

Ancient ST 1581

Chapter 1581 - The Top Immortal Sect, Removing the 3rd Palace Master

Qing Shui looked at the fervent gazes in the surroundings which even seemed to contain a passionate reverence. He felt especially comforted by it. This was the feeling an expert felt. Receiving others' admiration was a wonderful thing.

Someone had already left and said he'd tell this news to all the people of the Sea King's Palace, making everyone feel happy. Soon, cheering resounded from outside and kept increasing. The dissemination of the news was quite fast.

Jin Liyu was also sitting here, but he was a bit absent-minded. Besides Qing Shui, Yiye Jiange and Muyun Qingge, none of them knew the reason. The battle this time was led by Qing Shui and most importantly, the Carp Tribe had also contributed a lot. Although it wasn't to the extent of Qing Shui, their contribution wasn't negligible or else the Sea King's Palace might've had big losses.

Qing Shui stood up and raised his wine glass: "It makes me happy to defend the Sea King's Palace together with everyone. Jiange is my wife and the Sea King's Palace is her home. Everyone here is like my brothers and sisters. Though I cannot stay here at all times, I'd never ignore the Sea King's Palace distress. Let us work hard together for its future."

"For the future!"

"Cheers!"

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All of them picked their wine glasses and bumped them with Qing Shui's cup. The scene and everyone's mood became exceptionally lively. A person's spirit feels pleasant when feeling happiness and this was a huge happy occasion for the entire Sea King's Palace, as its strength was bound to increase several fold due to Qing Shui joining them.

Actually, they still didn't know that Yiye Jiange and Muyun Qingge's strengths had received quantitative leaps. It was a pity that the Sea King's Palace never had a Guardian. The Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace both had Guardians and though they didn't appear much, rumours were spread often and their existences had been confirmed to be true this time.

Now, the Sea King's Palace also possessed a Guardian, and a young one at that. He was stronger than the Sea Dragon and the Vicious Shark Palaces' Guardians. For now, the entire Ice Ocean Domain belonged to the Sea King's Palace.

Jin Liyu was feeling regret right now, but there was no medicine for that in the world. One had to take responsibility for his actions. Although Qing Shui had said that he wouldn't investigate it, that was nothing more than a joke. Who'd be able to forgive this kind of vile matter?

Therefore, Jin Liyu didn't believe that Muyun Qingge, Qing Shui and the rest would easily forgive him. He was also waiting for this day. He'd accept the decision no matter what it was.

The celebration banquet had already begun, yet they hadn't declared how they'd handle him. This only made him feel more restless. He wasn't afraid of death, but the wait before it was quite awful.

Qing Shui could naturally make out Jin Liyu's uneasiness, but he still wore a smile on his face. Qing Shui's seat was near Jin Liyu's, but he didn't even look at him. This made Jin Liyu feel that he was really finished this time.

As time passed, each one of them retired as it was getting late. They knew that the Palace Masters must have matters to discuss. After one left, the rest followed. Jin Liyu alone didn't leave.

It was normal that he didn't leave, as he was the 3rd Palace Master and should've remained behind normally.

"Palace Master. The matter has already happened. Please declare how you are going to handle it. My heart's becoming anxious like this." Jin Liyu couldn't bear it anymore and stood up.

Muyun Qingge laughed: "Who said we're going to handle you? Your hypocrisy took the enemy by surprise and brought great merits to our Sea King's Palace."

Jin Liyu shook his head: "Palace Master. You don't need to comfort me. I only wish that Palace Master allows the Carp Tribe to follow you as this matter is unrelated to them."

"When did I say I'd hold them accountable?" Muyun Qingge said calmly, without even looking at him.

The main reason Jin Liyu was like this was because he was a spy and had also schemed to obtain Muyun Qingge. This was the reason he felt anxious.

"Palace Master will really let the Carp Tribe off?" Jin Liyu asked excitedly.

"I'm giving you two choices now. First, your Carp Tribe becomes independent, matching with your previous desires. Second, you can stay behind in the Sea King's Palace, but if something like this happens again, don't blame me then. Also, you aren't the 3rd Palace Master from now on, so don't harbour any thoughts towards me." Muyun Qingge looked at Jin Liyu with a cold gaze.

The aura coming from her made Jin Liyu tremble. He understood that the disparity in strength between him and Muyun Qingge was quite big. Men from the Beastmen tribes didn't like their women being stronger than themselves, even if they were beautiful, as that would be a kind of humiliation for them, making them feel uneasy.

Muyun Qingge's cold gaze and words had already told him what he should do. He nodded in stupefaction: "Thank you. I'll take my leave first."

Jin Liyu left in a muddleheaded state. His heart couldn't stabilize itself after its delusion was shattered, just like how one felt when the women he loved secretly got married.

"Palace Master wants to make the Carp Tribe work hard for the Sea King's Palace but also wants to deprive Jin Liyu's position as the 3rd Palace Master." Qing Shui looked at Muyun Qingge with a smile.

"The Carp Tribe is quite important for the Sea King's Palace. The Sea King's Palace is moving up right now, so it can't separate from the Carp Tribe temporarily. Jin Liyu had become the 3rd Palace Master by relying on his ancestor's accomplishments, and many people didn't like this. The Carp Tribe's contributions were better than the others so nothing could be done. It's fine now. There'll be no position of 3rd Palace Master from now on. Only I and Jiange will be the Palace Masters." Muyun Qingge smiled.

It was like this in the world of Beastmen. Even if someone possessed an extreme military force, some things needed to be thought out. Muyun Qingge was from the Drakaina Tribe, whose wisdom was on par with humanity and was higher in strength. They were pets of heaven and earth. But the life of such a woman was filled with crisis as many men aimed for her.

“How many powers exist in the Ice Ocean Domain?” Qing Shui pondered for a bit before asking.

“The world of sea tribes is similar to humanity’s. It’s just that the sea tribes possess a larger area and the water domains are divided into upper and lower layers. It’s said that there is a total of 18 layers and each circle is dominated by a power. Every small power is supported by a bigger one, which is supported by one bigger than it. The relations between the layers are complicated and tangled. Therefore, it is possible for an unremarkable existence in the underwater world to cause a butterfly effect and provoke a huge inconvenience, even bringing about a disaster ending in slaughter.”

“Are there any powers behind the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace then? Does our Sea King’s Palace have someone supporting us?” Qing Shui asked curiously.

“I don’t know whether the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace have patrons behind them, but our Sea King’s Palace doesn’t have anyone’s support. Others don’t know this, but I’m sure they’d think twice now before taking any actions.” Muyun Qingge smiled at him.

“Why do you say that?” Qing Shui looked at her.

“Because you’re here. People will believe that an existence like you has the support of a Immortal Sect behind you. Even an Immortal Sect might not be able to cultivate a person like you. Therefore, they’ll believe that the power behind you is an existence on the same level as an Immortal Sect and possibly a top one among them.”

Qing Shui was dazed. The term Immortal Sect was mentioned again. According to legends, Immortal Sects possessed Divine Grade existences, Without a Divine Grade expert guarding it, it simply couldn’t be considered an Immortal Sect. He had already heard about this subject of Immortal Sects several times now. The top of the pyramid of the Nine Continents was the struggle between Immortal Sects.

This made Qing Shui think about the Five Tiger Immortal Sect. He didn’t know how far it was from the Divine Grade, but he knew that it was difficult for the current him to encounter any of them as his strength wasn’t enough right now. He was also sure that there weren’t that many Immortal Sects among the several big Sects, just only that one Immortal Sect he knew of.

“There’s nothing behind me though.” Qing Shui forced a smile.

“You’re even better than an Immortal Sect.” Muyun Qingge said seriously.

“You think too highly of me.” Qing Shui engrossed.

“I believe my gaze and intuition and I’ve never been mistaken. You’re a person of my Sea King’s Palace, since you’ve become its member. Don’t think of leaving it for your entire lifetime.” Muyun Qingge said lightly.

“Qing Shui. When are you planning to leave? What are your plans?” Muyun Qingge was quite interested about him.

“I’m going to stay here for a few days and then return to Linhai City. I have no plans for later.” Qin Shui was reassured about the Sea King’s Palace now so he explained it to her straight. He didn’t know whether the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace had another power behind them, therefore he was planning to stay here for a few days and also help the Sea King’s Palace prepare a little in passing.

Three days passed by in an instant. Qing Shui remained at the Sea King’s Palace all along, enjoying his luck with women. He cultivated together with Yiye Jiange during daytime and conveniently helped to open and reinforce her channels. He gave her a few medicinal pills, an Ancient Demonic Fruit, and also a Dragon Pellet to see if she could use them.

Though Yiye Jiange wasn’t a Drakaina, she wasn’t lacking compared to one. Adding onto the skill of the Portrait of Beauty, she was on par with a Drakaina and probably even a bit stronger.

This time, Yiye Jiange’s strength had increased greatly and so had the strength of the Nine Headed Crystal Beast. After stabilizing, the Yang Pill also raised her strength again, greatly increasing her endurance.

On the aspect of battle skills, Yiye Jiange possessed her own unique battle skills, which came from a Drakaina’s battle skills. Qing Shui still gave her the Phoenix Finger and a few other suitable battle skills. The movement skill he left behind was the Nine Palace Steps, as it could blend together with other movement skills.

Perhaps due to the inheritance, the Nine Palace Steps was kind of exclusive to Qing Shui and others found it difficult to learn to the same level as him. This made him feel unwell, as he wished for his close ones and friends to become powerful too.

Although just three days had passed, Yiye Jiange’s and the Nine Headed Crystal Beast’s strength had increased a lot. She had broken through another level in the Nine Palace Steps in these three day, which was an unexpected surprise. Her battle skills were multi-varied, and mainly relied on heavy hits. Hence, speed was an important factor.

On the 4th day, Muyun Qingge arrived there. She felt an indescribable feeling when she saw their intimate appearance.

Chapter 1582 - Sunset Palace, Obtaining the Divine Heavenly Technique Jade Kirin Dragon Vessel

Qing Shui had already discovered Muyun Qingge’s arrival and turned his head over to greet her. He actually felt a bit awkward as he’d seen her body when he’d healed her before and had even touched her. There wasn’t any other alternative at that time, but some affairs were already done and nothing could change that.

Yiye Jiange also stopped after seeing Muyun Qingge. She happily went over to her and grasped her hand, “How come elder sis is here? Are you bothered about anything?”

“Did you forget your elder sis after getting a husband?” Muyun Qingge teased her.

Yiye Jiange smiled at her and seeing her unnatural appearance, she asked, “What? Are you envious?”

Muyun Qingge shook her head in disdain, “Men are no good. I’ll never try to find a man.”

Her words were true to her, but when she said them, a silhouette appeared in her mind. This silhouette kept becoming clearer and finally changed into Qing Shui, which caused chaos in her heart. That feeling was quite terrible, an indescribable pain.

“Bis sis, I’ve never offended you.” Qing Shui came over laughing.

Muyun Qingge looked at Qing Shui. The longer she associated with him, the more this man gave her that inexplicable feeling. It was like the spring wind. It didn’t seem dazzling but still had an inexplicable feeling that would submerge one in it little by little.

“Great Guardian, can you tell me how many women you have? If you only have Jiange, then this rank won’t be yours. How about it?” Muyun Qingge was set on the fact that Qing Shui had several women.

Qing Shui almost choked and gave an embarrassed laugh, “Women are indeed too narrow minded. You can’t be so careless in evaluating a man. A man with several women proves his excellence. It’s for sure that such a man is a good man.”

“Don’t you realize that your words are letting our Jiange down? You speak about equality of the sexes, but can you allow your woman to do the same as you?”

Muyun Qingge’s calm words let Qing Shui speechless. Yiye Jiange laughed at this time, saying, “What are you even debating? Is there a need to do this? You’re both too extreme.”

“Alright, let’s change the topic. Elder sis, is something bothering you?” Yiye Jiange asked to shift the subject.

Muyun Qingge nodded with a smile. She wasn’t targeting Qing Shui and really, she didn’t personally feel bothered. Actually, her heart was conflicted. She felt that Qing Shui was a good man, and that it’d be perfect if he only had a single woman.

Qing Shui originally still wanted to reason with her but he knew that it was impossible to get her approval no matter what was said in regards to this matter. It was already quite good that she wasn’t disgusted by this.

Qing Shui felt that without the use of any irregular means, it was possible for a woman to like a man. And if there were many who liked the man, it meant that the man ought to have a lot of positive aspects. If not, even if one case could be considered a fluke, all of the rest couldn’t be the same, right?

The three of them sat down in the living room. Muyun Qingge looked at Qing Shui and he also looked at her. Seeing that she was looking at him, Qing Shui grinned, revealing his pearly teeth.

Muyun Qingge blushed and unnaturally turned her head away. She remembered the scene of Qing Shui healing her. Yiye Jiange had already prepared the tea and picked up a cup to sip.

“I’ve already obtained some news. The patron behind the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace is the Ice Ocean Domain’s Sunset Palace. They also should have obtained the news by now. It’s still unclear whether they’ll take action for the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace.” Muyun Qingge looked at Qing Shui as she spoke.

Qing Shui expected a large power to be behind the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace, but he didn't think they'd come so soon. Based on the Beastmen's nature, they absolutely wouldn't leave this matter be, so they could only prepare well to guard against them.

"Do you have information regarding the Sunset Palace?" Qing Shui asked. Being underwater was different from being on land. It was more dangerous and there were many organisms here, some with giant bodies.

"We only know that Mermen exist in Sunset Palace as well as some Ancient Battle Crabs." Muyun Qingge looked at Qing Shui strangely.

From her expression, Qing Shui could feel that she knew he was aware of her identity. It's not like her identity was a secret, it was just that everyone only knew that she was the descendant of a Drakaina.

"We can only resist if they come to attack. We should first raise our strength." Qing Shui was somewhat worried, but there was no point in worrying too much. He had confidence in himself. If a Divine grade expert didn't appear, Qing Shui felt that he could repel them back.

"Here are a few formations. You can tell your trusted aides to begin training their troops. Perhaps these will come into use." Qing Shui gave the formations he had prepared earlier to Yiye Jiange and Muyun Qingge.

Yiye Jiange didn't show any shock, but Muyun Qingge was dazed. She accepted them and nodded towards Qing Shui, "These are quite important for the Sea King's Palace, but none of us know how they work."

"That's simple. Jiange knows how. You can try researching. Just come ask me if you don't understand anything."

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Qing Shui roamed the surroundings of the Sea King's Palace aimlessly. Originally, under regular circumstances, he should've left the Sea King's Palace earlier, but the appearance of the Sunset Palace gave him no choice but to stay behind.

A long time had already passed since he had arrived in the Haohan Continent. He wanted to go back. All of his family members were in the Dancing Phoenix Continent. Yehuang Guwu was also there. It was only a thought for him to consider returning, but the journey back was long.

Qing Shui thought of Canghai Mingyue, Huoyun Liu-Li, Zhu Qing, Yun Duan, Di Qing, Di Chen...

He also thought about Tantai Xuan and Tantai Lingyan. He felt strange when he thought about that crystal, ice cold woman, Tantai Lingyan. He wondered whether the little bit of familiarity he had developed with her with much difficulty would reset after parting from her for so long.

Tantai Xuan also left Qing Shui helpless. This woman kept her distance. He shook his head. Anyways, life was long for cultivators and he could only make preparations in advance, as Tantai Lingyan had hatred towards the Five Tiger Immortal Sect. Else, he'd be stuck in a dilemma.

Paragon Water Shield!

Qing Shui had already used the Paragon Water Shield three times. Each time, he travelled 50,000 kilometres. This distance was nothing within the sea domains. They were filled with powers. The disappearance of the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace had increased the area under the rule of the Sea King's Palace exponentially. Quite a lot of the members of the Sea King's Palace were currently searching for treasures or immortal herbs in the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace's areas.

Suddenly, Qing Shui spotted a golden little fish flit by. Qing Shui wasn't interested in its golden light as there were a lot of different coloured beautiful fishes underwater, but the speed of this foot-long fish was quite irregular. It also released an especially intense spiritual aura.

Qing Shui was interested in it and followed it. With his speed, it was easy for him to catch up to this fish, but he had nothing to do and also didn't desire to catch it.

Qing Shui travelled within the water following after it. Speed really seemed to be its elemental forte. Qing Shui was curious about how such a little thing could possess so much energy.

There were quite a lot of mountain ranges underwater. Qing Shui followed after the golden fish and passed through a valley and then a 'tunnel'. After going through it, a wriggling giant mountain range appeared before his eyes.

Half an hour after entering the mountain range, the little fish in front of Qing Shui suddenly disappeared. Qing Shui was dazed and quickly sped up. He discovered that there was a barrier in place that was concealed quite well. It was also quite small, around 2 meters in radius and was sheltered by the surrounding mountain rocks, water plants, vines and so on.

Qing Shui was excited and immediately went inside.

Spiritual Qi hit him right in the face as soon as he entered inside...

Qing Shui discovered the golden fish here. Although there wasn't any water, it was still swimming...

It seemed as if it was flying. Though it was a strange matter, Qing Shui wasn't shocked by this.

Qing Shui didn't follow it and rather sized up the place. There were four pillars here that he couldn't tell were natural or artificial. They seemed natural but again gave a feeling as if they were a masterpiece.

A huge suppression force manifested when Qing Shui entered the inner palace hall. Qing Shui was astonished and took a look inside. There was a God's Statue inside, but this one was different from the one he saw before. This God's Statue had a human's torso, a dragon's tail, and a jade lion's head which rather resembled a qilin's head. The qilin's head in Qing Shui's previous life looked just like this and there was even a saying that the qilin's head was actually a lion's head...

That terrible suppression was coming from here.

Suddenly, a large aura locked onto Qing Shui. He merely protected himself from it and didn't resist it. He knew it the statue's Divine Sense.

It was a powerful Divine Sense. It lasted for a quarter of a minute and then a thought suddenly transmitted itself, "Human brought here by fate, since you've arrived here, it means that there's karma between us. Take this gift!"

A bit of information directly reached Qing Shui's mind. The amount of information wasn't that much. After absorbing it, Qing Shui looked at this God's Statue with amazement. He hadn't expected that there would be a remnant Divine Sense left behind by a Divine grade expert here.

This was the Jade Kirin Dragon Vessel.

The information passed to him revealed that it was a passive Paragon Heavenly Technique.

Jade Kirin Dragon Vessel Overlord: Increases the might of passive blows and all battle skills by one-fold. Raises endurance by three times. Raises resistance towards evil skills by three times, effective against spirit and illusion type skills, poison type skills. A passive Paragon Heavenly Technique. Zero consumption. Cannot be upgraded. Living is pointless if one is not like an Overlord.

Qing Shui looked at the God's Statue and didn't come back to his senses for a long time. He always felt that he possessed very few heavenly techniques and now he had suddenly obtained such a good Paragon Heavenly Technique. This Jade Kirin Dragon Vessel Heavenly Technique was really tyrannical and although it couldn't be upgraded, it made him much more powerful. All the other Heavenly Technique battle skills Qing Shui possessed combined could barely catch up with this Jade Kirin Dragon Vessel Heavenly Technique.

Qing Shui felt an explosive increment in his strength after obtaining the Jade Kirin Dragon Vessel Heavenly Technique. His strength and defence had both increased one-fold. This was a Heavenly Technique which targeted battle skills and although it didn't increase his strength, it raised his endurance. For example, the Nine Stances of the Ancient Divine Battle Technique's might had increased one-fold from before, his covert strength had also increased one-fold, the Paragon Battle Armor's might by one-fold and so on...

Qing Shui felt now that he was absolutely the number one existence under the Divine Grade.

Chapter 1583 - Five Elements Divine Flag's New Position, Golden Spirit Fish

By the time Qing Shui had recovered his senses, a lot of time had passed by. That Divine Sense had given him some basic knowledge about the Nine Continent's underwater world with the Jade Kirin Dragon Vessel technique.

The Nine Continent's underwater world wasn't different from the land above, but it was quite large, consisting of the Eastern Ocean Domain, Southern Ocean Domain, Northern Ocean Domain, Western Ocean Domain, Nine Heavens Ocean Domain, Immortal Demons Ocean...

The Ice Ocean Domain was merely a subsidiary of the Northern Ocean Domain. The Ocean Domains of Nine Continents World were all interlinked to each other.

Apart from this information, Qing Shui also obtained that golden fish. It was actually a Golden Spirit Fish. Due to absorbing the spiritual energy here, it had transformed into a magical spirit beast.

No one in the ocean was capable of attacking it, but it also didn't possess the skill to attack anyone. Such were God's arrangements. Some skills were obtained by sacrificing others. It had sacrificed its attack potential for eternal safety.

Actually, the Golden Spirit Fish had almost no attack potential, which was why it was known that this kind of fish was truly blessed by the heavens.

The Golden Spirit Fish had the skills of a spirit fish, but they were much stronger. Its greatest use was its familiarity towards the underwater world. If only thoughts were transmitted to it, it'd be able to find a person. However, there was a restriction of distance; even Golden Spirit Fish weren't omnipotent.

Also, it could increase the spiritual energy of the places where carps mingle.

The Golden Spirit Fish was also an underwater treasure hunting beast. That's why it was known to be very precious. Qing Shui looked at the little thing swimming around him and placed it into the lake-like pond inside the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

After receiving such a huge benefit, Qing Shui sized up this unique construct. This place was a natural spirit cave. Several precious spirit herbs were growing in the surroundings, most of which were endangered in the outside world.

As Qing Shui was planning to place the herbs inside the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, the Five Elements Divine Flag pulsed and he instead entered the Five Elements Space.

He was amazed to find a position appear on the Five Stars Map. Qing Shui was familiar with this location. This was the transmission position the Five Elements Divine Flag had set before.

The new position was activated accidentally. Qing Shui looked at it as it became clearer. Qing Shui was astonished to find that position was actually the natural spirit cave he was in.

Qing Shui was truly surprised by this unexpected event, because he needed to remain here longer. He might perhaps visit the lower ocean layers for a stroll, so this was actually a good position. It was easy for him to reach this place quickly from the Sea King's Palace. He could also return home to check up on the situations there. After all, Yehuang Guwu was at home. He could also go visit other locations now, as he had the means to return quickly now.

Qing Shui wasn't in a hurry to return. Such a long time had already passed, so he wanted to see the situation here first and planned to return after clearing it out.

Coming out of the Five Elements Space, Qing Shui raked all of the spirit herbs and other things and only left a few of them behind. He held the conviction that they'd grow here again.

This unexpected happy encounter made Qing Shui feel giddy, making him want to howl with laughter to express the feelings of surprise in his heart. It was like receiving charcoal in snowy weather. This time's harvest would allow him to become the Sea King Palace's genuine Guardian. Except for Immortal Sects, any other sect had no chance of getting Qing Shu's attention.

Qing Shui planned to return after checking if there was anything else here. Originally, after seeing this familiar scene, he thought there would be a Portrait of Beauty here, but there wasn't.

Those expectations were in vain, but the Jade Kirin Dragon Vessel was something even better than a Portrait of Beauty. After all, the Portrait of Beauty was just a drawing. The genuine treasure was the woman drawn on the Portrait of Beauty.

By the time Qing Shui returned back to the Sea King's Palace, it had already become dusk. There was day and night even underwater, but there wasn't much of a difference between them. It was because there were many shining fishes, stones, water herbs, mountains and other things underwater. Sunshine didn't reach down here, but rumor had it that there was a water moon present underwater. Else, it wouldn't be possible for such brightness to exist. These were just legends and it was unclear whether a water moon really existed.

Muyun Qingge and Yiye Jiange were having tea and chatting when he returned, laughing from time to time. It brought a pleasant sensation of joy when heard.

Their names were also similar, as they had strange family names and the 'ge' word. Qing Shui's mood was quite happy after returning so he walked towards them, "What are you chatting about so happily?"

"Why do I feel you're even happier than us? Hmm? I can't even sense your strength now." Muyun Qingge looked at him with amazement.

"I was careless and accidently made a breakthrough." Qing Shui said modestly.

Looking at him act this way, Yiye Jiange laughed. These words were really too infuriating. Others racked their brains and were still unable to make a breakthrough, but he had it too good, even breaking through accidentally. It made others feel like slapping him.

There was no need to explain Muyun Qingge's decisiveness. She also felt quite happy that Qing Shui's strength had increased. There were some things between her and Qing Shui which couldn't be spoken about even though she was like a sister to Yiye Jiange, who was also a Palace Master. Qing Shui was her man and wasn't an outsider. More so, she also sensed that Qing Shui was a responsible man. Actually, she also agreed that it wasn't necessarily true that a fickle man would definitely be a bad man.

"Did you figure out anything about the Formations?" Qing Shui asked.

"How are the Life Gate, Death Gate and End Gate of this Eight Gates Golden Lock Formation arranged? I really can't understand it." Muyun Qingge smiled helplessly.

"First, understand the direction of the Nine Palaces."

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Muyun Qingge often felt quite helpless at the Sea King's Palace. There were very few members from the Drakaina tribe. Yiye Jiange and her strength was actually relying on their ancestor's shade. Each of the big water tribes had their own domains and rules. Although they actively helped when an outside enemy attacked, it was only because they wouldn't have a home anymore if the Sea King's Palace was destroyed.

However, if an existence with enough strength to suppress Muyun Qingge appeared within a tribe, that tribe might try to overthrow her. This wasn't unusual, as this was the Beastmen's style. The Carp tribe still lacked a genuine expert or else they would've done it already and that's why they had tried something like the previous affair. It was a pity that they didn't have a powerful overseer.

Muyun Qingge honestly spoke about some of the circumstances to Qing Shui and Yiye Jiange.

"It won't work this way. You have to develop your own trusted troops." Qing Shui shook his head.

“There’s no time. I have trusted troops. It’s a group of about 100 members. Their strength is okay overall and there’s no need to doubt their faith, but their numbers are few. Muyun Qingge said helplessly.

“There’s no need for many. Just 100 of them are enough. Why don’t you let me handle this? I can help you develop these hundred members so that they may become an unstoppable force in the future.” Qing Shui joked.

“That’s what I wish for, too. Let’s go take a look. I’ll feel a sense of security if you can help increase their strength.” Muyun Qingge said softly.

“Don’t worry. I and Jiange are with you. The Sea King’s Palace will forever be yours.” Qing Shui stood up, laying the tea cup down.

Muyun Qingge looked at his tranquil expression and nodded. “Their restless notions have indeed been suppressed since you’ve entered the Sea King’s Palace.”

The three of them walked towards a region deep inside the Sea King’s Palace. This was a concealed interior land and the topography here was quite complicated. It was very difficult to find many of the hidden regions here.

They entered a valley which had a simple formation set up. This was the mysteriousness of the Beastmen. The Carp tribe relied on their inheritance of the Carp, their Dragon Gate Formation, and the Koi Domain to attract members. Perhaps it was because of this that an expert hadn’t emerged from within them even after a long time.

Even Qing Shui was dazed when he looked at those hundred members. They were all Black Scales Mermen who had human figures, but they were just a bit taller compared to humanity and were covered with black scales all over. Their bodies were well-developed and they released a powerful killing intent.

“Palace Master!”

These Black Scales Mermen called out deferentially when they saw Muyun Qingge.

She waved her hand, hinting for them to continue. These Black Scales Mermen were practicing a joint attack technique. Qing Shui could make out that this was a pretty good joint attack skill.

“This is a joint attack technique from their inheritance. A hundred members can already display its might pretty well. It becomes stronger with more people, but it’s also more difficult to control. Hence, all of the Black Scales Mermen tribes form a regiment of a hundred members.” Muyun Qingge explained.

The weapon of the Black Scales Mermen was a monotone pitchfork. These hundred members were all outstanding talents and there were even some Elementary False God stage experts among them. Although the others were weaker, their strength wasn’t far from the False God stage. Of course, taking a step into this level was an extraordinary feat and usually, only two to three of them at a time would ever reach this stage.

There was an impassable high mountain between the summit of the Martial Emperor stage and the Elementary False God Stage. It was possible that not even one among one hundred Martial Emperors might make a breakthrough.

Qing Shui guessed that the age of the Black Scales Mermen wasn't that old as they were filled with a powerful vitality. Only the two False God stage experts among them were a bit older.

These people were Muyun Qingge's secret weapon and though they were still weak, they possessed a formidable power.

"Do you have any means to increase their strength?" Muyun Qingge asked Qing Shui.

"I do. I have a formation with me here that's even more powerful than the joint attack formation they are practicing right now. You ought to understand it. I also have medicinal pills that stimulate the bloodline, which can increase their strength and help purify their bloodlines.

Chapter 1584 - 100 Black Scales Mermen Slayers, Betrayal, Sunset Palace's Arrival

Qing Shui had accumulated a lot of medicinal pills and they were enough for the hundred people here. Moreover, these kinds of pills weren't worth much to him, but they were regarded as immortal pills by these Mermen.

Even immortal pills couldn't promise them instant success. Qing Shui took out a few Bloodline pills which had been reinforced with crystal and other things. There were also a lot of Bone Strengthening Pills and Constitution Nurturing Pills.

There were only a few Yang Pills left, which were given to some of the outstanding talents. Qing Shui had kept enough for Yiye Jiange and Muyun Qingge as well.

In these two days, a huge transformation occurred in the strength of these Black Scales Mermen. Two of them had directly broken through to the Elementary False God Stage by using the Bloodline Pills effect complementing their aptitudes.

This was a huge hope and boon for the Black Scales Mermen. Even Muyun Qingge also didn't expect this to happen. She looked at the transformed Black Scales Mermen with amazement. Normally, it'd have taken some hundred years to reach this stage.

A period of a hundred years wasn't a long duration to Beastmen, but Muyun Qingge couldn't wait that long. A lot could happen in some hundred years, as time changed everything.

Although she was amazed, Muyun Qingge could accept this because she had personally experienced it while getting treated from the poison. Her strength as well as Yiye Jiange's strength had experienced a huge breakthrough and Qing Shui's strength had also increased greatly.

Muyun Qingge convened all the members and let them take a look at the Five Elements Formation. After explaining it, the training began. If there were any mistakes, Qing Shui was here to rectify them.

Beastmen weren't that talented with formations, but they possessed powerful physical bodies. This was also a kind of balance. Though they weren't talented, it didn't mean they didn't know the terribleness of formations. They had vast losses while fighting with humans due to these formations which caused their original strength to drop.

Hence, the Beastmen began to thirst for formations.

The Black Scales Mermen were pretty strong, but their talent for formations was hopeless. Their ability to learn formations was terrible. As for Drakaina, they were heaven's pets, so they were stronger in this regard than the Black Scales Mermen.

Though the pace was slow, Qing Shui was there to directly divide up the positions and explain the theory they didn't understand. He directly gave them instructions and each did as commanded. Although this would reduce the flexibility of the formation, the speed would undoubtedly increase.

The core was the most important part in the formation. It and some of the more important positions were held by the False God stage experts. They could cover for each other and keep the formation stable.

They eventually succeeded with great difficulty in using the formation as all things were difficult in the beginning. After that, they began to familiarize themselves with the formation and the speed with which they grasped the formation became faster.

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Qing Shui began to rush into the formation and instructed them on how to act. He naturally didn't kill or injure anyone. He matched along with them and instructed them when they should attack and which position they should stand in. For a few of them, he explained about the best timing to attack and when it could result in a one-hit kill...

Teaching the theory of formations to Beastmen was like trying to straighten a dog's tail. However, a lot of potential could be exploited if they were instructed on how to match with each other and how exactly they should act.

This was also the reason that there was oftentimes the shadow of humanity within Beastmen. These humans were mostly Formation Masters. Only with formations could the Beastmen's strength be displayed perfectly.

The Five Elements Formation had many forms. The most important aspect was directing the five elements. The attacks were of all the five elemental types and could restrain the enemy's attack by responding with the counteracting elemental type.

Five Elements Protection. It can use the five elements to resist the enemy's attack by using the restraining elemental type. This would diminish the enemy's offense by a lot. All formations have the ability to increase offensive as well as defensive ability. There was just a difference in the amount by which it increased. The Five Elements Formation's most core function was the five elements suppression.

Qing Shui wanted them to familiarize themselves with the compatibility between the five elements and make them understand which element each was in-charge of. After understanding the restraining principles of the five elements, they'd have to clearly judge the enemy's elemental affinity or else they'd make a joke out of themselves.

It was easy to judge the elements like fire and water but some were difficult to judge. There were even some with dual attributes. It was also rumoured that there were more than five elements, which was before even considering the fusion of five elements. Qing Shui began to explain all about it.

Time passed by slowly; the progress of these Black Scales Mermen was quite fast. Qing Shui felt success looking at their progress. These people were the guards of Muyun Qingge and Yiye Jiange. A name was already designated.

The Hundred Slayers!

They were the Hundred Slayers Regiment.

Qing Shui knew that it wasn't possible to increase their strength to the summit in such a short term. Even he also didn't have the ability to do so. However, it was quite unimaginable for them to even expect such an increase in their strength in the past few days.

Qing Shui wanted to exploit their entire strength right now by forcing all of it out with a formation. He possessed the Great Strength Increment cultivation art which was quite suitable for the Black Scales Mermen.

Great Strength Increment was a type of body refinement. Although it wasn't a very mysterious martial skill, Qing Shui knew that it was suitable for the Black Scales Mermen tribe and wasn't weaker than other cultivation arts once it was practiced to the peak.

Great Strength Increment could raise endurance as well as explosive strength. This was the reason Qing Shui wanted to use this Great Strength Increment cultivation art. Even low-level cultivation arts had their own benefits. For example, they were easy to cultivate. As for legend grade or divine grade cultivation arts, some cultivators couldn't even make sense of them.

As Qing Shui was training the Black Scales Mermen, Muyun Qingge and Yiye Jiange were also cultivating. Besides the sentinels of Sea King's Palace, all the others were cultivating.

As for Qing Shui, the Black Scales Mermen didn't view him as just the Guardian of the Sea King's Palace, they had already begun to address him respectfully as 'Teacher'.

'Teacher' was different from 'Master'; only when a person felt that they didn't possess the qualifications to become a disciple or the person giving guidance wasn't accepting disciples did they use the address of 'Teacher'.

Qing Shui had declined it several times in the beginning but there was no effect, so he let them do as they wished.

The matter of Qing Shui instructing these Black Scales Mermen in this location was quite secretive. Besides a small number of people, none of the others knew about this. The Sea King's Palace had recovered its past serenity. Only a few of them knew that trouble would find the Sea King's Palace soon, but most of them didn't know anything and lived their lives even happier than before as they had finally beat back the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace. Just like how everybody in Qing Shui's original world wished for their country to be rich and powerful, everyone here wanted the same, as only then could the safety of the people be ensured.

The reason Qing Shui was doing all of this was because of Yiye Jiange and that he was also considered to be Muyun Qingge's friend. He'd help for the sake of Yiye Jiange.

After a week, Qing Shui and the two women were discussing matters. The Black Scales Mermen were already walking on the right track. They had entered into the right mood in this one week. At this time, a Merman entered inside in a frantic mood, "The Black Demon Mermen are rebelling."

Muyun Qingge stood up after a while, but her complexion recovered its calm, "Alright. You can leave."

Qing Shui could make out that this affair was a little troublesome from her face. The Sea King's Domain was quite large and some of the powers belonging to the Sea King's Palace only received protection yet never worked for the Sea King's Palace. The Black Demon Mermen was a powerful tribe among them.

Each and every tribe capable of doing this were tribes that could compete on equal terms with the Sea King's Palace. They didn't want to become underlings of other powers. They developed themselves under the Sea King's Palace's wings, but they never exerted any strength to help the Sea King's Palace.

"The Sunset Palace must've come." Muyun Qingge sighed.

Qing Shui also felt the same or else there wouldn't have been a reason for the Black Demon Mermen to have rebelled. Though they were powerful, they wouldn't have made such a decision under the current circumstances.

"It was going to happen sooner or later. It's better if they come early. This is just the beginning. Let's see how many of them have good faith towards the Sea King's Palace.

Qing Shui was just about to say something when that Merman entered again, "Palace Master, The Shark Wolf Tribe has defected!"

Muyun Qingge was still calm, "Understood. Keep me updated about the circumstances."

Qing Shui looked at Muyun Qingge with a smile, "Do you feel it's hard?"

Yiye Jiange laughed, "Those who wish to stay wouldn't leave and those who wish to go wouldn't stay. Their staying behind is also harmful."

Muyun Qingge nodded, "I'll move on. I'd instead feel happy if all of them left. I can then dissolve the Sea King's Palace, which would reduce my heart's trouble."

"There's no need to be so negative. The Sea King's Palace leads several billion organisms and only a few of them are leaving."

After that, the merman reported a total of ten times. Out of the tribes the Sea King's Palace controlled, ten of them had declared independence. It quietened down after that.

But they knew that this was just temporary. These independent tribes didn't need to do anything. If their guesses were right, the Sunset Palace would make them act as the vanguard and turn these former comrades into enemies. This scene would be quite shocking and painful.

As expected, news arrived after two days. Those independent tribes had formed a regiment and come to challenge the Sea King's Palace. Muyun Qingge smiled helplessly when this news reached her.

The Sunset Palace liked driving a wedge between those weaker than them by using force. They made threats and promises to make a portion of the opponent defect and then make them face each other in battle while they looked on from afar. They'd move to attack the opponent after that.

Qing Shui and Yiye Jiange had also obtained the news. He wasn't flustered at all because no matter what, the Sunset Palace wasn't an Immortal Sect. As a result, he was fearless.

"Jiange, let's go take a look. It's time for the Hundred Slayers Regiment to take action."

The strength of the Black Demon Mermen was pretty good and they were quite a lot stronger than before now. They excelled at real combat. It was quite rare for False God Stage experts to participate in a large scale fight at this level, as there were only a few of them.

Chapter 1585 - Black Demon Merman Chu Dongri, The Hundred Slayers Regiment To Battle

Qing Shui and Yiye Jiange immediately went outside of the Sea King's Palace. When they heard that Muyun Qingge had already gone to the scene, they hastened their pace and quickly rushed over to catch up to her.

This area was about a thousand li away from and a thousand li above the Sea King's Palace. There was already a fierce commotion outside of the palace. Most of the Carp Tribe had already spread their influence towards the Sea King's Palace. Their population was quite overwhelming too, and their forces should never be underestimated.

Qing Shui thought, as he continued his journey, that the master of this Sunset Palace should be Mermaids. Normally, no one would regard a Mermaid as a powerful existence when they heard its name. To be honest, Qing Shui still couldn't believe it even until now.

Muyun Qingge was a Drakaina. In comparison to Merfolk, Qing Shui felt that the Drakaina Tribe was stronger. However, when he thought that Jin Liyu could become stronger, why not the Merfolk? According to rumors, Salamanders were considered to be a strong existence, too.

Anything was possible here. Qing Shui didn't feel strange about it. However, there were many things that were new to him, so he needed some time to process and accept them as facts.

Currently, the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace were already finished. The Sunset Palace had come for them to uphold their justice. The Sunset Palace did not care for either side - which side was right and which side was wrong. When they saw the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace being annihilated, they didn't need an argument.

Differentiation between the right and the wrong was useless in this case. Only the victor would become the king. The loser would become a bandit.

This made Qing Shui think of a situation in his past life. If one were to reason with the other, fist fights would ensue. Where there were fists flying around, there would be arguments. However, to be able to truly control the situation, one would still require power to back himself up. Otherwise, there would be nothing to discuss face-to-face.

As the protector of the Sea King's Palace, normally Qing Shui would not show himself this early. But now, the people of the Sea King's Palace were feeling insecure, and they needed Qing Shui's appearance to somewhat comfort most of their emotions and boost their morale.

Even though he had shown himself, he didn't move forward to the frontline. Instead, he entered a temporary cave, where most of the area was covered in water. However, these people were able to stay in here like fishes in water. Just like humans living with oxygen in the air, there was no discomfort whatsoever.

Qing Shui took a gander at the distance just now and noted that the movement afar was massive. However, he had seen bigger battles. This spectacle was just child's play. When he entered the cave, he saw that Muyun Qingge and a few powerful cultivators from Sea King's Palace were already here.

When the cultivators saw Qing Shui and Yiye Jiange entering the cave, they gave the duo a few polite greetings. Qing Shui exchanged his greetings as well before turning to Muyun Qingge and asked, "Do you have any plans?"

"This time, I don't care what reason they have. As long as they intend to betray the Sea King's Palace, I will make them pay." Muyun Qingge said with a casual smile, yet there was a certain aloofness in that smile of hers.

There were a few great water tribe leaders in the Sea King's Palace. Qing Shui observed the situation and felt that her words meant something. He couldn't be certain about it. Nevertheless, he assured her, "Don't worry, I will help you with that. I really hate treacherous people a lot. These people do not hold friendship in regard and will betray others at any given time. These kinds of people are despised by anyone. They will not have a good ending either."

Muyun Qingge knew that Qing Shui was only trying to back her up. She laughed, "The Sunset Palace has already arrived, but they don't seem that willing to show their faces. These rebels from the Sea King's Palace are really pitiful to actually think they can rise to the top once they leave us. This is the Sunset Palace's same old trick. Their master was once tricked before, so they take delight in using this kind of trick repeatedly and consistently. If they were able to leave Sea King's Palace by relying on their own power, then I must comply with that."

At that moment, the Merman came back again and reported, "Reporting to Palace Mistress, the leader of Shark Wolves has sent us a missive."

Muyun Qingge took the missive from the merman and smiled after she read the contents, "Take a guess on what is written in here."

Qing Shui observed the smiling expression on Muyun Qingge's face. Although he had some idea of what it was, he didn't utter a word.

Yiye Jiange smiled, "Can it be that the Shark Wolf tribe is requesting for reinforcements or asking for help?"

"Yiye Jiange is smarter still. The Shark Wolf tribe said they were compelled to the situation in the missive, and that they had no choice left. They even said that their hearts have always been with the Sea King's Palace."

Qing Shui didn't say anything, but he knew that this sort of thing would happen numerous times in a day. There were many incidents where one would be devoid of choices or would not have the knowledge of the result of certain choices, thus unable to make comparisons.

A single person and groups of people would always experience moments when a choice was needed to be made. Every choice could potentially affect their entire life. No one would know for certain that the choice he made would be the best one. The next best thing he could do was to make a choice without regret.

The Shark Wolf tribe had chosen this path and they could only walk on it until the end. Qing Shui felt that it wasn't necessary to write this missive. Of course, he couldn't dismiss the thought that this was part of their plot to dismiss the opponent's troops. After all, there were facing a Black Demon Merman tribe in front of them. This was a strong group in the water tribe.

Muyun Qingge handed the missive to Yiye Jiange and said, "Jiange, tell us what we should do. The missive said they could act as a planted agent in the enemy's base."

"It's not necessary for us to go down this path. On top of that, they are not quite trustworthy. The Shark Wolf tribe is cunning in comparison to the others. You can't just simply believe some of their words. The Sunset Palace is powerful, but it's not like we don't have the strength to counter them." Yiye Jiange replied with a smile.

"I almost forgot that we still have a powerful protector. Qing Shui, we have to depend on you this time." Muyun Qingge giggled.

Both forces set into their battle formations in preparation for the battle. Even though there wasn't any special formation, it was still a type of positional battle. This way, they could allow themselves to cooperate with one another more smoothly while battling.

The Sea King's Palace still had the Carp tribe acting as the vanguard of the formation. After all, the Carp Dragon Gate formation was considered quite powerful. It was still extremely effective against those with slightly weaker power in the battlefield.

The probability of this formation failing was less than one over ten thousand. Not only could this formation allow the Carp tribe to grow stronger, it could also weaken the opponents the tribe fought. Thus, this formation was considered to be one with the offensive and defensive elements.

Jin Liyu had grown more mature than before. After he had experienced this incident, he became earnest and dependable instead. Now, he was leading the Carp tribe with every ounce of his strength. There were no complaints from him either.

It was a disgrace for the Carp tribe to be stripped of the position of the Third Palace Lord. As time went by, some people were beginning to realize the reason for the disgrace. Even the entire Carp tribe were condemned by the public because of that. In the beginning, most of the ignorant people in the Carp tribe fiercely retorted against their own people. They even made a move against them. However, the Carp tribe had decreed an order, making them unable to strike back. If that wasn't the case, some of them would be kicked out of the tribe immediately.

Because of that, during this period of time, the Carp tribe were also living in an arduous condition. Qing Shui didn't say anything when he saw that situation with his own eyes. He wasn't afraid of people who had endured hardships for the sake of retaliation, but he was afraid of small-minded people. He felt he had no problem controlling Jin Liyu and the Carp tribe, so he had no fear of the Carp tribe becoming stronger. On the contrary, he had hoped that they would become more powerful instead. If they were stronger, they could provide tremendous help to the Sea King's Palace.

At that moment, Qing Shui caught sight of Black Demon Mermen and the Shark Wolf tribe. The Black Demon Mermen were bigger in build than the Black Scales Mermen. Their heights were all about seven or eight meters tall. Similarly, their pitch-black body had scale-like armors on them too, which looked quite ferocious and vehement.

Even though they looked human, an enormous sharp horn could be seen sticking out from their heads. Each of them was wielding a giant Black Gold Club, and they were all emitting a wave of horrifying aura from their bodies, which was quite ferocious.

The people from the Shark Wolf tribe looked a bit like wolfmen. Both their arms were as sharp as a wolf's claw, yet as sturdy as ever. Their well-built bodies had inherited the feature of a Shark tribe, which was why the Shark Wolf tribe was easily considered a powerful group of cultivators.

"The Sunset Palace Lord wants me to pass this word to you. If the Sea King's Palace wants to surrender to the Sunset Palace, you have to wipe out all the accounts from before. What do you think?" One of the abnormally tall fellows among the Black Demon Mermen stepped forward and relayed the words to Muyun Qingge.

He was in his prime of the Black Demon Merman, which was essentially a young age. The black scales armor all over his body were shimmering brightly. He was one of the five great fighters among the Black Demon Mermen, Chu Dongri.

She was also hopeful of controlling the people of the Black Demon Merman tribe.

"You tell the Sunset Palace Lord this, I want her to tell me that personally. What kind of thing are you supposed to be?" Muyun Qingge's voice sounded cold when she spoke to him.

Huff huff!

Chu Dongri let out a rough and heavy howl-like breathing. His large eyes focused on Muyun Qingge as he said, "All these years, did you really think that I was your underling? When you become my prisoner, I will let you taste things that are worse than death."

"You are just a dog for the Sunset Palace. You have degraded yourself to that role." Muyun Qingge said calmly. Even though her words were harsh, she didn't feel anything about it. It made it seem like Chu Dongri was a pitiful man.

Just as Chu Dongri was making his next move, a Black Demon Merman held him back and said, "It's alright, boss. Don't give in to these people. Just change the subject. When we finally nab them, we can handle her properly by then."

"Since you all insist, then we will not go easy on you. Brothers, prepare to move out."

His voice was quite distinct. Everyone was able to hear him clearly. The fight broke out instantly. All of the sudden, both forces were already locked in a battle.

The weaklings were the ones to make their move first. However, the troops from the Sea King's Palace were abundant. Moreover, the Carp tribe was quite decent in terms of power too. They were most suitable to battle in this form. As long as the supreme powerful cultivators were not in the battle, the Carp tribe would still act like an impregnable fortress.

Carps were a symbol of luck, so wherever the tribe went, they would bring good luck according to legend. Unfortunately, the Carps in the World of Nine Continents could still turn into traitors, which was definitely not a lucky symbol.

"I should have allowed the Hundred Slayers Regiment to experience the carnage of the formation and use fresh blood to temper their willpower." Qing Shui said when he saw the struggle in front of him.

Muyun Qingge nodded her head to allow the Hundred Slayers Regiment to enter the battle. In that moment, the battle had escalated. The situation immediately became promising as soon as the Hundred Slayers Regiment charged into the battlefield. Even though the regiment only consisted of one hundred people, they were like an invincible dagger, going into a rampage to secure their triumph.

Qing Shui still felt quite satisfied when he looked at the Hundred Slayers Regiment. The superiority of the Black Scales Mermen had been unleashed completely.

The Black Demon Mermen abruptly burst into rage when they saw the sudden appearance of a hundred Black Scales Mermen butchering their troops. They quickly allowed some of the more powerful Black Demon Mermen to go out for the battle. The amount of these powerful men was not less than three hundred.

The Black Demon Mermen who were dispatched were considerably weaker than Chu Dongri. However, they were still considered to be powerful, even among the Black Demon Merman tribe. They had a high position in the tribe, and most importantly, their potential could grow stronger in the future as well.

Five Elements Formation Destroyer!

The Black Scales Mermen continued to unleash their penetrating attacks against their opponents. In between their assaults, they would change their offensive tactics and switch to defensive maneuvers. Everyone was now able to see that the squad of a hundred people was still in the midst of their altercation. Only a real professional could see how insufficient their cooperative ability was.

The Five Elements formation consisted of five positions. Each of the positions would represent the elements Metal, Wood, Water, Fire, and Earth. Furthermore, each position could be occupied by twenty people. Amongst the five elements, the Black Scales Mermen were represented by water. However, there were some exceptions for those who had cultivated techniques of other elements, which was why all five elements could be occupied completely. Only when all the positions had been occupied would the prowess of the Five Elements formation be unleashed.

Chapter 1586 - Hacked Two People, Shamefully Retreated

No one changed their battle formations just because some of the Black Demon Mermen had joined the fight. The Hundred Slayers Regiment was like a sharp blade. A few False God cultivators in the squad did not partake in the fight but maintained the formation instead to hold the line.

This was so that they could keep the overall situation under control. Once if they had the formation under control would the prowess of the formation be amplified and unleashed.

“Qing Shui, the strength of these hundred troops is more powerful than before.” Yiye Jiange said as she stood beside Qing Shui.

“Your strength has increased a lot too.” Qing Shui said, reflecting on her growth.

Yiye Jiange gave him a side glance. She was aware of what Qing Shui was talking about. Everyday for the past few days, both of them had sex. The miraculous ability of duo cultivation was able to boost both of their strengths, especially Yiye Jiange’s. She was able to reap a benefit much greater than that of Qing Shui.

When she thought of the scenery where both of them were passionately enamored together, Yiye Jiange’s heart beat quickly. A faint shade of red blush appeared on her cheeks as well. This man was quite rough on bed too. He had demanded too much of her.

In the beginning, Qing Shui was fine. As the time went by, Qing Shui would slowly allow her to change into different poses. But now, he would just immediately use a set of techniques and perform them one by one...

This resulted in Yiye Jiange feeling embarrassed and helpless. She liked this man and she couldn't resist the yearning looks in his eyes. Qing Shui loved the way her mesmerizing and voluptuous buttocks would tremble as she moved along with his rhythm.

When Yiye Jiange saw the passion in Qing Shui’s eyes, she would at times look behind for signs of other people. Unable to hold herself back from pinching his waist, she said, “Do you want to die?”

Qing Shui smiled as he watched this little woman blushing from embarrassment, “You are really beautiful!”

Yiye Jiange lowered her head slightly to regain her composure. She was still quite happy deep inside her heart. Women would make themselves pretty for someone they loved. They always hoped that they would be the prettiest woman in front of their beloved man.

“Alright. I say... you two have been together all day and you still feel so coquettish for some reason.” Muyun Qingge smiled as she approached them.

Qing Shui laughed awkwardly, “Are there any movements from the Sunset Palace?”

Yiye Jiange, on the other hand, was smiling with a calm demeanor. There was nothing to be embarrassed about, since her relationship with Muyun Qingge had gone beyond that point. Both of them had even shared a lot personal conversation with each other.

“Not yet, but they will appear sooner or later. I heard that the Silver Battle Crab King tribe is coming this time.” Muyun Qingge was slightly worried when she mentioned the name.

The legacy of the Sunset Palace was much richer than the Sea King Palace's. There weren't many water tribes that could be considered extremely powerful that were under the reign of the Sea King's Palace. Even the previous Sea Dragon and Shark Wolf Palaces had only a handful of powerful warriors on their side.

The Sunset Palace was different. They had an abundant number of powerful warriors. Moreover, some of them even had the bloodline of the ancient battle tribe. This was their dominant asset and a legacy passed down from their lineage. Only if their bloodline was preserved would they be able to pass down their legacies to the next generations.

Qing Shui had heard of the Silver Battle Crab King tribe before. This was an ancient mutated tribe. In the beginning, there were only Ancient Battle Crabs. Once their power had reached a certain level, they would turn into Black Iron Battle Crabs, and after that, Bronze Battle Crabs. This was actually easy to understand. It was just like the human tribe who evolved from being Xiantian to Martial King to Martial Saint. They were all the same.

Above the Silver kind, there were also Yellow Gold, Golden Jade, and so forth. The evolution was endless.

However, each level had its respective kings, and these kings were evidently different than others. To become a king, one had to sacrifice a lot of things. For example, the Silver Battle Crab King could never become a Yellow Gold Battle Crab, but he would never be less proficient than an ordinary Yellow Gold Battle Crab. Moreover, he would always be the king to all Silver Battle Crabs until another Silver Battle Crab King appeared.

Qing Shui was quite curious about this particular tribe. If he were a Silver Battle Crab, he would never choose to become a king. This was only his thoughts. Others would say that it was always better to become a chicken's head than a phoenix's tail. Even a small king was still considered a king, and it would have the aura of a king to their respective kind.

There were too many who strived for the position of the Silver Battle Crab King. This tribe was also a tribe with an enormous population. It would be difficult to increase the power of a cultivator as many had secluded themselves and continued to walk on the old path. Because of the endless realms, many had chosen to remain at their current form. This wasn't necessary a bad thing. Each time a cultivator achieved a breakthrough, their future would become progressively more dangerous. Once they encountered a failure, their previous efforts would be wasted.

"Some of Chu Dongri's brothers have moved." Yiye Jiange reminded him when she saw Qing Shui deep in his thoughts.

"Let the leader of the Clam-men and the leader of the Yasha subdue them. Hundred Slayers Regiment, move out."

Qing Shui was trying to train the Hundred Slayers Regiment, even at this moment. Otherwise, if he didn't, they wouldn't be able to break through his defense, let alone that of their enemies'. In fact, those who could break through Qing Shui's defense were too scarce. He had truly become a real tireless diamond ever since he had obtained the Jade Kirin Dragon Vessel.

Even though the strength of the Sea King's Palace wasn't that powerful, the handful of experts they had called out were still easy to find. Chu Dongri and his other four comrades were powerful, but there were still a few False God cultivators among the Hundred Slayers Regiment too. Under the restraint of the formation technique and Five Elements, they had no chance of fighting at all.

The leader of the Clam-men had killed a middle-aged burly man. It was Qing Shui's first time seeing the leader of the Yasha. Because of his gigantic body, he wouldn't normally appear in any sort of normal banquets. However, he was still immensely powerful.

The Yasha had an ugly appearance and most of the Yasha Tribe were quite hideous too, regardless the gender. However, there were exceptions. The royal family of the Yasha Tribe, Rakshasa, were rumored to be beautiful in both genders. Unfortunately, there weren't any sightings of the Rakshasa in this area.

What had surprised Qing Shui was that the leader of the Clam-men and the leader of the Yasha were actually hidden experts in their respective tribes. Their battle capabilities were extraordinary and were effective against their enemies as well. Both of them had successfully restrained two of the Black Demon Mermen. They did not seek to kill their enemies but to hold them down instead.

The Hundred Slayers Regiment took the lead and aimed for the remaining three Black Demon Mermen.

An earthy air filled the sky!

Suddenly, the Earth element of the Five Elements formation by the Hundred Slayers Regiment shot out a gigantic roll of earthy air, which was aimed toward the opposing forces immediately.

Bang!

A loud explosion ensued. The surrounding area was filled with sandstorms, causing the earth rocks to wreak havoc in the sky. The Hundred Slayers Regiment used the Earth element to build a dragon head. A Rock Dragon then quickly charged into the sky of earth rocks in an instant.

The Black Demon Merman accepted the fight without much thought. While they had been suppressed by the Five Elements, the Hundred Slayers Regiment had received a boost to their attack and their defenses were greatly strengthened as well. Moreover, they were like fish in water as the sky was filled with boundless earth and rocks.

The giant Earth Rock Dragon Claw leapt toward one of the Black Demon Mermen and slashed his body. It opened its gigantic mouth and spit out another roll of earth rocks.

These were essentially the essence of earth rocks. As soon as the essence reached the exterior, it would turn into earth rocks, and would become bigger. The quality of these rocks was the purest of its kind. Once they entered one's system through the mouth, nose, and eyes, the situation would become extremely dangerous. Those of weaker power would immediately explode upon impact.

Suddenly, a sharp earth-yellow colored arrow infused with a dense glow shot out from the Rock Dragon's mouth. In a flash, the arrow pierced through a Black Demon Merman's left eye, entering his brain before the arrow went out the other side. He died on the spot.

This was the Five Elements Earth Essence Arrow!

This was the scenario of a False God cultivator using the formation to restrain the opposing force through a split-second kill. This was the weak overcoming the strong.

When Qing Shui saw this scenario, he laughed. The prowess of the Hundred Slayers Regiment had already taken a sharp form. They would eventually become stronger along with time. The Five Elements formation could virtually change into anything, be it an illusion attack, a combination attack, a convergence attack, and so forth.

The previous defectors from the Sea King's Palace who had seen the situation weren't aware that that such thing existed in the Sea King's Palace. Now that they had seen it, they were boiling with indignation. It should be known that their opponents were cultivators of the False God Expert Level. These were the strong ones from the Black Demon Merman tribe.

Right now, some people were beginning to find out what had exactly happened to the Black Scales Mermen. There was no need to hide this news to the public, so they allowed the others to pass this on. As a result, the Hundred Slayers Regiment instantaneously became famous.

Qing Shui wanted this kind of effect. Not only did the Sea King's Palace have a protector in himself, tremendous support from the water tribe, and other mysterious forces, there were many other things that the opposition forces weren't aware of.

Other than that, Muyun Qingge was from the Drakaina tribe, a tribe of peerless strength. No one really knew if they had a powerful force behind their backs either.

Qing Shui discreetly weakened the strength of Chu Dongri and his comrades, and during a critical moment at that. Because of his timing, another powerful Black Demon Merman died by the hands of a Yasha leader. Those who witnessed that scenario were beginning to palpitate with fear.

This was the loss of a High-Grade False God cultivator, not someone regarded as a chinese cabbage.

The Yasha tribe's loyalty to the Sea King's Palace was undisputed. The Yasha tribe in this area were unpopular, which was true even in other areas as well. This was because the Yasha were just too ugly and horrifying. Moreover, they were savage and aggressive most of the time. However, there were some in the tribe who were able to distinguish between enmity and gratitude, and they were able to return kind favor as well. This was the only redeeming feature of the Yasha tribe.

Muyun Qingge had taken in the Yasha tribe and she had even helped them defeat the Jadewater Clam-men, earning their favorable impression and loyalty.

Qing Shui intentionally helped the Yasha tribe this time because they were the least likely tribe to ever betray the Sea King's palace.

Muyun Qingge looked at Qing Shui as if she was absorbed in her own thoughts. She felt that Qing Shui had made his move, but could not be certain of it. Some of Qing Shui's weakening abilities could be locked in solely with his mind. There was no need to invoke them with specific movements.

When Chu Dongri saw two of his brothers killed in succession, he roared furiously. They had looked down on the Black Scales Mermen and Yasha, but now his men had actually died in the hands of the tribes he had despised.

The Black Demon Mermen had parts of the Black Demon Dragonfolk tribe in their bloodline, which was why in comparison to most of the water tribes, their status was considered more noble. They had always distinguished themselves based on their identity as nobles.

These rebel forces had mainly regarded the Black Demon Mermen with reverence. But now, when they saw the Black Demon Mermen losing harshly, their will to battle suddenly vanished in an instant.

Chu Dongri's strength was powerful. While his people had disregarded the Sea King's Palace, the strength of Qing Shui and the two women had received an enormous boost during that time. Chu Dongri's power had already been exceeded, yet he and his people didn't even know about it. They continued to treat the Sea King's Palace as if the opposition force had no way to take them on.

The cruel reality made him regret everything. He wasn't sure whether the Sea King's Palace would be able to hold against the Sunset Palace, but he knew that he had become a sacrifice for this fight. If he had another choice from the beginning, he could at least be safe even before the destruction of the Sea King's Palace had occurred. Based on his understanding, the Sea King's Palace would not allow the Sunset Palace to torment their people first.

With their morale crippled, the Black Demon Mermen could not withstand the fight any longer. Chu Dongri had no choice but to shamefully retreat with his troops. He didn't want to die, and he didn't want his people to die either. Chu Dongri now understood that the Sunset Palace had allowed rebels like them to loathe and battle the Sea King's Palace in the first place. If they were to sustain heavy losses with the Sea King's Palace at the same time, it would be beneficial to the Sunset Palace.

He had already lost two brothers and he couldn't fight anymore, so he chose to retreat to seek the Sunset Palace for aid.

During the moment when the Sea King's Palace was pursuing them, one of the five brothers of the Black Demon Mermen was killed off while the remaining others fled in horror. Muyun Qingge did not allow her troops to pursue them any longer. Instead, she allowed them to rest up. If it was as she assumed, the Sunset Palace would soon show up to battle.

The Sunset Palace was obviously on another level compared to the Sea King's Palace, or the Sea Dragon and the Vicious Shark Palaces. Some described it as the superior crushing the inferior. In fact, it was more appropriate for this sentence to describe a cultivator's strength. Nearly 99% of the cultivators had the ability to suppress those of lower rank than them.

Chapter 1587 - Off to Meet the Palace Lord of Sunset Palace

Even though rules are rules, sometimes there would be exceptions. This world consisted of five elements, but there were some things which belonged to none of these five elements. Some even belonged to more than one element.

Having more than one element was like a double-edged sword. The more elements one had, the more elements would counter him. At the same time, he would also counter more elements, provided he was strong enough.

For example, no matter how much elemental advantage an elementary level warrior had, he could never win against a Martial King. This was a gap in power, a boundary which could never be crossed. Having an elemental advantage could only overturn situations where both sides were equal in strength.

This was how the world worked. Everything had something it was weak against and something it was strong against. Only a few people managed to transcend this rule.

Qing Shui noticed the lost expression on the Yasha Leader's face, but he quickly recovered. He did not say much after that, and quietly returned to his tribe.

Although the Clam-men leader did not kill his opponent, he managed to restrain him, which was his main objective. His power had always been on par with the Yasha Leader. Previously, he had noticed the Yasha leader's expression and speculated that there was someone strong supporting him.

He was almost sure that Qing Shui was that person. There was something unpredictable about the mysterious Sea King Palace's Guardian. He had managed to impress everyone the last time he showed his powers.

Just as Muyun Qingge said, there were many Aquatics who were loyal to the Sea King's Palace. This was to be expected; people would always aim high. Only idiots would pledge loyalty blindly, but Qing Shui hoped that people would stick to their own principles even when facing more powerful forces.

Everything Qing Shui had done was to maintain the power of the Sea King's Palace and trying to prevent some people from leaving. As long as Qing Shui was here, he would eliminate anyone going against the Sea King's Palace.

Muyun Qingge was smart. Naturally she had figured it out. She was slightly touched, but the fact that this very man had seen and touched her body made her feel weird.

That incident just happened under some special circumstances, so there was not much to say. Even though he was her saviour, it felt uncomfortable to have her naked body seen and touched by a mere friend.

The only reason she agreed was because she knew back then that she was going to die soon. Moreover, it did not seem like she could have prevented the incident given the situation. This made Muyun Qingge frustrated and, for some reason, uneasy as well.

Yiye Jiange also seemed to notice something going on between the two, but she stayed quiet. Some things needed time. Outside interference would only disrupt the rhythm.

What else could happen between a man and woman, other than that... Yiye Jiange only shook her head. This was to be expected when getting involved with such a man. There was nothing strange about other people falling for him, since she herself had also fallen already.

There was a merry mood all over the Sea King's Palace. Everyone had witnessed the Hundred Slayers Regiment's strength. Furthermore, the Sea King's Palace was going to assemble more teams in the future like this. Anyone who had the ability and was capable had a chance.

This filled the men with fervor. Everyone wanted to become stronger because in this continent, power meant everything. Being a part of a group like the Hundred Slayers Regiment meant that they would not

have to worry about pills and battle strategies anymore. Plus, they would be able to learn formations too.

Qing Shui, on the other hand, decided to take a look around. He went somewhere near the Sunset Palace's camp alone. It was quite reckless of him to do so, but he wanted to witness how strong his opponents were.

The underwater tent he saw in the distance was something special. It was made out of a material that could ward off water. The material was thin but sturdy and was mostly resistant to undercurrents.

While he was still quite some distance away, two figures appeared from the water. By now, Qing Shui was already familiar with most of the tribes of the Aquatics and he could tell that the two were Aquatic snakemen. These people resembled humans, but they would still retain some of their original forms.

The two Aquatic Snakemen were in fact, Snakewomen. They had stunning snake-like waists, even more alluring than those of human women. Qing Shui still preferred human women.

The two women had cold eyes, just like those of a snake. Those eyes somehow ruined their beautiful complexions, giving off an unappetizing feeling, as if one was being glared at by a venomous viper.

"Whoever you are, turn back now!" One of them said to Qing Shui.

"This should be the Sea King's Palace territory, right? Who says I can't be here?" Qing Shui said with a smile.

"It doesn't matter whose territory this is. You are not allowed to be here." The woman glared at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui sized up the woman speaking to him. She did not seem to be old, maybe around 30 years old. She was still young and had a more attractive figure than the other woman.

"I would like to speak with the master of the Sunset Palace. Pass this on to him." Qing Shui said in a serious tone.

"Speak with our Palace Lord? She's not someone you can speak with whenever you please." The woman said, still glaring with those cold eyes.

"Tell me. What positions do you two hold? Don't make me beat you into a pulp. I think it would be wise to report to higher ups when there is something you can't handle." Qing Shui replied. He was not angry, but wanted to make the opponent think that he was.

"How arrogant! Let's fight to teach you a lesson." The other woman said all of a sudden. Her voice was not as cold as the former, but was clearer. She seemed to be younger.

Qing Shui said nothing and chuckled. With a flicker, he disappeared and appeared right in front of the two women. He slowly raised his hands, clasping his hands on their throats. His movements seemed slow, but the two were not able to dodge.

Without any other thoughts, he calmly said, "Now do you believe me?"

It was instinctual for demons to bow down to stronger opponents. To them, it was not an act of shame, but one of survival.

"Alright, I believe you. I'll go and report if you'd just let go of me." The older woman spoke.

Qing Shui loosened his grip. He never intended to take their lives either. He just felt like seeing how things played out.

Cough...cough.....

The women tried to regain their breaths and stared at Qing Shui with animosity, reminding Qing Shui not to leave before disappearing into the water.

Qing Shui did not have any intention to follow them anyways. But he knew that he would not get to meet the Palace Lord that easily.

Fifteen minutes later, the two women resurfaced, bringing along dozens of soldiers led by a strong Aquatic Apeman.

"Who's causing all the ruckus here? Don't you know this is the Sunset Palace?" They started the intimidation right off the bat. It seemed like the Sunset Palace had quite the reputation here.

Too bad they were dealing with Qing Shui. It was time to settle things once and for all.

Qing Shui sized up the Apeman. He was around 3 meters high and still retained some ape-like features on his face, but he was already considered a humanoid or an intelligent type of animal.

These tribes did not undergo Form Transformation, as they still retained some of their animal features. Unlike Muyun Qingge, who could be considered completely human, there were few tribes who could really undergo a Form Transformation.

"The only thing I know is that this is the territory of the Sea King's Palace. I sent you to bring your Palace Lord, but you brought me an ape instead?" said Qing Shui.

The Aquatic Apeman became agitated upon hearing Qing Shui's words. He absolutely hated being called an ape, but he managed to contain his anger. He stared at Qing Shui with his reddened eyes, "You have to prove yourself worthy before seeing our Palace Lord. Die!"

The Apeman lunged towards Qing Shui. He was several times larger than Qing Shui. With just one leap, he was already looming above Qing Shui.

He swung his massive arms towards Qing Shui.

Back Connecting Fist!

Qing Shui did not dodge it. Instead, he used Force Thrusting Back Connection and launched his counterattack.

Qing Shui's mastery of the Back Connecting Fist was deep. His arms seemed to extend and landed right on the Apeman's fists. There were the sounds of bones cracking.

The Apeman was sent flying and coughed up some blood. He stared at Qing Shui in disbelief.

"How did you learn our Divine Ape Technique..."

Aquatic Apeman mainly relied on the strength in their arms. They also cultivated the Back Connecting Fist; this was the fist technique passed down by most Ape tribes, but Qing Shui's Back Connecting Fist was different, yet stronger.

Qing Shui understood immediately. To be called a Divine Ape Technique, this technique must be very precious.

The other soldiers rushed into battle, but the Apeman stopped them. He turned towards Qing Shui and asked, "You seriously want to meet with our Palace Lord?"

"Yes. I wonder if this time, my message could be passed to the Palace Lord." Now, Qing Shui was confident that he would be able to meet the Palace Lord of Sunset Palace.

"I'll go report to the Palace Lord, but I cannot guarantee your meeting," the Apeman replied.

"Tell her that the Guardian of the Sea King's Palace wishes to see her." Said Qing Shui. Since he had already started a ruckus, he might as well reveal his identity as a Guardian.

This time, the Apeman returned very quickly. "The Palace Lord says you're welcome to enter, if you have the guts. She will be waiting in the middle tent.

"I accept. Lead the way please." Qing Shui replied courteously.

The Apeman nodded and began to lead the way.

Chapter 1588 - A Confession from the Sunset Palace's Mermaid Princess

Qing Shui was not afraid of any tricks they might have up their sleeves. For a warrior of his level, traps were useless.

As he followed the Apeman, he noticed that many people greeted him respectfully. It seemed like the Apeman had a decent position here.

The surrounding tents piqued Qing Shui's interest. There were tents everywhere as far as he could see, but he did not feel threatened at all.

The Apeman kept quiet and walked hurriedly, followed by Qing Shui. He did not seem to be moving quickly, but he was able to keep up with the apeman rather effortlessly.

"The Palace Lord's tent is just up ahead. I cannot escort you any further, as it is against the rules." The Apeman's tone became polite after he witnessed Qing Shui strength.

Qing Shui did not doubt his words. He could feel a powerful presence from the middle tent. He nodded and started walking towards the tent, but stopped right in front of it.

Then, a soft voice came from inside the tent, "What? Don't tell me you're scared already?" The voice was very soothing. Without replying, Qing Shui entered the tent.

The tent was very spacious. It was lightly decorated with nothing lavish. The interior was mostly grey, with some floating furniture. Overall, it was simple but impressive.

In the tent sat a woman sipping on some tea. Qing Shui could sense that she was strong, but there was also something not quite human. He recalled hearing a rumor saying that the Sunset Palace was ruled by Mermaids.

This woman was probably a Mermaid. She had a slender body with magnificent curves. She looked very sexy even though she was sitting. Qing Shui then looked at her face. It was stunning. She had dazzling eyes and beautiful brows. Her long gorgeous hair was clipped with a blue hairpin, making her look more elegant.

The woman stood up, showing her long, slender legs. She was slightly shorter than Qing Shui. She just smiled at Qing Shui.

"Are you the Palace Lord?" Qing Shui asked with a smile, rather amused.

"Do I not look like the Palace Lord?"

"Not really."

"Take a seat." The woman said and poured a cup of tea for Qing Shui.

"What's with the sudden visit?" The woman continued as she poured the tea. She did not ask Qing Shui for his identity, because she already knew.

"I was just wandering around and somehow ended up here, so I thought of paying you a visit." Qing Shui told the truth.

However, the woman seemed to doubt his words. Well, no one sane would have trusted him straight away with such blithe words like that.

"My, what confidence you have, Master Qing! You came here alone and yet you're not nervous at all." The woman laughed out loud.

"The Sunset Palace is an interesting name, huh? I wonder why it was named so." Qing Shui changed the subject.

"How rude. How could you ignore my question?" The woman seemed to be pouting, but her tone was still gentle.

"There's nothing to be nervous about anyways. Now, I've realized that this is a Mermaid paradise." Qing Shui replied. Even though she was the Palace Lord of Sunset Palace, she was rather charming. He thought it might be a good idea to be a little flirty.

That was what he thought, but the woman did not seem to waver at all. He was surprised at how composed she was. Had he lost all of his charm...?

"Even you are full of lies. I guess good men are now extinct." The woman chuckled at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui paused, then smiled. "You're the first one to say that I'm a good man."

"Oh. Why so?"

"Because I'm a pervert. I can't resist temptations."

"There you go again with your lies. Do you have eyes for your Palace Mistress?" The woman smirked.

"Alright, let's end this topic here. Though I do think that it's time for you to find a man." Qing Shui replied.

The woman was flustered, shook her head and then said, "Let's end this topic then. What business do you have here today? A peace negotiation?" The woman said, still with a smile on her face.

"Well, forget about negotiations. I just came to see what kind of person someone who doesn't go with the flow is. I also want to know what your actual thoughts are and what is it that you really want." Qing Shui said bluntly, but his expression looked like an old friend joking around.

It was the first time someone had ever spoken to her like that. Moreover it was a young man. She didn't lost her cool just like that, but she still felt uncomfortable. No one liked to have their mistakes pointed out. It was not easy to accept criticism positively.

"I don't care how I do things, as long as I get the results. What do you think, Mr. Qing?" The woman was still smiling, but it seemed forced.

"You haven't answered my question. What are your intentions towards the Sea King Palace?" Qing Shui repeated his question.

"The Sea King's Palace destroyed my subordinates, the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace. Do I need any other reason?" The woman glanced at Qing Shui, hoping to see any reaction, but she failed.

Qing Shui shook his head, "There's definitely more to it than just this. Come on, spit it out. I do not wish to settle this unpleasantly."

The woman stared at Qing Shui. This man was not easy to deal with. Not only was he strong, he also had remarkable confidence as well. Such vigor... she could barely hold back the urge to fight him.

She laughed at her own thoughts. How many years had it been since the last time she felt like this, she wondered. Could this be destiny?

However, she did not want to make this man a foe, nor did she want him to kill or hurt her. These feelings inside her grew more and more intense.

He was good at reading people, so he quickly noticed that something weird was going on with her expression. "What's wrong?"

The woman came back to her senses. She quickly recovered, smiled and replied, "Would you believe me if I said that I want you?"

Qing Shui flinched. It was hard to understand a woman's thought process. Most of the time he thought they were just unreasonable and unpredictable.

Puzzled, Qing Shui stared at the woman. He could not help but admit that she was extremely beautiful, even comparable to Muyun Qingge and Yiye Jiange - she was a Mermaid after all.

"I'm being serious here. If you agree to be my lover, I can let go of everything here." The woman said blushing, making her look more attractive.

Qing Shui did not expect this sudden pleasant surprise, and he was not prepared for this. Normally he was the one who made the first move. But this time, the one making a move on him was a mature, elegant and strong, beautiful Mermaid. Plus, she was the Palace Lord of Sunset Palace. Moreover, this was their first time meeting.

"Now, what can you do to make me believe you?" Qing Shui was filled with a sense of accomplishment.

"I'm not a kid anymore, you know. I belong to the proud Mermaid race. You might not believe me but when I look at you I get this nostalgic and familiar feeling, as though I've known you for a long time." The woman said truthfully.

"Only a hero is befitting for a beauty like you. I'm no hero, so I can't accept your proposal." Qing Shui rejected her.

Qing Shui also remembered a rumor saying that she had cast away all romantic feelings ever since she gotten hurt in the past. Although he did not doubt her completely, he had already decided not to be involved with women like this. He already had a lot of women. There were plenty of good women out there, but there was no way he could have them all.

Women always became more excited the more they get rejected [ED note: what...]. The Sunset Palace Lord felt a blow when she realized that Qing Shui was really rejecting her. Despite her killer looks and her cultivation in charm techniques, this was the first time someone had rejected her.

"Am I not beautiful? I know what the rumors about me are, but I can assure you, I have never had a man before. Indeed, I was in a relationship once, but I never even held hands with him. Of course, I have cut off all ties with him ages ago." She said seriously.

"Yes, it's true that you're beautiful. But why would you want a man who can get any pretty lady he sees?" Qing Shui laughed and replied.

The woman paused, then said, "Okay. How about we have a duel tomorrow, just to make an excuse for me to withdraw my troops? This is a one-time offer."

Qing Shui could sense the tension in the air but he kept his smile and said, "Okay then. I will take my leave now."

As Qing Shui was about to exit the tent, a voice rang behind him, "Tomorrow, the Sunset Palace shall bring forth the Silver Battle King Crab."

Chapter 1589 - Battle with Silver Battle King Crab

Without looking back, Qing Shui stopped in his tracks for a brief moment before he walked away with long strides again. Watching his retreating back, there was a trace of perplexing melancholy in the woman's eyes that couldn't be expressed with words.

Qing Shui went back without knowing the woman's name or even knowing if she was the Mistress of Sunset Palace. Perhaps affected by the concept of monogamy in his previous life, he had an innate

phobia towards relationships; to have more than one woman in his life made him feel as though he had wronged them all.

All of his women were outstanding. After some time together, he could also understand the rationale behind Yiye Jiange's choice this time. None of his women would intervene with his relationships; they would settle with minding their own affairs because there was no way they could have Qing Shui to themselves at all times.

Qing Shui knew by now that the thought of gathering them would be a difficult feat, much less living with them under the same roof.

Pushing aside these thoughts, he recalled the Portrait of Twelve Beauties—there was only one left. His view on relationships was ever-changing and at this point, even he wasn't sure about where he stood on them anymore. All that he knew was that he had to evade any more prospective relationships and focus on cherishing what he had now.

Yet, this was just the natural course of life: meeting what you want to avoid, and losing what you want to find.

Qing Shui returned straight to his tent. The two women were still there, seemingly in discussion. Seeing Qing Shui, they greeted him in passing.

"I haven't seen you for half the day. Did something happen?" Yiye Jiange asked when Qing Shui took a seat.

"I met the Mistress of Sunset Palace." Qing Shui replied.

"You met the Mistress of Sunset Palace? What did she say?" Muyun Qingge questioned in shock. If it had been anyone else, she would have assumed he was lying—it was difficult for strangers, especially men, to meet her.

"She said that if I'm willing to wed her, then she'll withdraw all the forces and no longer pursue the matter with the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace."

Muyun Qingge was stunned, then broke into a smile. "I realized you can spout words that are utterly unexpected sometimes. Never in my wildest dreams would I have guessed this. Right, Jiange?"

"I think he's pretty smug at times." Yiye Jiange said with a smile. Neither Qing Shui nor Muyun Qingge could guess what was on her mind.

Qing Shui shook his head in resignation. Even when he spoke the truth, there would always be someone who didn't believe him. "But I rejected her."

"I guessed it right this time." Muyun Qingge said seriously.

"However, she gave another condition. A one-on-one duel tomorrow, and they'll be sending the Silver Battle King Crab. If we win, they'll withdraw temporarily."

Muyun Qingge pondered before speaking up again. "The Silver Battle King Crab is really powerful, even more so than the Violet Crystal Crowned Shark King. They are natural warriors with exceptionally strong combat skills. However, forcing a retreat out of him shouldn't be an issue. I'll fight him this time."

“You’re the Palace Mistress of the Sea King’s Palace. It’ll be beneath your social status to fight.” Qing Shui smiled. Muyun Qingge and Yiye Jiange’s strength shouldn’t be inferior to the Silver Battle King Crab, but it was still hard to tell. They had both improved dramatically since when they fought against the Sea Dragon Palace and the Vicious Shark Palace, especially Yiye Jiange.

There was also the Nine-Headed Crystal Beast. Back then, just by using the Nine-Headed Crystal Beast, they were able to scarcely defend themselves against an opponent on the Violet Crystal Crowned Shark King’s level. Now that their strength had increased this much, perhaps the Nine-Headed Crystal Beast would be able to hitch a victory against Silver Battle King Crab.

Of course, this was just his speculation.

“Then who do you think will be a suitable candidate to fight?” Muyun Qingge looked towards Qing Shui as she asked.

“Me.” He smiled.

“You’re the Guardian of Sea King’s Palace. You can’t get into just any battle you please either. If you were going to do it anyway, then you might as well let me do it.” Muyun Qingge frowned.

“That’s different. As a Guardian, I have yet to develop a reputation; there are many out there who don’t even know of my existence. Which is why, as a Guardian, I will need to participate in battles in order to declare my existence, and prove that I have the ability to protect.” Qing Shui maintained his smile as he said this.

“That sounds good. I have faith in your strength.” Muyun Qingge conceded eventually.

Yiye Jiange, on the other hand, turned her focus towards Qing Shui. “Be careful!”

“Don’t worry, there aren’t many who can kill me now. My greatest strength lies in the fact that I can survive even through the worst beatings.” Qing Shui reassured her through this earnest statement that was somehow also a joke.

It wasn’t long before the news spread: the Guardian of the Sea King’s Palace would be battling the Silver Battle King Crab of Sunset Palace tomorrow. The Sunset Palace would retreat upon defeat, however, if the Sea King’s Palace failed in defeating their opponent, then they couldn’t blame Sunset Palace for being discourteous.

Of course, retaliation was always an option.

“What are your thoughts about the Guardian of our Sea King’s Palace?” Among the martial artists gathered in Sea King’s Palace, someone spoke up.

“Our Guardian is the youngest and also the one with the most potential. Even the Violet Crystal Crowned Shark King and the Golden Sea-Dragon Merman died in his hands.”

“That’s right. I am optimistic about our Guardian.”

“I’ve heard that Silver Battle King Crab of Sunset Palace is from an ancient bloodline. Its might is terrifying. This will be a fierce battle.”

“The Silver Battle King Crab is one of the many skilled warriors in the Sunset Palace. It’s fortunate that it isn’t the Golden Battle King Crab that will be fighting this time. Otherwise, it’d be hard to tell. To be honest, the disparity in might between the Sea King’s Palace and the Sunset Palace is quite large.”

.....

While those warriors were speculating, Qing Shui was entangled with Yiye Jiange. He was head over heels for this gorgeously delicate body. Their soft moans continued filling the air around them as their sweet melody rushed into his ears.

Qing Shui kissed her body over and over again and the intimacy soon led them to their peak.

It was already late into the night when the room quietened down. Yiye Jiange was curled up in Qing Shui’s embrace, her beautiful face donning a blissful expression.

“Qing Shui, are you confident of defeating the Silver Battle King Crab? Why don’t you let me fight instead?” Yiye Jiange’s dazed eyes found their way to Qing Shui.

Qing Shui stretched his arm and gave her perky bottom a light slap. “You’re my woman. Regardless of what happens in the future, I’ll be the one shielding you.”

When they first met, she had been the one to protect him, blocking him from everything that had the power to destroy him. It was from then on that he told himself he would do the same for her regardless of the situation.

“Since that incident at Hundred Miles City, I’ve already decided on protecting you, and I believe I can finally do it now.”

Yiye Jiange let out a small hum at his touch, snuggling up into his embrace as she shut her eyes. The docile look on her face was the insatiable spark that caused Qing Shui to go off once more...

Qing Shui and Yiye Jiange woke up early the next day—or perhaps, it was more accurate to say that they had not slept at all. They chatted with each other until daybreak before deciding to get up.

There was still a little time left before the scheduled battle, but Qing Shui had already arrived at the nearest point to the Sunset Palace within the Sea King’s Palace. They could see each other at this moment. The Aquatics had exceptional sight in water, and for Qing Shui, his Paragon Water Shield allowed him to see just as well as them.

It wasn’t long before a burly man appeared from the opposite side. His figure was peculiar—both his legs were split into two all the way to his knees, and his arms were also split up to the elbow. He was at least three metres in height, having a snow-white body that appeared to have eight limbs.

This was the Silver Battle King Crab, an ancient battle crab. It was one that resembled a person in Qing Shui’s perspective, but not entirely. Seeing it in person, Qing Shui no longer regarded it as a human in the depths of his heart.

“You’re the Guardian of the Sea King’s Palace?” The burly man asked Qing Shui as it reached the center. His voice rang like metal, and his body seemed to be clad in metal-like scales as well.

“Yes!” Qing Shui gave him a once over while he responded.

“Haha, the Guardian of Sea King’s Palace is a young man who isn’t even done with puberty. How laughable.” The Silver Battle King Crab’s voice was thickly coated with scorn.

Qing Shui didn’t react to it, nor did he grow furious with the mockery. There weren’t many who could anger him, and likewise, this was hardly a big deal.

“I wonder if you can still manage a laugh in a while.” Qing Shui smiled.

The Silver Battle King Crab shook his head. “Let us proceed then. I’m going to have a drink when I’m done here. I told them to go ahead without me. I’m going to catch up with them after this.”

With that, the Silver Battle King Crab rose up to the body of water above in order to avoid accidental manslaughter and the destruction of their buildings during the fight.

With a flash of movement, Qing Shui followed after the Silver Battle King Crab and stopped when he was several meters away. It was then that he noticed the four weapons in his opponent’s hand.

Blade, trident, sword and truncheon!

It was the first time Qing Shui had witnessed such a spectacle. It was no wonder the Silver Battle King Crab was the descendant of the ancient battle bloodline; not just anyone would be able to use this many weapons at once.

Qing Shui held his Golden Battle Halberd and focused his might into it. It was his first time facing off with one of such ancient battle species; it was better for him to be safe than sorry.

This was a type of mighty crab species after all.

Affected by the aura the two were emitting, the surrounding water began having gradual changes as well. With a shift of Qing Shui’s conscious mind, the Nine Continents Mountain appeared, rushing towards the Silver Battle King Crab in an attempt to crush him.

While the Nine Continents Mountain’s strength was immense, the Silver Battle King Crab merely lifted an arm and swung the enormous truncheon in his hand towards it.

Bang!

Gigantic waves rolled with the impact and the Nine Continents Mountain was struck out of range. The body of the Silver Battle King Crab glimmered and his huge body moved forward with the movements of his four muscular limbs. In incomparable queerness, he swam towards Qing Shui.

The Silver Battle King Crab’s weapons were strangely in sync as they struck towards Qing Shui, as though it had been cultivated that way. There was a strangeness in the way it moved that was beyond description.

Nine Palace Steps!

Nine Palace Laws!

Qing Shui dodged in haste. He had absolute confidence in his own body but he had never thought it imperative to dodge so quickly. As such, he knew that he would be at a disadvantage sooner or later, and concluded it would still be better for him to lay low.

Art of Pursuing!

Emperor's Qi!

Phoenix Battle Intent!

Seal of Xuantian!

Qing Shui countered in haste and reduced the Silver Battle King Crab's speed and might in an instant. With another shift of his conscious mind, the Nine Continents Mountain struck forth again. At the same time, Qing Shui waved his hand and gathered a gigantic Thorn of Earth, sending it piercing towards the Silver Battle King Crab's body.

Chapter 1590 - Victory, How About Sharing Your Man?

Everything happened in an instant. The Silver Battle King Crab curled up swiftly to protect his abdomen and folded his four sturdy legs. Even the weapons in his four arms were concealed under his body.

Bang, clank!

Though the Silver Battle King Crab was able to block the attack of the Nine Continents Mountain and the Thorn of Earth, Qing Shui's might had increased, so the power of Nine Continents Mountain was not to be underestimated. The Silver Battle King Crab was shoved back by a few dozen meters.

The several dozens of meters couldn't be considered a retreat, for it was only normal to fly back upon impact of an attack. However, the strike had also made Qing Shui realize that the Silver Battle King Crab was not much of a threat to himself.

The Silver Battle King Crab was upset by the attack. The sudden reduction of speed felt as if he was wading through a mire. This could prove fatal especially when up against a powerful warrior.

That wasn't all. Considering his heavy consumption of strength for battle, the 20% reduction had a substantial impact and almost drove him to tears. Sometimes, it wasn't simply death that one feared, it was dying a cowardly death.

If he died in this way... if he was killed in this way, then it really wasn't much of a difference from that.

Ancient Battle Blood!

The Silver Battle King Crab's body glowed white as rings after rings of energy emitted from him. Apart from the Emperor's Qi and Art of Pursuing, any other negative effects on him diminished with the glow. Even the Art of Pursuing only affected him to a normal extent now, but Qing Shui could sense that his weakened state would return in about fifteen minutes.

Still, even this was enough to surprise Qing Shui. The Ancient Battle Blood was powerful indeed; now the Silver Battle King Crab was only under a reduction of 30% in its usual speed, and 20% in its usual might—an improvement from before.

The Emperor's Qi was still as obnoxious as ever. There wasn't anyone who could handle it thus far and it could reduce 20% of his opponent's strength in all cases.

The Silver Battle King Crab watched Qing Shui in horror. The Ancient Battle Blood could last for fifteen minutes and cancel out most negative effects. It could heal him, and even his strength would be increased while under this condition. Only a number of exceptionally stubborn effects wouldn't be cancelled out completely.

He had never encountered this before. Typically, the Ancient Battle Blood would be able to dispel everything and he would be able to end the battle in those fifteen minutes. When he summoned the Ancient Battle Blood, he was no longer afraid of toxins or any other negative conditions, including normal battle techniques and the like. This was the exceptional power of this skill.

Although he was in horror, he knew that the only chance he had to kill Qing Shui was now. If fifteen minutes passed before then, the only chance he would have would be at losing. He's was part of the ancient battle crab bloodline. He couldn't afford to lose to this person. He represented the Sunset Palace in this fight, and so he could only win, but he knew the young man in front of him would be a hard nut to crack.

Ancient Whirlwind Slash!

The Silver Battle King Crab was not holding back anymore. The sound of the blade emitted a zig-zag trajectory towards Qing Shui. The gigantic body whirred towards Qing Shui like a whirlwind.

The four swivelling weapons stirred up three out of five elements, with a phantom shrouding Qing Shui.

This was the Silver Battle King Crab's Sure Kill Heavenly Technique. It could lock onto its target despite burning more strength. The technique could pursue its target until the point of its exhaustion.

Qing Shui held onto his Golden Battle Halberd and struck with his Nine Stances of the Ancient Divine Battle Technique.

The Golden Battle Halberd's attack was the sharpest. Even though it might not be the most powerful, it was the best at stirring up the five elements. Qing Shui's might was pretty decent now, and the power of the strike he unleashed was at the maximum.

Crash!

The Golden Battle Halberd produced a huge silhouette of a golden spear, carrying the imagery trace of a sharp arrow as it penetrated through the Silver Battle King Crab's phantom, bringing about a series of loud crashes.

Qing Shui stumbled back from the tremors. Still he was glad that there wasn't any discomfort in his body, which was now stronger than he had expected. The capability of the Jade Kirin Dragon Vessel was truly terrifying.

Qing Shui's endurance was equally alarming as well and didn't require much consumption of energy. Hence, Qing Shui always had stamina to continue fighting, never stopping his onslaught of attacks...

The Silver Battle King Crab fell back repeatedly. His body hadn't sustained any critical injuries but he felt a surge in his Qi and blood. The fact that even his Sure Kill Heavenly Technique had been blocked had lowered his confidence greatly.

A sense of crisis hit him like never before. He couldn't think about the consequences of failure, nor did he want to die. He wouldn't be able to die in peace in this manner. Fifteen minutes... If he couldn't defeat Qing Shui in those fifteen minutes, then the hope of victory would be slim.

On the contrary, Qing Shui grew even more confident after the attack. Those who are brave felt invincible, and with his strong defense, Qing Shui could exhibit his abilities without reservations. Even though his attacks weren't that powerful, they weren't that weak either. With just his Formations, Halos and his Golden Battle Halberd, his attack would be impressive enough.

Nine Palace Steps!

Nine Stances of the Ancient Divine Battle Technique, Tyrannical Sweep!

The Golden Battle Halberd's steady blow disrupted the attacks from the Silver Battle King Crab, forcing the other party to either endure or dodge Qing Shui's strikes.

Nine Continents Mountain!

The good thing about mental attacks was that they moved as one willed. As long as one had consciousness, mental attacks were usable. The consumption of strength was negligible and without backfire. This was the treasured advantage of the Nine Continents Mountain.

Qing Shui couldn't be bothered with summoning the Dragon Slaying Beast either. It would be such a waste if he didn't use this sandbag to its full extent, showering it in attacks. The amount of killing techniques he could use was as endless as the waves in the Yangtze River.

At this moment, Qing Shui was incomparably relaxed, like he was able to do as he pleased.

While Qing Shui was enjoying the moment, the Silver Battle King Crab was tired of withstanding his blows. The huge body was sustaining injuries in quick succession. There were more than a few times when Qing Shui's attack had even pierced holes through his remaining weapons.

While his weapons were not divine artefacts, they were still of legendary grade. It was now that he truly realized the astounding strength of the young man. However, like drowning amidst huge waves, there was not turning back for him now.

The Silver Battle King Crab was from an ancient battle bloodline; even with his combat skills and endurance, he was still pushed to the extent that he had ran out of breath. Even his strength didn't seemed to be able to catch up with the battle; all four arms and four legs were sore.

How long had it been since he last felt this way? This time, he was already beaten to this state even before the fifteen minutes were up.

He knew that the battle was over too quickly and with his passivity, the exhaustion of strength had greatly increased too. Under the effect of the Ancient Battle Blood, the consumption was thrice the usual rate.

Qing Shui had never battled with such pleasure and even though he took quite a beating in the midst of it, he inflicted more damage in comparison. He was practically unscathed from the attacks he endured, but the injuries on the Silver Battle King Crab were apparent. Not fatal, but still soaked in blood.

The longer he fought, the more courageous Qing Shui got, as though he didn't have the word exhaustion in his dictionary. That wasn't all. The more he fought, the easier it got for him as well, and he could feel his strength increase as the minutes passed.

The people of the Sea King's Palace were cheering loudly and ceaselessly.

"Not only does the Guardian of our Sea King's Palace have the most potential, he is also the strongest. How powerful must he be to defeat the Silver Battle King Crab of the Sunset Palace at such a young age!"

"Exactly! It seems like the Sea King's Palace will rise soon."

"Guardian Qing Shui belongs to the Second Palace Mistress, and only she is a compatible match to this young man."

"What are you talking about? It should be Qing Shui who's a compatible match to our Second Palace Mistress."

"That's right, and the First Palace Mistress isn't inferior to the Second Palace Mistress either. It's only that she didn't have the Immortal Aura. I heard First Palace Mistress fancies Guardian Qing Shui too."

"We better not discuss this. Whether she fancies him or not isn't something we should concern ourselves with. All we need to do is stay loyal to the Sea King's Palace, and work hard for the Sea King's Palace. Only when it's strong can we safeguard our lives and kins."

"That's right, I was born in the Sea King's Palace and I'll stay here as a ghost even after I die."

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On the other hand, the Sunset Palace was dispirited. Even with the crowd of people that gathered, no one uttered a single sound. They seemed to be in disbelief that their Silver Battle King Crab—the strong warrior that they respected so much—was this badly defeated. With the aggravation, they would love to be able to rush forward and knock Qing Shui down.

"Come back, you're defeated. Let's go back!"

An elegant voice sounded and Qing Shui could identify it straight away. It was the Mistress of Sunset Palace.

The Silver Battle King Crab stopped all his movements at the sound of the voice. Although reluctant, rather dying than staying alive like this, he still respected his Palace Mistress. Whatever his Palace Mistress wanted him to do, he would do without a frown or with any objections. All he ever had was given by the Mistress of Sunset Palace, and it was her who saved his life before as well.

Naturally, Qing Shui stopped too.

"We'll withdraw in fifteen minutes. We'll forget about this matter, but if you refuse to accept, you can discuss this with me at the Sunset Palace." The woman didn't speak any more after.

Qing Shui didn't reply either. He knew that this was an excuse for the woman to retreat. Although the Silver Battle King Crab had managed to keep his own life, he still bore a great burden. Even so, it would be hard for him to improve his cultivation any further, so there wasn't much of a sacrifice.

Qing Shui returned without a word. At the end of the battle, the two women returned to the tent, deep in conversation about his fight.

"How strong are you? It seems like we've found a treasure this time." A smile decorated MUYUN QINGGE's beautiful face.

"I told you, I can take a beating, but I'm really not all that strong. Am I really a treasure?" With a smile, Qing Shui looked towards YIYE JIANGGE.

Desolation flitted across MUYUN QINGGE's eyes, but she still managed a grin. "You're Jiange's treasure. She has changed a lot since your arrival. If this goes on, that insatiable spark in her will be buried by you."

MUYUN QINGGE was definitely brave in saying those words, as even YIYE JIANGGE didn't have the words to retort. With a flushed face and an annoyed glance towards MUYUN QINGGE, she retorted. "I told you it's time to find a man."

"How about sharing your man?" MUYUN QINGGE said with a giggle. She had said it as a joke, but that was how humans were. The worse they were at cracking such an obvious joke, the more likely they actually meant something by it.