

## Ancient ST 1511

### Chapter 1511 - Metamorphosis Pill, The Demonic Beast That Grew By Leaps and Bounds

Qing Shui smiled: "What should I call you? How tall are you? How much do you weigh? Where do you come from? What are your hobbies? What do you like?..."

The woman blankly stared at Qing Shui. She knew that Qing Shui was just joking, and shook her head while smiling. She found out that this guy was different from other men, like two opposites. The man in front of her was very calm and wasn't afraid of accidentally giving off the wrong impression.

"I'm Qin Qing, from the Ice Domain Dynasty." the woman answered lightly.

"Qin Qing is a wonderful name, very fitting." Qing Shui said smilingly.

The woman smiled and looked at Qing Shui: "Are you perhaps exaggerating?"

"No, what I'm saying is true. I'm not one to exaggerate things." Qing Shui replied.

Qing Shui wasn't in a hurry to use the Nine Continents Steps. While riding the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant to fly into the depths of the Kunpeng Mountains, Qing Shui and the woman exchanged some words on the journey and got to know each other better.

As night approached, they were able to find a cavern. Qing Shui said with a smile: "Let's stay here for tonight, we'll continue our journey tomorrow!"

"Alright!" Qin Qing said bluntly.

Qing Shui helped Qin Qing set up her tent first, and set up his own not too far away. He then promptly made some food, and they each went back to their own tents.

When Qing Shui saw that there wasn't much time left, he impatiently went into the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and checked on the Diamond Fruit with his Heavenly Vision Technique.

The Diamond Fruit, which increases the strength of the body, was exceptionally effective with people of extraordinary blood vessels and bodies and would increase their power by at least twofold.

Each person and Demonic Beast could only consume one, and it could be put into medicine!

"Good stuff!" Qing Shui was very happy because Qin Qing had generously given him half of it.

According to the standards, this fruit could only be found serendipitously. After leaving enough for himself from the half, the first people he thought of giving these to were the ones closest to him, which was a natural thought. This woman only had five of the Diamond Fruits, and her Demonic Beast and she had already eaten two of them. The remaining three should have been left for her relatives, but perhaps she didn't have enough?

Qing Shui didn't think that she might have other demonic beasts, so he thought about it for a bit but didn't get it, so he didn't want to think about it anymore. He simply just ate one. The Dragon Slaying Beast, Hell Nightmare Beast, Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant, and the Thunderous Beast each ate one, the rest of the demonic beasts could only watch...

Qing Shui was also out of options. There just weren't enough, so he could only give them to the ones that he used the most. Besides, they still had the Diamond Fruit Tree, so there was no need to be afraid. Qing Shui, who had many Magic Treasures, could make a batch of Diamond Fruit ripen earlier.

Qing Shui, who ate the fruit first, had an extraordinary body, but he was astonished at the results. The Nine Yang Golden Body broke through again, and even the Paragon of the Dantian was also shining brightly with the gold plates on his body brighter than before.

The strength and flexibility of his body increased by at least twofold and the most important thing was that his constitution changed dramatically. Originally it was the Extreme Yang Body, now it seemed to have gone one step further.

The Paragon had also changed a bit. The power of the Paragon Golden Armor went from the threefold previously to the sixfold that it is now, a dramatic increase. In addition to the strength of his own body, he felt like a cockroach that could not be killed.

Qing Shui returned to consciousness after a while. This time was really a great stroke of luck and was not something that should be taken lightly. This was even more important than defeating someone else. With the body strength now, even the old masters of the Se Clan wouldn't be able to hurt him much.

Having done all of that, Qing Shui now inspected his demonic beasts, whose strength increased. Along with some of its raw strength, though on paper it seems negligible, the strength of their bodies had doubled at the very least.

The Dragon Slaying Beast's power level and sharpness, as well as a little of its speed, all were a part of its body's power level. The Hell Nightmare Beast's doesn't even need to be mentioned. The Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant and the Thunderous Beast had theirs increase about one to one and a half times.

After enjoying themselves for a while, Qing Shui finally began to prepare the Medicinal pill.

Metamorphosis Pill!

The Diamond Fruit was a reward by chance and of course, the ingredients exclusive to the Gold-back Bear King were also by chance. This time the focus was to find treasure.

The ingredients required for the Metamorphosis Pill were also very precious, even more precious than the ones for the Six Yang Pellet, which was obtained in Linhai City, where Qing Shui would visit every now and then to fish.

The strength of the Pure Gold Fishing Rod was not to be doubted. All that which were missing were the ingredients from the Gold-back Bear King.

Actually, Qing Shui still didn't know why he needed the ingredients from the Gold-back Bear King, all he needed to know was that the Gold-back Bear King came from some strange transmutation, was rare, extremely strong, and without any special techniques, it would have been impossible to obtain the ingredients. So rare, that it would have been a once in a lifetime occurrence.

What surprised Qing Shui was that making the Metamorphosis Pill this time had gone extremely smooth. He didn't make any mistakes, and even created two of them. With the rest of the ingredients, Qing Shui felt that he could make a lot of them.

## Metamorphosis Pill!

It was able to let a demonic beast go through metamorphosis once, changing its internal structure dramatically, allowing it to use any type of strength. However, it could only eat one with a 100% chance of metamorphosis with the effect depending on the talent and vitality of the target.

Although the effect was very vague, Qing Shui's eyes lit up. This was something that could only have happened through sheer luck. This time the Gold-back Bear King's materials could have created a lot, there was enough to save, and each demonic beast could only use one of the Diamond Fruit.

It also didn't take that long to create, seven days. Qing Shui found out that those seven days were if the process was taking its time, but right now it took seven days.

Seven days of full concentration. This is already an ability that an average Alchemist did not have, and also is the reason why the success rate was so low.

Well, Qing Shui did have a high level of concentration.

The time passed in boredom. Qing Shui was someone that was patient enough to stand being lonely, continuing for three days until he stopped, which was short of the time needed for refinement, but there were already 20 Metamorphosis Pills in Qing Shui's hands.

Immediately he gave a few of the demonic beasts one pill each. Naturally, the few that he gave to were the more important ones, the rest didn't have the same extravagance. After that Qing Shui silently watched, waiting for the metamorphosis to begin.

What surprised Qing Shui was that the first one that went through metamorphosis was the Seven-Headed demonic dragon spider.

Pa!

It shattered in one sound, the seven brains were joined with another, making it the Eight-Headed demonic dragon spider. It shone with a silvery light from head to toe, but none of them shone with the brilliance of the dragon head in the middle.

Using the Heavenly Vision Technique, Qing Shui was very impressed.

Eight-Headed demonic dragon spider!

Its raw strength hit 500 Yang. Qing Shui was stunned, he didn't think that the addition of that one head would have increased its strength by that much. He didn't know the true difficulty of adding that last head, and although he was stunned, he was even happier.

Five Qi Origin: The Eight-Headed demonic dragon spider's Innate Skill, forever raising its raw strength by 100 times, zero consummation.

The change of the Five Qi Origin didn't make Qing Shui baffled in the slightest, with its strength increasing to what it is now, if it didn't increase by 100 times, he would have felt that it was weird.

Corrosive Poison Web: The Eight-Headed demonic dragon spider uses an inescapable attack, which comes with an extremely strong corrosive poison that is also very sticky. The durable silk is so tough that

it would be hard for even swords to cut through it. The damage of the poisonous web is 15 times the damage of the user.

Poison Silk Entanglement: the Eight-Headed demonic dragon spider shoots an entangling poisonous silk line with a range of around 5000 meters. It has an amazing speed, with a strong stickiness and poison. The attack is about 25 times the power of the user.

With a small increase in distance, the strength of the attack improved a lot.

Spider Swarm Attack: The special ability of King Demonic Beasts, it allows the user to add subordinates around it to its attack. Those subordinates could be anything up to a Seven-Headed demonic dragon spider, and some of them were special demonic dragon spiders.

With the possibility of evolving its subordinated to Seven-Headed demonic dragon spiders as opposed to Six-Headed demonic dragon spiders, this was a great improvement.

Flying Spider Silk: Passive Skill, Zero consumption, increases speed forever by 40 times.

Flying Spider Silk also increased by a good amount and was much stronger than the one of the Seven-Headed demonic dragon spider.

Sharpness: The Eight-Headed demonic dragon spider's foot sharpness remains unmatched, now with a potent poison and piercing ability.

Unyielding Shield: The Eight-Headed demonic dragon spider's defense is strong.

Spider Dragon Head: Passive Skill, increases the Eight-Headed demonic dragon spider's sturdiness, sharpness, and the sturdiness, stickiness and poison of the spider silk by 20 times. It also increases attack, defense, and stamina by 10 times, zero consumption!

Qing Shui was very satisfied. Although the attack of the Eight-Headed demonic dragon spider wasn't that high, it was supposed to be a Shield Beast and had a strong Control power.

The next was the Gold-Scaled Dragon Elephant. Qing Shui was actually especially waiting for the change with the Gold-Scaled Dragon Elephant because it would be able to feedback to his own strength.

Roar...

After a series of roars, the Gold-Scaled Dragon Elephant's body increased in size, its neck thicker than ever, but it seemed to have grown longer as well. Shining brightly, the two horns on the top of its forehead even shinier than before. If you were only looking at the head and neck you would have thought that it was a dragon.

But behind the neck was a large elephant body, then the tail of a dragon.

Up until now, the Gold-Scaled Dragon Elephant's raw strength was a whopping 2000 Yang, this metamorphosis really made it way too strong.

Dragon Elephant Force, Passive Skill, forever increasing raw strength by 100 times!

That hadn't changed, seems like this is the maximum.

Mighty Dragon Elephant's Recklessness, an attack with 20 times strength, at most hitting 50 targets.

The number of targets hadn't changed much, but the power of it had risen by a good amount, which pleased Qing Shui already.

Mighty Dragon Elephant Stomp, Perfection Stage, an attack with 50 times raw strength, with a high probability of causing paralysis on anyone within range.

Seems like its might increased again...

Instantaneous Diamond Evasion: Can teleport anywhere within 5000 meters.

Diamond Sword of Qi: Spits out a tongue of Qi as an attack in an instant, deals a lot of damage, can decrease the speed of its target by twofold, which remains for two hours.

Vajra Subdues Demons: Decreases the strength of enemies within 1000 meters by onefold with 200 maximum targets, lasts for two hours!

Ferocious Dragon Elephant Attack: an instantaneous attack with 80 times attack, single target!

100 times, Qing Shui was stunned for a while before he came back to his senses. It seems that from now on the Gold-Scaled Dragon Elephant can finally be a part of the helm of attack, in addition to it having eaten the Diamond Fruit, it would really be scary.

Dark Infernal Flames: the Dragon Elephant's Dark Infernal Flames allow it to attack with three times as much armor piercing ability, also increasing airborne speed by five times.

Dragon-Scaled Armor: Passive Skill, increases the defense and attack of the Dragon Elephant by 14 times, the strong attack and defense is the basis for the Dragon Elephant's strong power.

Dragon Elephant Might: Afflicts all non-Dragon Elephant beasts with a strong pressure with at least one times raw strength, at most making them lose fighting power, this ability doesn't affect other targets as much. Zero consumption, passive skill!

Heart of the Demonic Dragon: Its large dragon head allows it to increase its own strength by another two times, resisting most harmful statuses.

### **Chapter 1512 - 1.4 Billion Yang Power**

Qing Shui went blank for a bit, what is this power, after undergoing metamorphosis once it changed this much, becoming a butterfly, this is a demonstration of the strength of metamorphosis.

The Gold-Back Dragon Elephant, having gone under the effects of those treasures, already reached 1.4 billion Yang in power...

Qing Shui still couldn't believe it. Previously, the Gold-Back Dragon Elephant couldn't even compare to him, with the Metamorphosis Pill and the Diamond Fruit causing such a change, this Metamorphosis could be counted as the most complete/extreme transformation possible.

The Gold-Scaled Dragon Elephant's power had increased this much, but it's raw strength didn't improve by nearly as much. It seemed that it could give Qing Shui about 700 Yang raw strength.

Or perhaps there was an alternative, because the feedback right now was twofold, but sometimes that couldn't be achieved, and at others it exceeded that.

Qing Shui wasn't rushed to train this feedback, and checked the other Demonic Beasts first.

The Dragon Slaying Beast didn't change much, its power increased by a few times, but even though its power wasn't its strong suit, it still got close to 8 million Yang.

8 million Yang wasn't much compared with the other Demonic Beasts, but for the Dragon Slaying Beast it was absolutely crazy, its speed and strength had increased another many times.

Its body had also changed by onefold. Originally it was about the size of a camel, but now it was about as large as an elephant, but much larger than that even.

The Dragon Slaying Beast was an Assassin-type Beast, its existence was to kill, and it was also called a Massacre Beast.

The Hell Nightmare Beast didn't change much in terms of size, but its body shined with a silvery light, its head and four limbs were black as jade, emanating a gloomy and cold light.

As opposed to before it was now like a small mountain, its roots penetrating the ground, as it seemed its thickness didn't affect its spiritual energy, although it was nowhere near as quick as the Dragon Slaying Beast, its Resistance was strong enough to absorb extremely strong attacks without repercussions.

The Thunderous Beast had also changed a decent amount compared to before, mainly its power had increased, even more so was its control power. The direct lethality of the Thunderous Beast and the Eight-Headed Tarantula was still significantly weaker than that of the other Beasts.

At last Qing Shui checked the Hellfire Phoenix, this time the Hellfire Phoenix had changed a lot, and this metamorphosis had awakened a lot of the vessels of the Hellfire Phoenix.

Its shape grew by a half, its ink-black body emanated a chilly aura, this type of energy had a sort of spiritual feel, and also a violent feel.

Hellfire Phoenix Bloodline strength: Strong!

Qing Shui watched for a bit, was very excited, because the Hellfire Phoenix's Bloodline strength was weak before, and he didn't know how to improve this. But now that it became stronger, and even though he didn't know just how much stronger the Metamorphosis Pill had improved the Hellfire Phoenix's Bloodline by, he still knew the gulf between the two words, strong and weak.

The Hellfire Phoenix's raw strength had already reached a stunning 2000 Yang, about the same as the Gold-Scaled Dragon Elephant, even though the Hellfire Phoenix didn't use the Diamond Fruit before, Qing Shui thought that using the Diamond Fruit wouldn't have helped much.

Dark Phoenix of the Nine Heavens: Passive Skill, zero consumption, permanently increasing its power by 100 times, using any skill or attack uses half of the original amount of energy.

That hadn't changed, this level of 100 times was hard to improve upon.

Superior Flight: the Hellfire Phoenix has a strong flight ability, in flight speed increasing by 50 times, consumption while flying reduced by 50 times.

Scary, Qing Shui didn't know what to say about this, Qing Shui felt that he could ride the Hellfire Phoenix around the Nine Continents for way too long...

Hell's Inferno: the Firebird makes a strong Inferno attack with black flames that consume almost everything, it has a terrifying destructive ability, a strong attack of the Black Phoenix, the Inferno attack increases by 20 times.

Phoenix Dance of the Nine Heavens: Passive Skill, Inferno attack permanently increases by 20 times, incoming damage decreased, all resistances increase by nine times, zero consumption.

This was the change, this must be why the Phoenix is so strong!

Underworld Fireball: It makes a fireball attack, increases attack power by 40 times, the fireball also holds within it a terrifying explosive power, when it explodes its strength increases by another few times, vitality locked.

Phoenix Paradise: When the firebird receives mortal damage, there is a 30% chance to rebirth, rebirth is comparable to going under metamorphosis once, power increases by onefold.

Phoenix Heart: the strong Phoenix Heart allows the Phoenix to increase its might by another onefold, all damage is halved again, all consumption is one time less, zero consumption, passive skill.

Phoenix might: absolutely suppresses all Bird-type Beasts that are not Phoenixes, its suppression is at least one time, at most pacifying its target, and its suppression isn't 100% to all other beasts. Zero consumption, passive skill!

Qing Shui smiled, before the phoenix couldn't compare to the Gold-Scaled Dragon Elephant, but under the effects of the treasures, its power increased to a horrifying 1.4 billion.

Now Qing Shui was absolutely ecstatic, he had two strong control beasts, 2 strong damage beasts, and also the Dragon Slaying Beast and the Hell Nightmare Beast.

He checked and saw that he still had time, but Qing Shui thought that it would be a little too late to go practice, in addition there was only a day or two left, in the case that he didn't fully absorb the energies, it would cause a significant problem.

After resting a bit, he immediately went into the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. Now he went in there every single night, so going out at this time was close to the latter part of the night.

The outside of the tent was very cold, the moon also appeared to be a little icy, but it was very beautiful, the surroundings were very quiet except for the chirping of the bugs, and the roars of beasts in the distance.

Qin Qing's tent had a weak light coming through it, which was the light of the Light Stones, but was very dim, nothing could be seen about the inside from the outside, but Qing Shui knew that the woman wasn't in there.

She must have gone somewhere else to feed her Demonic Beasts the Diamond fruit!

As Qing Shui was guessing, a human shaped shadow flew from the distance, belonging to Qin Qing, as she caught sight of Qing Shui she gave off an obviously stunned look.

“It’s already this late, why haven’t you gone to sleep yet!” Qin Qing asked smilingly.

“Aren’t you doing the same? I’ll give this to you, seeing how you’re not going to need to sleep tonight,” Qing Shui took out a few Metamorphosis pills and gave it to her, and then explained its uses.

When Qin Qing heard Qing Shui she was absolutely stunned, she believed Qing Shui’s words, and engaged in some idle chatter with him, Qing Shui saw that there wasn’t much time before he could enter the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

“Oh yeah, you don’t need to go that far away, it won’t affect me, it’s alright!”

The woman nodded at Qing Shui and went off to the side, flying off to the mountains in the distance. Although Qing Shui had said that it was okay, she still wouldn’t come here.

When Qing Shui returned to the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, he used the to begin to absorb the feedback of the Gold-Scaled Dragon Elephant.

Qing Shui’s power was strong, now adding on the firm foundation that he had, the absorbing this time went one without a hitch, a surge of power dissipated through his body, this feeling was really strong.

Qing Shui’s raw strength now was a little more than 6000 Yang, but now it had gotten to almost 7000 Yang, the increase of more than 10% was still very good.

Besides the 7000 Yang raw strength, the rest didn’t change much, Qing Shui’s normal power was a little more than 280 million Yang, he was different from the Gold-Scaled Dragon Elephant and the Hellfire Phoenix in not the least.

But he was happy, because those were his own Demonic Beasts, in addition he also had other trump cards, but his battle strength had improved a lot, and he also had formations, such as the Battle God Halo etc.

He was slower in speed than his Demonic Beasts, but Qing Shui’s improvement already made him super fast.

The second day Qing Shui didn’t wake up that early, but also not too late, and started to practice Taichi Fist outside to increase his strength, in addition to that the strength of his Demonic Beasts made him feel that life was good.

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Two monsters with 1.4 billion Yang power, although Qing Shui didn’t know this, those beasts were definitely at the level of the Peak False Gods, but again, different Peak False Gods had different power levels, some were 1 billion Yang, some 2, even 3 or 4 billion Yang power was considered to be a Peak False God.

When Qin Qing came out she saw Qing Shui practicing Taichi Fist, and looked on amusedly.

“What is it, is this familiar to you?” Qing Shui smilingly said after putting his hands down.

“It was just the way that you threw your hits that was the same, nothing much, but the methods that the Main Continent uses to do it are countless, being able to get to your level is quite rare though.

“You think that highly of me?” Qing Shui said smilingly.

“Thanks for your Medicinal Pills,” Qin Qing was very happy as she said this, but she looked at Qing Shui suspiciously.

“No need to thank me, you were the person that helped me kill the Gold-back Bear King, besides, you can’t make these yourself anyways, you also gave me the Diamond Fruit.” “ This Medicinal Pill really does go against the heavens, I had only heard that your healing technique was not bad, I didn’t think that your alchemy and power were this strong as well,” Qin Qing said this with a smile, it seemed that she was exceptionally happy.

“It’s true that it’s not bad, too bad this type of medicinal pill needs the ingredients from the Gold-back Bear King.”

“If I ever find another Gold-back Bear King I will be sure to save it for you,” Qin Qing said with a playful smile.

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This time when Qing Shui and Qin Qing went towards the depths of Kunpeng mountain they used the Nine Continents Steps, using the Nine Continents Steps now disregarded the use of a mount, now although the area that the Nine Continents Steps covered wasn’t large, it wasn’t too small either.

After seeing this ability of Qing Shui’s Qin Qing was a little shocked, this young man held so many secrets within him, although she wondered about experience, she didn’t ask, as everyone had secrets to keep.

As they continued to use the Nine Continents Steps, which was comparable to using a Demonic Beast to fly, when they finished using the Nine Continents Steps they reached the edge of the Kunpeng Mountains, and saw how vast these Kunpeng Mountains were.

Qing Shui called out the Hellfire Phoenix, this time Qin Qing couldn’t resist herself as she could feel the strength of the Hellfire Phoenix, which wasn’t much worse compared to her...

“I’ve found that it’s getting harder to see through you,” Qin Qing curiously looked at Qing Shui with her bright, beautiful pupils.

“You curious?” Qing Shui smiled.

“A little!”

“Curiosity killed the cat,” Qing Shui said with a smile.

“I’ve barely asked you about this,” Qin Qing said with a displeased tone coupled with a smile.

“Yep, do you think that the Sea King’s Palace is really here?” Qing Shui couldn’t hold back from asking this question, mainly because both he and his Demonic Beast had increased in strength by a lot.

“It should really be here,” Qin Qing’s expression changed for a second, and then said with a smile.

## Chapter 1513 - It was actually the Ancient Ruins!

Qing Shui didn't notice the change in the woman's expression. His mind was entirely preoccupied with the thought of Sea King's Palace, even though the purpose of treasure hunting this time around was only in hope of gaining some form of advantage from it; to allow himself to advance towards Sea King's Palace a little faster, and the process a little smoother.

Qing Shui didn't dwell on what she said or bear any hope. It was like a kind of rambling, speaking without holding much importance to the conversation, hoping he would get the answer he wanted to hear.

Qing Shui found himself becoming more vulnerable, and when one felt vulnerable, they hoped others would show some empathy. He shook his head in an effort to ditch these thoughts. Regardless of what would happen after, he had to first find the treasure. The combination of his current level of might and the beasts could be regarded as formidable in the False God Realm. While it wasn't invincible, no one would be able to deal any damage to him either.

Even he felt speechless by his own ability to resist attacks and his own strength.

"Why are you looking for Sea King's Palace?" In a casual tone, the woman questioned just as Qing Shui stopped his own queries.

"It seems like my wife had gone to Sea King's Palace. I want to find her" Qing Shui did not conceal the truth.

"Sea King's Palace does not have a good relationship with the human race; an average person would not be able to get to the Sea King's Palace."

Qing Shui smiled as he glanced over at the mighty woman. Unknowingly their relationship seemed to have improved a little. At least they were cordial now, just as friends would be, though this perception might just have been a false impression.

"That is why I am a little concerned. Still, without knowing where Sea King's Palace might be in this vast Ice Ocean Domain, trying to find her will undoubtedly be akin to finding a needle in a haystack." Qing Shui said with a wry smile.

"When did your wife leave for Sea King's Palace? Are you sure she did?" The woman probed further as she donned a smile.

"It has been three years. I can't be sure, but there's a great possibility."

"Since it has already been so long, you're in no great hurry. I have heard about the existence of a Divine within the walls of Sea King's Palace, and to make things worse, they view human beings as their enemy. Of course, there are still exceptions of some who are good friends with the Aquatics."

"Yeah, let's wait awhile. Do you think there are Kunpeng within this Kunpeng Mountain?" Their friendship was still limited to casual discussion about the stranger things within Main Continent.

"There are multiple claims about it; some would say there are, others that said there aren't, and even some who would have claimed that they've seen it with their own two eyes. In the end, there is no way of knowing which is the truth."

Qin Qing's answer to his question had been redundant at best, but she wasn't incorrect either. In fact, her words might have been the most accurate answer there would ever be, it was only a pity that it was useless.

In any case, they had nothing better to do during the journey, resorting to speaking out of boredom, though neither made an attempt to understand each other any further than necessary.

From time to time, Qing Shui would unleash the Dragon Slaying Beast which possessed the same ability as the Treasure Hunting Pig. They couldn't hunt for treasures while on the move, hence, only as they were stopping for a rest could he release them to search within the vicinity.

While he had a beast that could treasure hunt, without the presence of said treasure, their effort would be futile as well. The reason why treasure was named that way, was precisely because of how rare they were.

Half a month had gone with a blink of an eye. Kunpeng Mountain was immense in size; even when Qing Shui was able to cover a huge distance with his Nine Continents Steps every day, he had not managed to reach the center of Kunpeng Mountain after half a month.

Roar!

Not long after he had dismantled the tent, he heard a huge roar from afar. Qing Shui had allowed Dragon Slaying Beast to roam around in search of treasure when the loud cry rang out of the blue. He deduced that it should have come from a powerful beast.

"Miss, I'm going to take a look." Qing Shui was not all that worried about Dragon Slaying Beast but still decided to take a look around in the vicinity.

"I'll go with you!"

Qing Shui nodded at that and the pair flew towards the origin of the sound. Qing Shui's strength could not compare to the woman, but when comparing their speed, he was in no way inferior.

As the situation came into their line of sight, they froze. Qin Qing blushed, while Qing Shui had an odd expression.

Dragon Slaying Beast was not here. Instead, there were two great beasts engaged in an activity that even beasts love to do.

The two large white elephants were tangled in their attempt at producing offspring. That particular part was huge, and in contrast with the rest of its body, was not white in color. Rather, it was a little black, constantly moving in and out, while it sounded loud roars in the process.

"It's huge!" Qing Shui clucked.

Qin Qing flushed with anger. In a huff, she glared at Qing Shui before fleeing from the scene.

The powers of the two white elephants were decent, but that was as good as it had amounted to. Even though they were not in the depths of Kunpeng Mountain, the beasts here had already exhibited great might.

Once again, Qing Shui looked over at the two white elephants which went on their business as if there was no one else around, then left. There was no trace of Qin Qing when he returned and he knew she was in the tent.

When it was about time, Qing Shui began preparing for a meal. As the waft of its fragrance drifted through the air, Qin Qing reappeared from the tent she had hidden in and stood alongside Qing Shui while he carried on with his cooking.

In the many days of their journey, Qing Shui was the assigned cook for their meals. In the beginning, the pair contributed evenly to the task but as Qin Qing began to realize that Qing Shui's culinary abilities had greatly exceeded her own, she withdrew herself.

A mighty warrior with such powerful beasts, superb medical skills, great refining capacity, and on top of those, was a good cook—she suddenly found that there was seemingly nothing this man couldn't do.

She caught her own increasing curiosity about the person, and a young man at that. She knew that such single-sided interest about a person was not a good thing, and even if she was able to repress herself, the intrigue in her heart would not diminish.

Qing Shui made a bowl of fish soup. He had managed to catch a hare before, as well as some wild plants, and with a hand extending the hind leg of the baked animal, he offered Qin Qing. "Have a taste. You wouldn't be able to taste something like this in certain parts of the continent."

Qing Shui's words were not without reason. In his past life, it wasn't an easy feat to roast his own hare for a meal, much unlike in Nine Continents, where they were able to enjoy such meals from time to time in the Qing Village. Though, in the past, he was never able to make it as delicious as they were now.

Qin Qing accepted the food with a laugh. "Thank you!"

The woman had always been polite. Qing Shui could understand that it was a good way to maintain distance and so he didn't probe further. As she laughed, he reciprocated with a smile.

With the setting sun, the crimson clouds on the horizon were beautiful, and the cold weather didn't seem so cold at that moment. In the past, such scenery could only be seen in books. To be able to witness this here and now, he couldn't help but admire its splendor, this must be a lot better than those he had seen in his past life.

The evening breeze was cooling and a little chilly, but the air was really fresh. How could they have meat without wine? Qing Shui thought as he brought out his Plum Blossom Wine and poured a cup for the both of them.

Qin Qing had wanted to say that she didn't drink but as the aroma of wine tickled her senses, she remained silent. Instead, she accepted the cup of wine Qing Shui had poured.

"In the sea of people, to be able to make acquaintances with each other is a form of fate too. You are beautiful but rest assured, I am not a beast. Try the wine for yourself; see if you like the taste." With a laugh, Qing Shui brought the wine to his lips.

"You are a beast." The woman joined in the laughter and mirrored his action.

Qing Shui didn't know what she meant by those words but neither did he dwell on them. That was just how people were sometimes. At that moment, he suddenly felt the desolation of the world, and it reflected how he was feeling now.

He felt a wave of loneliness that came without warning; it was the kind of loneliness that gnawed at you deep within your heart. The feeling was indescribable and extremely uncomfortable.

Qin Qing noted the changes in Qing Shui's demeanor and she seemed to feel his loneliness emitting from his body. She grew more intrigued: would a person like him experience loneliness too? He had great talents and skills, what was there to be unhappy about? Was it because of his wife?

"Don't think too much about it. Your wife should be fine."

As she spoke those words, Qin Qing found that she was always comforting someone somewhere.

Qing Shui laughed. "Thank you, but I am not that worried about her. With her ability, she should do fine. It's just that, I felt a sudden sense of solitude, have you ever felt like this?"

"You look like an old man right now, like a broken kid. How did you get so deep so abruptly?" Qin Qing smiled and looked at Qing Shui.

Her smile was as pretty as a flower and at the sight of it, Qing Shui felt much better. Even though he knew that she was only trying to straighten out his muddled thoughts, it was still heartwarming but he did not think much about it.

It was indeed true that people want to be comforted in their most vulnerable state of mind. Even if it had been a simple word of comfort, it was still heartwarming. Just like people who were stuck in an all-time low, even with a quick extension of a helping hand and a light pull, they would remain grateful to their aid for all their life.

"Qing Shui, we should be nearing the destination. Every treasure is usually protected by a Guardian Beast or some sort of mechanism."

"Mmh. We should be able to get there within days if we proceed without a hitch, though the exact location remains to be found." While Qing Shui had said those words of concern, he remained unperturbed. Dragon Slaying Beast should have no issues finding it. As for the Guardian Beast, or even the herd of it, as well as the mechanism, he would react as the situation developed.

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Three days later, the cry of Dragon Slaying Beast reached Qing Shui.

"Miss, let's go. It must have been found." Qing Shui greeted Qin Qing, before rushing towards the direction of Dragon Slaying Beast.

Ancient ruins!

"This is actually the ancient ruins. It seems like the treasure will be buried here." With his eyes watching the entrance, he said.

Qin Qing seemed surprised as well, not expecting that they would be at the location of ancient ruins. All around them were mountains that overlapped each other, which made this particular location exceptionally concealed.

Qing Shui recalled the last time he had explored the ancient ruins where he received the Battle God Inheritance and a huge benefit. He wondered what he would find within the ruins this time around.

"Let's take a look inside. Perhaps no one has ever stepped into this place. In that case, there will be more valuable treasures for us to find and sell." With a deliberate blink of her eyes, Qin Qing said with a smile.

This little gesture by such a domineering woman was especially cute and endearing. It was extremely shocking, like the impact of a mature lady who exhibited bits of childlike mannerisms.

"Let's go in then!" Qing Shui smiled.

"Mmh? Wait a minute." Qin Qing spoke up suddenly, then walked a short distance away with Qing Shui following right behind her. On the floor beneath their feet, there were dust-covered jades.

"Looks like we have company, or maybe someone got here before us."

Qing Shui wasn't exactly unhappy. The ancient ruins had a huge interior, and besides, even if these people had gone in, they might not have been able to retrieve the treasures. Only those who were destined and those with might could reclaim these treasures.

"Let us enter as well. The ancient ruins are huge, even if there are already people inside, the chances of encountering them are slim."

Only after they entered had they realized their mistake. The site of the ancient ruins here was not large, even to the extent that it could actually be considered really small. It was more like a valley. Qing Shui took a look around; behind the mountain was a boundless stretch of water, and he had no idea which sea it could be connected to. Watching the sea, this place appeared more like an island.

### **Chapter 1514 - The Treasure Map is the Key to Inheritance, Evil Intent**

Qing Shui and Qin Qing had both entered ancient ruins before, and both were dumbfounded by their discovery. They exchanged a look before moving towards the mountain pass; there was only one way to get in and out of the place. Regardless of whether they encountered anyone or not, they could only follow the path in front of them.

This was the location indicated on the treasure map. Hence, this ancient ruin should be where the treasure was hidden. Yet, they did not find any Guardian Beasts obstructing their journey when they were outside.

Cautiously, they walked towards the mountain pass. As they were approaching, Qing Shui was surprised to see a group of twenty people looking over from not far away. However, that was not the most surprising sight, what surprised him more was the Statue above.

Battle God Statue!

This place was similar to the ruins where he received the Battle God Inheritance. If he remembered correctly, this was also a place of Battle God Inheritance along with a mausoleum to signify the won battle.

A far away mountain peak had the same Battle God Statue, yet from its appearance, it seemed like it was the statue of a Battle Goddess instead.

Only at this time did Qing Shui look towards the group of people; most of them were old, but there were also a few middle-aged men in their midst and two who seemed to be on the younger side.

Qing Shui and Qin Qing moved towards them. At this point, they had noticed the pair as well and were watching them suspiciously.

These people were in ordinary garb without many distinctive characteristics. They were all the attire of cultivators, only that the material it was made of seemed to be of pretty high quality. The few elderly men who were leading the group had an extraordinary aura.

The strength of these few elders was mighty, stronger than that of Qing Shui. Still, if he was to battle them one-on-one, he was sure there was still a possibility he could defeat them. He noticed the old men seemed unhappy with their presence.

Qing Shui could understand that, after all, they had arrived first. The concept of "whoever enters first is master" must have made them feel as though the place was already theirs. What he didn't understand was why the other party remained here; could it be that they were not able to break through the Battle God Statue?

However, he denied the notion once he thought it out. Breaking through should not pose any issues. Then, there must be other reasons.

With a closer look, Qing Shui realized the place was different from the previous ruins he had been in: There was only one Battle God Statue here, and there was even a hall behind it. Other than that, nothing else differed.

Qing Shui had an inkling that he could not grasp. At this time, the old man who was leading the other party looked over at Qing Shui, his eyebrows no longer in a frown and spoke up "What a coincidence for us to have visited this place at the same time."

Qing Shui couldn't make any sense of the old man's words and neither did he know what the man was trying to imply. Qing Shui merely smiled and said, "I thought so too, not sure how your group found your way here?"

As Qing Shui spoke, he recalled that he had caught onto something previously. With a glance towards Qin Qing, he reckoned that she'd be in for a treat this time around.

"We came across here by chance. Though, unfortunately, we were not lucky enough; the Battle God Inheritance is a Goddess again. We couldn't even enter." It was clear as the elderly spoke that he felt this was a pity.

The old man had thought that even if he was not able to receive the Battle God Inheritance, he could have at least taken the other treasures. In fact, some Battle God Inheritance did not consider the genders; either men or women would be acceptable.

"That's a pity. I wonder how long you've been here. Why the refusal to leave if you couldn't get anything?" Qing Shui asked, his lips tugged into a cordial smile.

"We came in a hurry and are all a bunch of old men. Hence, a group of people had gone to invite others here."

The meaning behind his words was obvious - they were claiming this as their own, at least until they decided to quit. Any others would not be allowed to take a share of it.

"Elderly, even a change of person would not make any difference. I don't know if you'd believe me or not?" Qing Shui said, still donning his smile.

"Who can say about these things? It's still better to try." The old man replied gently.

"I wonder if we can try it." Qing Shui asked with a chuckle, but his tone was calm.

The environment here was good; warm as spring and very bright, it was worlds apart from the outside. Of course, it wasn't to say that it was unpleasant outside, only that it was covered in ice and snow there. Which was better was subjected to personal preferences.

For a moment, the old man was surprised. It was a long while before he looked over at Qing Shui and gave a nod. The elderly knew that to have the audacity to try would mean that Qing Shui must have had a certain level of might. Besides, such things would only befall upon those who were destined for it, so there was no need to offend anyone.

Qing Shui smiled. "Thank you!"

Qing Shui could tell that the elderly was a smart man. He wondered what the others would do if he had found out that Qing Shui was in possession of a treasure map.

Qing Shui and Qin Qing headed towards the distant mountain, towards the Battle God Statue.

"Miss, do you know which Battle God this is?" Qing Shui couldn't sense the aura of a Battle God Inheritance or the successor of Battle God on Qin Qing. As such, he would help her achieve that with their treasure this time around.

If what Qing Shui thought was true, then the treasure was truly substantial. A set of Battle God Inheritance that was enough to break the group's head over it. It was a pity that he had already received the inheritance and besides, it seemed like the Battle God Inheritance this time would suit a woman more.

"This is Phoenix Battle God." Qin Qing said softly, her eyes watching the Battle Goddess Statue.

The old men were also intently watching Qing Shui and Qin Qing.

"Brother, is it not a mistake to let them pass?" One of the old men thought for a moment before asking.

"Only those who are strong will be able to make it here, and being so young, there's definitely someone backing them. Furthermore, we have yet found a solution after so long. If there are any valuable items here, we'll need to be able to retrieve it for it to be worth its value. Offending someone over things which we don't even have the ability to take is unwise." The old man replied without sparing a glance.

"What do we do if they manage to get it?" The other old man asked again.

"Do you think it's possible? Even so, there's nothing we can do. If they do manage to get in, they would have to share what they have found with us." The elderly responded calmly, but his tone indicated that he didn't think Qing Shui and Qin Qing would be able to get in.

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Although Qing Shui and Qin Qing didn't know what kind of ideas the group of men was playing at, they were not afraid of them. If they do have to fight it out, Qing Shui felt that defeating them would only take a short while, and hoped that the men would not seek such inconvenience for either party.

"Take this up with you!" Qing Shui handed the treasure map to Qin Qing.

Qin Qing was stunned. "You're not going up?"

"If my speculations are right, this treasure map is the key to this place. Only those who have the treasure map will be able to go in. Take it and give it a try. If it doesn't work, we'll break in." This was not the first time Qing Shui had been in possession of a treasure map.

Qin Qing thought for a moment before taking Qing Shui's treasure map. She flashed a smile and nodded towards Qing Shui before making her way up towards the mountain. In the next moment, there was an unbelievable sight.

Qin Qing managed to get in safely and without any obstructions. Qing Shui smiled even though he had already predicted this outcome. Still, there was no guarantee that it would work and so, watching her succeed had filled him with glee. The treasure map was really the ticket of opportunity to this Inheritance.

Qing Shui had a feeling that Qin Qing was someone who was rich in good fortune. In general, there was no lack of women around Qing Shui, yet at this time, the only person around him had been her. Even he wasn't sure what had pushed him to give up the Inheritance for her.

Instead, Qing Shui could have summoned Yehuang Guwu, and while it would have taken up more time, in comparison to the time taken in retrieving the Battle God Inheritance, that was negligible. He didn't expect that he would just let Qin Qing have the Inheritance...

"Brother, that woman really went in."

"Really? Let us try again."

"Why didn't the young man head in as well? The woman was the only one who went in."

The elderly had an interesting expression on his face as he watched Qing Shui, the gears moving in his head as the line of people approached Qing Shui.

"Brother, I will go try again. Who knows, maybe there are no further restrictions after that woman's entry." The old man from before said again.

"Alright!"

However, as the line of people charged towards the Battle God Statue, it retaliated again and in sharper attacks this time. Now they understood. Perhaps they had a particular item with them, and that they had come especially for this Battle God Inheritance.

"It seems like you came prepared." The old man looked towards Qing Shui and said while displeased.

"You can say so. You don't have to wait any longer, It'll be better to head back now." Qing Shui tolerated.

The corners of the old man's lips were drawn as he set his eyes on Qing Shui. It was akin to the feeling of sewing a wedding dress for others; their men had arrived here first and after half a month's time, they could only watch the fragrant cake without having the chance to taste it. Yet, as these strangers arrived, they were able to take them just by a stretch of their hands. Naturally, they would feel extremely uneasy with the arrangement.

"When all is said and done, it remains a mere fact that we arrived first. Whosoever enters first is master, are you really not going to give us a share?" The old man had calmed down by the time the words left him.

The old man had never been one that was easy to anger, especially for someone at his level of might. However, he had felt out of sorts in light of what just happened. After all, they didn't know if there were any other valuable treasures apart from the Battle God Inheritance in there. This caused him to lose his rationality.

Qing Shui laughed. "Not everything could be dealt with that concept; ownership doesn't automatically belong to whoever finds the item. If that is the case, then what is the use of cultivation?"

"So what you're trying to say is that you're stronger than us?" The old man's words were deliberately composed. Suddenly, he was blinded by intent to kill the young man. He was ready to eliminate the man first before moving on to killing the woman. He could at least have whatever the woman brought out as their gain, otherwise, he would feel even more despondent.

"Elderly, allow me to give you a piece of advice: Think through your actions before committing them, or there wouldn't be any chance for you to even regret when the time comes. You're not alone, recklessness would call for punishment. Before you do anything, you have to weigh out your own ability." Qing Shui could tell that the old man didn't bear good intentions but still made an attempt to remind them of the simple fact.

"Ha ha ha. You're hardly dry behind the ears and yet you dare to lecture me? Even though you have decent might, perhaps even great, but you are still too young." The old man chortled at Qing Shui's words.

Qing Shui laughed along. "I have said all that I should. If you insist on seeking your own death, don't blame anyone else."

"This is the tomb of Battle God; to die here wouldn't be too bad. To be honest, I really do not wish to kill you but you leave me no choice. It is true that humanity is just this cruel, do not blame me." The old man lamented.

Qing Shui was at a loss of whether to cry or laugh. At this time, the elderly had actually lectured him. Qing Shui would much rather stay quiet; he would make the old man weep either way.

With a change of his expression, the old man charged towards Qing Shui in a flash of movement. His hands turned into claws when he aimed them towards Qing Shui's skull, and his palm was black in color.

Diamond Venomous Claw!

Qing Shui smiled as he reached out at the same time. Indeed, the strength had started running within him and the tremendous power of Nature Energy erupted from the palm of his hands.

Bang!

Ah!

Nature Energy was specifically used to bring under control gaping deficiencies. On top of that, as Qing Shui was stronger than the old man, the single move had disabled the old man's hand.

#### **Chapter 1515 - Earth Divine Stone, Qing Shui's Divine Artifact In The Realm of Violet Jade**

With just one move, the surroundings became quiet. The old man was knocked backwards. Even though he had been crippled, he seemed to have forgotten the pain of losing his arm. He marvelled at Qing Shui, seemingly unable to accept the reality.

Qing Shui could only frown after witnessing the current state of the old man's cultivation. In fact, not all who practiced crude techniques were bad people. However, they were all absolutely vicious. Because of their practice of such techniques, they were more cruel to other people and themselves during the process of their cultivation.

This was also the reason why it was said that those who cultivated crude techniques were bad people. One example was the Rotting Corpse Palm, where a practitioner needed to insert his palms into a decaying human corpse. It was certainly thought-provoking to require a decaying corpse for those who were able to successfully cultivate the Rotting Corpse Palm.

The old man's Diamond Venomous Claw wasn't that vicious. However, he needed to soak both of his hands in poison during its cultivation. In the process of that, he would have to confront with the threat of being poisoned.

"Big brother, how are you doing?" The old man behind him came and supported his elder brother anxiously.

"I have misjudged the situation. This person is a supreme master." The old man now realized the gravity of the situation. He felt terrified after considering the words that Qing Shui had spoken to him before this.

Qing Shui then walked towards them slowly.

“We are members of the Taixuan Sect.” There was a slightly worried expression on the old man’s face, but he was at least still calm.

“The Taixuan Sect? Never heard of it.” Qing Shui said casually. He really hadn’t heard of such a sect before. The continents were too vast, and there were many things in the world that he didn’t know about.

“I had already given you a chance before. I did remind you more than once, but you refused to give up. You have two choices now. Cripple your cultivation and leave, or allow me to make you stay here forever.” Qing Shui said as he grinned at the old man.

This grin seemed more like the devil’s smile in the old man’s eyes. Cold sweat was dripping down his spine. A person’s cultivation was more important than his life itself, not to mention how cultivation was the embodiment of his entire life. If he were to cripple his cultivation for real, he wouldn’t be able to go back either. Demonic beasts in this world could easily kill him. Moreover, the distance from here to their home was quite far. Those without cultivation would have to walk for an unknown amount of years should they decide to go back home from here.....

Without their cultivation, their mounts would definitely abandon them or even revolt against them. When they had tamed their mounts initially, they had utilized brute force to make their mounts submit to them. The characteristics of a powerless demonic beast would show eventually.

“You are trying to force us to desperation. Even a provoked rabbit can bite people. You have to show mercy to us.” The old man was neither humble nor arrogant at this moment. He was trying to fight his way out with force, using an apprehensive approach.

“When you thought that you were stronger than me, you decided to be ruthless. But when the situation isn’t right, you immediately became frightened. On top of that, you want others to show mercy to you. However, will you be able to do the same?” Qing Shui sneered at the old man.

The old man had an unnatural expression on his face. However, nothing was worth more than a life. He could only lower his posture once more and said, “Let them go. I will offer my apologies by committing suicide, alright? You have a family too, and you can’t incriminate a crime onto their families either. Let them go. You can kill me as you please.”

Qing Shui looked at the determination in the old man’s eyes. The people in this world always used the excuse of not incriminating their families to make others show mercy. But there were times where genocide was necessary. Qing Shui had only crippled one of the old man’s arms. There was certainly enmity, but not to the point of being unable to come to a resolution.

Besides, Qing Shui didn’t want to cause trouble at any given opportunity. There was no hatred to begin with. Even though these people wanted to kill him, they had only planned to because of the treasure here, not because they had any enmity with him. Because of that, Qing Shui didn’t take this incident to heart.

It would be fine to become a lousy good person for once. Qing Shui shook his head and said, “Just go. Remember this, as I will just say it once. I will not hold back next time. You old folks aren’t young anymore. There are some people you just can’t provoke.”

After he was done, he waved his hands at them!

The old man acted as if he had been granted amnesty. He bowed at Qing Shui and left with his men quickly. Qing Shui wasn't afraid that the old man would come back to exact his revenge or plot something against him. He was a bit powerful, but Qin Qing was the same too. He was the only one here, so there was nothing to worry about. Most importantly, Qing Shui didn't take those people as a threat. He didn't feel anything when he showed mercy to them.

Qing Shui stood here quietly and waited. He knew that this woman would be fine based on her cultivation. The treasure map was the key. If he wanted to go there, it would be difficult to do so.

Time passed by slowly. He was still in a good mood and he wasn't upset because he hadn't gotten any benefits. He didn't know why he felt this way. Perhaps he felt that he had become generous with others...

Approximately half a day later, Qing Shui suddenly lifted up his head and saw Qin Qing standing on top of the Battle God Statue. She was still wearing the Goddess Divine Set for her overalls...

He shook his head when he saw that Qin Qing hadn't changed much. However, her aura felt a bit strange, somewhat transcendent. She was emitting a strong sense of ethereality to her surroundings.

She seemed like a fairy, despite Qing Shui having never seen one before. He didn't know how a fairy would look like, yet 'fairy' seemed to fit her quite well.

Qin Qing smiled. Her silhouette flashed and she re-emerged beside Qing Shui.

It was incredible when he felt her aura beside him. The more she emitted her aura, the more palpable it was for him. After looking at her for a while, he said, "How is it? Are you alright?"

"I'm fine. How should I thank you?" Qin Qing smiled at Qing Shui.

She was aware of the value of this treasure map. She had come to help him this time, but she hadn't expected that she would be the one to reap all the benefits in the end. The Metamorphosis Pill was certainly a treasure too...

"How about giving your body to me?" Qing Shui thought for a while and laughed.

Qing Shui became bold when he saw the pleasant smile on her face. In fact, he didn't mean anything by his words. He just wanted to try his luck when he saw how this woman had become slightly unfettered with anything...

Qin Qing wasn't angry. There weren't any changes in her expression when she said, "Alright, but don't regret it."

Qing Shui was stunned. This was the first time he realized that he was at a loss in front of a woman. It felt like he didn't know how to continue the conversation. He stared at this woman. She was calm and almighty. She gave Qing Shui a feeling that they were quite distant from one another.

That feeling was as if a rich, fair-skinned beauty had requested a loser to marry her, and this loser had nothing of value but no intention of ever marrying someone else. It wasn't a pleasant surprise at this

point, but more of what this loser should do next because he wasn't able to accept the reality of the situation.

Qing Shui was feeling the same as that loser. He rubbed his nose and said, "I'm not prepared yet. I'm a bit nervous..."

This time, it was Qin Qing's turn to become surprised. She snorted and laughed. The otherworldly smile on her face was as beautiful as a flower, and as pretty as a magical illusion. Qing Shui felt as if the sky was clear and serene.

"Beautiful!" Qing Shui regained his senses and let out a genuine smile.

"I will give you everything. I have nothing except this thing on me." Qin Qing took out a piece of strange black rock and gave it to Qing Shui.

Qing Shui took the rock and asked, "What is this?"

Despite asking that, he realized what this item was as Qin Qing shook her head in response.

Earth Divine Stone!

Once buried on the ground, it could fill the surrounding soil with fertility. The mature period of plants would be shortened by half. The range of effect would not exceed more than 5,000 meters in radius, affecting only plants and vegetation.

Qing Shui was now slightly in disbelief that there was actually an item like this. He suddenly thought of the Heavenly and Earthly Treasure. Perhaps there could be Earth Divine Stones under those treasures? Of course, this was only speculation.

"Isn't this thing custom-made for me?" Qing Shui was no less excited then when he obtained divine artifacts. This item could certainly be regarded as Qing Shui's divine artifact by default.

Qing Shui had already received the Golden Battle God Inheritance, so he didn't expect that he would be able to reap anything from this place. It was a good thing that Qin Qing had travelled with him together. Otherwise, he would have wasted his journey this time. However, there was a treasure map here. In essence, that map would belong to him sooner or later, unless the map had already vanished from this place.

In any case, he didn't expect to find an Earth Divine Stone in this area right now. When Qing Shui realized that this Earth Divine Stone was focused on ground and soil, he wondered if could there be a Water Divine Stone, too.

He felt that he was a bit too greedy. Even if there was a Water Divine Stone, he felt that the Earth Divine Stone was more useful to him. After all, medicinal ingredients were mostly grown on the ground. Besides, the pond on the ground was just a small lake. Whether it had any effect on the herbs was unknown.

This could be considered an accidental bliss - a huge accidental bliss indeed.

"Qing Shui, do you recognize this thing?" Qin Qing asked casually after noticing how happy Qing Shui was.

“This is the Earth Divine Stone. Once buried in the ground, it can shorten the maturity period of plants by half.” Qing Shui said with a smile.

Qin Qing was shocked at first but continued to shake her head, “That seems a bit worthless. There are many medicinal herbs that require tens of thousands of years to mature. Even if the time is cut down by half, it will still take thousands of years for them to grow.”

“Not necessarily. There is also a secret method to planting medicinal herbs that can reduce undesirable growth time. On top of that, this Earth Divine Stone is definitely astounding. It’s a divine artifact for growing medicinal herbs in the medicinal garden.” Qing Shui knew that Qin Qing was intentionally belittling this item in front of him. Even though she had said that it was a bit worthless, this was definitely a divine artifact. To Qing Shui, that this artifact was divine was an absolute fact.

“Hmm, it seems like they were already driven away by you!” Qin Qing noted when she realized Qing Shui was the only one left.

“Mm, these people aren’t too obtrusive. They actually thought of stealing from you after seeing your appearance. When I saw them trying to do that, I was upset...”

Qin Qing stared at Qing Shui and smiled. For a moment, Qing Shui couldn’t finish his sentence.

“Let’s go. There isn’t anything here anymore.” Qing Shui decided not to say anything further after seeing no result from the conversation. He decided to go back. This time, he had reaped something big.

“Alright!”

Both of them went back to the path leading home. Qin Qing had also obtained the Battle God Inheritance for herself. With that, she had pulled the relation between her and Qing Shui closer than before. Every Battle God Inheritance had a certain mark on it, which could make everyone a bit more affectionate towards other inheritors.

This time, both of them had gotten an extremely large benefit. Their speed of return home was faster. It was quite calm on their way back too. Qing Shui and Qin Qing communicated with each other a lot more this time.

However, Qin Qing didn’t say how she would want Qing Shui to help her, but he knew she definitely had something she wanted help with. She remained silent on the topic, and Qing Shui didn’t pester her about it. When the right time came, she would naturally tell him about it.

After a month passed, Qing Shui and Qin Qing reached to Linhai City. Qin Qing followed Qing Shui to the Imperial Cuisine Hall and stayed there as well.

Both Yi Tong and Lan Lingfeng knew this woman had also obtained the Battle God Inheritance. Most importantly, Qin Qing’s fathomless strength was even stronger than that of Qing Shui’s.

Qing Shui’s return was naturally a happy thing for everyone. After preparing a grand feast, everyone sat down and discussed the experiences they had during those times they were gone. Nothing had happened for a month inside Linhai City.

**Chapter 1516 - The Hua Clan that doesn’t know when to give up**

During this period of time, nothing major happened in the Linhai City. The Imperial Cuisine Hall had the protection of the Lan Clan and Ziche Clan and there are also several clans who own a favor to the Imperial Cuisine Hall. So even if Qing Shui isn't here, there would still be people willing to step up to help the hall settle its problems.

Because Yu Niang had to take care of the little lass, she returned to her room soon after. After Yu Niang left, Qin Qing and Xue Nuo also departed, leaving behind Qing Shui, Yin Tong and Lan Lingfeng.

Although Tianyi had a pretty good relation with Qing Shui and the others, he knew it was impossible for him to stand on the same stage with them. Maybe they might still travel together, or maybe they would split up after a while. It might even be a problem if they wished to meet again in the future.

"Where is this elder miss of Qin Clan from? I can't even sense her strength. Is she stronger than you?" Lan Lingfeng asked Qing Shui.

The three of them are people who inherited the inheritances of battle gods. When together, they had nothing they couldn't discuss. And in the future, it can be said that they would stick together in hard times.

"She's much stronger than me, at least two times or more." Qing Shui smiled.

However Qing Shui was very happy. He also wished for Qin Qing to be very powerful. No matter what, Qin Qing was their ally and now, she can also be considered their friend.

"Then, you and this elder miss of the Qin Clan..." Lan Lingfeng mumbled. His meaning was clear to all.

"Ah, I say Sir Lan. How's your situation now?" Qing Shui laughed.

Lan Lingfeng instantly was like a withered tomato. He spoke powerlessly, "Now we are ordinary friends or maybe just slightly better than that. It's so difficult to woo her but if I can't succeed, I would feel that there's no meaning in my life."

"Sometimes its good to put in effort, and at other times, it would be better just to let nature takes its course. If you love someone, don't pressure them. If you continue in your manner, she might even try to avoid you. For example, if there's a woman deep in love with you yet she misunderstood your feelings for her. She would say yes to marrying you instantly because she loved you too much. However, she would chose to suicide if you do not want to be with her. What would you do?" Qing Shui smiled.

"I will choose to make things clear and leave her." Lan Lingfeng spoke resolutely after contemplating for awhile.

"That means that you, the number one young man in the Linhai City is willing to wait decades for the woman you truly love and reject others. Your answer is great, I'm sure many women would be touched by you. But sometimes, things are better left unspoken as actions speaks louder than words. If you put words to emphasize your actions, it would instead become a burden." Qing Shui smiled.

Qing Shui also knew that his words might not be fully right. But he felt that Ziche Sha wasn't an ordinary woman. One would definitely need a long time to slowly enter inch by inch into her heart.

“Mhm, I understand. Luckily you appeared and pointed me in the right direction. Oh ya, you still didn’t say if there’s anything going on with you and the eldest miss of the Qin Clan?” Lan Lingfeng seemed to be very interested in this topic.

“I have no feelings towards her.” Qing Shui calmly replied.

“Expert. You are truly an expert, my idol. You have to help me then. Why don’t we compete and see if you can pursue the elder miss of Qin Clan first or if I can pursue the elder miss of the Ziche Clan first?”

“Lan Lingfeng are you courting death?” At this moment, Ziche Sha, Qin Qing and Ling Fei walked over.

Lan Lingfeng had a bitter smile on his face as he glanced at Qing Shui. But Qing Shui acted as though he saw nothing at all.

“It’s just a joke. Sha`er, don’t you know what sort of person I am?” Lan Lingfeng smiled mischievously.

Ziche Sha glared at Lan Lingfeng, but Qing Shui was very surprised because he discovered that it wasn’t Lan Lingfeng didn’t have any chance but rather, he stood quite a high chance. Some things cannot be determined so fast, this is especially true for matters of the heart.

Yin Tong and Ling Fei just came by and said hello before returning to their rooms. They were a couple, and their emotions for each other deepened daily. This made Qing Shui envy them, especially so for the fact that they held nothing back when loving each others, with only one person in their hearts.

Qing Shui knew this was impossible for him. It’s known that the stronger a man was, the stronger his desires would be. A strong expert naturally would have a high desire to possess the women he likes. Even if he tried his best not to think about such things, it would be useless.

This, in another perspective, can be motivation. Motivation also came from one having a purpose, as well as one’s own strength.

Qin Qing stared at Qing Shui and smiled at him, bidding him good night before leaving together with Ziche Sha. In this place, only Qing Shui and Lan Lingfeng remained.

“Actually you have a pretty high chance of bagging her. But don’t be too hurried.” Qing Shui laughed as he spoke to Lan Lingfeng.

Lan Lingfeng’s background, looks and characters were all excellent. He’s most definitely the prince charming in the hearts of 99.9% females around the world. Even Qing Shui had no choice but to admit that Lan Lingfeng had a dignified demeanor with all his excellent aspects.

There’s no doubt, he’s truly a prince charming!

“Really?”

“Your mind have gone muddled up. Think back to the past and now, has her attitude to you changed?” Although Qing Shui didn’t know Ziche Sha’s exact feelings for Lan Lingfeng, he could see that at the very least, they can be considered good friends. Lovers usually starts from being friends, and rather than love at first sight, it might be more of what each individual’s hormones are telling them.

Lan Lingfeng thought about it. His eyes shone with a slightly dazed expression. After which, he could only shake his head helplessly as he returned to his room.

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The earth divine stone has been placed by Qing Shui into the Violet Jade Immortal Realm. He could feel that the entire realm seemed to contain boundless vitality and life force that generates spiritual qi to the point where it was several times compared to the external world.

Qing Shui felt that the earth divine stone could even upgrade the Violet Jade Immortal Realm. Right now, the realm was already at the eighth-level. He didn't know when would it be upgraded to the ninth level. Qing Shui didn't really think much about it but he could faintly sense that if it eventually upgraded to the ninth level, the divine earth stone must have something to do with it.

Cultivation...

His strength rose by alot. And now, he had to re-stabilize his foundation. Right now, his strength has already reached 300 millions worth of sun.

300 million...Qing Shui was very satisfied and on the other hand, somewhat not that satisfied. After all, his demonic beasts like the hellfire phoenix and golden-scaled dragon elephant, have already reached 1.4 billion worth of suns in strength, far exceeding his.

Qing Shui wasn't sure what was Qin Qing's current strength. But no matter what, her strength wouldn't be lower compared to his pets. Now that she has obtained the inheritance of the phoenix battle god, it was still unknown what battle techniques she had.

He thought of his phoenix form, and his technique, the phoenix finger. He would find an opportunity to see if she's interested in learning them. Only now did Qing Shui truly experienced the power of the phoenix finger.

Right now, Qing Shui has already fused the phoenix finger together with his ancient divine battle technique. The tyrannical nine stances contained the power of the phoenix finger and even if his strength was very low compared to his opponent, he would still be able to fight. Combining that with his mysterious footwork, Qing Shui felt confident even if he had to face an opponent of Qin Qing's level.

The Imperial Cuisine Hall still continued about with business. During these days where Qing Shui was away, there were many people who gathered here waiting for Qing Shui to treat them. Almost all the sects sent people out to gather information regarding the whereabouts of Qing Shui.

He was back yesterday but nobody sought him out. But early today morning, somebody appeared.

The first person who came by was actually an old man from the Hua Clan. Qing Shui's memory was good. When he beat up the youngster from the Hua Clan back then, this old man was present.

"Miraculous Doctor Qing, you finally returned." The old man smiled warmly in a fake manner as he spoke.

Qing Shui didn't expect the Hua Clan would still come and look for him."

“Mister Hua, why are you here?” Qing Shui smiled back, but he didn’t fake too much politeness. Stretching his hand out, he invited the old man to take a sit as he sat down as well.

“Miraculous Doctor Qing has finally return. What a blessing for our Linhai City!”

Qing Shui smiled but he didn’t say anything as he continued to stare at the old man.

The old man smiled awkwardly, knowing that he would be driven away soon if he didn’t head straight into the topic. After all, the Hua Clan had no intimate connection with Qing Shui and in fact, Qing Shui was rather unhappy with them too.

“It’s about the child you beated up that time. His private parts are injured by your blow, and he’s the only male descendant of my clan. Mister Qing, can you take a look and see if you can cure it?” The old man spoke awkwardly.

Back then, it was none other than the young man who wanted to target Qing Shui.

After contemplating for a moment, Qing Shui remembered that incident. “I can’t. His private part is completely damaged, I’m unable to do anything as well. Even if I can cure him, I wouldn’t do so. Why would I want to cure someone like him? So he can continue to harass innocent females?”

Qing Shui wasn’t polite at all in his words. He was already being very good by not killing trash like this. It’s impossible for a leopard to change its spots. Even if he cured that young man, it wouldn’t take him long to revert back to his true nature.

“I can guarantee to Mister Qing that that would definitely not happen. If that happened, I don’t need you to act. I will act myself to kill him.” The old man hurriedly spoke.

“If you came here just for this, you can leave now. I’m unable to cure him.” Qing Shui didn’t have any favorable opinion of the Hua Clan.

“The old ancestor of my clan have a matter he wished to discuss with you. So I’m here to invite you over.” The old man sighed, knowing it was pointless to push the issue. This was the true reason why he was here today.

“I’m not free. I will be there in the future if I have time.” Qing Shui calmly spoke. If it was in the past, Qing Shui would still be more cautious. But this time, the trip to the Kungpeng Mountains made it so that Qing Shui had enough ‘capital’. In the Ice Domain Dynasty, Qing Shui currently feared no powers.

Naturally, Qing Shui wasn’t those arrogant and despotic characters. Also, he also knew that the Haohan Continent had divinities here. Even if the Ice Domain Dynasty had no divine experts, their foundations were sure to be incomparably deep. So, it wouldn’t be a mistake for him to remain low profile.

However, Qing Shui understood quite alot about the Hua Clan. A clan like theirs wouldn’t even be able to enter Qing Shui’s eyes now. The most important thing was that the Hua Clan’s reputation was truly nasty. This was the main point.

Qing Shui looked upon the Hua Clan with disdain. This made the old man felt extremely unhappy as sinister looks gleamed in his eyes. Qing Shui naturally saw it, but he acted like he didn’t see anything. It was for the best if the Hua Clan didn’t try anything. If they did, he didn’t mind annihilating them completely.

## Chapter 1517 - Qin Qing's Panic

The old man from the Hua Clan could only leave gloomily. That old man was unhappy but he didn't dare to fall out with Qing Shui.

Qing Shui understood the hearts of these people. After many years of lording over others, these people all put on airs and only know how to bully the weak.

With regards to the Hua Clan, Qing Shui had no need to be polite at all. The Hua Clan still didn't know that they have been abandoned. Qing Shui knew they hated him but thought that their strength was equal to his.

Time went by and two days had passed. Qing Shui didn't head out. No matter what your clan was, if you want to get your illness treated, just come to the Imperial Cuisine Hall. Qing Shui would only personally act if the patient had a good relationship with him or if he felt like it.

Usually, Qin Qing would cultivate in the backyard. She recently obtained the inheritance of battle god and needed time to get used to it. Upon inheritance, although the successor would be familiar with the battle techniques, one still needed time to be truly proficient in them.

On the way here, the time which Qin Qing had to familiarise herself couldn't be considered short. Qin Qing would cultivate at night while resting on the back of the hellfire phoenix when they were travelling by the day.

Qing Shui still hadn't seen the green dragon she owned but Qing Shui knew for sure that she had one. If she summoned the gigantic green dragon, the rush of impact to people would still be exceedingly great.

Green dragons, gold dragons, and white jade dragons are one of the few rarer and most grand species of dragons. Their strength was much greater compared to other dragons.

After walking to the backyard, Qing Shui discovered Qin Qing was stretching her arms out in a stance. That graceful figure wasn't excessive and was extremely exquisite. All her curves were at the appropriate places and weren't too excessive. Qing Shui didn't think that the larger the breasts a woman had, the better it would be. It was the same for a man. It didn't mean that you are more powerful the more muscle you have.

Qin Qing's back was facing Qing Shui and her body is currently inclining to a side. From a certain angle, one could see the exquisiteness of her figure. Her rear was extremely perky, unable to hide despite her loose clothing.

Her legs were straight and slender. Qing Shui was taking the time to admire her figure until he realized that Qin Qing was looking at him while he was looking at her.

Qing Shui rubbed his nose in embarrassment. His actions were discovered completely. He could only smile and act casual.

"What are you doing?" Qing Shui casually asked as he smiled.

Actually, Qing Shui had some selfish motives. Because Qin Qing was a woman of the portraits of beauty. Ziche Sha might be very pretty but Qing Shui had no intentions towards her. He actually felt something for Qin Qing.

Up till now, Qing Shui had plenty of women. He loved them all fully with all his heart. Men were flirtatious creatures and Qing Shui had no choice but to admit this. But one thing he could say for sure was that even though he was like the rest, he was the best out of them all.

Out of the twelve portraits of beauty, Qing Shui obtained eleven and even found the beauties in question. Everything that happened made Qing Shui felt as though everything was already predestined. Qing Shui felt that he had a chance to be able to obtain everything.

“I’m cultivating some battle techniques.” Qin Qing laughed.

Qing Shui thought of his own phoenix form. Qin Qing was the successor of the Phoenix Battle God and after thinking for a bit, he spoke, “I might have some suitable techniques. Do you want to try learning them?”

“Sure!” Qin Qing straightforwardly agreed. She knew Qing Shui wouldn’t casually speak of things like this. Since he said it, the techniques he had would surely be suitable for her.

Qing Shui took out the Phoenix Finger technique and the Phoenix Cry sonic attack technique. What made Qing Shui surprised was that Qin Qing also liked the sonic attack a lot, but she still favored the phoenix finger.

Qing Shui demonstrated once and told her the essence of it. Qing Shui has taught Phoenix Finger to others before but the effect wasn’t good. Such a battle technique was originally prepared for a special group of people.

Qing Shui had a strong feeling that Qin Qing could use the Phoenix Finger technique but after he taught her, he discovered the effect wasn’t as good as possible. The main reason was that the flow of energy was in the wrong meridians. There were too many meridians in the human body and it’s quite confusing to tell which is supposed to be the correct one.

“Can I check your meridians?” Qing Shui spoke after thinking for a while.

Qin Qing contemplated as she nodded. She truly loved these two phoenix-type attacks. She then asked, “How would you check my meridians?”

“Stretch out both your hands.” Qing Shui was very calm.

Qin Qing hesitated a bit, but when she saw the clear eyes of Qing Shui, her heart moved. For some unknown reason, her hands stretched out. This type of feeling felt a little marvellous.

A pair of snow-white jade-like hands appeared before Qing Shui. Qing Shui held on to it. Her hands felt slender and slightly cool to the touch. At this moment, Qing Shui felt his heartbeat quickened. But he also discovered that Qin Qing also felt somewhat ill at ease.

“Are you very nervous?” Qing Shui smiled as he asked.

Qin Qing stared at Qing Shui. “No!”

But Qing Shui could see a faint pink blush the color of peaches on her face. He was a bit startled. He didn’t expect that this goddess-like woman would be one filled with inner charm. Although the feeling wasn’t very intense, he was pretty sure of it.

“You are born innately with a set of charm bones. You must definitely have it hard to control the charm right...?” Qing Shui instantly regretted the moment his words came out.

Qin Qing stretched her hand out and rapped Qing Shui on his head. “If you continue speaking nonsense, I’m going to beat you up.”

“Didn’t you beat me up already?!”

“Mhm, stop your rubbish! Do you still want to take a look at my meridians?” Qin Qing was shy and angry at the same time. But she didn’t feel any disgusts towards Qing Shui.

Qing Shui sent his spiritual sense and divine force into her meridians and he slowly spoke. “Feel the flow of energy.”

Qing Shui’s divine force flowed into her meridians drop by drop. Many of her unused meridians were all being used now, and there were even some smaller meridians that were activated.

Qin Qing was astonished. Because she discovered that after the smaller meridians are activated, the flow of her energy was much smoother than before. Although her strength didn’t rise much, her combat prowess shot up explosively.

Luckily, the majority of Qin Qing’s meridians has already been connected. At the very least, the meridian to channel and cultivate the power of phoenix finger was already connected, leaving only a few smaller meridians that were ‘locked’. But Qing Shui has already connected them earlier.

“Old brother Yin. Look at them holding hands, it has already been half a day.” Lan Lingfeng smiled, staring at Qing Shui and Qin Qing.

“You know only know to fantasize wildly. But it’s true that brother Qing Shui truly has luck- Ah!”

Yin Tong’s face twitched, but he saw Ling Fei smiling standing beside him while one of her hand was placed on the inner side of his thigh. Yin Tong smiled awkwardly and as they turned their head, they discovered Lan Lingfeng has already vanished without a trace.

Ling Fei also stared at Qing Shui and Qin Qing. Only after a while did she returned her attention back to Yin Tong. “Are you envying them?”

“Don’t you know my character? In my heart, there’s no one who could be prettier than you.” As he spoke, his other hand wrapped around her willowy waist and held her close to him.

Ling Fei’s eyes were like silk. Both her hands were placed around Yin Tong’s shoulder as she smiled. “Let’s return to our room!”

“You little demoness!” Yin Tong carried her as both of them disappeared in a flash.

.....

Qing Shui blinked his eyes. But he didn’t let go of her hand. “How are you feeling?”

“I’m feeling well. You can release my hand now.” Qin Qing replied.

“But it feels really good to hold your hand like this.” Qing Shui spoke in a casual and relaxed manner.

Qin Qing's long eyelashes fluttered as her heart jumped. Qing Shui's words gave her a strange feeling. Before this was the clearness of his eyes and the events that happened recently. Also, her hands were held by him and she was helpless to do anything.

Anyway, in this world, the relationship between man and woman can be considered to be quite open. Checking meridians and holding hands counted for nothing.

This world was very different compared to his previous world. An example was that it was fine for a man to have many wives. There were naturally many cases of a man with only a single wife and even a few rare cases where a wife had many husbands.

Qin Qing's heart was a little moved because Qing Shui said that it felt good to hold her hand like this.

After a moment more, Qing Shui released his hold.

"I remembered it. Shall we test it out?" Qin Qing smiled at Qing Shui. She felt somewhat happy, but she didn't understand why.

Qing Shui smiled as he nodded while taking some steps back.

Qin Qing's movements were very slow but every action was extremely on point. Although she was somewhat shaky, she was a very serious woman. She slowly familiarised with the flow of energy in her body and the speed gradually hastened.

After some time, Qing Shui's silhouette flickered and appeared before her. He stretched his finger out, wanting to tap on Qin Qing's forehead.

Qin Qing knew that Qing Shui was training with her. This is much better compared to training alone. The two of them didn't use much strength and sparred with the finesse of their technique and reaction speed.

Using the Nine Palace Steps in addition to the phoenix finger which he was more proficient in compared to Qin Qing, when using the same amount of strength, Qin Qing naturally wasn't fit to be his opponent. After all, she just learned this technique, and even though she might have obtained the inheritance of the phoenix battle god, her proficiency in the phoenix finger was still inferior to Qing Shui.

Qing Shui stabbed out with another finger but this time because of the angle and his haste, the position was wrong. His finger landed right on Qin Qing's bosom...

What was most outrageous was that his finger landed directly on her nipple. Although Qing Shui didn't use much strength, the tactile sensation was still there. Feelings of softness spread from his fingertip into his mind.

"Rascal...!"

Qin Qing's body was a little numb after being pressed by him. What shook her even more was the rush of impact in her heart. This rascal did it intentionally.

...

She glared at Qing Shui and rolled her eyes before leaving. Qing Shui stood at his original location dumbfoundedly. He swore that it wasn't intentional.

But for some things, what happened has happened. It wasn't important if it was intentional or not. He had to have courage to face up to his mistakes and not try to find any excuses. This is especially true for things like this.

Qing Shui shook his head and followed after. He soon arrived outside Qin Qing's room. After hesitating for a long while, he lifted his hand and knocked on her door.

"Who is it?" After a long time, Qin Qing's voice sounded out.

"It's me. Open the door!" Qing Shui hurriedly spoke.

Qin Qing had her back against the door. "If it's nothing important, just discuss it tomorrow. I'm very tired."

Qing Shui knew that this was an excuse. "Mmm, I'm here to see if you are injured. After all, I'm skilled in the medical arts."

"Go to hell..."

"I will take responsibility, okay? Don't be angry." Qing Shui smiled in a helpless manner.

"You wish. Quickly go away or I might beat you up." Qin Qing was finally feeling a little better. She wasn't angered at all. She knew Qing Shui didn't do it intentionally, but even so, she couldn't help but feel a little indignant.

### **Chapter 1518 - I'm at the peak of false gods. What capabilities do you have to fight against me?**

When Qing Shui heard Qin Qing's words, he knew that she was alright and didn't mind. But he still continued pressing on, "Let me take a look. As long as I know for sure you are fine, I will leave here. If not, I will stay here to guard you forever."

When the sound of his voice faded, Qing Shui felt his words were extremely mushy and even filled with ambiguous affection. He knew it wasn't suitable but since the words were already spoken, there was nothing he could do about it.

Qin Qing was silent behind that door. Qing Shui stood outside with trepidation in his heart. He didn't know when, but he actually started to care for this woman.

Qin Qing was very beautiful, able to cause an empire to topple. Qing Shui also knew that she was one of the portraits of beauty. When he had nothing to do, he would often see Qin Qing in his Realm of Violet Jade Immortal. Inside the realm, the time ratio was different from the outside world. He has already obtained Qin Qing's portrait of beauty for over ten years hence Qing Shui felt that they have been acquainted since a very long time ago.

Suddenly, a clicking sound rang out as the door opened. A perfect figure appeared before Qing Shui, smiling at him. "I'm alright. You can rest at ease now!"

Qing Shui also laughed, but he didn't know what to reply. Between the two of them, their friendship couldn't be considered deep. But through the interactions between them recently, their friendship was definitely deeper compared to ordinary friends.

"What's wrong with you?" Qin Qing felt a little panic when she saw Qing Shui staring in a daze at her. She couldn't help but to lower her head.

"Mhm, nothing. It's good that you are alright. Rest well, I will see you tomorrow." Qing Shui got all panicky as he spoke. After that he waved his hand and departed, feeling awkward.

Qing Shui left. Qin Qing smiled as she stared at the vanishing back view of Qing Shui. In the depths of her heart, there was an explosion of the most brilliantly beautiful fireworks. Sadly, Qing Shui wasn't able to see this.

Since the start, Qing Shui was always very calm but today, he was actually in a fluster. He realised that he has fallen in love with Qin Qing. But as to why he fallen in love with her, he wasn't able to give voice to the reason.

If it's because of her strength and beauty, Qing Shui didn't believe so. If he loved someone, he didn't merely love a part or two of them, but their entire being instead.

After returning, Qing Shui entered the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal. Only after a long moment did he tidy up his thoughts. At the end, he still decided to let nature takes its cause and wouldn't evade her intentionally.

The six-yang pill has finally been concocted and there was quite a number of them. However, the seven-yang pill still needed time to refine and concoct. Also, his experience bar has reached the limit and he couldn't gain any more experience points in alchemy. Despite so, Qing Shui was too lazy to find out the reason why.

With the earth divine stone, the time to refine a seven-yang pill shorten by a fold.

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Durin the next day, a special person appeared in the Imperial Cuisine Hall. This person was an old man, and although his aura wasn't considered domineering, his character was extremely oppressive and demanded to see Qing Shui.

Just so coincidentally Qing Shui came down and noticed the old man instantly. Because the strength of the old man was very high, he appeared to be like a small sun to Qing Shui's spiritual sense.

The old man looked extremely aged with a headful of white hair. But his muscles were taut and didn't appear to be weakened despite his advanced age. His bright eyes shone with an ancient archaic air and his long brows and large mouth actually cause him to emanate a sense of heroism.

"Old man, what's the reason for your presence here?" Qing Shui had a slight smile on his face as he walked over.

The old man studied Qing Shui for a long time to the point where Qing Shui almost cursed out loud, wondering if this old man was an old gay.

"I'm from the Hua Clan." The simple words of the old man caused Qing Shui to start.

"Two days ago, there's someone from my clan here to invite Mister Qing. But since Mister Qing is so busy, I have no choice but to come myself." The old man slowly spoke, in a laughing manner.

However, Qing Shui felt that the laughter of this old man was somewhat sinister. Under broad daylight, he felt goosebumps on his skin when he heard that laughed, but he controlled himself not to exhibit any discomfort.

The aura and spiritual sense of the old man has already locked on to Qing Shui, hence the people in the surroundings had no idea what was happening. For Qing Shui, his principles have always been simple - respect me and I will respect you. But if someone harbors bad intentions towards him, he wouldn't allow that person to have an easy time as well.

"Let's head out before we continue our conversation." Qing Shui pointed outside. Even without the old man agreeing, he directly walked towards the location he pointed.

The expression on the old man's face didn't change. With a flash, he too, disappeared from the Imperial Cuisine Hall.

Qing Shui could feel the spiritual sense of the old man locking onto it. This was an extremely intense feeling. This old man from the Hua Clan wasn't weak and was much stronger than him. But even so, he was no longer the him of the past, and his strength has also improved. What was most important is the fact that he still had the two powerful demonic beasts.

Qing Shui's speed wasn't slow, but the old man could match him easily. Qing Shui soared into the air before smiling at the old man who appeared before him an instant later.

Right now, this old man was completely different from before. The him now was like an unsheathed sword that was incomparably sharp.

His powerful aura constantly gushed towards Qing Shui, layer after layer.

"There's no need to release that pathetic pressure. In my perspective, it's really embarrassing." Qing Shui smiled. Regardless of who this old man or how powerful he is, his behavior has already made Qing Shui dislike him.

"Do you know that you caused my Hua Clan to lose all face and became the joke of the Linhai City?" The old man radiated towering amounts of anger as he stared at Qing Shui.

The temperature in the surroundings instantly plunged. Qing Shui was still very calm, his control of heavenly dao wasn't weaker than this old man, and was able to neutralise the pressure. "You are here today because of this matter?"

Qing Shui felt a little depressed. Although he caused the Hua Clan to lose face, it was the Hua Clan who antagonise him first. Frankly speaking, the Hua Clan and his Imperial Cuisine Hall didn't really have that great of a conflict.

But the incidents earlier apparently counted. The young master of the Hua Clan was being beaten up so badly until he could no longer be a man. Not only was the Hua Clan's reputation damaged, they suffered tremendously as well.

But what sort of character was Qing Shui? Not killing the young master was already considered him being extremely kind. The reason for the old man coming here wasn't because of that silkpants young master but rather, it was because of the prestige of the Hua Clan.

"In that case, does it mean that if my friends and I got bullied, I can only tolerate it and not retaliate?" Qing Shui smiled and look at the old man.

"It's easy for young people to be impulsive when doing things, disregarding the consequences. I will give you one more chance. Cure the people of my Hua Clan, return the courtyard to us and compensate us for our losses. I can spare your life." The old man seriously spoke as he stared at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui looked at the old man for a long period of time. He was sure that this old man wasn't joking with him. He then smiled, "Are you so confident that you can take me down?"

The old man also smiled. "I don't mind telling you this. I'm at the peak of false gods. What capabilities do you have to fight against me?"

### **Chapter 1519 - The Smug Hua Clan Ancestor**

The elder laughed. "I may as well tell you. I am already at the level of Peak False God. How are you going to fight me?"

Qing Shui watched as the old man expressed such genuine self-superiority over him, as though he was not worthy enough an opponent in his eyes. In the old man's eyes, Qing Shui was akin to a termite. The reason he hadn't initiated the fight while he was in Imperial Cuisine Hall, and had instead called Qing Shui out here, was that so he could seek such dominance. With this condescendence, he wanted to witness the shock and distress of Qing Shui.

As for the ruthlessness he had reserved for Qing Shui, he concluded that eliminating him without delay would be too easy on the younger man. He was going to defeat Qing Shui bit by bit, and let him experience despair a little by little.

As opposed to the fear he had hoped to see on Qing Shui's face, the latter merely wore an expression of indifference, upsetting the old man even more. Still, the old man didn't feel much rage; he would let Qing Shui experience despair.

Although Qing Shui could feel the powerful aura emitted from the old man, it still felt weaker in comparison to Qin Qing. It was even weaker than his own Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant and Hellfire Phoenix.

He wasn't worried. He would have been able to resolve the situation just by using one of the two beasts, but he didn't. He wanted to watch the old man's performance. Qing Shui wanted the old man to feel ashamed for his actions when it's all said and done.

"Did you seek me out today just to tell me that?" Looking at the old man with ease, he laughed.

"I have made it really clear. Life or death, it's your choice." The old man looked down at Qing Shui from where he stood.

"I'm not choosing either."

The old man was caught off guard by the answer. Qing Shui continued, "I choose to let you die. There's no place in this world for someone like you."

"Presumptuous!"

The old man charged towards Qing Shui as he shouted. With a single lift of his foot, he was right in front of Qing Shui, his palm dropping slowly. A False God was like an immortal existence on land. Even the weakest Peak False God should not be underestimated.

Qing Shui had long focused his strength to its peak and awakened it when the old man made his move, but the old man's powerful vital energy seemed to have locked onto Qing Shui.

Bang!

Qing Shui was struck on the shoulder and flew backwards immediately from the impact. Fortunately, Qing Shui only felt a slight tinge of pain, which recovered in no time at all.

As his defense had emerged right at that moment and been truly powerful, Qing Shui was ecstatic. With his Golden Battle Halberd, he rushed towards the old man.

The combination of the Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique and Phoenix Finger was fearsome in power. Still, to use it on the elder was pushing its limits. It would be difficult to land the attack on him.

While the old man had not expended much energy when he had unleashed the strikes before, the attack that had landed on Qing Shui's shoulder just now was considerably stronger than before. He had intended to disable Qing Shui's arm with that tackle.

However, he was shocked to see that there wasn't even a scratch on Qing Shui despite his having flown backwards from the contact. In disbelief, he swiftly bolted towards Qing Shui again.

Bang, bang!

The noise resounded twice. He knew exactly how much power he had packed into the attack, but when Qing Shui recovered from his fall without sustaining any damage once more, he was infuriated.

Qing Shui had guts, but he knew he shouldn't be careless. The only reason he would personally battle the old man was so he could train himself for the real fight. Actually... why not just summon the beasts to destroy this old man?

Hell Nightmare Beast!

Dragon Slaying Beast!

Qing Shui placed the Hell Nightmare Beast at the frontline as defense, while he and the Dragon Slaying Beast formed the other two corners. In this formation, he pushed towards the old man, ready to launch a full force attack with the Golden Battle Halberd in his hand.

Qing Shui didn't seek to injure his enemy at this time. What he needed was experience in combat against an opponent. Alongside Qing Shui was the Dragon Slaying Beast which assisted in his assault.

When the situation called for it, it could sustain any damage that came their way. Beside it, there was also the Hell Nightmare Beast with them.

Connected by their heart and soul, Qing Shui and his beasts were in their element during the fight. The ancestor from Hua Clan felt incomparably dismal, itching to get a hold of Qing Shui and destroy him to shreds.

When the elder saw them approaching, he pulled out a pair of enormous hammers. They were sky blue in color and looked akin to ice. The hammers were shaped like shuttles, tapering at both ends, and could even be used as a single bat as they shimmered in icy frost.

They were good hammers. Qing Shui could feel it.

Area Dominance!

Qing Shui wondered if he should summon the Dragon Slaying Beast and Hell Nightmare Beast to exterminate that old thing, but the opportunity to fight was also precious. After some pondering, he decided to battle some more before putting an end to this.

Heavenly Talisman!

Emperor's Qi!

Qing Shui weakened his opponent first. Using the Nine Palace Steps, he retreated in haste.

Seal of Xuantian!

Art of Pursuing!

Qing Shui realized the power of Art of Pursuing now; it was unexpectedly as commanding as the Emperor's Qi. With a reduction of 20% in speed and a restriction that made it impossible to dispel within a stipulated time, it was comparable to the Emperor's Qi. The only difference was that one could reduce the strength in all areas while the other solely reduced speed.

Speed was also included within all the aspects that were affected by Emperor's Qi; it had already decreased 20% of speed on its own. Meanwhile, the Seal of Xuantian was fickle in its success rate, and Qing Shui did not bear much hope.

Still, even if the Seal of Xuantian wasn't effective, he had also managed to lower his opponent's speed by almost 40%. This was also why Qing Shui had been confident in accepting the battle; his speed was already terrifying to begin with. Even against rivals who were stronger, they were much slower and unable to gain an edge using this attribute. This was an advantage that could not be overlooked, especially since it had contributed to his success in winning over those who were mightier.

The Art of Pursuing had broken through after two years and changed

Art of Pursuing: Forced 20% reduction on target's speed and attack speed, lasts for 2 hours, effects cannot be lifted!

Speed in the Main Continent was more important than might. Only the quick wouldn't end up broken. Speed was power. Speed was the deciding factor for everything. It was why assassins were able to kill people stronger than them.

Qing Shui's Art of Pursuing and Emperor's Qi greatly reduced the old man's speed. After being so familiar with one's own speed, it took time getting accustomed to a new pace after suffering such a huge decline. There may even be a lapse in judgment when launching an attack. Even when you thought you had gauged the best moment to attack with time to spare, the enemy's weapons would have already landed on you before you could lift your hand.

Bang!

It had actually dimmed the effect of penetration. The old man was truly unlucky; even though he had been mighty he was still a human. As such, he was fundamentally different than a beast. Piercing such a bulky beast with the Golden Battle Halberd would not be fatal, but this was not the case for a human.

The Golden Battle Halberd pierced directly through the shoulders of the elder.

His bones were fragmented by the collision. The old man grunted, and with his other hand, smashed his hammer towards Qing Shui with full force and in fury.

Qing Shui kept an iron grip on his Golden Battle Halberd. Even if the old man had struck with such rage, he neglected the alteration to his current speed. The Golden Battle Halberd in Qing Shui's hand shook violently.

Bang!

It shattered the old man's shoulder and with a twist, the Golden Battle Halberd turned to deflect the huge hammer's attack. Once again, Qing Shui was sent flying by the collision of the hammer, and his body started to emit a blue glow.

Freeze!

It was uncertain if it was due to the old man's significantly decreased might, or the incredible effectiveness of Qing Shui's defense, but while he glowed blue and his body froze into ice, it diminished after only a short period of time.

The old man's injuries were severe. One of his shoulders was bloodied and limp, its bones broken. Fresh blood continued oozing from the wound rapidly. All of a sudden, the elder retrieved an exquisite porcelain bottle, and poured the contents on his shoulder in haste.

The surge of blood quickly stopped.

Qing Shui was not surprised. This was not his previous life. Medicinal pills with extraordinary effects were still in existence here. The medicine seemed to be particularly effective in treating external injuries, almost to the extent of being miraculous. Whether it could mend his bones remained a mystery.

The old man was angry, absolutely furious. When was the last time he had been this wretched, in the hands of a young man no less? One of his shoulders was disabled; the intense pain had in turn caused his consciousness to turn a little fuzzy.

The old man's injuries were severe. One of his shoulders was limp, and it looked horrifying.

A hammer fell from high altitude!

Qing Shui had originally intended to summon the Hell Nightmare Beast and Dragon Slaying Beast, but it seemed unnecessary now. The combination of the Art of Pursuing and Emperor's Qi was simply too formidable.

The old man's body was trembling. His entire being seemed to be soaked in blood. This young man was too abnormal; just like that he was able to injure him so brutally.

Qing Shui was astounded. There were limits to the human body, and one of the characteristics to his Golden War Halberd was that it could deal considerable damage to even weapons such as Divine Artifacts, let alone the human body. It would be able to pierce through the Hell Nightmare Beast and Dragon Slaying Beast. Normally, for the Hell Nightmare Beast with a body the size of a hill, it would not be fatal even if it had been pierced through its internal organs. Not to mention the Hell Nightmare Beast had a tough body, it wouldn't be destroyed this easily.

"Go to hell! Extreme Ice Explosion!"

In a blink of an eye, he was surrounded by a field of ice blue, and a coating of powder-like substance rushed towards Qing Shui from all directions and a huge ball of ice froze Qing Shui in an instant.

The ball of ice grew larger and the fluctuations in energy grew increasingly intense, but Qing Shui and his beasts had already entered the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

When the huge energy fluctuation appeared around them, he realized that it must have been the old man's trump card, his strongest Sure Kill Heavenly Technique. It might even be the Sure Kill Heavenly Technique of a Peak False God.

Hence, Qing Shui entered the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal at the first opportunity and watched everything from the inside.

The ball of ice grew bigger and bigger, until it was almost the size of the hill top, exuding an enchanting azure blue halo, and spreading an aura of destruction.

Bang!

A huge explosion sounded, and Qing Shui watched as the place fell into clear view. He could see the distinctive sun, moon and stars. This picturesque moment lasted for a long time. The world at this moment seemed breathtaking, but Qing Shui knew that once he leapt into the cosmic aura, he would be crushed instantly.

When his surroundings returned to normal, Qing Shui appeared in the distance. Fear crept up to him when he thought about the scene from before. If he had truly been frozen in that moment, he deduced that he would be sent straight into the interspatial dimension and torn into shreds.

The old man was shivering like a candle in the wind, and he seemed to have aged greatly in that short time. Such powerful skills must demand an equally high sacrifice, perhaps even for the price of one's vitality, such as the loss of years from one's life...

When the old man saw Qing Shui standing there, unharmed, he looked as though he had seen a ghost. In disbelief, his lips quivered before spurting out a mouthful of fresh blood. His body swayed and staggered, then he fell to the ground.

With a flash of movement from the Dragon Slaying Beast, the elder spouted another mouthful of fresh blood, but he was still alive. Qing Shui disabled the elder, believing that he would know what to do once he became handicapped.

Qing Shui kept the two blue hammers. They were good weapons made of ancient ice crystals, and could be turned into other variations in the future.

### **Chapter 1520 - The Commanding Art of Pursuing, An Easy Victory**

The battle was over. Qing Shui didn't seem to have sustained any injury. While the other's strength was much greater than his, the battle led to an unexpected ending. Although Qing Shui knew that the elder would fail, he did not expect to achieve such an easy victory without the use of the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant and Hell Nightmare Beast.

Yet all of it had not happened by pure chance. The Golden Battle Halberd was powerful, but it was not comparable to the Emperor's Qi and the Art of Pursuing. The Golden Battle Halberd would not have been able to deal damage upon the old man that easily. Qing Shui had fought with the intention of gaining combat experience, but did not intend to defeat the elder. Yet, considering the old man's questionable character, he unleashed the penetrability of Golden Battle Halberd after using his combined effort of Emperor's Qi coupled with the Art of Pursuing.

The probability of penetration by the Golden Battle Halberd increased with the display of Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique, but when dealing with those whose strength significantly exceeded his own, the odds would greatly decrease.

The old man was a lot stronger than Qing Shui. Hence, to still be able to match such an opponent in combat, Qing Shui thought the old man to be truly unlucky. This defeat was part of the old man's destiny.

A dull sound of the old man's fall reverberated from below. Still, a fall from this height was not enough to be fatal. However, seeing as the old man was already injured, it would definitely worsen his condition.

Qing Shui did not bother making his way down to exterminate the old man. There was no need. He was a physician, the sage physician of this region. Although he had killed before, he didn't see a need for himself to do so after disabling the old man from the Hua Clan; there would surely be someone else who would finish the job.

There was a saying about how one would completely crush a defeated enemy when the opportunity presented itself. In that sense, in light of the Hua Clan's terrible reputation, the old man would definitely be beaten to death in the same way.

Qing Shui left. He needed to calm down and process everything that had just happened. He was overjoyed; the battle had indeed been one that helped him realize his own strength.

The breakthrough with the Art of Pursuing had caused a number of mutations which allowed it to become an incomparably terrifying ability. Along with the Golden War Halberd and Dragon Slaying Beast, Qing Shui could be successful in every endeavor.

A rise of pride brought upon a sentiment that there was no one else apart from him who could pull off such a feat. Upon his return to the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, he began to train the Seal of Xuantian, a mighty ability that Qing Shui had omitted.

The Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant's Diamond Sword Qi had shown its power as its strength increased, as with the Vajra Subdues Demons. Just the thought of it made Qing Shui laugh; he dared not presume that he would have no worthy contenders below the level of Divine, but it would be difficult for anyone within the False God realm to take him down.

He had no idea as to how it happened, but the news of his battle with the Hua Clan ancestor had spread. Now, everyone had come to know that the Hua Clan's ancestor had been severely injured by Qing Shui and was now handicapped.

Qing Shui was a physician, a kind physician. On the other hand, the Hua Clan was nothing less than tyrannical within Linhai City, and hence had a poor reputation. Naturally, this caused more people to take Qing Shui's side.

Regardless of the times, public opinion was very powerful. Here, it was regarded as the strength of faith. In addition, he didn't know how word of him being the successor of Golden Battle God had broken out.

The Main Continent treated Battle Gods with genuine respect, and being the successor of a Battle God had bestowed upon Qing Shui a magnificent halo of light and the strength of faith. The strength of faith was a strange concept to Qing Shui as it seemed to increase the probability of penetration on his Golden Battle Halberd, as well as increase his attack twofold. It was only that it was too little.

"The Hua Clan is doomed now. I've heard that the Zheng Clan, who used to be on good terms with them, is no longer in contact with the Hua Clan either."

"More than thirty members of the Hua Clan died today. They really went overboard when they still had the upper hand."

"As for Sun Clan—ha, if I were the Sun Clan, I would not let the Hua Clan get away with it either. They had to endure the humiliation of having their granddaughter taken away by the Hua Clan, only to have their granddaughter be forced to death."

"Yeah, the Sun Clan should seize the opportunity and bring down the Hua Clan and torture them until their deaths. If I were a member of the Sun Clan, I wouldn't let them go either."

"The Sun Clan had integrity. They endured humiliation in silence. This is how a real man should be, to be able to bear through temporary setbacks and adapt to the circumstances."

.....

Qing Shui didn't go out in the next few days, but noises filled the world outside, deep in discussion about what happened. Following the old man's defeat, the Hua Clan had been struggling in making any

progress. In just a few days, they had lost one-third of their clan, and the number continuously increased.

These were no longer Qing Shui's concerns, but people like Xue Nuo would still keep him updated on the happenings. Since that day, there had been barely any contact between Qing Shui and Qin Qing.

Qin Qing had spent her time cultivating these days. He didn't know if she had truly been training or if she was just avoiding him. Qing Shui shook his head. Matters of the heart were the more exhausting affairs.

As always, Lan Lingfeng pursued the footsteps of the eldest daughter in the Ziche Clan. He was smarter now, no longer wearing his heart on his sleeve because he understood a simple logic. Miss Ziche had definitely realized his admiration towards her, and hence, there was no longer a need for him to express his fondness any further. To do that would have made him more inferior, and after thinking about it through the other's shoes, he could hardly stand for it either.

Apart from this, the relationship between Lan Lingfeng and Miss Ziche was much better than before. In fact, Miss Ziche had been repulsed by his persistent behaviour before, and now that he stopped these antics, she realized Lan Lingfeng was a pretty decent person.

While Lan Lingfeng appeared happy, he would still air his grievances to Qing Shui in private and ask for his advice on what more he could do. However, such matters were impossible to lend a hand with even if Qing Shui wanted to. With just a sentence, Lan Lingfeng no longer permitted Qing Shui's assistance:

"You can't cry if Miss Ziche fell in love with me instead."

Just one sentence, and Lan Lingfeng decisively ended all of Qing Shui's efforts to help.

Qing Shui was now concentrating on his training, but he had nothing better to do during the day; if he wasn't playing with the little girl, then he would be probing Qin Qing about training. But it seemed as though there was an invisible barrier between them.

Qing Shui approached Qin Qing's loft. They had known each other for quite a while now; from Kunpeng Mountain and back, and now, he had considered this woman a confidante.

That was how he felt, at least. He couldn't say the same for the enigmatic woman.

That woman was stern and diligent when it came to her training, but those alone weren't enough. Besides hard work and talent, time was a factor in attaining such achievement, but time could be compensated with something else.

It was how Qing Shui came to the deduction that while the woman did not possess something akin to the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, she had something that was several-fold stronger than the Saint Bracelet. Otherwise, it would be impossible to attain such achievements.

Noticing Qing Shui's arrival, she gave a smile and nodded her head. Since the previous incident, she no longer allowed Qing Shui to spar with her.

Still donning a smile, Qing Shui walked over with her to a small pavilion not far away. It was where one could take a rest, although there was always the other option of resting on the field beneath their feet.

Atop the smooth, marble-like stone table in the small pavilion, there was a pot of tea and several teacups.

"Qing Shui, I've been away for a long time. I'm going back soon." Qin Qing said, a small smile decorating her features.

His heart skipped a beat at her words, but gathered himself swiftly. "To the Ice Domain Dynasty?"

Qin Qing shook her head. Qing Shui recalled her mentioning something about being from the Great Qin Dynasty, but where exactly was that?

"I'm going back to the Great Qin Dynasty." Qin Qing said softly, looking intently at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui was caught in a dilemma; he did have a desire to visit the Sea King's Palace, but his strength was still limited. At the same time, he also wanted to visit the Great Qin Dynasty

"Do you want to go with me?" Qin Qing's voice was light but clear. She looked at Qing Shui seriously, as if she wanted to observe his reaction.

"Alright, I'll go with you." After some consideration, Qing Shui concluded that departing for the Sea King's Palace now would be like searching for a needle in a haystack. Perhaps he would wait a while more. Without the appropriate level of strength, trying to seek out the Sea King's Palace would be an issue anyway.

Qin Qing laughed, "You trust me this much? Aren't you afraid I will put you up for sale?"

"I'll sell myself to you if that happens." Qing Shui smiled and looked at her.

"Ah, there are no good words to be expected from a scoundrel." Even when Qin Qing spat out those words, her face was flushed red in reaction.

Looking at her gorgeous smiling face, Qing Shui grew a little infatuated. "Sister Qin truly is beautiful!"

Qing Shui couldn't keep track of the number of times he had complimented her, but it must have been quite large. As Qin Qing heard him, she lifted her head and asked, "You like it?"

Qing Shui was flabbergasted. He nodded his head in reply, "I think I do!"

"What do you mean by you think you do? Either you do or you don't. There's nothing to think about!" Qin Qing replied with a laugh.

"I do like pretty women, but I won't describe what I feel for you in that way. There is an air of familiarity when it comes to you, as if I've known you for a million years." With a smile, Qing Shui explained.

"It seems like you are capable of cheating a woman's feelings too." Qin Qing laughed.

"Aren't you a woman..."

"Spout any more nonsense and I'm going to hit you." Qin Qing huffed in annoyance.

The calmness she felt before was shattered by Qing Shui as her brows became slightly knitted with rising anger. This rascal seriously had the guts to spout whatever he wanted.

"I know Sister Qing can't bear to leave."

Qin Qing was defeated by his words. As she glanced over at him, she wondered when they had grown so close. He had even called her sister...

"Take today to prepare what you'll need. We leave tomorrow." Qin Qing informed.

"I can leave at any time. I'll let them know of our plans."

"Alright!"

Qing Shui intended to let Yin Tong and the others stay behind. With the Lan Clan and Ziche Clan here, the Imperial Cuisine Hall was safe. Not to mention that, Lan Lingfeng and Yin Tong were destined to be powerful forces. While they were not at that level now, they still wouldn't be taken down by just any average cultivator.

On the other hand, the Ziche Clan was indisputably the strongest clan in Linhai City and the Imperial Cuisine Hall was still indebted to them regardless. Besides, their clan's eldest daughter was in the Imperial Cuisine Hall too.

Qing Shui had notified them of his decision to leave, and his wish for them to stay. He would visit from time to time, since he still had unfinished business here anyway. While others were hesitant about his departure, they merely reminded him to stay cautious.

"Qing Shui!" Yu Niang was reluctant to part with him.

"Sister, this is your home too. I will visit you often, so take care of yourself. There is no one in this world who would dare bully you." Qing Shui said sincerely before giving her a gentle hug.

"I will!"

While Qing Shui's words were spoken to Yu Niang, its meaning was directed towards everyone else. It emphasized the importance of Yu Niang to him. Yu Niang understood his intention as well. She had met Qing Shui when she was going through the worst times of her life, and since then, her life had undergone tremendous changes.

Qin Qing watched from the side. She noticed that he knew a lot about this place. She found herself wondering about Qing Shui sometimes, trying to understand him. Still, she felt that just being himself was good enough. It was the first time she seemed to be able to hit it off with a man.

Qing Shui and Qin Qing left, heading deeper towards the centre of Haohan Continent. Although it could be considered as the central region, their destination was just barely on its outskirts.