Tales of Herding Gods Chapter 521-525

Chapter 521: First Ancestor Human Emperor

Up ahead was a figure that was tall and sturdy. Qin Mu walked up the steps of the sacred hall with the chest clattering behind him. He raised his hand, and the chest stopped outside. It pulled back its four legs and landed on the floor.

The chest creaked as its top opened up. In the gap, the dragon qilin looked around and saw tombstones everywhere. He gave it some thought before crawling out with difficulty. His stomach stayed close to the ground as he followed Qin Mu while his tail was lowered, but not to the point it touched the floor. He didn't dare to make a sound.

Suddenly, the dragon qilin felt something stepping on his tail and let out a shriek. The hair and scales on his body all rose up.

Qin Mu turned back to take a look and saw the dragon qilin with both his paws stuffed in his mouth. Only then did he make himself from making the noise.

When he turned back, he saw the chest tiptoeing behind him. It was this thing that had stepped on his tail and scared the hell out of him.

Qin Mu's head started to ache, and he wanted to chase them out, but he felt like it wouldn't be appropriate in such a sacred and solemn place. He could only brace himself and let them follow behind him. "If you two fool around again, I'll turn one of you into firewood and the other into dinner!"

When he came to the back of the figure, only then did he realize that he was much shorter than the other party. As a youth, he was merely an inch shorter.

However, the impression that the figure gave him was of a very tall person. It was the impact the person's aura and manner brought to his heart.

The figure belonged to First Ancestor Human Emperor whose stone statue Qin Mu had seen in Little Jade Capital.

"You should be the thirty-sixth human emperor, right?"

First Ancestor tilted his head to look at him. He was a man who looked to be in his thirties. He had a full beard and looked robust, radiating the aura of reliability.

"I'm the thirty-seventh," Qin Mu corrected. "Village Chief is my master and the person who had taken me in, but this is still the first time I've come here."

He looked forward and was slightly stunned. He realized at what First Ancestor Human Emperor had been looking.

It was rows and rows of bookshelves stored with countless books. Hall of Human Emperor was very huge, but it didn't have any gold or jade accessories like Qin Mu had expected. There was no tall and majestic god statue or any luxury at all. There were only rows and rows of bookshelves.

He walked forward and picked up a book. The words written on it were unfamiliar to him, but he could feel a familiar kind of sword will from them.

It was a book that Village Chief had written.

In it, he talked about the techniques and divine arts of High Heaven's Star Sovereign Qiao. He had written numerous weakness of them and studied their flaws.

Qin Mu returned the book to its place and picked up another one. On it was written numerous pros and cons of Jade Sovereign's techniques and divine arts. He flipped through the other books, and most of them were experiences of facing the techniques of the gods of High Heavens.

Qin Mu even found Sword Picture. There was a big pile of scrolls which recorded how Village Chief had cultivated his sword picture. The path and the mood of every kind of sword skill were recorded inside, which made it evident that he had prepared it for the descendants.

The youth came to the second bookshelf where the words were filled with a boundless atmosphere. It had a kind of passion that was like volcanoes erupting, so the books there were most likely written by Human Emperor Qi Kang.

His were also mostly about the techniques of the gods of High Heavens as well as the way to face them calculated by him. Besides that, the rest were the techniques and divine arts of Human Emperor Qi Kang.

However, he mentioned that anyone who would cultivate his techniques would be an idiot. He had never defeated the gods of High Heavens, so cultivating his techniques would only allow one to walk the same path as him. There was a hint of disappointment in his words.

'No wonder every human emperor wouldn't cultivate the technique of their master, but instead insist on founding new techniques.' Qin Mu suddenly understood the feelings of the past human emperors.

They were all failures and didn't want their disciples to walk their old path. The reason they left their techniques was probably because they were the hard work of their whole lives. They wanted to have a successor, but it couldn't be their own disciple.

This was probably their biggest regret.

"These books are all strategies on how to pacify High Heavens." First Ancestor Human Emperor walked over and caressed the books on the bookshelves. "They viewed High Heavens as their biggest enemy and used all their effort to take it down. However, it's a pity that all of them failed. You can stay here and study for some time. It will help you in finding your own path."

Qin Mu shook his head. "The gods of High Heavens are mostly dead, all of the four sovereigns already gone. The High Heavens now is not a big problem anymore. The books in these bookshelves are no longer of much use. My goal isn't the gods of High Heavens or the conquer of that place."

First Ancestor Human Emperor looked at him with astonishment. "What is your goal?"

Qin Mu looked straight at this predecessor and said solemnly, "My goal is to tear apart this fake sky, to reform this unfair world, to seek advancement with reform, to rebuild a flourishing era that doesn't belong to Founding Emperor!" His gaze was fervent when he asked loudly, "First Ancestor, this is also your goal, right?"

"No." First Ancestor's eyes dimmed, and he shook his head. "My ideal is not as ambitious as yours. I've been worn down by time and many enemies. You are still young and have the drive while I'm just a dispirited old man. The day will come when time and your enemies will wear you out too.

"When that time comes, you will come to Hall of Human Emperors and leave your book like the other human emperors. You will write down your failures and hope for your descendant to do what you couldn't."

His voice was slightly cold and grew crueler and crueler with each word. "You are a failure, just like them. You will quietly build a straw hut and sit in it with all hope lost. You won't want for anyone to walk the same path as you, but the responsibility of the human emperor will make you have no choice but to find a successor. In the straw hut, you will shed tears of regret, you will hate the master you respect, and you will carve a tombstone for yourself on which you will write your failures."

He sneered and said, "You'll feel that you're unworthy of a grave, unworthy of meeting your ancestor, then you will take your last breath and become like the other skeletons in the straw huts!"

Qin Mu stared with his eyes wide open, full of disbelief. The heroic and wise image of First Ancestor Human Emperor suddenly crumbled in his heart!

"Do you still want to be the human emperor? Let me tell you a cruel truth, there's no human emperor in this world!" His voice was cold to the extreme. "Back then, when I saved my people from the big disaster, I already knew that I was a failure! I saved them because I was weak and couldn't see these ordinary people die in front of me. However, that made me a deserter!"

He laughed loudly and pointed at the countless burial mounds in the fog outside Hall of Human Emperors. "I am a deserter. When escaping, all I thought about was how to leave that hell! So I escaped! I didn't fight with them, but run away alone! I've thought about it countless times: what if I had stayed with them at that time? There's only one answer to that, and that's I'd have become a corpse just like them!"

He laughed a little maniacally. "That's right, they died while I lived and became the human emperor in the hearts of the world! The people respect me because I brought them to a place where they could live, but so what? I only turned them into prisoners. Even the sky is fake in this huge cage, an inescapable prison! Everyone is just a prisoner in this cage! I didn't bring them out, but only sent them into this prison of gods!

"Human emperor? Ha ha, human emperor! There's no such thing as a human emperor in this world!"

His hair blew upwards from the anger, and he took a step forward. When he closed in on Qin Mu, his terrifying aura forced the youth to fall back continuously. "Throw away that laughable dream of yours and let go of your burden. You are not the human emperor. From the beginning to the end, the human emperor was a fake, merely a murderer who had sent the people of the world to the cage of gods!"

His aura didn't allow Qin Mu to even breathe. He had no choice but to use his vital qi at full strength to fight back.

"Then why have you come back?" Qin Mu's chest was almost compressed, and he could barely suck in a breath, but she still shouted out, "Why have you come back to erect tombstones for the ones who had died in battle? Why have you buried them? Why have you placed the weapons they used under their tombstones?"

First Ancestor's aura suddenly calmed, and he lowered his head. "I went back, back to this battlefield to bury them because I have guilt in my heart. I know I'm not worthy to be the human emperor so I've come to redeem my sins."

Qin Mu found it hard to believe. "Do you really not have any hope in your heart?"

First Ancestor was expressionless. "No. Young man, put down the dream in your heart. This human emperor farce should have ended long ago."

Qin Mu lowered his head, but after a moment, he raised it with a smile, a radiant smile that a big boy like him always wore. "You failed, they failed, but I have never failed before. Since you can't be the human emperor, I shall do it."

First Ancestor sneered at him, his expression full of scorn. "In what way do you think you're capable of that?"

"My surname is Qin, and my ancestor is Founding Emperor. I have the lineage of Carefree Village's Qin family, and I'm also the overlord body! Is there a problem?" Qin Mu asked in a loud shout.

First Ancestor tilted his head, the scorn still there. "You have too many titles and too much honor in your heart. So what if you have the lineage of Founding Emperor? He also lost and hasn't shown his face for twenty thousand years. What can an overlord body do? I've heard about its legend, but I've never heard of any of its achievements. You're just a silly boy, just a kid... Let me shatter your illusion!"

He swept up his sleeves and suddenly attacked.

Astonished, Qin Mu hurriedly blocked. However, he felt that the power in the strike wasn't great, so he couldn't help becoming stunned.

First Ancestor's power burst forth, and the ripple of the divine art threw the books on the shelves into the air.

"Don't destroy these books!" Qin Mu shouted at him angrily and struck out with his fist. Behind him, a huge buddha appeared, and fourteen layers of heavenly gods and buddhas surrounded him, transforming into fourteen rays.

"Technique of Great Thunderclap Monastery, small tricks." First Ancestor broke it easily and punched Qin Mu in the chest while saying indifferently, "With just this, you can't protect yourself, let alone those books."

Qin Mu was blown back, but his body transformed into a shadow, swooping into the ground. First Ancestor tapped the floor with his feet and shook him out. With his vital qi as a sword, he stabbed toward Qin Mu's heart of brows.

"With just this low ability, your future will have nothing but death!" First Ancestor scorned. "You are also a failure."

Qin Mu flew into a rage and gathered his qi into a sword. When he pointed his finger, the vital qi swords clashed and hummed. The collisions rang endlessly, and books kept dropping out to be shredded by the sword qi.

Qin Mu stared at their pieces with hatred burning in his eyes. "Don't destroy their blood, sweat, and tears!"

"Come and stop me then." First Ancestor chuckled. "If you can't defeat me, you're merely another pile of junk!"

Chapter 522: I can!

A few more books were destroyed, and Qin Mu's anger reached its breaking point. First Ancestor Human Emperor didn't treat the efforts of the past human emperor as a thing. The efforts of Village Chief, Human Emperor Qi Kang, and the rest were being destroyed like they were nothing in his hands!

Qin Mu's vital qi shook and suddenly exploded. The scarlet red vital qi transformed into a sea of blood with countless corpses of gods and devils drifting within it.

The second form of Village Chief's sword picture, Sword of Founding Emperor Sea of Blood!

His sword skill was different from that of Village Chief. He had incorporated eighteen sword forms into this move instead of the fourteen. Besides the inferior mood and some flaws, the power of his sword skill had already far surpassed that of Village Chief.

Just as he executed it, First Ancestor's figure rose from the sea of blood. His sword skill split apart the sea of blood, paving a way for him. The corpses of gods and devils danced and became his helping hands as they pounced on Qin Mu.

Bang, bang, bang!

Streaks of blood rand down Qin Mu's body as he flew back. They came from the injuries inflicted by First Ancestor's stabs.

He crashed heavily against a wall of Hall of Human Emperors before sliding down and collapsing on the ground.

The dragon gilin was furious and roared loudly, then pounced at First Ancestor Human Emperor.

The man's five fingers moved. When they spread out, runes burst forth and formed a runic seal that was about three yards big and sealed the dragon qilin's wide mouth.

The qilin true fire in the dragon qilin's mouth was instantly blocked, and he got sent against a wall by a sweep of a sleeve.

The chest rushed forward with its cover open, planning to swallow the man up. First Ancestor Human Emperor tapped the chest with a foot and sent it straight at the dragon qilin who had been sliding down the wall. The two of them tumbled out of Hall of Human Emperors and rolled down the steps.

"You should have seen it now. Your so-called overlord body, your so-called lineage of Founding Emperor, they are nothing more than empty names."

First Ancestor waved his hand and a bookshelf flew into the air. The books in it fell out, and with a sweep of his sleeves, the efforts of the past human emperors turned into paper butterflies.

First Ancestor had an indifferent expression. "These books are just like you, nothing at all. No matter how hard you work, it's useless. So why struggle? Why continue to struggle, to fight for that laughable dream of yours?"

Qin Mu stood up, and his ten fingers moved up and down, tapping on the wounds around his body to seal them up. He then rushed toward First Ancestor once more. "If you couldn't do something, it doesn't mean that I won't be able too! Seal!"

"Forbid!"

"Fix!"

"River!"

"Mountain!"

He rushed over frantically and executed Human Emperor Kong Xian's Spell with Words. The word seal appeared beneath First Ancestor Human Emperor's feet, and the word forbid brought him in. The word fix appeared in front of his face, and the word river was like a flood dragon coiling around him. Last came the word mountain which pressed down on his head.

Spell with Words could have five words executed at once, and it was the wonderful technique that Human Emperor Kong Xian had created.

Yet those five words shattered one after another. First Ancestor Human Emperor's palm seemed to be flipping the heaven and earth around when he slammed it down.

Qin Mu roared angrily, his actions full of fierceness. His tendons were like huge dragons coiling around his bones while his spine was like a soaring true dragon.

True Dragon Overlord Body!

He had cultivated the technique from the true dragon's nest after merging it with Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique. It had allowed his corporeal body to reach a height never seen before.

It was his strongest corporeal body divine art.

With his right hand turned over as yang and his left hand as yin, the heart of the palms moved to face First Ancestor Human Emperor's palm strike.

Yin Yang Heaven Flipping Hands!

It was the technique of Third Ancestor Human Emperor, but he had only taught Qin Mu the introductory style of Yin Yang Heaven Flipping Hands. However, Qin Mu had comprehended the use of overlapping palms by himself.

At that moment, he overlapped the pure yin palm force with pure yang palm force. With yin and yang exploding at the same time, the fusion of the two powers caused their strength to increase exponentially!

Boom!

Qin Mu stumbled backward. His left hand had been yang and his right hand yin, but when he overlapped them to face First Ancestor's fist, its power had destroyed his yin and yang before he could even unleash his attack. He was blown away just like that!

"The third generation human emperor was also a failure, so you are doomed to fail if you use his moves."

First Ancestor Human Emperor smacked then ground with the wind from his palm. Qin Mu who had just landed floated up uncontrollably from the vibration. Next, he was struck down by a mudra and sprawled onto the ground once more.

Clang.

Two rays of divine light shot out from his eyes and struck Qin Mu. The powerful gaze seemed ready to break his back, and the ground in the surroundings was scorched red hot.

Qin Mu flipped up and sprinted away to avoid his gaze. He moved around the hall as though he was flying while divine light gathered in his eyes. Two rays shot out from his eyes and collided with First Ancestor's gaze.

Bang.

His divine eyes lost and he got pinned against a wall.

"You've met him?" First Ancestor Human Emperor pulled back his gaze and walked to the bookshelf of Third Ancestor. He took down a book, and it was none other than Third Ancestor's technique. "You now know that the technique he spent his whole life to perfect is completely useless and should have been thrown into the toilet a long time ago! The book he wrote isn't even worthy to wipe asses."

Qin Mu slid down from the wall with blood dripping from the corner of his mouth. He looked at First Ancestor Human Emperor who was tearing up the books and suffered a setback.

It was the first time he had met such a powerful opponent. First Ancestor was using the same realm as him, so they were both fighting with Seven Stars Divine Treasure. The only difference was that Qin Mu's Seven Stars Divine Treasure had already merged with Six Directions Divine Treasure and had no barrier between them, while First Ancestor's divine treasures still had a realm barrier.

From this point alone, Qin Mu's vital qi surpassed First Ancestor by a lot, but when they fought, it wasn't that way at all.

First Ancestor was a person who had no shortcomings. He didn't merge his divine treasures, but his corporeal body far surpassed that of Qin Mu.

He was like a young true god. His fists, legs, muscles, skin, hair, bones, and tendons had all reached realms that far surpassed Qin Mu!

His five viscera and six bowels were abnormally developed, and his heart which was providing the body with blood circulation was also strong. It was like a huge bell ringing as it sent qi and blood to all parts of his body in an instant and made his magic power move even quicker.

His breath was also long-lasting. When he breathed, wind and clouds would sweep past, allowing his lungs to contain even more air. His kidney mobilized the strength of his corporeal body and allowed his body to stay in an incomparably stable state at all times as well.

His five viscera and six directions corresponded directly with his five elements and six directions, merging perfectly with his divine treasures.

His eyes were like the sun and the moon, combining perfectly with the five elements and six directions and transforming into seven stars.

His comprehension of the realm had reached a height that Qin Mu had never seen before too!

His dantian was burning like a great furnace, similar to that of Mute. It was like a brilliantly shining sun that was the source of energy that moved his corporeal body and kept it at peak performance at all times.

This type of corporeal body state was like that of Xing An—flawless. In truth, it was even more powerful!

His primordial spirit had also reached an inconceivable level.

Primordial spirit was the spirit embryo, the spirit of the vital qi. Qin Mu was really proud of his primordial spirit since it was stronger than of everyone else, and his soul was much more stable as well. He could let his primordial spirit roam the void at Six Directions Realm, unlike the others.

He had even dual cultivated with primordial spirit and founded Primordial Spirit Guide. After cultivating in Six Directions Realm for a period of time, his primordial spirit had strengthened, and among his peers, he was matchless. Even Xu Shenghua's primordial spirit was a line inferior to his.

Yet compared to that of First Ancestor Human Emperor, his primordial spirit was much inferior.

First Ancestor Human Emperor's primordial spirit and corporeal body were perfectly matched as one. The movement of his heart led to attacks of the corporeal body, and the movement of his spirit became vital gi divine art. The movement of his will combined these two kinds of attacks into one.

This resulted in First Ancestor's attacks being incomparably fast, to the point that Qin Mu could not withstand them at all. They were always coming at him like the storm!

No matter if it was First Ancestor's corporeal body or divine arts, they were all perfectly united as one. He was the perfect divine arts practitioner.

He was the youth form of a true god!

Yet such a strong being had become a deserter when disaster and war broke out during the end years of Founding Emperor Era!

Even such a strong existence that looked to be unbeatable had become a deserter, afraid to die with his comrades, so how strong did the enemy have to be?

"Stop tearing..." Qin Mu was gasping for his breath.

First Ancestor continued to tear the book apart, turning the efforts of Third Ancestors into scattered pieces. He then said indifferently, "What's the point of leaving them? The people that had written these books are useless, so the books are also useless. They are just taking up space, so isn't it better to tear them up? And you're no different. You will become a useless person like them in the future, for even if you cultivated to my level, you would still be useless."

His expression grew scornful, and he walked to Second Ancestor's bookshelf and took out a book to rip it apart. He sneered. "They treated High Heavens as their rival. Hehe, High Heavens? High Heavens are merely dogs! But they couldn't even defeat dogs, so what talk can there be about a counterattack? You're also a useless person. You can't even defeat me, so what bullsh*t ambition, what bullsh*t dream? Quickly go home, find a woman, and give birth to a baby..."

Qin Mu pounced over while shouting angrily. The spirit embryo in the heart of his brows merged with his soul to form his primordial spirit. He combined his corporeal body and primordial spirit as one since he'd noticed the reason why First Ancestor was so powerful and immediately used it for himself.

"I told you not to tear anymore!"

His speed increased drastically, and his palm force became boundless and terrifying. However, the next moment, he was sent away by First Ancestor once more.

"Great Overarching Heavenly Stars Palm Force!"

Qin Mu pounced over again. Boom! He was blown back again.

Bang.

Bang, bang.

Dull thuds of heavy strikes came from Hall of Human Emperors for a while. They stopped only after quite some time had passed.

First Ancestor Human Emperor looked at Qin Mu who was crawling up with difficulty and shook his head. "You still haven't given up? You're different from the previous human emperors. They were lied to by their masters and had no choice but to become human emperors. If they had received my permission to not become human emperors, they would have definitely been overjoyed and given up their positions in delight. What about you? You were lied to as well, weren't you?"

Qin Mu stood up shakily and sealed the wounds on his body. He wiped away the blood on the corner of his lips while panting heavily. "Village Chief didn't lie to me. He told me before that there are no benefits in becoming the human emperor and I might even be chased, becoming the target of everyone which would put me in constant danger..."

"Then why do you still stand?" First Ancestor was puzzled. "Why don't you give up? Why do you want to do something that doesn't benefit you? Are you dumb?"

Qin Mu grinned. His teeth were already dyed red by blood. "If no one does it, wouldn't there be no more hope forever? If you don't want to do it, why don't you let me do it?"

"Because you are dumb!"

First Ancestor Human Emperor attacked him, each of his blows heavier than the one before. He shouted angrily, "You are a dumbass that doesn't know how to give up! You will only give your life away! There will be countless enemies like me in the future, and if you can't even fight against me, how are you going to fight them? My mistake shouldn't be born by the later generations! Give up now!"

Boom!

Qin Mu took the blow head on and stumbled backward. First Ancestor's attacks came to patter him like the storm. Each strike was as heavy as a mountain and as sharp as a blade. "Give up! Give up! You better give up now!"

Qin Mu tumbled out of Hall of Human Emperors. When he was about to crawl up, First Ancestor had already come to his side. He crossed a mudra as heaven and a mudra as earth and threw him away again.

When Qin Mu crashed between two burial mounds, First Ancestor suddenly appeared to step on his chest. "Have you given up?"

Qin Mu grabbed his ankle and pulled him away. He stood up once again and rushed at him while shouting, "The title of human emperor isn't what you gave yourself, but something given to you by all of the races! You can't take it back!"

"Human emperor is fake! Let me break the illusion in your heart!"

With a cold gaze, First Ancestor stretched out his hands to grab Qin Mu's neck and raised him into the air. Qin Mu grabbed hold of his hands by force and encircled them like a huge python before flipping him over.

Bang!

He was blown into midair by First Ancestor and fell back down once again.

First Ancestor stood up and came to the straw hut. He sneered and said, "It is these useless people who created the illusion that the human emperor should sacrifice and struggle for the people that a hot-blooded youth like you was pushed into acting rashly. Let me destroy their corpses, turn the skeletons of these people angling for fame to dust!"

He barged into the closest straw hut and crushed the tombstone of Second Ancestor into powder. He then grabbed Second Ancestor's skeleton.

"You dare!"

A gale whooshed in as Qin Mu roared angrily. First Ancestor turned and raised his palm to face the punch that was coming for him. It was a bloodied fist, a fist that brought along boundless anger and whose fingers were trembling.

Boom!

Countless bolts of lightning struck First Ancestor's face, blowing him away.

The straw hut exploded, and a bloodied man caught Second Ancestor's skeleton and placed it properly before giving his respects. He then shot out like an arrow released from a bow after First Ancestor who was in midair!

"If you can't, then let me do it! I can!"

A dull crashing sound came from afar as a gray cloud rose into the sky.

Chapter 523: Forgiveness

Qin Mu landed on the ground with mud raising all around him. He was covered in blood, and droplets of it mixed with the mud. His hair fluttered up from fury as he walked toward First Ancestor Human Emperor who had just gotten up to his feet.

"You are the deserter of this battlefield; you don't have the right to look down on anyone!" Qin Mu roared and rushed at First Ancestor Human Emperor.

Even though his injuries were heavy, his aura was even fiercer than before, and the power of his moves was even more astonishing.

Anger filled his chest. When First Ancestor was about to destroy Second Ancestor's skeleton, he felt as if all the blood in his chest was going to come bursting out. His primordial spirit merged with his corporeal body from where it stood on the spirit platform in his divine treasures. As his primordial spirit held up the sky with his head while his feet stepped on the earth, he was flooded with the mist of six directions that surged in from all directions.

Qin Mu's vital qi fused with his primordial spirit which had fused with his corporeal body, and the vital qi reached all parts of his body.

Suddenly, he comprehended the most important point about First Ancestor's primordial spirit merging with his corporeal body.

Circulation of techniques needed time, and so did any divine art to burst forth with energy. The only difference was between a long and short time, a strong and weak power.

With primordial spirit located in the divine treasures, vital qi would enter the body directly from them, saving the time required for vital qi circulation.

First Ancestor Human Emperor was extremely fast was not only because every part of his corporeal body was on the god realm, but due to the usage of primordial spirit fusion with the corporeal body.

At this moment, the five stars in Qin Mu's Five Elements Divine Treasure corresponded with his five viscera: heart, liver, spleen, lung, and kidney, which were fire, wood, earth, metal, and water respectively. Five stars entered five viscera, the five star sovereigns moving into his heart, liver, spleen, lung, and kidney. Each of his five viscera now had a god staying inside it!

The heart was where the bull-headed Mars Sovereign moved. The liver was where the Jupiter Sovereign with a bird's body and human head took his position. The spleen was where the Saturn Sovereign with the body of the snake and the head of a human slithered. The lungs were where the tiger-headed Venus Sovereign took his seat. The kidney was where the red-haired Mercury Sovereign with the snake body resided.

Five Elements and the corporeal body complimented each other, and his strength increased little by little, which gave him the strength to send First Ancestor who was planning to destroy Second Ancestor's skeleton flying in one blow!

"Yes, they have lost, they have lost miserably!"

The two palms collided, and a terrifying force burst forth. The white fog in the surroundings gave off a slicing sound when the two palms clashed to create an air current.

The palm force was like an incomparably sharp knife that sliced the fog in half a three hundred year distance.

"They did it, but you've done nothing, so what right do you have to criticize them?"

Qin Mu roared angrily, and all of his vital qi burst forth. His tendons moved fiercely under his skin and pushed back against First Ancestor. Bang, bang, bang, bang. Under their feet, the ground exploded continuously until there were three hundred yards of clean space around them, without any fog.

It was, after all, the compressed force from Qin Mu's violent palm strike. All the fog had thus gathered behind it, which meant it was now behind First Ancestor.

"Other than establishing Hall of Human Emperors, what else have you done?" Qin Mu asked, and volcanoes erupted behind him, flames rushing into the sky. They were from Human Emperor Qi Kang's fist skill which gathered heart fire as power for an explosion.

First Ancestor Human Emperor's expression changed slightly. The force in Qin Mu's palm suddenly increased exponentially and sent him flying away.

"You've done nothing!"

First Ancestor Human Emperor was in the midair when he saw Qin Mu raise one leg. His body spun a round while his vital qi transformed into all kinds of spirit weapons to bombard his target!

It was Human Emperor Lan Po's spell for refining spirit weapons!

First Ancestor Human Emperor's sleeves swept up and shattered all the spirit weapons. But before he even landed on the ground, he saw Qin Mu raise a finger in his direction. Mountains then burst forth and drowned him out.

"Connecting Walls Tapping Blue Mountains!

"If they're inferior to you, teach them! You can teach them!"

First Ancestor Human Emperor broke the move by force, but he could still not land for a huge bell rushed at him. Qin Mu came to his face and attacked the bell, all his punches and kicks landing on its walls.

The bell shook, and its power grew fiercer and fiercer. It was sometimes tilted, sometimes facing down, sometimes up, and sometimes its mouth was aimed at First Ancestor.

Fifth Ancestor's Five Thunder Heaven Raising Bell!

First Ancestor Human Emperor fell back repeatedly while Qin Mu speaking to him angrily through the ringing of the bell. "How did Second Ancestor die? From old age!"

Boom!

First Ancestor Human Emperor's footsteps were messed up.

"How did Third Ancestor die? From old age!

"How did Fourth Ancestor die? From old age!

"Were the aptitudes or the comprehension of all the human emperors inferior to yours? If you couldn't do it, you should have imparted your technique to become a god and let them do it! Why did you let them die of old age?"

Qin Mu executed the divine arts of all thirty-four human emperors that he had learned in Fengdu. The thirty-four human emperors had tested his aptitude and comprehension with them, but they hadn't imparted the full techniques, hoping that he would go to Hall of Human Emperors to receive their complete teaching.

They taught Qin Mu roughly and didn't expect him to learn much. Yet their divine arts burst forth with astonishing power in his hands, making First Ancestor retreat step by step.

"You clearly have the technique to become a god so you should have taught them! Why didn't you teach them?

"What have they received from you? Other than a broken seal! Other than a bunch of responsibilities and burdens, they didn't receive anything!

"They couldn't learn your techniques and divine arts yet they were still helping you carry the burden you couldn't lift by yourself, struggle and fight with the enemies you feared! Yet you destroy their hard work and even want to destroy their corpses! They were all ashamed to face you after they died, ashamed to not have succeeded!

"Yet you want to destroy everything they left behind! How do you have the face to call them useless, to call them incapable?"

Qin Mu unleashed his final move, but First Ancestor suddenly stretched his hand to grab his fist and swung him up before smashing him ruthlessly against the ground.

Qin Mu jumped up, and First Ancestor counterattacked with fist skills, body movements, sword skills, and formation skills, each one of which was extremely marvelous. He easily broke all of Qin Mu's attacks and sent him into a defensive position.

He was still incomparably strong and the retreat moments ago seemed to have been just a trick for Qin Mu to weaken. Now he was going to destroy him completely, crushing his confidence and body together!

His battle experience was incomparably abundant, and his corporeal body stayed in the most perfect state. His control of vital qi had reached an unbelievable realm. Qin Mu let loose his feelings and indulged himself in unleashing them in his divine arts, while First Ancestor could control his feelings perfectly and didn't waste any excess energy to vent his emotions.

Bang, bang, bang.

Qin Mu received countless punches, kicks, and divine arts. Compared to the young true god's corporeal body that First Ancestor had, he was still too tender.

His True Dragon Overlord Body couldn't be maintained anymore, and a finger from First Ancestor Human Emperor that touched the heart of his brows broke it.

Qin Mu was thrown high up before falling down like a tattered sack filled of grain in front of Second Ancestor's dilapidated straw hut.

He tried to struggle to get up, but he couldn't rise no matter what.

First Ancestor Human Emperor walked over with a cold expression. He came to his side and said emotionlessly, "You talked so much, but was it useful? If you can, defeat me; otherwise, you can never carry the title of the human emperor. Once you take it, the enemies you'll have to face will be much stronger and much more ruthless than me."

Qin Mu stared with eyes wide open as he walked to Second Ancestor's straw hut and lifted the man's skeleton.

"Don't..." Qin Mu crawled forward with difficulty till he could grab First Ancestor's ankle. With a sob, he pleaded, "I beg you!"

Kacha.

The skeleton of Second Ancestor shattered and fell to the ground.

First Ancestor lifted his feet and gave two stomps while saying coldly, "If you can't beat me, you will never beat them. This is the first time you had the chance to face me, so you still have thirty-four chances."

Qin Mu's vision became blurry as his cheeks went ice cold. First Ancestor Human Emperor lifted him up and threw him onto the chest. He said coldly, "Every time you lose to me, I will destroy the skeleton of a human emperor. If you continue to lose, the skeletons of these failures will cease to exist. Go!"

The dragon qilin opened his mouth to roar at him, but his mouth was still sealed; he couldn't make a sound.

First Ancestor Human Emperor looked at him, and the dragon qilin lowered his head. He brought the chest with Qin Mu back to where they had come from.

"I'll kill you!" Qin Mu's voice came from atop the chest. "I'll definitely kill you!"

First Ancestor Human Emperor trembled, but he didn't turn back. The dragon qilin then brought the chest with Qin Mu out of the ancient fragment of the celestial heavens.

"I'm sorry..."

Ba-thump.

First Ancestor Human Emperor knelt down in front of Second Ancestor's straw hut with a cloud of dust. "I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I didn't really mean to destroy your remains, I'm sorry..."

"I've already forgiven you."

A ghost rose from the remains. It had a discernible Second Ancestor's figure that was smiling. "I've long forgiven you. I know your thoughts. You want to make him grow up faster because he is the overlord body, right? He can carry the burden we didn't manage to, right? I've forgiven you, so return to Fengdu. They will also forgive you..."

In the dilapidated straw hut, skeletons raised their heads and looked silently at the kneeling First Ancestor Human Emperor.

"We have all forgiven you..."

They looked at their ancestor. First Ancestor Human Emperor had not imparted the technique to become god to them, but he had imparted a spirit that couldn't be described with words, a kind of spirit that was undying and unwilling to give up.

"I can't forgive myself."

First Ancestor Human Emperor knelt on the ground, and his body slowly changed into a stone statue as his primordial spirit left for far away.

The chest clattered as it ran, carrying Qin Mu over many mountains. In front of it, the dragon qilin looked ahead in alert, in case any strange beast in the wild tried to attack them.

Two days later, they came to Border Dragon City. Si Yunxiang and Hu Ling'er hurriedly took over Qin Mu's care. After a few days, he recovered and nursed himself back to full health.

"I'll kill him." Qin Mu's eyes were lifeless as he sat on the head of a dragon pillar in the city. "I will definitely kill him. I will never forgive him..." he told Ling Yuxiu who had brought him up there.

She looked at his dispirited self of the last couple days. She didn't know how to console him, so she thought to bring him to this place where they had played together back then in a hope to alleviate some of the dark clouds in his heart.

"Father is summoning me back; he says he's sending me to West Earth." Ling Yuxiu hesitated for a moment before saying, "Even though West Earth has submitted to us, there's no power of the imperial court within it. Do you want to take a stroll with me in West Earth? Don't keep thinking about it by yourself. It's quite scary... Tell me about it, maybe I'll have an idea!"

Qin Mu looked at her with a stupefied expression, his eyes lacking any life. The stubborn beard hairs that he liked to pluck had already become a stubble after not being touched for a few days. He asked lifelessly, "How do I beat a true god?"

Ling Yuxiu was stunned.

Qin Mu laid down. "Go to West Earth. The emperor told you to go to West Earth and Crown Prince Yushu to the north which was recently conquered, so if you rule West Earth better than he, you will gain the title of the crown princess. If you want it, I can help you. I have people in West Earth, but I can't go with you. I have to think about some things."

Ling Yuxiu laid down beside him and placed her hands behind her head while looking blankly at the sky. "A few years ago when we were lying here together, everything was so carefree. I liked you, you also liked me, so why after we grew up, there are suddenly so many worries? How I miss those times..."

"It's probably because we grew up," Qin Mu said in a low voice after closing his eyes.

Ling Yuxiu flipped over and looked at him from the side. She plucked a long hair from his beard and asked, "Are you still the original you?"

Qin Mu was stunned. "Xing An said that a person's body changes completely every seven years. Some three-four years have already passed, so I should only be left with half of me."

Ling Yuxiu shuddered and plucked out a few more strands from his beard ruthlessly while saying angrily, "You're scaring me again! You will never become Xing An!" She tilted her head and pondered over it. "If you don't want me to go to West Earth, I can stay with you."

"Do you want to go?" Qin Mu asked.

"I want!" Ling Yuxiu stood up and looked down at the mountains and rivers of Great Ruins from high above while speaking with high spirits. "I want to become a female emperor and defeat my father! I want to make him know that I'm better and more powerful than all of his sons!"

A flicker of light flashed in Qin Mu's lifeless eyes. He felt inspiration surge through him after witnessing her motivated speech, and vigor returned to his body. It was as if he had come back to life.

Chapter 524: Seeking the Path in Little Jade Capital

Ling Yuxiu sent Qin Mu to Heavenly Saint Academy before returning to the capital in two days where she needed to wait for the emperor's arrangement.

When the emperor wanted to open four new big academies to be the highest educational establishments second only to Imperial College, the hall masters, elders, and heavenly kings of Heavenly Saint Cult fought hard in the imperial court. Their labor gave fruit, and Heavenly Saint Academy was given permission to be set up. It used Granny Si's manor, and after the battle with Xing An, Granny Si, Mute, Blind, and Apothecary had stayed there.

There were numerous members of Heavenly Saint Cult in the imperial court. The highest ones were Imperial Preceptor and Duke Wei while the lowest were soldiers and bailiffs everywhere, so Qin Mu didn't need to fight for the academy as others did it in his name.

Granny Si, Mute, and Blind had become directorates of Heavenly Saint Academy, teaching lessons once in a while. The other directorates were mostly the hall masters of Heavenly Saint Cult.

When Qin Mu came there, he was just in time for class, but he couldn't see anyone in the academy. There was only a bunch of flood dragons frolicking in the lake. When they saw Qin Mu, they were first stunned, then jumped up onto the shore in a frenzy.

Qin Mu instantly knew that the situation was bad and turned to run. 'Weren't these flood dragons brought by Saintess Xiang to be reared in Saint Arrival Mountain? Why have they come to Heavenly Saint Academy?'

"Ma ha! Ma ha! Ma ha!"

A bunch of flood dragons passed by the dragon qilin and the chest. After a moment, Qin Mu was captured by the flood dragons. Afterward, he could only drag his exhausted body forward with over a dozen flood dragons rubbing their heads against him, their horns opening bloody wounds on his neck.

"Ma ha..." The little flood dragons clung onto him with narrowed eyes as though they were sleepy.

Qin Mu's body was all drenched as though he had been just fished out from the water.

The dragon qilin let out a long sigh of relief, and the flood dragons turned to look at him in unison. The dragon qilin realized he was in trouble and turned to run in a hurry.

"Ma ha! Ma ha! Ma ha!"

A bunch of flood dragons ran past the chest, and after a moment, Qin Mu saw the dragon qilin barely able to crawl forward. His neck, body, and four limbs were covered with flood dragons.

"Ma ha." The flood dragons rubbed against the dragon gilin until this big fatty was bloody.

"Ma ha?" The bunch of flood dragons raised their heads to look at the chest in curiosity.

The chest had taken a step to follow behind Qin Mu, but at that moment, it realized that it was also in trouble and started running.

The flood dragons slipped down from the dragon qilin and rushed toward the chest while crying out in delight, "Ma ha! Ma ha!"

The dragon qilin let out a sigh of relief and collapsed on the ground. After a moment, the chest ran back, making Qin Mu and the dragon qilin stare at it with their eyes wide open. There were no flood dragons on the chest at all.

"Ma ha—" The chest opened up and over a dozen dragon heads popped out. They cried out in unison, very happy.

This sight was akin to a chest with daffodils of all colors showing their heads.

The chest was rather pleased with and followed after them as if the flood dragons weren't heavy at all.

"Mu'er is back?"

When the bell rang for the end of class, Granny Si walked out of a big hall. She saw Qin Mu and hurriedly came over to welcome him with a smile. "Haven't seen you in a long while. You're truly a grand chancellor who asks others to work but does nothing himself. You threw all these scholars here and slipped away while making us help you look after them..."

Qin Mu hugged her tightly, and his tears flowed out uncontrollably. "Granny!"

Stunned, Granny Si smiled at him gently. "You've suffered? How can a great cult master cry so miserably? You're still the grand chancellor of Heavenly Saint Academy, so stop crying. It's not good for the scholars to see you like this. Tell granny what happened, and granny will take justice for you."

Qin Mu felt himself calming down and let go of her. He shook his head and said, "What happened with these flood dragons? Weren't they sent to Saint Arrival Mountain?"

"Lassie Xiang wanted to send them to Saint Arrival Mountain, but she disliked the fact that they ate spirit pills, and not even of one type. They were too costly so she sent them back," Granny Si explained.

"Lassie Xiang is really stingy, and she keeps a close watch on the purse of Heavenly Saint Cult. However, it's good to put them in the academy. When scholars learn how to refine pills from your Grandpa Apothecary, the pills they refine are just fine to feed these flood dragons.

"Actually, these little ones are quite famous in the academy. When scholars want to paint dragons, refine dragon-shaped spirit weapons, or to cultivate dragon-based divine arts, they all need them.

"But what happened to you? Who provoked you? Cripple! Apothecary! Blind! Come over, Mu'er has been bullied by others!"

Bang.

There was a loud boom, and Cripple suddenly appeared beside Qin Mu. He asked bewilderment, "Who bullied our Mu'er? Is he tired of living?"

"It's First Ancestor Human Emperor, a true god. Grandpa Cripple..." Qin Mu said.

Cripple shuddered and turned to leave. Blind grabbed hold of him and asked with a smile, "Cripple, you're scared?"

"Like hell I'm not scared!" Cripple muttered. "It's just that Xing An that scoundrel isn't even a true god yet he beat us all up quite miserably. First Ancestor Human Emperor is a real true god, so won't we just be seeking death by provoking him?"

Apothecary walked over and pondered over it. "First Ancestor Human Emperor? True god? Can it be settled with poison?"

Qin Mu shook his head. "I want to defeat him fair and square, by fighting him on the same realm. I want to get rid of him by myself."

Apothecary shuddered before shrugging his shoulders. "My abilities are useless in this."

Cripple sighed. "I also don't have anything to offer. Where's Mute?"

"He ran out a few days ago." Butcher held onto the shirt on his shoulder as he walked over while speaking in a booming voice. "That fellow always slip away from time to time, going god knows where. Mu'er, how are the abilities of a true god?"

"He's stronger than me in all fields. He runs faster than me, his strength is greater than mine, his spirit and body are one, his divine eyes surpass my divine eyes, the power of his fists is astonishing, and his paths, skills, and divine arts have merged into one with his corporeal body."

Qin Mu's face dimmed. "He has already entered the path in every field, so the only thing in which I'm stronger is magic power."

Blind frowned and asked, "He's stronger than my divine eyes?"

Qin Mu nodded gently.

Butcher who wasn't afraid of the heaven and earth also locked his eyebrows in a frown. After a moment, he asked, "My knife skills..."

"Were easily broken by him."

Deaf walked over. "What about the painting path?"

"No chance to execute."

"What about Heavenly Saint Cult's divine arts?" Granny Si asked.

Qin Mu shook his head. Everyone frowned together.

"Have you tried running?" Cripple asked with some nervousness.

"He caught up with me."

"Poison... Forget it, forget it." Apothecary waved his hands and said, "I've confidence in poisoning a god, but to poison a true god with no weakness at all, I don't think I could do that."

Qin Mu smiled at them. "You guys don't need to worry about my matter. I've thought over it quietly for the last couple days, and I've realized something. Even though he looks invincible, he escaped from the battlefield back then, which means that there are people who are stronger than him. He isn't invincible, so I can definitely find a way to surpass him."

Granny Si smiled and said, "It's rare for you to come back so stay at Heavenly Saint Academy for some time. Let us help you think of a solution."

Qin Mu nodded and went to put down his luggage.

Granny Si, Butcher, Blind, and the rest gathered together and looked at his back. Butcher frowned and said, "This is the first time Qin Mu has lost his confidence. He was not like this in the past, always so full of trust in himself, but now..." He shook his head.

Blind narrowed his eyes. "True gods, are they really so terrifying? Surpassing my divine eyes? I don't really believe!"

"We should train him while he's here!" Deaf suddenly said. "To learn without thinking is blindness, to think without learning is idleness. He is currently at the stage of learning and thinking. Mu'er's fight with First Ancestor Human Emperor is not just a battle of cultivation, but also a battle of Dao heart.

"If he walks out of it, it'll probably be a huge improvement in the cultivation of his Dao heart. If he can't do it, I'm afraid the overlord body will become a useless body. Let's train him well, so he doesn't become useless!"

Everyone nodded.

After Qin Mu settled down, it was as if he had returned to Disabled Elderly Village. Butcher, Blind, Deaf, Cripple, and Granny Si would call him over from time to time and feed him moves, flipping the heaven and earth in the academy with the fights.

Most of the scholars in the academy were from Heavenly Saint Cult while others had come from the other academies in the world to seek knowledge here. The next few days were an eye-opener for them as they witnessed the legendary abilities of all the directorates.

After a few days, Granny Si and the rest all frowned. Qin Mu was still fearful and nervous, not daring to attack, which resulted in him being frequently beaten up by them. The worst part was that even though those few times when he attacked his moves were incomparably exquisite, he would execute them halfway and stop.

Butcher was furious and beat him up while scolding sternly, "Why did you not finish your move?"

Qin Mu didn't retaliate and just shook his head. "It's all wrong..."

"You have to finish it even if it's wrong!"

Granny Si hurriedly pulled Butcher away and said angrily, "He isn't in the right state, so stop beating him! What if you make him dumb like that?"

Deaf nodded and said, "There is too much stuff accumulated in his brain and he thinks too much. He has burrowed himself into a dead end and can't get out, so you won't gain anything by beating him up like this. Once he finds his way out, he will become a great master."

Butcher stared at them. "What if he doesn't find his way out?"

Everyone was silent.

"Mu'er, you won't learn anything in the academy so it's better for you to take a stroll and drive away your cares," Granny Si said.

Qin Mu nodded and packed his luggage, leaving the academy with a muddled head.

Cripple followed him for a period of time, but only saw Qin Mu walking randomly. When he saw that he wasn't in any danger, he calmed down and returned to the academy.

One day, Qin Mu came to Surging River and sat down on its shore. Almost instantly, he heard a voice from behind him. "Qin brat!"

Qin Mu turned around and saw a luxuriously dressed youth standing behind him with a look of terror, ready to escape anytime.

"Oh, it's Grandmaster." Qin Mu turned back and continued to look at the river.

Pangong Tso propped himself up since his one leg was a deer leg. He had planned to escape the moment the youth attacked him, but when he saw him continuing to sit beside the shore without any intention to attack him, his guts grew. He got closer and asked, "Cult Master Qin seems to have some troubles? You and I are old friends, so why don't you tell me about what's eating at you? Maybe I can help you solve your problem."

Qin Mu was bored to death and threw a stone into the river. "I'm thinking about how I can defeat a true god on the same realm, but I can't find the answer. Grandmaster, can you teach me?"

Pangong Tso's eyes lit up, and he got closer and closer. He said with a smile, "I see. You must be very troubled now, right? You feel you're very useless, right? That life is uninteresting? In that case, what's the point of living? Let me help you finish things, hehe..."

Whoosh.

The river churned, and Dragon Rearing Sovereign's huge head rose up high like a mountain. His whiskers hung in the air beside Pangong Tso.

The youth's body turned stiff, and his face turned yellow. He immediately turned to leave. "Sorry for disturbing, farewell!" Once he said that, he vanished without a trace.

Dragon Rearing Sovereign watching him leave and shook his head. "This brat is even more slippery than a loach. Your Majesty, I can't solve your problems. Even though I'm a god, I don't have the power to get rid of a true god."

Qin Mu sighed while on the mountain behind him God Bai Xi swished his tail in annoyance. "I also don't have the ability! Your Majesty, can I change the mountain? This one is too small, and my temple is only this high! It can't even fit my hoof!"

Qin Mu got up and rode the dragon qilin away.

"Human Emperor Qin, you've come to my Little Jade Capital to proceed with Five Qi Breakthrough and Six Directions Breakthrough?" Hermit Qing You hurriedly came to welcome him with a smile.

"It's been a while since my Little Jade Capital had any visitors. Hall of Five Qi and Hall of Six Directions have been waiting for the arrival of Human Emperor. That's right, there's still a thing I haven't told you about. A few months ago, the stone statue of your First Ancestor Human Emperor seemed to have come back to life. He left Little Jade Capital, but I've no idea where he went."

The corners of Qin Mu's eyes twitched, and he said, "I met him."

Astonishment showed up on Hermit Qing You's face. "You met him? In that case, do you also know that the stone statue of Saint Woodcutter has also come back to life and left Little Jade Capital?"

Chapter 525: The Other World in the Darkness

"Saint Woodcutter's stone statue has revived?" Qin Mu's heart trembled violently, and he hurriedly asked, "Where is he?"

"He left as well. If you were a few days earlier, you could have met him. Saint Woodcutter had left then with his ax. When he awakened, I jumped in shock, wondering why such two existences had woken up one after another," Hermit Qing You said. "As for where he went, I do not know."

Qin Mu composed himself. First Ancestor Human Emperor of Hall of Human Emperors and Saint Woodcutter of Heavenly Saint Cult waking up one after another was indeed strange. Why did it happen?

Where could Saint Woodcutter go?

Heavenly Saint Cult wasn't founded by him, but by Founding Master. Saint Woodcutter had only wanted to leave behind his legacy, so it was doubtful he'd go to Heavenly Saint Cult.

But besides it, where else could he go?

Wang Muran and the rest were not in Little Jade Capital since they had gone to Border Dragon City, so there were only some old immortals left on the mountain. Hermit Qing You examined Qin Mu and said, "Human Emperor Qin's state doesn't seem right. Do you really want to enter Hall of Five Qi? You look out of sorts now."

Qin Mu shook his head and said, "May I ask Hermit Qing You to open Hall of Five Qi, Hall of Six Directions and Hall of Seven Stars? I want to go in and take a look."

Hermit Qing You hesitated for a moment. He wasn't too at ease with the youth's current state. "If Human Emperor is insistent on entering, my Little Jade Capital will naturally do its best to satisfy you. However, your state doesn't seem right now, and barging in by force will not be good for you. You only have one chance after all,

"Passing Five Qi Breakthrough, Six Directions Breakthrough, and Seven Stars Breakthrough would definitely increase your foundation drastically, so don't waste this chance and come only when in your best state."

Qin Mu smiled at him. "I just want to go in and take a look, not to challenge."

Hermit Qing You was helpless. "Please follow me." He led Qin Mu to Hall of Three Aeons while saying, "You passed through Three Aeons Breakthrough so after you enter the hall, you will automatically enter Hall of Five Qi. If you pass through it, you will enter Hall of Six Directions. After it will be Hall of Seven Stars. You aren't in the right state, so to prevent you from making any mistakes, I will host this personally."

Qin Mu gave his thanks and walked into Hall of Three Aeons. Before he could even steady himself, the scenery in front of his eyes changed, and five huge stars rose in the sky, shining in gold, green, blue, red, and yellow colors. Each one of them had a palace on it.

Qin Mu focused himself, and besides the five stars, he could also see the sun and moon in the sky. However, they were extremely far from him as though there was a world separating them.

The five stars in the sky were huge beyond belief, but they were at different distances, some far and some close. In the five sacred halls, gods who corresponded to the five star sovereigns stood up.

Suddenly, Hermit Qing You's voice came from afar. "Senior Sister Ying He, let me replace you for this stage."

A red-haired god with a snake's body stood up and transformed into a flowing light that left into the distance.

Another ray of bright light flew over and landed in that sacred hall. Hermit Qing You changed into a redhaired god with a snake's body and said, "Human Emperor Qin, Hall of Five Qi is separated into metal, wood, water, fire, and earth breakthroughs. Which element will you choose?"

Qin Mu shook his head. "My trip here was to take a look at the divine treasures of a true god, so may Hermit Qing You make things easy for me."

Hermit Qing You frowned, and so did the other four immortals. One of them said, "The founder of my Little Jade Capital left behind Hall of Three Aeons to teach the later generations and fill in what they lack. It isn't for us to observe his divine treasures."

An elderly woman frowned. "The people who've come in to challenge here had never made such a weird request before. Senior Brother Qing You..."

"Human Emperor Qin is not an outsider." Hermit Qing You pondered over it before saying, "He shared the method to become god with the world and we have all received his grace. Little Jade Capital should satisfy his request. Besides, the ancestor who left the test also was surnamed Qin."

The other four old immortals spoke no more.

"Human Emperor Qin, you only have one chance to challenge us, and if you succeed, you would receive the divine vitality of the five qi. This could supplement the deficiency of your Five Elements Divine Treasure's cultivation. Are you sure you just want to take a look at the divine treasures of this god?"

Qin Mu bowed. "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day, but teach a man to fish and you will feed him for a lifetime. I'm willing to give up the divine vitality of the five qi."

Hermit Qin You broke into a smile. "Alright. I thought Human Emperor Qin's frame of mind was unstable and worried that you had lost your wisdom and would lose the challenge, but your boldness makes me admire you. In that case, come up!"

His green light fell to the ground, and Qin Mu was raised up by it, landing on the water element star. The red-haired god with a snake body that Hermit Qing You had transformed into led him into his sacred hall. "Human Emperor Qin, feel free to look. It will depend on your abilities how much you will be able to comprehend."

Qin Mu gave his thanks and examined everything in detail. He observed the rune markings on the four walls of the sacred hall, paying close attention to them.

There were sacred halls on all five stars in Five Elements Divine Treasure, and they were all naturally formed.

Every divine arts practitioner that cultivated to this realm would refine five stars in their Five Elements Divine Treasure. The five stars would correspond to five elements.

The stars were naturally formed and the palace halls on the stars were also naturally formed. However, different techniques would form different rune markings. They would then combine with the vital qi and become the gods in the palace halls.

In the Five Elements Divine Treasure of any divine arts practitioner, when the gods of the five elements breathed out their vital qi, its attributes changed. That was why such a name as five qi was created.

Qin Mu's Five Elements Divine Treasure has already been cultivated to the extremes, so it was difficult for him to take any more steps further. However, the fight between him and First Ancestor had made him realize that his limit wasn't everyone's limit.

He observed in detail, and Hermit Qing You was very patient. He kept waiting for him.

It was hard to say how long had past when Qin Mu closed his eyes, having studied enough.

When he opened them, he looked toward Hermit Qing You. "I have an unreasonable request."

Hermit Qing You understood and changed into a ray of bright light that left. Only Qin Mu was then alone in the sacred hall. The rune markings on the walls instantly lit up, and his body changed against his will, turning him into a red-haired god with a snake's body.

After a long time, Qin Mu dispersed the god form and left the sacred hall. He went to another star and entered another palace hall, observing the rune markings there.

After a dozen days, he finally walked finished with all five stars and went to Six Directions Divine Treasure.

He spent a dozen days more there before entering Seven Stars Divine Treasure. Many more days passed. After that, he couldn't proceed anymore since Celestial Being Divine Treasure and Life and Death Divine Treasure had no one to host them.

When Qin Mu walked out of Hall of Three Aeons looking a little haggard and with a stubby beard, Hermit Qing You knew that the youth had not been sleeping the whole time. He felt slightly pained for him and asked, "Has Human Emperor Qin found what he wanted?"

Qin Mu was in good spirits. The improvement in his Five Elements, Six Directions, and Seven Stars Divine Treasures had given him a lot, renewing his confidence. He gave his thanks. "Much thanks, immortal. As for whether I found what I wanted, I still need to confirm it. May I ask, comparing the founder of Little Jade Capital to First Ancestor Human Emperor of Hall of Human Emperors, whose abilities were better?"

"I can't really say whose abilities were stronger, since both of them are seniors who had become true gods twenty thousand years ago and I've never seen them fight before. However, Little Jade Capital has a few old scrolls that speak about the ancestor once going to find the first generation human emperor. He had wanted to make him leave a mountain, but he returned in low spirits from a defeat and had to nurse his injuries for several months.

"The scroll stated that the first generation human emperor had used immense magic power to move the fragment of Founding Emperor Celestial Heavens and that his abilities were extremely strong. Hall of Human Emperors is a hundred times bigger than Little Jade Capital and is known to be terrifying.

"I think that the ancestors of Little Jade Capital had all went out of their way to protect themselves while the first generation human emperor had brought countless people from various races to battlefields all the time. From that, it's not that hard to make a guess whose abilities were stronger."

Qin Mu's face turned ashen. After a long time, he bowed. "I understand, much thanks, immortal."

Hermit Qing You frowned and felt that the youth's state of mind was even worse than when he had come. "You haven't been sleeping for a month and more, so you should take a rest first."

Qin Mu agreed.

Hermit Qing You arranged a room for him and let him sleep.

Qin Mu woke up after a dozen more days, but his complexion still wasn't good. He insisted on leaving, and Hermit Qing You didn't keep him back any longer. "If Saint Woodcutter comes back, where do I go to inform you?"

"I'll have to trouble immortal to go to Border Dragon City. I might be there."

Hermit Qing You saw him off while thinking in bewilderment, 'Back when Human Emperor Qin came here for the first time, he was so full of mettle, so why has he become so dispirited?'

Qin Mu sat on the chest that brought him away. He poured a full basin of Scarlet Fire Spirit Pills mixed with Fire Element Divine Vitality Pill to the delighted and surprised yet nervous dragon qilin. 'Why has Cult Master become so kind today? Is it because I starved for over a month or is he preparing to put me on the table? No matter what, I need to eat first!'

After he finished the basin, Qin Mu poured him another one.

The dragon qilin hesitated for a moment while looking down at the basin full of spirit pills. He suddenly began to cry miserably as he lowered his head to eat more.

Qin Mu looked at him in bewilderment. "What are you crying for?"

"It's good to die as a full ghost!" the dragon qilin said through a full mouth while wiping his eyes. "At least I can head on my way with a full stomach. Cult Master, make it a swift one!"

Qin Mu shook his head and said, "I've starved you these few days so I'm paying you back. I ain't going to kill you for your meat."

The dragon qilin was delighted and ate all the spirit pills in the basin.

When they passed by a city, Qin Mu stopped to buy some medicinal ingredients. He went to several cities and refined numerous Scarlet Fire Spirit Pills and Fire Elements Divine Vitality Pill which he stuffed into the chest. The dragon gilin was ineffably moved by such actions. 'Cult Master is really good to me!"

Qin Mu bought some black iron and black gold to forge strange spirit weapons on the way.

The dragon qilin couldn't understand what he wanted to do. He only saw some of the things refined by Qin Mu were flags, some were sacrificial altars, and some were tools of calculation like eight trigrams, taiji, abacus, and five element talismans.

After a few days, they came to Border Dragon City, but did not enter it.

Qin Mu used eight trigrams platform, taiji diagram, and numerous other tools of calculation to calculate while looking around his surroundings. He found the terrain and used a ruler to measure a nearby mountain. He then recorded a series of runes on a paper. The dragon qilin went over to take a look, but he couldn't understand anything.

There was no end to the calculations even when the sun was about to descend and the darkness about to come.

When Qin Mu finally finished, he set up a sacrificial altar with flags all around it. He then stood upon it after chasing the dragon qilin and the chest away.

"Cult Master, what is this for?" the dragon qilin asked from beside the chest.

Qin Mu executed the flags and looked at the darkness in the surroundings. Another world soon appeared and overlapped with Great Ruins. In that world, countless devils moved around with their smoke-like bodies as they came from huge space holes.

In Qin Mu's eyes, the people of the other world were fighting back against those devils. He was faced with a large-scale battlefield that was incomparably vast.

"Fatty Dragon, I've prepared enough spirit pills to last you a long time. Just stay with the chest for a few days. I plan to..." His gaze was fixated on a running devil general on the battlefield. On the sacrificial altar, countless runes lit up, and the teleportation flags rustled. "Go to another world!"

Boom!

A loud explosion rang out, and Qin Mu and the teleportation flags instantly vanished. Instead, on the sacrificial altar, a devil general that was tall and sturdy suddenly appeared and looked around in a daze.

Toot, toot!

The sound of the bugle horn was long, and countless flags fluttered, swirling to form a huge circle. Qin Mu suddenly appeared in the middle of a vast battlefield where countless soldiers of the devil army were rushing forward.

They swept him along in their charge.

In front of them was an incomparably majestic city with huge ships flying in the sky. Gods stood upright there with divine weapons in their hands and swept up countless soldiers and horses with each strike!

Qin Mu had used the spell of sacrifice and teleportation formation to come to the world of the girl in the darkness!