with them. But those in front of them, once acquired, would be their own.

For a moment, everyone present, except Ye Fan, had eyes glowing green with greed.

"Little brother, have you seen clearly? Is this really the Jiu Long Nest?" Liu Da asked worriedly.

"Yes!"

Ye Fan nodded, "Based on various signs, this is indeed the Jiu Long Nest. It's truly inconceivable that such terrain exists in the world!"

Then, Ye Fan educated them a bit about the so-called Jiu Long Nest, all recorded in the Dragon Seeking Formulas. Except for those of the Earth Master lineage, no one in the Cultivation World knows. It's extremely secretive.

The Jiu Long Nest, one of the strongest terrains in the world, though recorded in the Dragon Seeking Formulas but unbreakable, is considered one of the most terrifying dead-ends.

The so-called Jiu Long Nest can spawn Dragon Veins, not one or two, but nine. According to the Earth Master's speculation, endless ages ago, it might have truly been the nest of a True Dragon.

Heaven and Earth in perfect harmony, everything aligns with destiny, and even True Dragons could be born in the Jiu Long Nest.

"Then aren't we doomed? Even the Earth Masters can't break such terrain, and we recklessly stepped in. We're finished!" a young cultivator shouted in despair.

"Shut up, or I'll throw you down right now!" Liu Da glared, spreading a menacing aura that instantly frightened the young cultivator.

This old guy is a rogue with no taboos. In such a place, angering him might truly lead to being thrown down.

Although there are many Heaven Grade Spirit Stones below, a place known as Divine Treasure, one needs to survive to claim them, and the events of the Heavenly Slaughter Array have already scared him senseless, and he doesn't dare to try lightly now.

"Little brother, what do you say we do?"

After the young cultivator was scared into silence, Liu Da turned to Ye Fan asked.

"Find life beyond death!"

Ye Fan's eyes shot out two resolute beams of light and said, "According to the records left by the Earth Master, if we encounter such a terrain, trying to escape is impossible. The space here has already changed, and no matter which direction we go, we'll end up back at the abyss. So our only path to survival is to descend into the abyss and seek a way out below."

"Are you kidding? Who knows what dangers are down there? I'm not going, anyone who wants to can go." The young cultivator immediately jumped up, full of terror.

"Go or not, no one is forcing you."

Wenren Jing sneered and said to Ye Fan, "Brother, just tell us what to do next. Worst case, I, your brother, will die here today."

"Going down into the abyss is our only chance to get out." After speaking, Ye Fan was the first to fly down into the abyss.

Immediately, Shi Ye, Hu Fei, and Wenren Jing followed, with Huai Gu and Liu Da and his companions close behind. Everyone continued to descend, and all they could see were blocks of Heaven Grade Spirit Stones shining radiantly like stars in the sky.

The young cultivator hesitated repeatedly but eventually jumped down as well. Though descending was dangerous, staying alone on top was even more perilous; he had to take a gamble.

Dragon Energy surged violently like ocean tides, creating significant resistance on the way down. Ye Fan did not dare to dive too deep all at once, descending slowly, bit by bit.

Ten thousand meters, twenty thousand meters, thirty thousand meters...

They were a bit frightened, having traveled downwards for a full forty thousand meters and still not reaching the bottom, seemingly endless, leading to the netherworld.

During this, Ye Fan had to stop and continue deducing with the Dragon Seeking Skill, as one wrong move could lead to a life-and-death catastrophe.

After a long time, he exhaled deeply. The results showed no danger; they could continue descending.

Fifty thousand meters, sixty thousand meters, seventy thousand meters...

Descending to over ninety thousand meters, they finally sensed the bottom of the abyss, about several hundred meters away from the surface.

"Damn, this might really be a pitfall, so deep!"

Hu Fei was astonished; he had never seen an abyss this deep before.

"Everyone be careful."

Ye Fan reminded as they were about to reach the bottom of the abyss, not far from the Jiu Long Nest, where there might be danger.

Approaching the bottom of the abyss, they felt a wave of unease. A cultivator grinned and said, "This really is coming to be the legendary 'dragon's pond and tiger's cave.'"

His words received unanimous agreement from everyone, though they said nothing. They all knew this was indeed a 'dragon's pond and tiger's cave,' where any carelessness would mean none of them could leave alive; all would meet their end here.

Finally, they landed on the ground, met with an ancient and desolate aura, as if they had returned to the Taigu era.

The bottom of the abyss was not very dark; many Heaven Grade Spirit Stones were sparkling, each one large with colors varying widely.

However, the abyss was too vast to be fully illuminated, still somewhat dim; looking around, it seemed like a vast void, resembling more an ancient battlefield than an underground.

"Heaven Grade Spirit Stones! We're rich!"

The previously hesitant young cultivator's eyes glowed green as he quickly ran towards the nearest Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, which was as large as a millstone, emitting a bright green hue like the purest jade.

Ye Fan coldly observed, neither stopping nor warning, even encouraging the young man named Huai Gu to snatch these Heaven Grade Spirit Stones.

However, he privately used divine consciousness Transmission to warn Hu Fei and the others not to act rashly. Though the Heaven Grade Spirit Stones seemed randomly placed, they actually formed a Heaven and Earth Killing Array. Each Heaven Grade Spirit Stone corresponded to a star in the sky, able to absorb Star Power and Earth Vein Dragon Qi, together forming a unique killing trap.

"You sly devil, you're using this terrain to pit everybody!" Wenren Jing laughed and cursed through Divine Soul transmission.

"I'm not trying to trap everyone; my target is just one person, that young man named Huai Gu. Don't you think he resembles someone from the Ancient Emperor Family?" Ye Fan said.

"I didn't notice before you mentioned it, but now that you say it, I do see something. This guy's deeply hidden, never exerting his full strength. Even when we encountered those Blood Tornadoes, we didn't know what he did. It's quite possible he could indeed be the legendary Emperor's son from the Ancient Emperor Family!" Wenren Jing gasped, analyzing with Ye Fan.

"Exactly, I'm sure he's the Emperor's son of the Ancient Emperor Family. I'm just unsure of his purpose infiltrating our group. Is it merely to see the Primordial Ancient Mine, or does he have another motive? Either way, keeping an eye on him won't hurt," Ye Fan said.

"Ah..."

At this moment, the greedy young cultivator had reached the Heaven Grade Spirit Stone that resembled jade. Just as he was about to store it in his Space Spiritual Artifact, a green light flashed by, and the young cultivator screamed, instantly vaporizing.

"How could this happen?"

This scene shocked everyone, even the young man named Huai Gu was astonished. He had intended to collect a few Heaven Grade Spirit Stones as well. Fortunately, he moved slower; otherwise, his fate might not have been much better than that of the young cultivator.

Chapter 1645 - Slaying the Dragon

At the bottom of the Abyss, it was pitch black, and apart from some Heaven Grade Spirit Stones that could illuminate certain spots, nothing could be seen.

However—

These Heaven Grade Spirit Stones couldn't be touched at all; it seemed there was some kind of Killing Array, and even the slightest touch would lead to a strange attack.

"Brother, what's going on here?" Liu Da asked Ye Fan with a somber face.

"Heaven and Earth Killing Array!"

Ye Fan said expressionlessly, "These Heaven Grade Spirit Stones are not naturally scattered here; they were deliberately placed, using the Power of Heaven and Earth to form a Killing Array. Any rash movement will lead to inevitable death."

"Since you knew already, why didn't you stop him?"

The usually calm and composed Huai Gu suddenly roared at Ye Fan.

His heart chilled at the thought that if he hadn't acted a bit slower earlier, he might not have survived. Facing a Killing Array with the power of Heaven and Earth, unless one is a Quasi-Emperor level expert, even a Saint wouldn't survive, let alone someone like him.

"If someone wants to die, I naturally won't stop them, and I also just figured it out."

Ye Fan said, "What is this place? Jiu Long Nest, who here can set up a Killing Array in such a place? Who could have imagined before?"

"" _ ""

Ye Fan's words left Huai Gu speechless, forcing him to glower at Ye Fan bitterly and stand aside in silence.

Hmm?

Ye Fan no longer paid attention to Huai Gu, using the Dragon Seeking Skill to observe carefully and suddenly discovered that this Heaven and Earth Killing Array was actually set up using the means of an Earth Master. His heart was instantly stirred.

The reason he came to explore this Primordial Ancient Mine, a Forbidden Zone of Life, was mainly to seek the whereabouts of the first-generation Earth Master. He had already been desperate, but unexpectedly found new clues here.

Without a doubt, in this kind of deadly area, setting up such a Killing Array, apart from a Great Emperor, only an Earth Master could do it, and the possibility of the first-generation Earth Master was more than seventy percent.

Thinking of this, Ye Fan hurriedly activated a secret technique to deduce a way to survive, and soon discovered a safe path through this Heaven and Earth Killing Array.

This was the lifeline left by the first-generation Earth Master for his successors. Only by following this safe path could they pass through this Killing Array and reach an Array Platform, allowing them to cross the void and leave this Forbidden Zone.

"Yin to Yang, things reach their extreme and reverse, so that's how it is!"

Ye Fan murmured to himself, then solemnly said to everyone, "Follow me closely. This is a Heaven and Earth Killing Array. The path to life will change with time, we must pass through quickly, or we will surely die in this Killing Array. Also, no one is to touch anything here, or else will be killed without mercy!"

Whoosh!

After speaking, Ye Fan took a step forward, a flash of light appeared underfoot, and a thin thread-like pattern extended forward from his feet.

At this moment, everyone knew that Ye Fan had absolute techniques, and he was the only hope for everyone to get out of this Forbidden Zone of Life. No one dared to say a word, even Liu Da remained silent.

However, facing tens of thousands of pounds of Heaven Grade Spirit Stones, it was hard not to be tempted. Even Hu Fei and the other two were very envious.

But with Ye Fan's warning in front, they could only suppress their greed—though Spirit Stones were good, their lives were more important. Weighing the pros and cons, they obediently followed behind Ye Fan.

Following the deduced path of life, under Ye Fan's guidance, everyone passed through the Killing Array without danger. As soon as they left the Killing Array, they saw starlight pouring down like water into this Abyss, forming a magnificent scene.

"What is this..."

Everyone's eyes twitched as they shockingly discovered numerous human skeletons on the ground ahead, some as translucent as jade and others as black as ink. When tapped, these bones produced a metallic ringing.

"These are not human-shaped creatures, but real human skeletons, with a life force that reached at least the Venerable level before they died, comparable to a Supreme Holy Master."

Liu Da picked up a rib-like skeletal fragment, tapping it with his hand as he explained to everyone. As an assassin, he was more familiar with the human body than anyone else.

Ye Fan and the other three also realized that these were standard human skeletons, but because of their formidable strength before death, the skeletons took this form, and despite the passage of time, they had not weathered away.

"So many skeletons, how many Saint Lord level strong people would have died here!" Hu Fei exclaimed.

In the present day, with few Quasi-Emperors, Saint Lord level experts were the strongest combat power in this world, yet so many strong people of this level died here, which was incomprehensible.

Ye Fan was also puzzled, having crossed the Killing Array, why had so many people still died here? Could it have been the doing of the first-generation Earth Master?

Though Ye Fan did not know what kind of person the first-generation Earth Master truly was, he couldn't imagine him being a bloodthirsty executioner. Perhaps there were other reasons.

Moreover, though an Earth Master was strong, for one Earth Master to kill so many Saint Lord level experts at once, this feat was simply defying the heavens, comparable to a strong person of the Quasi-Emperor Ninth Layer Heaven.

"Roar..."

Just as everyone was in shock, a deafening roar came, and a giant dragon, a hundred zhang in length, appeared before them. Without a word, it directly swept towards them with a Divine Dragon Tail.

"There really is a dragon..."

"True Dragon Breath..."

Everyone was shocked!

Then, they each displayed their Divine Skills to resist this hundred-zhang-long dragon.

This truly was a dragon, with a dragon body a hundred zhang long, each scale immense, its whole form as if cast in molten iron, full of force, like a steel Great Wall, the immense pressure forcing everyone to bring out their strongest combat power in the shortest time.

"Attack!"

Liu Da and his companions were the first to attack, fiercely striking the dragon tail with his pipe.

The seemingly ordinary pipe suddenly expanded like a golden staff, fiercely smashing onto the dragon tail, instantly knocking off a few scales, but no blood splattered.

Hu Fei's Heavenly Weapon also shot out streams of sword light, alongside Shi Ye's Stone Staff and Wenren Jing's double hammers, all viciously striking the dragon's body.

Boom!

At the same time, Ye Fan also punched out, a fiery Punch Ray soaring to the sky, creating a transparent large hole on the dragon's body.

And Huai Gu seemed to be desperate at this moment, with a terrifying aura emanating as his hands spread out, causing the Primordial Qi between heaven and earth to violently condense into a pair of giant hands, grabbing the dragon tail and hurling it towards the Heaven and Earth Killing Array.

Huai Gu's combat power made everyone's eyelids jump; the secret technique he used was unheard of.

"Boom!"

A loud noise erupted as the hundred-meter-long giant dragon was hurled into the Heaven and Earth Killing Array, a flash of light appeared, yet there was no damage, nor did it invoke the array's slaughter.

"What is going on?"

Everyone was stunned, expecting that such a large hundred-meter-long dragon would immediately be slaughtered by the array, with not even bones left behind.

Yet now, the giant dragon was unharmed, and even the Heaven Grade Spirit Stones within the Killing Array weren't shattered, as if an energy shield protected them.

Seeing this scene, a flash of insight hit Ye Fan's mind, and he shouted loudly: "I understand, this dragon should be the guardian of this Killing Array, they are of the same origin, so the array protects it. Let's see if we can blast it to another place!"

"Hmm?!"

Just as Ye Fan was saying this, he suddenly noticed Huai Gu was controlling the materialized Primordial Qi hands to smash the dragon tail towards him.

"Chu Fan..."

"Watch out!"

Hu Fei, Shi Ye, and Wenren Jing moved almost simultaneously, unleashing Divine Power without restraint, each displaying their Divine Skills to attack the dragon leader.

"What are you doing?!"

Ye Fan gave a cold shout, stomping hard on the ground, his body launching like a cannonball, punching out with the inexhaustible intent of the Heaven Slaying Seven Spears, integrated into the Xuandi Fist.

"Boom!"

The fiery Punch Ray immediately penetrated the dragon leader, and Ye Fan, like a javelin, shot out of the hole.

After this severe injury, even if the hundred-meter-long dragon truly possessed an Immortal Body, it was weakened to the point of near-death. Without hesitation, Ye Fan followed up with another punch, leaving another terrifying wound on the dragon leader.

Next, Ye Fan seemed to go mad, punching one after another, turning the giant dragon's body into a sieve, riddled with transparent penetrating wounds.

However—

The dragon seemed not like a living creature, not a drop of blood seeped from its wounds, only a faint glow.

"Roar..."

A quarter of an hour later, the hundred-meter-long dragon let out a weak dragon roar, and then its entire body began to become illusory, as if someone else's Holy Embryo, after suffering a fatal blow, beginning to fade before finally disappearing.

"This..."

Everyone was stunned.

Huai Gu's materialized giant hands also vanished, walking over casually as if nothing had happened, speaking not a word about nearly smashing Ye Fan to death.

Just as the dragon reached the peak of its illusory state, Ye Fan suddenly summoned a white jade furnace with a lid, a flash of light, and the dragon leader was stored inside.

Soon, everyone smelled an intoxicating fragrance, the scent of Dragon Essence, dozens of drops in total, each as big as an eye, not merging, squeezed inside the white jade furnace.

"Snap!"

Without hesitation, Ye Fan directly covered the lid of the furnace and stored it away, appearing nonchalant, seeing this nearly stirred murderous intent in Huai Gu.

Because... Ye Fan had taken the Dragon Essence!

Dragon Essence, a supreme treasure that can greatly accelerate the cultivation process, improve constitution, a mortal temptation to every cultivator.

"Brother Chu, isn't it a bit unfair for you to take all these Dragon Essences yourself? The so-called finders are keepers, shouldn't these be shared among us?" Huai Gu walked over with a false smile, demanding a share.

"You were the one smashing the dragon towards me earlier. What if I had been hurt or killed then?" Ye Fan asked coldly.

"Damn it, if it weren't for Chu Fan's formidable strength in slaying the dragon, we'd all be dead here. Now you nearly caused Chu Fan's death, yet you want Dragon Essence, what sort of reasoning is this?" Hu Fei was the first to speak up, pointing at Huai Gu and cursing.

"Everyone stop arguing, Brother Chu killed the dragon and earned the Dragon Essence, it's as it should be, let's not cause internal conflict, or else we won't get out of this treacherous place, and we'll all die here." Liu Da and his companions came to mediate.

Chapter 1646 - The Mysterious Ancient Coffin

Northern Domain, a bitter cold region, although abundant in spirit stones, does not have many Heaven and Earth Dragon Veins, far fewer than the other Four Great Regions.

As for Dragon Veins, the Central Domain has the most, while near the Immortal Academy in the southern part of the Eastern Domain, there are also six large Dragon Veins, spewing dragon energy daily for the cultivation of Immortal Academy disciples.

In the Northern Domain, being able to find a single Dragon Vein is not easy, let alone one that can produce Dragon Essence!

Surrounding the Immortal Academy, not even a single drop of Dragon Essence was born from the six large Dragon Veins, showing the rarity of Dragon Essence!

Because Dragon Essence can not only allow cultivators to be reborn, accelerating the cultivation process and enhancing strength, but it is also a divine medicine for extending one's life, prolonging it by several years.

Dragon Essence, even tens of thousands of Dragon Veins might not produce a single drop, of unparalleled rarity, but hard to find, in the eyes of ancient antiques whose longevity is nearing its end, it is a priceless immortal treasure.

A typical Dragon Essence might extend life by a few years, a rarity seen once in dozens of generations, extending life by a hundred years.

And this time Ye Fan obtained dozens of drops, and they are definitely not ordinary Dragon Essence. How could this not incite the covetous hearts of others?

However, under the threat of Hu Fei and the other two, and Liu Da's mediation, Huai Gu said no more.

As for the other young cultivator, although he was also envious of Ye Fan's Dragon Essence, he had self-awareness — he hadn't contributed much just now, and to leave alive he needed to rely on Ye Fan's strength, he had to suppress his greed.

After killing the giant dragon, Ye Fan and his party continued along the underground passage, advancing towards the depths of the Jiu Long Nest, they were already not far from it.

"What is that?"

Just ahead, there seemed to be ancient buildings, dilapidated and unrecognizable.

They quickly walked forward, unexpectedly discovering buildings outside the Jiu Long Nest, exceeding everyone's expectations.

"Like an altar, could it be a place of worship?"

"Almost completely collapsed, abandoned through endless years."

Before even approaching, the group could already tell this was an ancient altar, difficult to estimate how many years it had existed, engraved with the marks of time, even the stones were near decay.

"No, this isn't an altar but a transmission array platform, capable of traversing the void, teleporting outside the Forbidden Land's transmission array platform!"

Upon reaching it, Ye Fan carefully observed, discovering some patterns on the stone platform, patterns undoubtedly identical to those on a transmission array platform, even identifying the direction, leading outside the Primordial Ancient Mine.

"Can it be repaired?"

Huai Gu calmly asked, seeming to have completely forgotten the previous unpleasantness, returning to a state of indifference not caring about anything.

"It can, but I need some things!" Ye Fan's eyes shot two beams of light, looking forward.

"What things?"

Huai Gu asked, eagerly wanting to leave, no matter what he couldn't die in the Forbidden Land, or everything would be over.

Ye Fan did not reply but circled the transmission array platform, observing carefully.

After staying there for a long time, Ye Fan and his group left, heading toward the Ten Thousand Dragon Nest ahead.

There, dragon energy flowed like rivers, surging endlessly, nine large dragons coiled, seemingly alive.

Ahead, nine large holes lay side by side, radiating brilliance, with dragon energy rushing out from within.

This was the true Jiu Long Nest, the nine large holes were the dragon nests, such terrain, perhaps only this one exists in the Tianxuan Continent!

Ye Fan observed the topography and inspected the dragon energy, continually carving on the ground, using Dragon Seeking Skill to deduce, finally proceeding ahead first.

Among the nine dragon holes, all connected internally, leading to the dragon nest, after entering, they were baptized by dragon energy, pores dilated, bodies relaxed.

"The aura of Heaven Grade Spirit Stones, there must be many Heaven Grade Spirit Stones ahead, and they are top-grade among Heaven Grade!"

The group's hearts were greatly moved and they moved forward.

The largest nine dragon holes all led to a large nest ahead, observed from afar, divine radiance bursting forth, it absolutely contained world-shocking immortal treasures.

After proceeding a few miles, the aura of dragon energy and Heaven Grade Spirit Stones became more intense, seemingly with some other intoxicating fragrances mixed inside, unknown immortal treasures.

"What is that?"

Just ahead, amid the aura of dragon energy and Heaven Grade Spirit Stones, appeared a vast altar, far larger than the transmission array platform they had seen before.

On this grand altar lay nine enormous dragon bones, each over three hundred feet long, gleaming with dark light, seemingly forged from Dark Immortal Gold, exuding a heart-palpating aura.

Nine dragon bones were all five-clawed black dragons, except for dragon horns which were crystalline translucent and sparkled with purple light, the entire skeleton was black, shining with dark light, flickering with mysterious glimmers.

Most astonishingly, on the nine dragon bones were tied black iron chains as thick as a bowl, the other end of the chains connected to a massive, dark purple ancient coffin.

Using nine dragon bones to pull an ancient coffin, what kind of person has such grandeur?

For a moment, everyone was stunned!

After the shock, they seemed to forget that this was the Ancient Mine, the Forbidden Land of life, and involuntarily walked toward the altar one by one.

The nine Dragon Bones and the Coffin emitted an Immortal Energy that could make one transcend, leaving everyone in awe. Could it be that an Immortal was buried in this coffin?

It's known that Immortals belong to the realm of legends in this world. Many people speak of Immortals, but no one has ever seen one; what an Immortal looks like, no one knows.

Throughout the ages, the Great Emperors have pursued the traces of Immortals, yet ultimately, they lamented all their lives, unable to become Immortal, to dust they returned!

And if the owner of this coffin were Immortal, then it would make even less sense, for Immortals are eternal and undying. Can a deceased Immortal still be considered an Immortal?

"This is... the aura of Transformation!"

Ye Fan carefully sensed it and was finally shocked. He hurried to use divine consciousness Transmission to inform Hu Fei and the three others to not approach that altar and coffin lest they involuntarily transform.

If they really were forced into Transformation, it would be truly chaotic. After overcoming countless difficulties to get here, if they were transformed, then everything would be over.

However—

Until Huai Gu and Liu Da and his companions ascended this ancient altar, nothing related to Transformation happened, which bewildered Ye Fan greatly.

Clearly, that was the aura of Transformation, not Immortal Energy, so why weren't the others involuntarily transformed? Could it be that his guess was wrong?

No matter what, now that he was here, Ye Fan was naturally unwilling to leave without understanding, so he also ascended the ancient altar.

Standing before the Dragon Bones, Ye Fan and others realized how insignificant they were, even though these were merely Dragon Bones, devoid of flesh and skin. Yet the three-hundred-zhang-long Dragon Bones were still incredibly massive. Humans standing before them were like dwarfs before giants.

Upon ascending the altar, Ye Fan felt the Immortal Energy even more strongly. Bathing in it, one felt as though they were about to transcend but lacked the sensation of Transformation.

"Whose coffin is this? Quite the arrangement!"

Huai Gu seemed like a different person, his words full of malice, seemingly very discontented with the owner of this coffin.

Ye Fan speculated that this might be the coffin of the first Earth Master. Although he had obtained the Dragon Seeking Formulas, he was not counted as a direct descendant of the Earth Master lineage and thus paid little mind.

What he cared about was the inheritance left by the first Earth Master. Although the Dragon Seeking Formulas contained many strange techniques, the first Earth Master must have studied other things in his later years, and those are the most important.

"To know who the esteemed occupant of this coffin is, why not just open it up and see?"

Hu Fei was the most direct, taking out a replica of the Heavenly Weapon treasure sword and attempting to pry it open through a seam in the coffin.

However, even as his face turned red and neck strained, he couldn't budge the coffin at all. It seemed like a single piece, impossible to pry open.

"Maybe it contains a Supreme Saint or Emperor from the Ancient Times. Perhaps we shouldn't disturb their rest?" the sole surviving young Cultivator said apprehensively.

"How can we enter the treasure mountain and return empty-handed? We must open it up!" Huai Gu suggested, his eyes filled with a fervent intensity.

"What do you think is the Identity of the coffin's owner?" Wenren Jing said, patting the coffin.

"I guess it's a Supreme Holy Master from the Ancient Times!" the sole surviving young Cultivator said.

"No, a Supreme Holy Master wouldn't have this kind of grandeur, and each is someone of great Identity—they wouldn't bury themselves in such a place, and their Holy Land wouldn't agree."

Huai Gu shook his head, "I believe it's at least a Quasi-Emperor Level strong individual, possibly even a Great Emperor. Ordinary people wouldn't dare use nine sets of Dragon Bones to pull a coffin, and judging from the altar, this place is definitely not the final destination."

"Chu Fan brother, what do you think?" Shi Ye asked Ye Fan.

Since almost blurting out something last time, he had seldom spoken, treating himself as a mute, remaining silent unless spoken to, thoroughly embracing the idea that silence is golden.

"It's still uncertain, we need to find more evidence to speculate."

Ye Fan spoke as he circled the coffin, looking closely. There were many patterns of rare birds and mutant beasts, as well as landscapes of mountains and rivers on the coffin, but none were complete, making it hard to understand their significance.

Moreover, there was not a single word on the coffin, only strange symbols. These symbols puzzled not just Ye Fan but even the knowledgeable Liu Da and his companions, who furrowed their brows, unable to comprehend their meaning.

A quarter-hour later, Ye Fan circled the coffin, and then flew up to check the lid, still finding nothing.

Just as he was about to give up, he suddenly saw, illuminated by the Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, some symbols appearing at the front of the coffin with a striking resemblance to those in the Dragon Seeking Formulas.

Hmm?

Upon seeing those symbols, Ye Fan's heart was immediately stirred!

Chapter 1647 - Opening the Coffin!

With the illumination of the Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, Ye Fan carefully noted down the symbols that resembled ancient texts, then engraved them onto the ground, and began to study them meticulously.

Seeing that Ye Fan actually discovered text on the coffin, the crowd gathered around with great interest, looking at the symbols he had engraved on the ground, each attempting to decipher them in their hearts.

This was something that looked neither like text nor symbols. Although it resembled both to some degree, it didn't fully align with either.

After a long while, Feng Kuang rubbed his Taiyang point and said, "I can't decipher it. What the hell is this thing?"

Following his abandonment, others gradually gave up too, as they truly couldn't understand what it was, and nothing they tried made sense, and the meaning couldn't be connected.

Ye Fan was also trying to decipher it arduously in his heart. Compared to the others, he had a significant advantage, which was that he had obtained the Dragon Seeking Formulas, providing him with a broad reference point.

On Earth, the evolution of text has completely changed over three thousand years. Here, changes spanned tens of thousands, even hundreds of thousands of years, so the evolution of text surely followed certain patterns.

With remarkably high comprehension, Ye Fan, using the history of various text evolution on Earth and the comparison with his Dragon Seeking Formulas, managed to decipher it after an hour.

It was indeed a text, but the distance from the first generation Earth Master to now was too far. Even though the text evolution on the Tianxuan Continent was slow, there was a significant difference.

This Dragon Seeking Formulas probably wasn't left by the first generation Earth Master. Otherwise, there wouldn't be such a large disparity in the evolution of text.

According to the text's record, the person in the coffin was indeed the first generation Earth Master, but he was not the creator of the Dragon Seeking Formulas.

The Dragon Seeking Formulas existed even before the first generation Earth Master, although at that time, it hadn't been compiled into a book but was a secret technique passed down.

After receiving the Dragon Seeking Skill, the first generation Earth Master completed many things not originally in the book through his research and practice.

In particular, his expertise in Array Patterns was profound, having once used an ultimate killing array to slaughter over ten thousand human-shaped creatures outside the Primordial Ancient Mine.

However—

In that battle, he also suffered fatal injuries. Knowing his life was short, and to prevent the human-shaped creatures from damaging his body, he chose to delve into the Forbidden Zone.

Here, the first generation Earth Master discovered a defiant place like the Jiu Long Nest and eventually used a supreme Dragon Seeking Skill to subdue nine transformed earth dragons to draw his coffin.

Moreover, the flowers, birds, fish, insects, strange birds, and mutant beasts on the coffin are actually Array Patterns that must be activated by the Dragon Seeking Technique. Inside the coffin lies the Dragon Seeking Supplement he made in his later years, but it can only be inherited by someone from the Earth Master lineage.

The contents of the Dragon Seeking Supplement possess sky-shattering divine power. If performed, its power is no less than a Quasi-Emperor Ninth Layer Heavenly strong person and can even contend with a Great Emperor.

"Was the first generation Earth Master so powerful?"

Upon acquiring this knowledge, Ye Fan was utterly astonished!

He knew the Earth Master lineage was strong, capable of using Earth Vein Dragon Qi and the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi within Spirit Stones to fight. But he had never imagined they could be this formidable—it was simply unimaginable.

What kind of person is the Great Emperor?

They are the top combat power in this world, imposingly reigning supreme, demanding even Quasi-Emperor Ninth Layer Heavenly strong people to bow before achieving Proving Dao.

However—

The Earth Master, at his cultivation peak, could contend with the Great Emperor, practically an alternative path to Dao, how could he not be shocked?!

"What? You actually deciphered those, neither-text-nor-symbol, weird things? What did it say?"

Learning that Ye Fan had deciphered what they hadn't understood even after beating their heads, everyone was stunned.

"You can decipher that kind of text? Don't joke!" Huai Gu exclaimed skeptically, scornfully.

In his view, although that kind of text closely resembled ancient texts, its meaning was completely different. Even he couldn't decipher it; what made Ye Fan able to?

This was impossible!

Ye Fan ignored Huai Gu and went straight to the coffin, his hands moving, casting streams of mystic light from his hands that merged onto the coffin.

With his movements, the engravings on the coffin gradually brightened, as if mercury were flowing through them, exuding a vast primordial aura.

This is a secret technique revealed in the opening of the Dragon Seeking Formulas called the Dragon Seeking Technique, the key to activating the entire Dragon Seeking Formulas, akin to a key.

With one hundred and eight strands of mystic light cast onto the coffin, the engravings seemed to come alive, and the coffin emitted a dazzling light!

At this moment, everyone knew Ye Fan truly deciphered those texts; otherwise, the scene before them could not have occurred. Was the coffin about to open?

"Crack!"

While Kai Gu and Liu Da and his companions were in doubt, the coffin made a crisp sound, the light suddenly brightening, dazzling to the point of blinding everyone.

After the crowd adapted to the intense light, they suddenly discovered the coffin had opened a gap.

Calling it a gap, it was actually wide enough to allow a person to enter. A rich fragrance of an Immortal Elixir wafted out from within the coffin.

"Immortal Elixir?"

"Immortal Medicine?"

"My..."

After a brief shock, everyone went crazy, immediately engaging in a fierce battle, vying to look inside the coffin, hoping to gain a head start and acquire the Immortal Elixir.

Everyone knew that even a Great Emperor would be tempted by an Immortal Elixir, let alone them?

If they could obtain an Immortal Elixir, even if they couldn't Prove Dao and become a Great Emperor in the future, they could live a second life.

Under such immense temptation, the inherent flaws of human nature were fully exposed. Huai Gu, as if driven insane, struck out directly, causing those around him to vomit blood and retreat, while he darted like lightning to the coffin and peered inside.

However—

At that glance, he was immediately stunned. The coffin was empty; there was no Immortal Elixir, only a cloud of hazy Chaos Energy. Even the Martial Arts Heavenly Eye couldn't discern what was inside.

At this moment, Ye Fan muttered a few strange syllables in a low voice. Immediately, a beam of Golden Light shot out from the coffin, as fast as lightning, seemingly breaking through the constraints of space, traversing the void, and directly entering Ye Fan's sea of consciousness.

"Swoosh!"

Ye Fan only felt a momentary blackness before his vision cleared. At this point, a page of a Golden Book had appeared in his sea of consciousness, floating above it.

On this page of the Golden Book, the most prominent words were "Dragon Seeking Supplement". It seems this was the Dragon Seeking Supplement made by the first Earth Master in his later years.

The Golden Light flew out, and the Chaos Energy dissipated, yet no trace of a corpse was found inside, as if the person had indeed undergone Transformation.

Even if they had truly undergone Transformation, they should have left behind some aura of Transformation, but within the entire coffin, aside from the initial aura of the Immortal Elixir, there was no lingering aura of Transformation.

"Could it be that the person in the coffin wasn't dead at all, but attained the Immortal Elixir, lived a second life, and then left here, leaving only the coffin behind?"

Many speculated, but the truth of the matter, no one could say for certain.

At this moment, everyone's gaze turned towards Ye Fan.

In this adventure, Ye Fan gained the most benefits—not only did he obtain dozens of drops of Dragon Essence, but he also acquired a page of a Golden Book.

No need to guess; everyone could imagine that the page of the Golden Book, solemnly placed in the coffin, must contain incredible records, perhaps even Supreme Secret Skills and Cultivation Techniques.

Apart from Hu Fei, Shi Ye, and Wenren Jing sincerely being happy for Ye Fan's gains, Huai Gu and another survivor among the young cultivators, including the rogue cultivator—who was their guide on this adventure, Liu Da and his companions—felt envy, jealousy, and hatred towards Ye Fan's achievements.

Is this young man's luck just too good?

In their view, along the way, they had all narrowly escaped death. Many died on the journey, and until now, they had gained nothing, whereas Ye Fan had already obtained Dragon Essence and a Golden Book.

Without a doubt, the Golden Book must be some sort of inheritance, and whoever had themselves buried in the Forbidden Zone, how could their heritage be mundane?

However—

Even if they harbored immense envy, jealousy, and hatred, this was not a time to kill and rob.

Firstly, Ye Fan's side had four people; they only had three. Even if they succeeded, it would come at a great cost.

More importantly, they still needed to rely on Ye Fan to find a way out of this Forbidden Zone of Life, otherwise, they would be trapped here and become mere skeletons.

At this moment, everyone fell silent, and only Hu Fei, Shi Ye, and Wenren Jing came up to congratulate Ye Fan, sincerely happy for his fortune.

"Congratulations, young brother. Among us, what you have gained is likely the most abundant." Liu Da and his companions walked over and extended a hand to Ye Fan.

"Just luck!"

Ye Fan calmly shook hands. Although he was cautious of Liu Da and his companions, he felt somewhat reassured, as people like them were often very loyal. Otherwise, they wouldn't have thrived in Du City.

His main suspicion focused on Huai Gu, who looked unremarkable and ordinary yet was composed, seasoned, and deeply hidden.

"You're the Emperor's son from the Gu Family, aren't you? What's your real name?"

When Huai Gu came over to offer congratulations, Ye Fan got straight to the point, directly pointing out Huai Gu's identity, catching him completely off guard.

"How did you know my true identity?"

Huai Gu blurted out, realizing only after he spoke that he had slipped up, but it was too late.

With those words, he tacitly admitted his identity, shocking everyone.

Of course, Hu Fei and the others were acting. Ye Fan had previously shared his suspicions with them, so they weren't too surprised.

Liu Da and his companions and the other surviving young cultivator were completely stunned!

Emperor's son!

That was the Great Emperor's child!

Who could have imagined that among their companions was the child of a Great Emperor?

This news was earth-shattering!

"Indeed, I am the Great Emperor's child. I have only emerged into the world less than half a month ago. I find it puzzling; how did you know my identity?"

Seeing that his identity was exposed, Huai Gu no longer concealed it, but looked curiously at Ye Fan, while his eyes glinted with calculation.

Chapter 1648 - Son of the Ancient Emperor

The Emperor's direct descendant, this is an extremely prominent yet sensitive identity!

The Ancient Emperors, each was a figure of monumental impact, with great achievements for humanity. Their children not only have pure bloodlines but also inherit their legacies.

The birth of an Ancient Emperor's descendant signifies an era of even fiercer competition. Among the peers, who can compete with the direct descendants of Emperors?

Similarly, the emergence of an Emperor's descendant also heralds the arrival of a grand era. Previous generations of Emperors missed the opportunity for immortality, but they deduced that the Immortal Path will reopen in this era.

To seize the opportunity to prove Dao, to fight for the chance to become immortal, I'm afraid it's not only the direct descendants of Ancient Emperors who will appear; other Emperor's descendants sealed by the Di family might also emerge in a short time.

This world will be a chaotic dark age, an era of decline and bloodshed, where many peerless geniuses will be born, yet ultimately only one person will prevail...

Knowing that the direct descendant of an Emperor will appear is one thing, but seeing the descendant in person is an entirely different experience. Even Liu Da and his companions were stunned, never expecting an Emperor's son to be hiding among their ranks.

"This wasn't hard to guess. Your name is Huai Gu, and I've seen you in action; you bear the mark of the Ancient Emperor Family and are even stronger than Gu Xiao, the strongest heir of the Gu family. If you aren't an Emperor's son, I really can't think of any other identity for you."

When Liu Da and his companions were shocked by Huai Gu's identity, Ye Fan spoke up in response.

"Moreover, your name is Huai Gu, which also made me suspect. Huai Gu, reminiscing about the Ancient Emperor. If you weren't an Ancient Emperor's descendant, you wouldn't choose such an alias!"

As soon as Ye Fan finished speaking, Huai Gu started clapping and said, "Brilliant, brilliant deduction. I thought I had no flaws, yet you found so many."

"Now, can you tell me your real name?" Ye Fan then asked.

Huai Gu smiled slightly and said, "My real name is Gu Xian, Xian as in Immortal, a name my father gave me hoping I could prove the Dao and become Immortal."

"You are Ye Fan, right? Although you changed your appearance, they betrayed you!"

Gu Xian pointed to Hu Fei and his two companions and said, "I've just emerged, and yet, I know a little about the Northern Domain. Where there are these three, you must also be present!"

"Yes, I am Ye Fan!"

Ye Fan admitted openly. Since the other party was not hiding anything from him, there was no need for him to hide either. But he asked in a deep voice, "What do you intend to do? Revenge for Gu Xiao?"

"Not at all, not at all!"

Huai Gu shook his head and said, "I don't want to be your enemy, nor do I intend to take action against you. I can sense that you also have the bloodline of an Emperor. I hope we can be friends because there are truly too few people with whom one can fight alongside in this world."

"Friends?"

Ye Fan sneered and said, "No need. I know very well what kind of people your Gu family are; I don't want a friend who could stab me in the back at any moment!"

"Ah..."

Huai Gu sighed and said, "You misunderstand me. They are them, and I am me. I've been sealed for endless ages, and being born is purely coincidental. As for how those descendants have developed, I don't know, so rest assured, I am completely different from them!"

"Alright, I'll trust you for now."

Ye Fan thought and decided not to make an enemy of Gu Xian so quickly.

"Can you tell me what that Golden Book page is?"

Gu Xian couldn't help but ask. His original intention was to seize the Immortal Elixir, but since that failed, the Golden Book page occupied his mind.

"Dragon Seeking Supplement!"

Ye Fan said, "The owner of this coffin is the first generation Earth Master. This Golden Book page is his inspiration in his later years, recording some geomorphic matters, nothing counted as a secret technique!"

"I see, you must have the heritage of an Earth Master to obtain this Golden Book page, right? Otherwise, among so many of us, only you managed to get it!"

Gu Xian said, "And if I'm not wrong, the reason you were able to lead us to safety before was due to using Earth Master techniques!"

"Yes, indeed, I obtained a Dragon Seeking Formula, and it was thanks to the secret techniques within it that I was able to bring you to safety and unravel the array patterns on the coffin to open it. That's also why I could obtain the Dragon Seeking Supplement." Ye Fan did not hide it.

Firstly, along the way, he had used the Earth Master methods several times, and hiding at this point was meaningless.

Secondly, he wanted to test Gu Xian's character to see if Gu Xian could indeed overlook the enmity between him and the Gu family and turn enemies into friends.

In a way, Ye Fan also didn't want to have one more Emperor's son as an enemy, because the direct descendants of the Great Emperors have very strong bloodlines, especially these children who are not a generation removed.

"So it seems your luck is truly extraordinary, even obtaining the Earth Master heritage!"

As he spoke, Gu Xian suddenly turned hostile, violently swiping a palm toward Ye Fan, causing primordial qi to surge, a massive light palm blasting Ye Fan away!

"Bastard..."

"Shameless..."

"Damn..."

Hu Fei and the other two were shocked and furious. Nobody foresaw Gu Xian suddenly turning hostile when the conversation seemed fine, not even a clue, and it was too late for the three to intervene!

"Hahaha..."

Gu Xian laughed wildly and said, "Shameless? I don't want to make things difficult, so I suggest you not to make a move against me, or I won't hesitate to kill you!"

After speaking, Gu Xian turned to Ye Fan and said coldly, "You harmed the disciples of my Gu family, today I demand full retribution—I want not only your Emperor Weapon but also your Dragon Seeking Formula, with it, I could leave on my own, you shall die here in peace!"

"You really have a two-faced nature, turning hostile abruptly, but do you really think you can kill me?"

Ye Fan crashed into the stone wall, leaving a human-shaped indentation, embedding in it, sneering as he spoke.

"I really can't think what you rely on? You're merely in the Late-stage Divine Realm, and I am in the Late-stage of Lord Realm, leading you by nearly an entire Great Realm, what do you think you can compete with me?"

Gu Xian said disdainfully, "Over bloodline, I am the direct descendant of an Ancient Emperor, with the purest Great Emperor bloodline flowing through me, and you? A hybrid after God knows how many generations, your strength is even worse, in any aspect, I cannot think of what gives you the qualification to contend with me?"

"Qualification, huh?"

Ye Fan moved slightly, freed himself from the stone wall, stretched his muscles, and said, "This is qualification!"

Whoosh!

As the words fell, Ye Fan gestured with a hand, summoning a Dragon Vein, instantly transforming into a True Dragon form and struck at Gu Xian.

"Suppress!"

At the same time, Ye Fan let out a loud roar. The Divine Soul Resonance Sound Wave Technique, the first Heavenly Sound roared out, directly impacting the Divine Soul of the Ancient Immortal.

Whoosh!

Then, he raised his right hand, striking towards the Ancient Immortal.

Immortal Stele Scattering Hand!

Facing the Ancient Immortal, Ye Fan dared not be careless, starting off with a killing move!

"Humph!"

The Ancient Immortal roared furiously in response, desperately resisting Ye Fan's suppression sound of the Heavenly Sound while simultaneously unleashing the secret technique of the Ancient Emperor. Its attack power was unmatched, shattering the True Dragon formed by Earth Vein Dragon Qi back into Dragon Qi.

However—

The Immortal Stele Scattering Hand exceeded his understanding. A massive black palm unexpectedly formed above his head, fiercely striking down with Ye Fan's gesture.

"Boom!"

With a loud crash, the Ancient Immortal was directly slammed into the ground by Ye Fan's Immortal Stele Scattering Hand.

Although the Ancient Immortal was the child of the Ancient Emperor and at the Mid-Stage of the Lord Realm, with extremely terrifying power, in this Jiu Long Nest, Ye Fan could use the Dragon Veins in combat, fighting across a Great Realm without any pressure.

"You're much stronger than I imagined, but it doesn't matter, today I will surely slay you!"

The black palm vanished, and the Ancient Immortal staggered to his feet, feeling utterly humiliated; he never expected Ye Fan to have such a move.

Moreover, the power of this move was truly terrifying. Facing it, he felt as if he were facing a Saint Lord Level powerhouse, a strength that completely overwhelmed him, making it impossible to even resist.

In his view, the intensity of such an attack must be driven by some kind of self-harming secret technique, and Ye Fan could only use it once, definitely impossible to perform a second time.

However—

To the Ancient Immortal's surprise, just as he stood up, Ye Fan raised his right hand again...

Boom!!

Following Ye Fan's gesture, another massive black palm suddenly appeared above the Ancient Immortal's head, slamming him back into the ground once more.

Bam!

Bam!

Bam!

...

Subsequently, the Ancient Immortal repeatedly crawled up from the ground, only to be repeatedly "planted" back into the ground by Ye Fan's Immortal Stele Scattering Hand, not giving him a chance to resist.

Luckily, the Ancient Immortal had cultivated a certain secret technique, granting him extremely strong defense, and carried a powerful Defensive Spiritual Artifact; otherwise, he would be severely injured if not dead.

Even though there was no life-threatening danger, the Ancient Immortal was frustrated to the point of vomiting blood!

He never dreamed of encountering such a scenario!

On the contrary, in his eyes, using his power against Ye Fan would hurt Ye Fan as easily as flipping a hand!

Yet reality harshly taught him a lesson, making him fully understand what it means to reap what one sows. In a place with Earth Vein Dragon Qi and Heaven Grade Spirit Stones, Ye Fan's combat power is inexhaustible.

Fighting with Ye Fan in the Jiu Long Nest, a place where Dragon Qi is abundant, was purely asking for abuse!

"Ah..."

Gu Xiao roared towards the sky in anger, almost exploding with rage. Ye Fan's Immortal Stele Scattering Hand was indeed formidable; if it weren't for the protection left behind by the first-generation Earth Master using array patterns, the place would already have been destroyed beyond recognition given Ye Fan's current strength.

"What are you yelling about?"

Ye Fan casually unleashed another Immortal Stele Scattering Hand, directly slamming him back into the ground as if he were swatting a fly.

"Ye, I will never end this with you; either you die or I perish!" Ancient Immortal shouted with extreme anger.

"Then you shall perish! Ancient Emperor's child, I'll cut you down just the same!"

As he spoke, Ye Fan attacked with full force, slamming down hard, nearly crushing the Ancient Immortal beneath.

What?

At that moment, Ye Fan suddenly felt all the Primordial Qi in the heavens and earth flowing towards the Ancient Coffin, even the Dragon Qi.

"Clang!"

With a loud noise, the opened coffin lid autonomously closed, as the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi and Earth Vein Dragon Qi flowed like streams into the coffin and dragon bones on the altar.

"Roar..."

An empty dragon roar sounded, as if the nine dragon bones came alive, swaying their heads and tails, pulling the Ancient Coffin as they were about to leave, while a white Domain Gate appeared atop the ancient altar.

The nine dragon bones aimed to traverse the void, dragging the Ancient Coffin away, instantly draining the Earth Vein Dragon Qi and Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi from this place, even several Heaven Grade Spirit Stones were instantly drained of their inherent Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi.

Swish!

This unforeseen event caused Ye Fan's expression to change drastically!

Ye Fan's ability to overpower the Ancient Immortal was entirely reliant on the Heaven and Earth Dragon Veins and the attack secret technique of the Dragon Seeking Formulas.

Without the Heaven Grade Spirit Stones and Earth Vein Dragon Qi, he was definitely not the opponent of the Ancient Immortal, even if they were at the same realm level, he would struggle to defeat the other. After all, the Ancient Immortal was the Ancient Emperor's child, with exceptionally strong Bloodline Power, nearly inheriting all of the Ancient Emperor's legacy!

Chapter 1649 - Entering the Domain Gate

"You little bastard, without Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi and Earth Vein Dragon Qi, what will you use to fight me?"

Not only did Ye Fan notice the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi here was instantly drawn away, but Ancient Immortal also noticed it immediately.

As the true progeny of the Ancient Emperor, Ancient Immortal had pure bloodline, strong power, and high comprehension.

He knew very well that the reason he was previously oppressed and wildly abused by Ye Fan was entirely because Ye Fan used a secret technique to borrow Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi and Dragon Vein for combat, greatly increasing his attack power.

At this moment, Ancient Immortal noticed the earth vein rising and Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi suddenly being siphoned off. He stood up from the deep pit with a cold smile on his face.

Whoosh!

Upon finishing his words, Ancient Immortal struck, forming a fist seal, filled with intense anger, and punched toward Ye Fan.

Whiz!

Without Earth Vein Dragon Qi and Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, Ye Fan knew he was not a match for Ancient Immortal. Seeing Ancient Immortal raise his fist to strike, he didn't dare to fight head-on, instead using Chasing Star Step to instantly move away.

Boom!!

With a loud noise, Ancient Immortal unleashed a piercing punch ray, hitting the spot where Ye Fan stood earlier, creating a huge pit with shattering rocks, causing the entire abyss to seem to shake.

Whoosh!

Immediately, before Ancient Immortal could strike again, Ye Fan turned passive into active, releasing an Immortal Stele Scattering Hand, then once again using Chasing Star Step, transforming into a wisp of smoke to ascend the altar and directly sit on the coffin, preparing to leverage the ancient coffin to leave the place.

He initially wanted to take three men with him, but time was running out—if he didn't escape using this attacking gap, there wouldn't be another opportunity, and he would likely die here!

"Ye, where are you running?!"

After easily blocking Ye Fan's attack, Ancient Immortal saw Ye Fan riding the ancient coffin entering the Domain Gate on the altar, immediately shouting and rushing over.

However—

It was already too late!

Whiz!

Accompanied by a breaking sound, Ye Fan sitting on the ancient coffin had entered the Domain Gate, and the Domain Gate immediately closed, completely disappearing in front of Ancient Immortal and several others.

"It's over!"

The only surviving young cultivator's legs weakened, causing him to collapse directly to the ground!

Originally, he thought to rely on Ye Fan's masterful Dragon Seeking Skill to leave here, but now, Ye Fan left alone, cutting off the hope of escape.

"Ugh..."

Not only that cultivator, but even the three bandits were absolutely stunned.

Whether Ancient Immortal suddenly struck or Ye Fan suddenly escaped, it was all beyond their expectations and happened in such a short time that left them no time to react.

At this moment, Ye Fan's departure meant leaving everyone in a desperate situation, and it was impossible to return the way they came—they simply couldn't cross the Heaven and Earth Killing Array at the bottom of the abyss.

"Damn it!"

Ancient Immortal cursed softly, originally thinking he had Ye Fan secured, yet he didn't expect Ye Fan dared to venture into unknown danger, riding the ancient coffin into the Domain Gate.

Whoosh!

After the curse, Ancient Immortal, still angry, instinctively cast his gaze toward the three bandits.

Hmm?

The three bandits instantly sensed it, unconsciously standing together, cautiously guarding against Ancient Immortal.

It's certain that if Ancient Immortal struck, they would unite and fight to the end.

Seeing this scene, Ancient Immortal's eyes flashed with brilliance but ultimately didn't make a move.

It's not that he lacked the confidence and strength to fight three, but he knew the three bandits had strong forces behind them, and if he killed them here, and news leaked from Ye Fan's mouth later, the Nine Great Bandits and the Barbarian clan would definitely band together to attack the Gu Family.

By then, even if the Gu Family could resist the attack, they would likely have to pay a heavy price and lose the seat of the First Emperor Clan!

...

There's no concept of time in the void.

Perhaps in an instant, or maybe ten thousand years, when Ye Fan once again appeared from the void, he had descended upon a primordial area, where nine dragon bones were pulling the ancient coffin to land on an even more ancient altar.

"Where is this?"

Ye Fan jumped down from the ancient coffin and found not far away the sound of wind through pine trees and streams murmuring, in the bitter cold Northern Domain, it was simply an Immortal Realm.

Ye Fan confusedly looked around, then ventured into the forest.

Bright moonlight shines through the pines, clear spring flows over stones, presenting a plain and serene beautiful scenery.

Yet, in such a beautiful place, Ye Fan had a foreboding feeling, wondering where exactly this place was? Northern Domain? Or Southern Domain? Or perhaps southern Eastern Domain?

Such a large altar, opening Domain Gates, traversing the void, the traversed distance should be very far, yet he had a foreboding feeling that he hadn't left the Primordial Ancient Mine, but instead delved deeper.

This feeling sent shivers down his spine, if he truly was within the Forbidden Zone, his situation would be extremely perilous.

"Boom!"

Suddenly, Ye Fan's ears rang fiercely, feeling as if a giant hammer struck him, blood seeped from his ears and nose, and his body flew out like a scarecrow.

The sudden attack caused Ye Fan immense pain, and even his powerful Nine Heavens Profound Body Fifth Level nearly collapsed.

"Who?"

Ye Fan was shocked, he immediately summoned the Emperor Weapon, the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, which hovered above his head, casting thousands of rays to protect him.

Ye Fan looked around, but the surroundings were silent.

"Buzz!"

The sound of breaking the void rang again, the attack struck once more, but this time Ye Fan wasn't sent flying—the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown shielded him from this wave of assault, yet he failed to see clearly what exactly attacked him.

"What is it?"

Ye Fan grew vigilant, carefully searching the surroundings, but found nothing.

Soon, Ye Fan saw an octagonal pavilion in the middle of the pine forest, standing steadfastly through untold years.

Ye Fan happily walked towards it.

In his view, a pavilion signifies that someone must have been here, otherwise there would be no need to build such a structure.

This pavilion, full of ancient charm, was entirely built of stone, engraved with the frost and winds of time.

The four pillars were inscribed with numerous ancient texts, and Ye Fan was stunned just by looking at the first stone pillar.

"Saint perished, Emperor died, Quasi-Emperor fallen..."

Ye Fan was taken aback. This place indeed was unimaginably eerie!

He carefully examined the records and shockingly found that the ones who left such accounts were none other than the first generation Earth Master, this was his journal!

The legend goes that the Emperor of the Central Domain died in the Primordial Ancient Mine, but he wasn't the only strong person; there were four other Saints and an Eastern Domain Venerable, all died in the Primordial Ancient Mine.

"Thus, my feeling was right; this is not outside the Primordial Ancient Mine, but rather deep within the mining area..." Ye Fan's mouth tasted a bit bitter.

This was the first generation Earth Master's journal, documented clearly; identified identities from those people's relics and engraved these words.

This pavilion stood about three meters tall, with the ground covered in pine needles, secluded among trees, bathed in moonlight, it appeared serene and elegant, with densely engraved ancient texts on the four stone pillars.

The Emperor, Saint, and the Eastern Domain Venerable, all entered this mysterious land in the twilight of their lives, their cultivation terrifying, yet still perished here.

Ye Fan looked at the first stone pillar for a long time, only able to sigh; no matter how peerless a figure, they couldn't withstand the passage of time, these people came here to prolong life but ultimately failed.

On other stone pillars, Ye Fan surprisingly discovered one stone pillar recording the Earth Master's legacy; many belonged to their line, but true transmission from the first to him totaled merely seven generations, and he was the seventh!

For this, Ye Fan felt amused and helpless; he had snatched a Dragon Seeking Formulas, unexpectedly establishing a connection with the Earth Master, becoming a successor.

Upon reflection, it was indeed the case; regardless of how he acquired the book, one thing was certain—he learned the Dragon Seeking Skill, inheriting some legacy, being part of the Earth Master's line wasn't wrong.

Thinking now, Ye Fan felt that he received plenty of inheritances already, besides his ancestors', from the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor, he also obtained Thunder Venerable's legacy.

By now, he understood that though Thunder Venerable bore the title, his actual combat power steadily suppressed Quasi-Emperor Ninth Layer Heaven's strong people, barely a line away from successfully Proving Dao.

However—

Thunder Venerable's chosen path to Proving Dao was too heaven-defying, acting on behalf of the heavens to execute Heavenly Punishment, which was intolerable by the Heavenly Dao.

Soon after, Ye Fan obtained a profound Dragon Seeking Skill journal from another two stone pillars, left behind by the first generation Earth Master in the last moments of his life.

The words on these two stone pillars were small and densely packed, deeply engraved, embedded three inches into the pillars, as if fearing their erosion.

Throughout the first generation Earth Master's life, he journeyed through countless perilous grounds, many of which exceeded the realm of Dragon Seeking Formulas, mostly unsolvable.

With his learned Dragon Seeking Skill, he couldn't overcome them, entirely relying on his innovative flashes of inspiration, to break through those deadly grounds, surviving into his old age.

Beside documenting the profound Dragon Seeking Supplement there, these texts were his final insights before death, regarded as the Earth Master's line's last contribution.

However, the place was extremely difficult to find; even if ordinary Earth Masters approached nearby, they wouldn't dare enter, being a deadly ground, Venerables came never to return.

For miners, these records were more precious than any Cultivation Technique, martial arts, secret technique, or divine skills, countless Spirit Stone couldn't exchange for these rare books.

Only six Earth Masters emerged since ancient times, this being the first generation ancestor's lifelong essence's sublimation, invaluable beyond measure.

Ye Fan read word by word, silently imprinting them on his Divine Soul, afraid of missing a single character.

The text was profoundly deep, obscure and difficult, various divine arts, unheard of, near Dao; Ye Fan couldn't comprehend them, only able to memorize first, to slowly comprehend in the future.

Once all words were imprinted on his Divine Soul, Ye Fan waved his sleeve, stone chips scattered, this Dragon Seeking Skill journal henceforth vanished.

Hmm?

Soon after, as Ye Fan prepared to rise and leave, he suddenly saw a figure standing not far away, silently watching him, eyes shining with eerie green light, like ghost fire.

"Who?"

Ye Fan was startled, unaware someone approached so closely, the stranger's strength was absolutely terrifying.

Indeed, had the person attacked earlier, he would undoubtedly be a corpse!

Chapter 1650 - Escape from Mortal Peril

Swish!

In shock, Ye Fan immediately prepared for battle, as the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown materialized, hanging above his head, casting down thousands of rays of light, fully protecting him.

The reason for this was that Ye Fan couldn't gauge the depths of the person in front of him, feeling they were even more powerful than a Saint Lord level expert.

"The Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown? Who are you to the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor?"

Upon seeing the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown Emperor Weapon above Ye Fan's head, the person was startled, floated forward a few steps, and asked in a hoarse voice.

"Considered... an ancestor, I guess. Do you know my ancestor?"

Ye Fan hesitated slightly; calling him an ancestor felt a bit forced. Deep down, he did not acknowledge himself as a member of the Ling Family, only the Ye Family. In this world, besides his mother, he harbored no goodwill toward the entire Ling Family.

"The Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor is renowned across the Nine Heavens and Ten Earths, known to all. How could I not know him?"

The person revealed their true appearance, looking as ghastly as a ghost, draped in a black cloak, with barely any hair left, and their face was skeletal.

"Given that you are a descendant of the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor, we will not trouble you. Our master once owed him a favor, but it has already been repaid. Since you are here, we will not kill you, but we cannot let you leave either. You can live out your days here in peace!"

As soon as the words fell, the person vanished into the void like a ghost, without giving Ye Fan a chance to ask questions.

"Uh..."

At this, Ye Fan was truly dumbfounded.

The person's master not only knew the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor but also owed him a favor...

This means that the person's master might have lived in the same era as the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor!!

"Who are they really??"

Ye Fan couldn't help but ask himself silently, then tried to contact Elder Xuan, only to find no response from him.

With no other options, Ye Fan had to explore on his own.

For three consecutive days, Ye Fan spent his time in anxiety. Although he was here to find the first generation Earth Master and had received an inheritance, he was trapped here.

"I can't be trapped here, I must leave!"

Ye Fan kept pacing around, contemplating ways to escape, but in such a desperate situation, within a Forbidden Zone of Life, how could escape be easy?

However, what reassured Ye Fan was that the old man hadn't appeared again since the first time, as if certain he couldn't leave this place.

Indeed, that was the case. During these three days, Ye Fan attempted multiple times, but he never managed to walk beyond the confines of the pine forest, always ending up back near the ancient altar, as if caught in an unsolvable loop.

After countless attempts, Ye Fan eventually gave up. It was simply impossible to walk out; he was trapped in this place no more than ten miles in circumference.

Wanting to fly out wasn't feasible either. He once tried flying, but it triggered a large-scale attack. If it weren't for the protection of the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, he would have perished in that attempt.

After that incident, Ye Fan no longer dared to recklessly try flying, forcing himself to remain calm and think of other ways.

Yet realizing where he was disheartened him more, as this was the Primordial Ancient Mine, a Forbidden Zone of Life, where even Supreme Saints turned up no return. It was even more improbable for a small Divine Power Realm cultivator like him.

"I must get out!"

Ye Fan gritted his teeth in determination, eventually pulling out the extraordinary book, Dragon Seeking Formulas, scrolling through it in hopes of finding a way to escape.

Since the first generation Earth Master could get in, there must be a way out, he just didn't know it yet!

"There must be a way out!"

Ye Fan stood in the pine forest, rubbing the extraordinary book, Dragon Seeking Formulas, with his hand.

"Clatter..."

Suddenly, Dragon Seeking Formulas flipped open by itself, shooting out beams of divine radiance. At the same time, similar divine radiance burst forth from the pine forest towards the sky.

"This is..."

Ye Fan's heart filled with joy, and he hurriedly held Dragon Seeking Formulas and moved forward.

A moment later, Ye Fan was shocked on the spot!

Because he saw a path extending forward, with unique runes from Dragon Seeking Skill glowing on the ground, reflecting with the stars in the sky.