

Ancient ST 2081

Chapter 2081 - Demon Palace Comes Knocking!

"My dear lady, I can't control it anymore. Since I can't do anything, can't I just think about it?" said Qing Shui while looking pathetically at Shen Huang.

Shen Huang looked at Qing Shui. This man's skin was so thick that he could say such words out loud. He really was shameless...

"Can you be more mature?" huffed Shen Huang, directing her cutting gaze at him.

"I do want to be more mature! Actually, I feel that I'm very mature and very promising. I've kissed lips, and also kissed butt..."

"Why don't you go and die." Shen Huang couldn't take it anymore and thumped Qing Shui. However, she didn't use much force, and instead her soft hand was captured by Qing Shui.

"You're shy," Qing Shui said as he looked at this beautiful woman. He was smiling.

Qing Shui's previous words were really quite powerful, especially the last few, which rendered Shen Huang embarrassed beyond words. At that moment, she saw where he was touching. She knew that he was helping to suck the poison out of her body, but she had no idea where exactly she had been bitten. At that moment, she wanted desperately to take out the Rainbow Divine Dragon to beat him.

"Who are you calling shy? I'm not shy," said Shen Huang softly.

"How beautiful, I'm actually quite tempted. Let me kiss that," Qing Shui said and slowly inched forward greedily.

Qing Shui's actions were actually to give Shen Huang time to hide. It was like those in his past life who said they were shameless. In reality, those who said these words cared the most about their reputations and wanted to save their faces the most. They merely used such a method to silence others and make them feel that they had a thick skin so that they would not be ridiculed, as thick-skinned people would not be affected by insults.

In reality, a lot of people were like that. Take someone overweight for instance. He would frequently talk about his weight, upon meeting and introducing himself, and would state that he was fine with being called a fatty. Actually, this sort of people cared the most about being called fatty. Someone bald, saying that he was unbeatable in intellect and mocking himself, would actually silence many people. This would be done with the intention of not letting others mock him first.

Shen Huang didn't move and merely looked at Qing Shui placidly. With only a few inches between them, Qing Shui couldn't move forward anymore. He didn't know why, but he retreated awkwardly, saying, "We just ate, your mouth smells bad."

"You have evil intentions but no heart to carry them out," muttered Shen Huang lowly.

Naturally, Qing Shui heard her words and longed to pounce forward. In the end, he still controlled himself. There were still official matters to attend to. The two of them sat down in the room. Shen

Huang's brows furrowed slightly, and she said after a while, "Those people are probably here because of the Demon Palace."

"I'm not afraid of them rushing to the Demon Palace. I'm just afraid that they will go to the Phoenix Pavilion once they've discovered that the Palace has been destroyed," said Qing Shui after thinking for a while.

Although Shen Huang's power was quite strong, it still depended on who she was comparing it with. If these people really were attacking the Palace, there was the possibility that amongst them were descendants of the Demon Kings, as Qing Shui knew that they were after the Frigid Jade Stone Bed.

In the Demon Palace, the Frigid Jade Stone Bed was a holy bed and could suppress the demonic tendencies in one's body. With the Frigid Jade Bed, one's demonic tendencies could be suppressed, allowing you to avoid losing your true self while ensuring that the growth of one's abilities would not slow down.

Hence, the Frigid Jade Stone Bed was invaluable in the eyes of the Demon Kings' descendants. Suddenly, Qing Shui's expression changed. He stared directly at Shen Huang unblinkingly.

Shen Huang was scared by Qing Shui's gaze, and asked in confusion, "What's wrong?"

"If I didn't guess wrongly, there's definitely someone in that group who can sense where the Frigid Jade Stone Bed is. We're probably being watched." Qing Shui looked around.

The gears in Shen Huang's mind whirred, and she said softly, "Are we going to see them, or just leave directly?"

"Since we're being watched, we can't leave. If I leave they will definitely go to the Phoenix Pavilion. Why don't we take a look at what they intend to do?" said Shen Huang after thinking for a while.

"Let's go then, they're already waiting for us up there." Qing Shui pointed upwards.

The two of them walked out of the room, and immediately appeared in mid-air. They saw that there were only four people in the vicinity. They weren't surrounding them, rather, they were standing together. Upon seeing Qing Shui and Shen Huang appear, they smiled happily.

"You two know why we're looking for you, right?" The one who spoke was a man wearing a long black coat. His age was indiscernible. He appeared to be very old, yet very young. His eyes were bright and black, attractive but abnormal.

Qing Shui shook his head, "We don't know why you're looking for us. Who are you, do you know us?"

"We don't know you. Something that belongs to us was taken by you at the Phoenix Mountain. We're here so that it can return to its rightful owner," said the man warmly.

Upon looking at Shen Huang, something strange stirred in the man's eyes. It was a kind of astonishment at her beauty and a kind of maniacal greed that was difficult to detect. This kind of gaze didn't induce a great reaction in Qing Shui. It was normal, extremely normal. In fact, such a display was already considered very good.

This showed that this man was very powerful, as anyone who could have such thoughts in front of Shen Huang definitely wasn't normal. Most men, upon seeing Shen Huang, would first be stunned by her beauty, and feel that she was too beautiful. They would then feel that they were completely unworthy of such a woman. Such a woman would never like them anyway, and it would be impossible to have any sort of interaction. Most men would not dare to taint her.

Men who had such thoughts upon seeing Shen Huang usually were of a high caliber, except for the few arrogant boneheads out there. This man definitely was not of the latter.

"I can feel that what we're after is with this young lady. This thing is very important to us, and I hope that this miss can return it to us." The man was extremely polite.

"I say, Tong Yuan, did you get any ideas because you saw this girl's beauty? Why are you wasting your saliva? Just snatch her. If you'd like you can even grab the girl," said a slightly plump fatty.

This man looked ugly and ferocious. Some overweight men looked like Buddhas, giving one a good impression and making you feel close to them. However, this man just made people feel disgusted. He had triangular eyes, droopy eyebrows, and his nose was a lump of flesh. When he spoke, his mouth was like a small tub, though his teeth were very white. However, they were sharp and uneven and he had about one-third more the number of teeth a normal person had. Looking at him really made people uncomfortable.

"Tu Fu, I've taken a fancy to this woman. I want to marry her and I forbid you from talking nonsense." said the man without looking back.

"This woman is worthy of you. I don't object to you marrying her. This is a true lady amongst women." spoke one of the four men, one who looked callous and unfeeling.

The last man was a middle-aged man, who didn't have any distinguishing features. Standing there, it was easy for him to be forgotten. He stood at the very back and appeared to blend into the surroundings. He was obviously present, but there was a sort of strange feeling that there was no one there.

The one Qing Shui took special notice of was that man. This was the Heavenly Dao Realm, coincidentally the one that Qing Shui had broken through. He knew this person's history; he was an assassin descended from the Demon Kings.

The Shadow Demon King's descendant.

As expected, they were the descendants of Demon Kings and these people were a lot more powerful than other Demon King descendants that Qing Shui had met before. Compared to Qing Shui at present, their power on the surface level was strong. A Battle God descendant and a Demon King descendant coming into conflict, each would naturally have their own trump cards, and terrifying ones at that.

Chapter 2082 - Fighting Against The Sword Demon Inheritor, Tong Yuan

Qing Shui took a look at the situation and felt that Tong Yuan was the scariest of the group. He was the Sword Demon Inheritor, as well as the leader of the bunch. He wasn't the only Sword Demon, but the most powerful Sword Demons may have been the pinnacle existences of the Demon King's palace.

That Tu Fu was also an inheritor of the Demon King, the Blood Butcher Demon King's Inheritor. As for the cold, callous youngster, he was the Arrow Demon's Inheritor.

The appearance of four Demon King Inheritors at once was surprising.

Shen Huang looked at Qing Shui. She also thought that they would be difficult to deal with. Most importantly, Tong Yuan was checking out Shen Huang, and Qing Shui was not happy about that at all.

"We don't have anything that you want. As for you, don't get any ideas about my woman. If not I will cut your thing off and make you a eunuch," said Qing Shui with a smile, as he looked at Tong Yuan.

Shen Huang was silent but didn't object. Even though she knew that Qing Shui was just using it as an excuse, it still made Shen Huang anxious and her heart started beating very fast. The way she looked at Qing Shui was slightly weird as well. The way Shen Huang looked at Qing Shui, exuded tenderness, making Tong Yuan uncomfortable. The woman he fancied was looking at another man tender-heartedly; it was only natural that he felt uncomfortable.

"Haha, your woman? Let's not talk about that. Even if she was indeed your woman, as long as I fancy her, you'd better obediently concede her to me. Furthermore, I am determined to get that Cold Jade Stone Bed. Young man, those who are envied often get hurt. If you don't want to die you'd better not take the treasure. If it was taken by people without actual strength, it would be like inviting a disaster." Tong Yuan looked at Qing Shui overbearingly.

"Another dumbass, I overestimated you," hearing Tong Yuan, Qing Shui replied dumbfoundedly.

Qing Shui's reply also made Tong Yuan dumbfounded. It had been a long time since someone had spoken to him so rudely. Yet to have such an inexperienced and immature rascal call him a dumbass, he was livid, especially taken aback and speechless.

Tu Fu laughed, "Tong Yuan, I think the longer we live, the further back in time we go. Being youthful sure is invigorating, to have no fear of anything. If only they knew who we were, then they wouldn't have the guts to treat us this way."

The young Arrow Demon was smiling as well, "Today is so interesting. Not only have we found the Cold Jade Stone Bed, but we also found these two amusing people."

While the Shadow Demon remained silent, the Sword Demon seemed like the most powerful combatant out of them all. But in battle, it was difficult to tell who was the most powerful. When death came in an instant, the difference in perceived ability wouldn't be that great then.

"Aren't you guys just Inheritors of Demon Kings? Do you really think of yourselves as big shots? If you're sensible, get lost now! Otherwise, you won't be able to move even if you wanted to later," said Qing Shui without hesitation.

This time, the group was shocked as they were looking at Qing Shui. He knew who they were yet still dared to speak like that. It was either he was very strong or he was a fool. Qing Shui didn't appear to be a fool, could he be secretly gifted?

"Who are you? How do you know who we are?" The Butcher was shocked, then shot Qing Shui and Shen Huang a vengeful look.

"I knew in one look. Do you feel as though the Northern Blue Domain has no one who can oppose you, so you can do whatever you want? Just wait for the battle to see my power." Qing Shui smiled as he said it. In a while, his abilities would reach its peak.

The Battle God Halo and Formations began to boost his strength.

Shen Huang was also looking at Qing Shui with a shocked expression. This rascal had a ludicrous arsenal. Feeling the boost in strength, Shen Huang felt more confident as well. Now her power had reached terrifying levels; she had activated the Flower Storm Strangling Formation. In her hands, she was wielding the gorgeous flower swords.

Qing Shui went directly for Tu Fu.

Tong Yuan and his gang naturally would not be afraid of Qing Shui and Shen Huang. He laughed as he drew an azure longsword. Qing Shui could immediately tell that this weapon was special.

Coldfrost!

This was a very powerful sword; it was an ice-type longsword. However, the vitality of it astonished Qing Shui. Qing Shui immediately knew that he was a formidable opponent. Luckily, Qing Shui's Nine Yang Physique countered most of the ice-based attributes.

"Come on! You all should attack together!" Qing Shui drew his own Golden Battle Halberd as he mocked them.

Qing Shui wasn't exactly trying to goad them since he still hadn't used his Demonic Beasts. Qing Shui could only have a rough sense of how strong they were. He was unable to have an accurate sense of their strength.

"Even though I know that you're trying to goad me, I never placed any importance to whatever you said. I individually challenge you to a duel, between masters. I do not want to bully a woman." Tong Yuan lifted his longsword and stepped forward.

His one step seemed as though he had stepped past heaven and earth; it was a strange feeling. Qing Shui thought about it. In the world of footwork, it was close to the Eight Trigrams Steps. Moreover, in terms of speed, he was on par with Qing Shui.

"Okay, then we will first fight one round to the death, what do you think?" Qing Shui grinned as he asked.

Tong Yuan also grinned and nodded, "Just up my alley."

"Please!"

Once done, Qing Shui flew off the ground; Tong Yuan was close behind him. He said, "Let's go!"

9th Lotus Manifestation Stage!

Nine spinning lotuses appeared over Qing Shui's body. They were all spinning in different directions, creating a terrifying aura of death.

The silhouette of 3 swords appeared around the Sword Demon, all suspended around Tong Yuan's side, displaying a chilling aura in the air.

Qing Shui was careful. This person's abilities were far superior to his; he could not afford to continue hiding any of his abilities. Using the Art of Pursuing, he attacked and followed it up with Emperor's Qi.

Tong Yuan's speed was reduced by half and his abilities reduced by two folds in just a short while. It was very uncomfortable for him, especially the lack of speed. In a battle, speed was more important than one's abilities. Without speed, it would be very difficult to hit the opponent. No matter how strong one was, it was useless if you couldn't hit your target.

Tong Yuan was not happy about it. By taking a deep breath, his power immediately improved by 2 times, recovering back to his previous state. However, he was still unable to recover his speed. After that, his longsword flew towards Qing Shui.

A sword from the West!

It was very obvious when a real expert struck. Qing Shui watched as the longsword flew towards him. He suddenly felt that he had nowhere to run. This was its purpose, its advantage. The longsword was coated with a devastating layer of cold air. The air that came into contact with it all got frozen immediately.

Qing Shui turned his Nine Yang Force to its peak. His Golden Battle Halberd was set ablaze, spitting out bright flames. His Nine Stances of the Ancient Divine Battle Technique merged the strong points of his weapons and sent them to attack.

Ding!

Qing Shui was dealt a clean blow. The result was to be expected. His strength was inferior to his opponent. The only thing that could weaken him was the Emperor's Qi and the Art of Pursuing. The Heavenly Talisman and Vajra Subdues Demons also could do so, but they had little to no effect. The main problem was that his opponent was too strong. Weakening his opponent this way was not as effective as using Emperor's Qi and the Art of Pursuing. The opponent could easily get rid of the minor effects with some special powers.

Therefore, Qing Shui decided not to use those. But he still had his Battle God Halo and Formation. They weren't absolutely effective against every enemy, but they were still very powerful, especially with Qing Shui's modifications to the Halo. These things were not able to go through all defenses, but it would do.

Chapter 2083 - Area Dominance, Continental Frost Sword

The frigid Qi flew along the Golden Battle Halberd as it rushed back to Qing Shui, assaulting him relentlessly. He broke into a cold sweat before a fiery energy within him neutralized it.

Tong Yuan wasn't much better off. When two diametrically opposed energies clashed, nobody got off easy. Qing Shui's Primordial Flames were also exceptionally tyrannical, overcoming the natural phenomenon of Water countering Fire. Otherwise, a normal flame wouldn't affect Tong Yuan.

Tong Yuan's eyes lit up as he noticed that Qing Shui was perfectly fine, then his sword struck out again.

Whirlwind Sword Shadow!

Tong Yuan's sword was akin to a black hole, tearing through the atmosphere as it charged towards Qing Shui to deliver a fatal blow.

This was a strange land. Its soil and even atmosphere were far tougher than anywhere else in the Nine Continents. Tearing open a black hole large enough to glance at was as easy as flipping one's palm elsewhere, yet forming even a hint of such a black hole here was an astronomical task.

Being able to do this, Tong Yuan's strength was horrifying, even frightening Qing Shui. A mighty warrior could subjugate ten skilled warriors. Once one's personal strength reached a certain level, no amount of skills could bridge such a gap. Skills were still an important factor in allowing David to overcome Goliath, but there was a limit to everything.

Area Dominance!

Qing Shui understood that the gap between them was far too massive. Simply using skills was insufficient and not using his weakening techniques was simply foolish.

Area Dominance; its greatest effects were in the area of detoxification, the clearing of one's mind and even removing some negative effects, such as being weakened, poisoned or slowed. It could even negate the benefits of an opponent's strengthening techniques, but it only negated it by half.

Qing Shui then began applying Area Dominance on Tong Yuan!

Other than increasing a target's speed and strength by 20 percent, it could also decrease a target's speed and strength by 20 percent!

The Area Dominance being applied on Tong Yuan was naturally of the latter kind.

The strength that he had recovered had immediately been debuffed by Area Dominance and the weakening had become even more intense. His strength and speed had been decreased by 30 and 60 percent respectively.

Weakening his speed by half was crippling his battle prowess and caused Tong Yuan to panic. It was as though he were wading through mud and at this level, he simply looked foolish.

Tong Yuan began to feel fear, as his opponent had displayed some special methods before, but he was confident that he was on the verge of breaking through the opponent's defense with the previous attack and if he displayed his killer move, he could end the battle.

However, before he could display his killer move, his speed had already been reduced to a crawl.

Tong Yuan collected himself as he avoided any more rash attacks, gripping tightly onto his Continental Frost Sword that was glistening like ice at the exterior. His eyes brightened as his slow footsteps carried an indescribable rhythm.

In a single step, the air seemed to coalesce as the atmosphere intensified.

Qing Shui was stunned. This was the Heaven Suppressing Steps!

It had a similar effect to the Seven Steps Nine Palace Crush, but it had a far more profound effect.

Qing Shui's expression broke out into a smile as he retraced the Nine Palace Steps.

Qing Shui's speed was far superior to Tong Yuan's as he was utilizing the steps. Many people were stunned as they saw Tong Yuan fall down upon making his fifth step. The surroundings began to crackle with each step that Qing Shui took. Tong Yuan's shadow was suppressed.

Nine Palaces Break!

Tong Yuan fell directly to the ground. His plan was thwarted, but he remained unharmed. He was simply startled by Qing Shui, "You also know the Heaven Suppressing Steps."

"Mine are not the Heaven Suppressing Steps. I simply crush the heavens." Qing Shui smiled.

"I don't deny that you are a formidable foe, especially your control abilities. However, our battle has not ended. You cannot beat me." Tong Yuan's eyes shone with a glint of determination as they turned pitch black.

"I'll show you what happens when a Sword Demon rampages."

Tong Yuan's pupils turned jet black as the three sword shadows hovering around him merged into the Continental Frost. Qing Shui clearly felt the surge of Tong Yuan's strength and speed, with his overall strength being even higher than his initial strength.

Qing Shui did not dare to be careless. As he wielded the Golden Battle Halberd, he immediately used the Buddha Wisdom and the Diamond Seals.

Qing Shui's body was illuminated with pure, radiant light as his defense skyrocketed to a terrifying level, minimizing damage and effectively mitigating his opponent's attacks.

Buddhism was a school of benevolence and its best techniques were all about strengthening one's self-defense, forgoing attack for absolute control and defense.

Sword Demon Intent!

Tong Yuan darted around sneakily. The Continental Frost Sword was sending out a net-like wave of sword shadows at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui could detect a mysterious power hiding amongst the sword shadows, slithering like a snake stalking its prey. Suddenly, his eyes glowed with a golden glint!

Heavenly Vision Technique!

Qing Shui saw the rain of sword shadows congeal into a single sword shadow, manifesting into an ice dragon charging towards him.

Paragon Strike!

Qing Shui's Golden Battle Halberd struck his target, the reverse scale of the ice dragon. As a brutal force surged forth in an unstoppable torrent, Tong Yuan's face turned pale. After all, this level of strength far exceeded his expectations and it was even aimed at the vital spot of the dragon.

Qing Shui's attack was nothing special. It was not comparable to Shen Huang and the others present. It was only 100 million or so Dao Force and his Paragon Strike could just barely bridge the gap, but Qing Shui's Heavenly Dao Realm was far superior to theirs, giving him a significant advantage.

Hong!

Tong Yuan spat out a mouthful of fresh blood as he was forced back. He even released the Continental Frost sword which prompted Qing Shui to just go and grab it. It was cold on the first contact, yet exuded boundless warmth.

The sudden change stunned everyone, including Shen Huang. Though everyone saw Tong Yuan's weakened speed, his secret move had already seemed to neutralize the debuff. Yet, while Tu Fu and the others were calming down, with Shen Huang beginning to worry, the fight was concluded at lightning speed.

The result was even more shocking as Qing Shui emerged unharmed. On the other hand, Tong Yuan was severely injured. He already fainted. Even if he escaped from the jaws of death, his recovery would also take a long time and whether his future cultivation was affected remained to be seen.

Qing Shui threw the sword into the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal as he charged towards Tong Yuan with the Golden Battle Halberd.

"You've already won. Do you need to be so cruel?" A cold voice rang out as a shadow appeared next to Tong Yuan, glaring at Qing Shui with a raging killing intent.

It was the taciturn Shadow Demon.

Chapter 2084 - The Terrifying Shadow Demon, Competing Speed in Shadow Demon Fists

His speed was incredible, even surprising Qing Shui. Qing Shui looked at his opponent and said, "We've already agreed before that it's a fight to the death."

"He's already lost," The Shadow Demon King's descendant said firmly.

"Oh, he has? Then forget it. My lady, let's go!" Qing Shui smiled, turned and started walking away.

"Hold it!"

Qing Shui looked back at the Shadow Demon King's descendant, confused. "Is there anything else?"

"Hand over that sword and the Frigid Jade Stone Bed. I will not pursue the matter of you hurting Tong Yuan if you do so," The Shadow Demon King's descendant said matter-of-factly, looking at Qing Shui.

"This is mine. No one can take what's mine from me," Qing Shui stared back at him and replied.

"In that case, I will have to try."

This Shadow Demon King's descendant was straightforward. The moment he said he would act, he began his attacks. His figure immediately appeared beside Qing Shui, punching towards Qing Shui, aiming directly at his head. If this punch made contact with Qing Shui, it would definitely result in a quick death.

Though his speed was downright ridiculous, Qing Shui revolved the Heavenly Vision Technique to its peak immediately, and shifting oddly, he managed to avoid the punch.

This had surprised the Shadow Demon King's descendant who believed that it was impossible for Qing Shui to avoid his Shadow Demon Punch.

The Shadow Demon Punch was the fighting technique that was used the most by the Shadow Demon King. Trained to its maximum, this fighting technique and footwork could make one practically invisible. Killing someone could be done without any difficulties, and someone of equal strength would not be able to avoid the Shadow Demon King's punch, much less Qing Shui, whose abilities were far from the Shadow Demon King's.

Speed was power. Moreover, the Shadow Demon King's descendant had power as well. That casual punch of his already had the effect of rendering one powerless. It was too fast and too vicious, and if one got hit, there was no possibility of staying alive.

Qing Shui's body was already soaked in cold sweat and he quickly used the 9th Lotus Manifestation Stage. Previously, he had kept it away as he didn't take the Shadow Demon King's descendant seriously. Although he knew that he was swift, he didn't expect him to be that agile. In that sense, he had been careless.

The 9th Lotus Manifestation Stage could resist, spin around, and strangle nearby beings, buying time for Qing Shui. It was best for facing such monstrous speed. If he had just used the 9th Lotus Manifestation Stage previously, he might not have been reduced to such a pathetic stage now.

Luckily, there was still the Heavenly Vision Technique. Otherwise, his first move would have to be to use the Paragon Golden Armor.

Art of Pursuing, Emperor's Qi, Area Dominance!

Qing Shui didn't mess around and hurriedly unleashed these onto the Shadow Demon King's descendant.

The Shadow Demon King's descendant looked at Qing Shui with disdain as a milky white halo appeared on his body. He looked at Qing Shui, slightly surprised. The suppression exerted on his body could only be blocked a little.

However, the Shadow Demon King's descendant didn't panic. Instead, he raised his hand, and a gust of wind-like energy blew towards Qing Shui. He wanted to duck, but was too slow and got hit by it. It was as if his body had been filled with lead and he felt extremely heavy. However, the white qi let off by his body had allowed him to recover rapidly.

Area Dominance was still stronger. Qing Shui slowly felt his body recover.

The Shadow Demon King's descendant was utterly unaware that his secret arts had been neutralized.

Qing Shui was also inwardly shocked. Not only the Shadow Demon King's descendant was already so overwhelming, but he also had occult sorcery to weaken the opponent's speed while increasing his own. Furthermore, he had more than one way of doing so.

It was a pity that it had been neutralized by Qing Shui's Area Dominance. This made the Shadow Demon King's descendant feel despair to the point where he wanted to vomit blood. It was like two people

fighting, where the opponent's knife had easily slashed your own into pieces. Now, to fight against an opponent wielding a knife with only your bare hands, it was natural to despair.

Qing Shui's speed had already become exceptional, especially now that the formation and the Battle God Halo were used to increase speed, standing at the Speed Position. Qing Shui's speed slightly exceeded that of the Shadow Demon King's descendant.

At this moment, two daggers appeared in both the Shadow Demon's hands.

One was black as coal, the other white as snow: A pair of Yin Yang daggers!

Qing Shui didn't expect these people to have some pretty decent weapons. However, if he thought about it, it wasn't such an unusual thing. At this a degree of skill, it would have been strange not to have appropriate weapons.

Both the Buddha Diamond Seal and the Buddha Wisdom Seal hit out again. This form of Buddha Ultimate Art, even if only used once, could persist for a while. Although it wasn't very long, it was very powerful in return. However, the energy it sapped was also considerable and the more powerful the Buddha Ultimate Art, the more energy it would require. Apart from passive battle techniques, there were a lot of things with zero energy consumption.

Qing Shui's had ample Origin Qi Energy and he wasn't worried that he would grow weak later on. Moreover, his body's recovery ability was strong. With the Yin Yang Image and the Arhat Rosary Beads, the mental energy sapped from Qing Shui could be reduced by more than seven times. Although Qing Shui's body at present couldn't continue indefinitely, even when using his Origin Qi Energy at full strength, he could still continue on for two to three days. It was quite scary.

Qing Shui immediately moved into action and waved the Golden Battle Halberd in his hands.

Buddha Bright Seal!

The Shadow Demon's body split strangely into three, though with Qing Shui's Heavenly Vision Technique, he could easily tell which was his original body. However, what happened after that would be a surprise as even if he hit the original body, the body and another illusory shadow would disappear, leaving behind an illusion as the original body. It would then transform again into another three. Even knowing this, Qing Shui still continued charging toward them.

Qing Shui was sweating. A droplet of sweat flowed into his eye, causing him to momentarily close his eyes. It was at this point that the Shadow Demon began his moves. Although his speed wasn't as fast as before, it was still hard to counter, especially as he was fighting with care.

Spiritual Sense!

Then, Qing Shui's Spiritual Sense opened and he could clearly see the three figures coming to attack him.

While using his Spiritual Sense, he could still use his Heavenly Vision Technique, and directly following that, Dragon-Capturing Hands.

Qing Shui thought previously that this Shadow Demon definitely had treasures on him, or else he wouldn't be this strangely powerful.

Pa!

The Dragon-Capturing Hands had grabbed onto the Shadow Demon's original body. However, he still became one as normal and attacked once more. This time, he didn't turn into three figures.

Shadow Demon Absolute Annihilation!

Pu!

A ray of golden light appeared along with the Paragon Golden Armor. Qing Shui was very calm at that moment. In the instant that the Yin Yang Duality Daggers materialized, they gouged forth with an incredibly ferocious speed.

A mocking smile formed on the Shadow Demon's face. A single word left his mouth.

"Die!"

When the golden light appeared, the Shadow Demon instinctively knew that he was going to be hit. He began to backtrack while flipping the dagger and aiming it directly at Qing Shui's throat.

Beng!

There was a low ringing sound. This time, it was Shadow Demon who felt dizzy. As swiftly as a spark of lightning, Qing Shui elbowed the Shadow Demon's Taiyin Acupoint. This was the death acupoint and the one that would stun his nervous system.

The hit came with the force of trying to split a mountain from afar.

Cloudhand, Quchi Acupoint!

Golden Battle Halberd, Baizhan Acupoint!

Qing Shui's movements were as fast as a spark of lightning. The dizziness from the Gouging Strike had passed, but his body still felt impossibly stiff, as if it didn't belong to him. His strength greatly eclipsed his opponent's. If they were equal in strength, he couldn't even count the number of times he would've died.

However, he was much stronger than this youth. This youth couldn't even break through his own defenses, but his body now was rigid and he could only take a beating. This young man's strength was quite unusual. He was actually able to hit his body, causing his internal organs to suffer injuries. Not only was he bleeding internally but his organs had also been impacted, though it appeared as if he wasn't hurt at all.

: The name 'Shadow Demon King's descendant' felt long so from now on, 'Shadow Demon' would directly be used. 'Battle God's descendant' would also become 'Battle God'. Although they technically were descendants, they are basically Battle Gods and Demon Kings at this point.

Chapter 2085 - When Shen Huang Strikes, Complete Annihilation

Qing Shui ended the Shadow Demon in one blow. Against such an opponent, one had to be merciless. A single fight would consign them to damnation, leaving Qing Shui no choice but to never allow them to survive.

Even though the Shadow Demon's cultivation was not entirely destroyed, his cultivation had been severely set back. Furthermore, it would be impossible to recover to its original state as well as leaving hidden wounds. He would have no future as a warrior and most likely meet a tragic end.

In just a while, two opponents were defeated which made Tu Fu and that young man astonished. At this moment, they saw Qing Shui as a formidable foe as he couldn't have gotten lucky twice. They began their retreat.

The young man suddenly drew his Violet Gold Dragon Snake Bow with determined eyes, his gaze tightly locked onto Qing Shui.

Tu Fu's eyes seemed even more fiendish, looking at Qing Shui with indescribable hatred. The stalwart Tu Fu held a pair of axes in his hands. Though the axes appeared normal, Qing Shui knew that this pair of axes were anything but ordinary.

"Are you two trying to rob me?" Qing Shui put up a tough face as he looked at Tu Fu and the young man.

"Messing with our Demon King's palace, you will die a terrible death." Tu Fu glared fiercely at Qing Shui with his triangular eyes.

Qing Shui's 9th Lotus Manifestation stage continued rotating with the Arrow Demon staring him down. He had already used the Nonet Golden Lotus Armor. The next fatal attack would put him in grave danger. Furthermore, with the Arrow Demon's powerful killing move, Qing Shui would not even be able to avoid it.

Upon hearing his opponent's words, Qing Shui's face turned pale. The Battle God Palace and the Demon King's Palace were opposing forces. He had never planned to kill these people since killing them with his abilities might cause even more trouble. However, it seemed as though he had no choice but to kill them or be killed himself.

"Let's see who will die today." Qing Shui said as he looked at the young Arrow Demon.

Die!

Tu Fu let out a battlecry as his body size doubled. A gigantic fatso swung his pair of enormous axes around and rushed toward Qing Shui.

A strong binding force trapped Qing Shui, akin to being trapped in a gigantic net.

At this moment, the Arrow Demon swiftly cocked his bow and shot his arrows at Qing Shui.

Each arrow looked like a dazzling shooting star that headed for Qing Shui.

Qing Shui's expression changed but at the same time, Shen Huang's silhouette flashed and appeared beside Qing Shui. She immediately drew her flower sword and deflected the arrows that were headed for Qing Shui.

The arrows flew into Shen Huang's Flower Storm Strangling Formation and had a large part of their killing ability removed. One strike from Shen Huang's sword and the arrows all broke apart.

Right at this moment, Tu Fu's enormous ax fell toward Shen Huang.

“Qing Shui, leave these two to me.”

Shen Huang then swung her Flower Sword at the enormous ax, the Flower Storm Strangling Formation around her forced Tu Fu to stumble backward.

Shen Huang’s powers, with Qing Shui’s assistance, had become a force to be reckoned with. Compared to her opponents, she was much stronger. Additionally, with Shen Huang’s amazing skills, it was easy for her to deal with these people since they couldn’t break the Flower Storm Strangling Formation.

Shen Huang’s Flower Storm Strangling Formation was much stronger than the previous Flower Demon. It would take someone more powerful or through resonance to break this formation.

Peng!

Shen Huang’s ability could easily deal with strong weaponry such as the Tu Fu’s ax. It blocked the ax’s strike, nearly causing it to fly out of his hand.

Tu Fu and the Arrow Demon knew that they were no match for this woman. Just as Tu Fu thought of retreating, a streak of rainbow flashed, then disappeared. Tu Fu felt a cold breeze on his neck, then lost his senses.

Rainbow Divine Dragon!

This was the Rainbow Divine Dragon revealing itself. This rascal was not small now, but since only its wrists were thick, it looked exquisite. Qing Shui immediately thought of that snow-white butt, and could not help but to look at the snow-white butt that was under the Luan Phoenix Dress. The shape was not pompous, but the curves were astonishing. The way it was raised made Qing Shui a little parched.

As though she felt Qing Shui’s passionate gaze, Shen Huang suddenly turned backward and shot him an annoyed glare. She had picked up on Qing Shui’s dirty thoughts.

Shen Huang suddenly rushed toward the Arrow Demon, and her silhouette simultaneously rushed forward as well. She elegantly evaded the arrows that the Arrow Demon shot while retreating.

Shen Huang had evaded the arrows smoothly, as if she could read the Arrow Demon’s thoughts. This was the exact advantage of knowing one’s opponent’s thoughts on the battlefield. This was an example of how knowing oneself and the enemy can ensure victory.

Qing Shui conveniently applied his Art of Pursuing and Emperor’s Qi on the Arrow Demon which almost made the Arrow Demon fall over. He then simultaneously sent Area Dominance toward Shen Huang and the Arrow Demon.

Area Dominance could increase or decrease the target’s speed and power by two times, all within Qing Shui’s choice at the moment.

The Rainbow Divine Dragon struck again and the Arrow Demon immediately fell. It had a strange poison that caused its opponents to lose their ability to fight, and they would die if aid was not given within a moment. It could detoxicate with just a drop of its own blood. Perhaps Qing Shui could do so as well, but it was difficult to say.

The Rainbow Divine Dragon was not like itself in the beginning. It was much stronger now. Furthermore, Shen Huang was not actually bitten with venom. It was an act to recognize its owner. So even if Qing Shui did not suck out the venom, she would be fine. In the first place, this type of venom could not be sucked out.

Tu Fu and the Arrow Demon were doomed, especially Tu Fu. He had committed way too many evil acts. The Arrow Demon's abilities were actually quite something, especially since he was capable of shooting arrows while hiding. However, it was unfortunate that he had met Qing Shui and Shen Huang, who could easily block the batch of arrows he shot.

The Arrow Demon and Tu Fu ended up in pathetic states with one tied up, the other nearly dead. The Tu Fu's bind was a vital skill. Typically, they would be bound while trying to attack and end up being smashed by his gigantic ax.

The thing that took people by surprise was when they escaped death but badly hurt, losing their opportunity. Furthermore, Tu Fu had a continuous chain of fatal attacks, establishing some control through his overbearing attacks, making it an overwhelming mace. Sadly, he died before he could even use it.

After killing Tu Fu and the Arrow Demon, it was only natural that the Shadow Demon and Sword Demon had to be killed as well. This task was left up to the Rainbow Divine Dragon torching this place to ash, leaving no traces. Qing Shui then brought Shen Huang to an isolated place.

Shen Huang took out the Frigid Jade Stone Bed.

Qing Shui used his Heavenly Vision technique and saw that the Frigid Jade Stone Bed had a frozen drop of blood underneath it. It was the Demon King's Blood left behind by the former Demon King. Only those who were Demon Kings could feel the Frigid Jade Stone Bed, or maybe they felt that they could not break the formation, but there should have been someone watching them. Hence, once Qing Shui broke the formation, a few of the Demon King's men came chasing after. It was a pity that they were not strong enough, or it could be called unlucky. If Qing Shui's Heavenly Dao did not break through, he could not have fought against any of them. However, Shen Huang was there, ensuring a safe ending.

Chapter 2086 - Qing Shui, I Can't Lose It

He raised his arm to circulate the Nine Yang Force. With the Nine Yang Force, the strong Origin Qi erased the remaining droplet of Demon King blood. Qing Shui then said, "Okay. No one should find it now."

"We've agreed that I'll give it to you after I've used it for a period of time," Sheng Huang said as she stowed away the Frigid Jade Stone Bed.

"Mm, sure. Actually, there will be something better in the future. At that time, it's also fine if you're willing to give it to me. You don't have to be like this. Do we have to act this distant?" Qing Shui looked at Shen Huang in confusion.

Shen Huang's expression was a little unnatural. Looking at Qing Shui, she wasn't sure what to say neither. She was a reserved woman and taking the initiative to kiss Qing Shui previously had been because she felt that she was about to reach the end of her life. Perhaps in her heart, she just wanted to have her own way for once. It was a kiss, and it could only be this man.

When she sought out Qing Shui, she had planned to celebrate her last New Year's with him. However, no one could have expected that she might not even be able to wait until the last New Year's. She didn't expect that this man's physique would complete hers, and extend her lifespan slightly.

It was also because of this man that she had sought after the slimmest chance of survival. Hard work wouldn't be a letdown. He had quite a few magical objects and combat skills. She didn't even have time to head to the Blazing Fire Land. Apart from this man who could rush to the Blazing Fire Land in an instant, she didn't know who else could do the job.

It was not too bad after that. Though there were dangers, they managed to get through all of them safely. They didn't manage to find the Blaze Moth, but the Peach of Immortality instead. On top of that, the man's medical skills could actually remove the Black Ice Poison completely. She owed him yet another life debt.

"I've said before that you're the person closest to me. Even if you kill me one day, I will still feel that way," Shen Huang confessed once again with a smile on her face.

"Don't talk nonsense. How could I kill you?" Qing Shui shook his head.

"Some things are hard to say. I can't say that one day we won't be on opposite sides. What would you do then?" Shen Huang said. She appeared to like the idea of the scenario she had presented.

Qing Shui rubbed his head and said, "I don't have any lofty aspirations. I don't wish to be some kind of saint, and I don't want to be reckless in the name of justice. Even if my woman is a Devil Chief, I will stand by her side." He said frankly.

"Oh, really?" Shen Huang looked at Qing Shui, smiling.

"Really. I don't care about what others think, though I will try to think of ways to cure her. I'm a miracle doctor after all," Qing Shui said and snickered.

"Be more careful during this period of time. I'm going to seclude myself." Shen Huang decided on her next move.

Qing Shui was stunned. However, thinking about the benefits she had gained lately, even more so now with the Frigid Jade Stone Bed, seclusion was the best option. The next time she came out, she would be even more dazzling and resplendent. Shen Huang could really spread her wings and take flight in the Nine Heavens, becoming a true Phoenix.

"Don't forget about me when you go into seclusion. When the time comes and you don't remember who I am, I will come crying to you," Qing Shui said seriously.

"Even if I forget who I am, I will remember you and remember how you treated me so well previously," Shen Huang said gently.

These were words of intimacy, true words of intimacy. For people who usually didn't say such things, those were the most moving words.

"These are for you. They will help you. The method to use them is inside." Qing Shui gave her some precious Medicinal Pills that she would use in seclusion.

“Mhm,” Shen Huang responded softly as she received the items.

“I’m going then!” Qing Shui said gently.

Looking at the calm, but slightly downcast Shen Huang, Qing Shui smiled and turned around.

“Qing Shui!”

Upon hearing that soft voice, Qing Shui’s body trembled. He turned around, and felt a delicate body hug him. Qing Shui held onto her tightly.

“Stop. I can’t lose my virginity. The techniques I train in won’t allow it,” Shen Huang gripped onto Qing Shui’s hand, that was drifting onto her back.

“You can’t lose it ever?” Qing Shui asked in surprise.

“I don’t know. I just know that I can’t now,” Shen Huang said, blushing.

Qing Shui hugged her. Her words proved that her relationship with Qing Shui was extremely intimate, and actually even confirming their relationship. It was a shame that she couldn’t do it, and Qing Shui didn’t dare touch her. However, he said into her ear, “Do you want me to make you happy, just once like last time?”

Shen Huang’s slender body trembled. Eventually, Qing Shui’s Soul Charming Bone Weakening had made Shen Huang giddy. Although Qing Shui wasn’t satisfied, seeing his woman in such a state had filled him with joy and his heart was also fulfilled. This kind of satisfaction was completely different from physical satisfaction. Something like this had happened in his previous life. If the lady could not be satisfied, even if the man was, he would feel disappointed and useless.

Shen Huang could feel that hard thing at the lower part of her body, and had even grabbed it before. She was blushing, but her face carried the elation of being satisfied, and radiated a fatal charm. Although they hadn’t actually made love, Qing Shui couldn’t help but imagine how enchanting it would be if he really did it with her one day.

“You’re letting your imagination run off again...” Shen Huang said, not daring to lift her head.

Qing Shui mumbled something secretly into her ear, causing her to shiver and quietly moan.

Qing Shui waited for Shen Huang to change her clothes, before sending her to Phoenix Mountain and leaving.

He directly used the Nine Continents Steps to return to the Azure Rainbow City’s Imperial Cuisine Hall.

Although he only left for little more than a day, a lot had happened. He had killed four people from the Demon Gate, as the Demon King Palace probably belonged to the Demon Gate, though Qing Shui wasn’t clear if it was true or not.

When he was stronger, he could possibly come across the real Demon Gate and the Divine Palace, or even enter the Palace itself. Maybe there wasn’t a Divine Palace or Demon Gate but just loose alliances. He gave up pondering this after a while. Strength was the most important. No matter the situation, one’s own strength reigned supreme.

He was the Golden Battle God, the leader of the Battle Gods. He just couldn't confirm if he was the only one. If there were multiple Golden Battle God descendants, it would depend on whose abilities were stronger. Qing Shui could instantly dispatch people as strong as he was, so all he had to do was to improve his strength. After all, though he could defend, his attacking strength was pathetic. Compared to Shen Huang's level, the difference was far too great. Even if he had used the Nine Continents Mountain, he still couldn't bridge the gap.

Now, Big Tiger was the pillar of the Imperial Cuisine Hall. He was very hardworking, though it was a pity that he was different from Qing Shui. His strength was not up to par, hence his medical skills were largely restricted. However, Qing Shui had taught him several simplified acupuncture techniques that didn't require great power to carry out, though the result wasn't as great. Even so, it was still useful.

Previously, Qing Shui didn't think that he could go very far. He wanted to wait to find a Demonic Beast Origin Medicinal Pill on the scale of a Martial King to increase Big Tiger's abilities by a large amount. That way, his medical skills would improve a lot.

Acupuncture required strength as a foundation. Real curing methods needed acupuncture. Big Tiger had insufficient strength to use acupuncture. Therefore, Qing Shui could only teach him to do it on a smaller scale, and in multiple rounds. This naturally reduced the effects of the treatment. However, there was no other way around it.

Chapter 2087 - Dark Phoenix Nirvana, Leaps in Strength

Upon arriving in the Nine Continents, Qing Shui finally felt that he was a true cultivator. In the eyes of a cultivator, the most important belief was fate. Fate was an ethereal and unexplainable force, but he also believed in karma and the cyclical nature of retribution. It wasn't quite blind faith, but something he could explain empirically with science.

Some things Qing Shui did were not for payment. This was the case with Big Tiger. Sure, the "cause" was the Treasure Basin that Big Tiger had given to him, but his "effect" on Big Tiger was also enormous. He nursed Big Tiger's mother back to health, something that was comparable to a great gift such as the Treasure Basin, enough to gain Big Tiger's everlasting gratitude.

However, Qing Shui would not act so slyly. In this expansive world, the number of people you met would be a mere drop in the bucket of all the people in the world. As such, Qing Shui would try his best to treat others well.

"Master!" Big Tiger spotted Qing Shui and bowed.

"This place isn't too bad, right?" Qing Shui said as he gave Big Tiger a pat on his shoulder.

Now, as the New Year slowly passed by, the festive atmosphere would slowly die down.

"Very good, Master, very good. There is something I want to ask," Big Tiger said sheepishly, unable to pluck up the courage to approach Qing Shui.

Qing Shui was confused. Big Tiger was usually rather straightforward and it was rather rare to see him as timid as he was. Big Tiger's face was as red as a plump, ripe tomato, with beads of sweat trickling down his face. Upon seeing this, Qing Shui knew at once what was going on and chuckled as he teased, "Is this about some girl you met?"

“Master is too farsighted. I can’t hide anything from you. This humble disciple would like to ask for your advice,” Big Tiger said immediately.

“How am I supposed to give you advice when you haven’t told me anything about this girl yet? Moreover, this is a decision that you have to make yourself. Having said that, you needn’t be so ashamed. If you want to ask for advice then by all means, just ask me directly,” Qing Shui said with a laugh.

Big Tiger was originally a normal human. At his age, normal people would have been married already, but his family was plagued by poverty so he had been unable to successfully court a lady. Luckily, the tides had turned in his favor and he would be able to choose a lady. Being single had caused a great deal of worry for Big Tiger’s mother. Marrying had its perks as forming a family and settling down would also allow him to lead a more stable life. Of course, he could also be a rich noble, a unique existence in Azure Rainbow.

“The girl I have in mind is the Third Young Lady of the Yu clan. We are in love but what worries me is that her family will not approve. Master, would it be at all possible for you to go there on my behalf and find out if they would cause problems for Man Tong and me?” Big Tiger asked amiably.

Qing Shui was surprised by the name that Big Tiger had said. He would never have imagined that the burly, brash Big Tiger would be able to win over the fancy of the Yu clan’s Third Young Lady. After all, the Yu clan was one of the three strongest clans. Even the Wang clan was far inferior. Though the reputation of the Imperial Cuisine Hall was great, the Yu Clan didn’t have much incentive to buy into the hype. At this present time, the Yu clan did not even regard Qing Shui that highly. However, there were certain matters that couldn’t be solved by force.

“If it’s too difficult, how about we just forget about it?” Big Tiger said in an uneasy voice, upon seeing Qing Shui’s reaction.

Big Tiger, in the end, was just a normal human and his mind worked the same way. In actual fact, Big Tiger did not have the guts to face the Yu clan due to his sense of inferiority. If not for the fact that she approached him on her own, Big Tiger would not dare to pursue a relationship with her.

“You needn’t worry as this is not a difficult matter. So long as the two of you have willing hearts, I will help you to find out if the Yu clan will object to the two of you being together. Oh, by the way, tell me. How did you meet?” Qing Shui asked.

Upon hearing that Qing Shui was willing to assist him, Big Tiger was over the moon; in his eyes, his master was simply omnipotent. Big Tiger quickly described how the two of them met to Qing Shui: When the third daughter of the Yu family came to seek treatment, it was Big Tiger who gave her treatment. Her disease was complex and by no means easy to diagnose or cure. However, Big Tiger’s medicinal skills were not bad. In fact, they were good enough for him to gain the reputation as a Miraculous Physician in Azure Rainbow City.

Big Tiger was simple-minded and his looks were nothing spectacular. However, he was very bulky and was adept in the field of medicine. On top of that, Qing Shui’s training had allowed him to become a Xiantian cultivator, something that made him stand out from the common folk.

And with that, the third daughter of the Yu clan came to Big Tiger several times for treatment and she started to fall in love with this silly fellow. Big Tiger was often mistaken for being dumb, but he was just simple-minded. As the saying went, 'Fortune favors fools'. Even when the daughter of the Yu family fell in love with Big Tiger, he did not acknowledge her as his lover for a long time and even when he did, his face turned a bright red and was very ashamed to confess his love for her.

The daughter of the Yu family was also very timid, but as a noblewoman, she was far more educated and she knew that Big Tiger was the type of guy who would not dare to confess to her if she didn't take the first step. And so, she approached Big Tiger and asked sheepishly, "Tell me, do you like me?"

"I... I like you, but you are too beautiful... I am not worthy of you," Big Tiger replied, his face flushed.

.....

It was easy for a relationship to work out when the girl chases the guy; this was true in all cultures. And so it was, Big Tiger and the daughter from the Yu family affirmed their mutual affection between them. This scenario played out about a month ago, but he didn't have the chance to tell Qing Shui when he returned previously, which was why he waited until now to inform him of this development.

"Fret not. In the next two days, I'll make a trip to the Yu family mansion," Qing Shui gave Big Tiger a pat on his shoulder before returning to his room.

Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal!

Qing Shui looked upon the Nirvana Pill. As usual, it was still encased in ice. Qing Shui started to grin. This was the greatest benefit he got from the ruins of the Demon Lord Palace. He summoned the Dark Phoenix.

Qing Shui directly broke open the outer ice seal and threw it at the Dark Phoenix.

The Nirvana Pill floated in front of the Dark Phoenix's body and radiated an ominous cerulean glow before the gargantuan Black Phoenix opened its massive mouth and swallowed the Nirvana Pill.

In the skies of the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal!

Qing Shui marveled at the overbearing black flames encasing the Dark Phoenix, the prelude to Nirvana. The flames around the Dark Phoenix's body intensified, encapsulating the Dark Phoenix in larger streaks of coal-black flames. Slowly but surely, the Dark Phoenix reveled in the dark flames conjoined together with the flames to form a gigantic black ball as the surrounding flames continued their fiery dance.

Qing Shui had no worries. This was a guaranteed Nirvana, compared to the Dark Phoenix's natural ability that only had a 30% chance of success.

Regardless of the success rate, and the opportunity to comprehend the Ice Crystal Phoenix's techniques, Qing Shui didn't know what kind of combat abilities the Dark Phoenix would gain, nor could he guess the extent of its newfound power, or to what level its bloodline would ascend to.

While Qing Shui was still dazed, the fiery ball exploded violently outwards and what emerged in front of Qing Shui's eyes was, as usual, a Dark Phoenix as black as ink. This time, however, the Dark Phoenix emanated out a terrifying aura that was far, far stronger than before.

The Dark Phoenix's bloodline was not bad. Now, its strength surpassed that of 5 billion Daos.

Qing Shui decided not to think too far. After all, as the saying goes, 'A man who is never content is like a snake trying to swallow an elephant'. He was already blessed, being able to attain such power.

The Dark Phoenix gained a few new powers possessed by the Ice Phoenix. A powerful new ability indeed.

Ice Sealing Ten Thousand Miles, letting the Phoenix slow down anything within 1000 meters radius of its target by 10%.

Crystallized Battle Intent, slowed down opponents that attacked it by 20%.

Blizzard, freezing the surrounding air and granting the Ice Crystal Phoenix additional 20% speed.

Ice Flame Explosion, let the Phoenix use the power of icy flames to inflict massive damage when exploding, slowing down enemies by 10%.

Icefire Duality Phoenix, fused the power of the Dark Phoenix and the Ice Crystal Phoenix, resulting in an icefire that had extremely explosive power, multiplying attack many times over.

This was a fusion technique, the most terrifying combat ability in the Dark Phoenix's arsenal. Previously, the Dark Phoenix already had many capabilities but what it lacked was strength. Now, its strength had leapt to 5 billion Daos and it had also gained insight into the capabilities of the Ice Phoenix, seamlessly adding an exceedingly powerful combat technique to its already impressive arsenal, allowing it to instantaneously attain a new level of strength.

The Dark Phoenix comprehended the combat techniques of the Ice Phoenix, which impressed Qing Shui. They all involved slowing down opponents, which would create a disgustingly large speed disparity.

Chapter 2088 - The Powerful Dark Phoenix

Although there were only a few differences in the Dark Phoenix's outward appearance, its strength had undergone a heaven-shattering evolution. It had gained insights into the Ice Crystal Phoenix's abilities, and its own abilities had been greatly improved.

Hellfire Phoenix, Bloodline purity: 70%!

Qing Shui was slightly moved, as the Hellfire Phoenix's bloodline was already pure, and now it actually jumped to 70 percent. He wasn't sure what the distinction meant, but it was definitely a great improvement from the previous purity grade.

The Hellfire Phoenix's strength had already reached 5 billion Daos.

Qing Shui immediately inspected the changes in the abilities.

Dark Phoenix of the Nine Heavens, passive ability, zero consumption: Permanently increased strength by 500 times. All skills and attacks consumption reduced by 80%.

It no longer increased base strength but only its comprehensive power and battle skills. Still, this was largely irrelevant as the comprehensive increase in battle power was satisfactory.

Superior Flight: The Hellfire Phoenix's flight speed is increased by a hundredfold. Consumption also decreased by a hundredfold.

This remained unchanged. With its current strength, the Dark Phoenix should be comparable to Xiaolin, even exceeding it in flight speed.

Hell's Inferno: The Hellfire Phoenix fires off a powerful flame attack, its black flames smoldering everything. With a destructive property, its power was equivalent to double of its strength.

This battle skill had changed, seemingly for the better as it could now fire off a ten billion Dao Hell's Inferno.

Phoenix Dance of the Nine Heavens: Passive skill, permanently increased flame damage while damage taken is reduced to half. Zero consumption!

Underworld Fireball: Unleash a fireball attack, containing a terrifying explosive power. When the fireball explodes, it would carry the power of double its strength. While used on a single target with a mental lock, it could continually unleash fireballs within a timeframe.

Phoenix Paradise: Upon receiving fatal damage, the Hellfire Phoenix had a 30% chance of rebirth, allowing it to undergo Nirvana and double its strength.

Phoenix Heart: The powerful Phoenix Heart allowed its overall prowess to be increased with the damage it took and consumption to be reduced by half. Zero consumption, passive skill.

Phoenix Might: A suppression toward all bird-type demonic beasts other than other phoenixes, suppressing them to a tenth of their strength, making them lose their will to fight. Suppression towards other species was not as absolute. Zero consumption, passive skill!

The Dark phoenix's strength had undergone a massive change, its battle skills had also been fundamentally shifted, but the overall result was still very satisfying for Qing Shui. Harmonizing with the Ice Crystal Phoenix's strength, it could now control and even attack effectively, becoming the strongest attacker on Qing Shui's side.

Of course, the Dragon Slaying Beast's attack could not be measured normally as even now, it was still effective with the Dragon Spider, the Dark Phoenix, as well as his own control, allowing the Dragon Slaying Beast to put its slaughtering abilities on display.

Xiaolin also had good input, as Qing Shui himself was slightly weak. The Paragon Strike was only comparable to a casual strike from Xiaolin and the Dark Phoenix while consecutive strikes would be far weaker. The Nine Continents Mountain was helpful, allowing him to have an attacking strength of five times his usual, not at all weaker than the Paragon Strike.

The Nine Continents Mountain was a true treasure at its seventh stage. Its potency was unsurprising, and it would be more surprising if it wasn't helpful.

However, some cards were better left hidden. It was the main reason Qing Shui didn't use the Nine Continents Mountain in the brawl against the Demon Kings. Other than the Emperor's Qi and other methods, the Dragon Spider and the Nine Continents Mountain were part of his killer moves. The combination of the Dragon Slaying Beast and the Dragon Spider was also lethal.

With the addition of the Dark Phoenix, Qing Shui's current strength was horrifying.

After cultivating for some time in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, he started to loosen up, as he felt that his strength had improved slightly. Based on his understanding of his realm, he felt as if his entire physical strength had grown tighter, increasing slightly.

He saw Yu Xixuan in the morning. She wasn't here yesterday when he returned.

"You're back! That was quick," Yu Xixuan said as she greeted Qing Shui.

"You seem to not want me to come back," Qing Shui said and looked at Yu Xixuan, confounded.

"Playing with a super beauty who is genteel and caring. I thought you wouldn't return," She smiled as she talked to Qing Shui.

"You are really becoming more and more of a female gangster." Qing Shui was speechless.

"Do you remember what I told you last time?" Yu Xixuan asked.

"What are you talking about?" Many things had occurred in this period. Qing Shui really couldn't remember.

"There's a nice courtyard in Northern Blue City. Should we move the Inn and the Imperial Cuisine Hall there?" Yu Xixuan looked at Qing Shui. It seemed like he had really forgotten what she said.

"Oh, I remember now. When will the patients be able to arrive?"

Qing Shui's current strength was impressive with the help of the Dark Phoenix and the Dragon Spider. Though this Azure Rainbow City was not bad, Qing Shui wanted to explore the Northern Blue City, as it was at the northernmost area of the Northern Blue Domain, bordering two other Domains. Crucially, Northern Blue City, as the number one city in the Northern Blue Domain, was in close proximity with the two other main cities in the other domains, making the whole region a gathering of experts. Even second and third-tier cities like Phoenix City were in that area.

Qing Shui also wanted to do this, as his goal in the Nine Continents was to constantly move forward. The Imperial Cuisine Hall here would remain with Big Tiger at the helm and the protection of the Yu Clan. Anyway, Big Tiger was about to become the Yu Clan's son-in-law; Qing Shui felt relieved to leave things here.

"If you're going to stay here for a while, I'll get them to come immediately. They should be able to arrive in about 3 days."

"Alright, let them come over. I'll be here for a while. Once we get that courtyard, we'll move over there." Qing Shui smiled.

Yu Xixuan nodded before leaving.

Qing Shui had considered many things. Going there would shorten the distance between him and Shen Huang while allowing him to establish more ties. It seemed his road to establish branches for medicine was not going to be successful. Only Big Tiger could remain at Azure Rainbow City. Though he was passable, he wasn't comparable to the likes of Qing Ci, Soulsearch, and doubly so for Yuan Su.

Leaving Big Tiger at the Azure Rainbow City was sufficient. The key was to find a suitable individual to be stationed at Northern Blue City, as he couldn't stay at a single location for long. His main goal was to become more influential, advertise the brand by curing some special diseases.

This was not like Hundred Miles City or Canglan City. Miraculous Physicians were everywhere. No major city could do without doctors, wanting to make a name for themselves without some time was a truly difficult task.

The number of doctors who wished to be taken under Qing Shui's wing was innumerable, but none of them were worthy, as a doctor's most important aspect was their character. For those who couldn't even satisfy this condition, talent was a useless afterthought.

Chapter 2089 - Big Tiger Wants to Wed the Yu Clan Third Young Lady

Qing Shui would rather accept a person like Big Tiger than a talented yet unethical one, as doctors prided themselves on their ethics. An unethical doctor could cause widespread harm.

High noon on the next day, Qing Shui saw the Yu Clan Third Young Lady.

She was a tall and fashionable girl who seemed younger than Big Tiger, with a light green dress. They were happily talking with each other while Qing Shui observed from afar.

Big Tiger and the Third Young Lady didn't seem like a good match at first, particularly due to his commoner air, which would require a long time to change. He didn't have an explosive personality but rather, a tempered and calm mindset. The two discovered they were a good pairing with time.

Qing Shui didn't sense any ulterior motives on her part. She looked gentle and warm, especially when she was chatting with Big Tiger.

Qing Shui was glad that Big Tiger was fortunate enough to have such a woman fall for him. She wasn't from a tyrannical force. Qing Shui had some ability as a fortune teller. Though he couldn't predict the future, he could tell that Big Tiger's life was destined to change with this pairing.

Big Tiger's life was originally destined to be middling, slightly richer than wealthy mortals, but with her appearing in his life, his future was bound to be different.

This kind of changes was not surprising as it was accepted that a lady would always bring fortune to his man, perhaps due to their air, Qi, and aura. Some people could cause others to become healthier, wealthier, etc.

There was also the compatibility between a couple's auras. With mutual complements, there also existed mutual diminishing between couples.

Those who could analyze these kinds of intangible forces were few in number and so were those who could tell if a couple would mutually diminish each other. If a girl had experienced 3 different relationships, all ending in the male's subsequent tragic end, though it wasn't confirmed that the girl was a jinx, there was a good likelihood that she was.

The union of their Qis had to be perfect, much like Duo Cultivation. Qing Shui could tell based on this that Big Tiger's life would be transformed. That meant the two could last a long time, even until they were old and grey.

Qing Shui was relieved when he discovered this, as he was initially worried that the woman had ulterior motives like trying to steal medical techniques. After he observed for a while, he no longer had any reservations as he headed toward the Yu Clan.

The Yu Clan (Note: Not the Yu Clan that Yu Xixuan comes from) was one of the top three clans in the Azure Rainbow City, similar to the Liu Clan which was nearly exterminated. Nobody would dare to provoke the Imperial Cuisine Hall, especially with their reputation of having Miraculous Physicians and the inn. Even the Zhan Clan wouldn't get any benefits from provoking them.

The Yu Clan wasn't far from the Imperial Cuisine Hall. It, too, was based in the Azure Rainbow City.

The Yu Clan's courtyard was grandiose. This was normal, as there was an unspoken rule of this world claiming that the major clans would have large courtyards. The greater the air of prosperity and the quality of the facilities, the more appealing the appearance.

There were four guards stationed at the entrance.

They became wary when they saw Qing Shui: "Who are you looking for?"

The voice came from a bright-eyed middle-aged man, seemingly the man in charge of guarding the entrance.

"Just say that Qing Shui from the Imperial Cuisine Hall has come to pay a visit," Qing Shui said courteously.

The middle-aged man's face changed, as he rushed to bow: "Honored guest, please wait. I will report this."

A short while after the man ran off, a few people from the Yu Clan came out, led by an old man flanked by two others, as they briskly walked forward.

The leading old man wore plain clothes. He stood with a dignified air, his expression solemn. One of the other old men was wearing a purple and gold robe, while the other wore an elegant, green robe.

"Mister Qing, please enter!" The leading old man called out courteously.

"Hope senior is well!" Qing Shui gestured for them to enter together.

"Mister Qing, let me do the introductions. I am Yu Zezheng and these are my third and sixth brothers, Yu Zemian and Yu Zehuo respectively," Yu Zezheng said as he pointed at the green-robed man and the purple-gold robed man.

"Hope the two seniors are well!"

"Good to see you, Mister Qing!"

"You're acting like an outsider. You can just call us Old Yu, Old Three and Old Six," Yu Zezheng said with a laugh.

"That is not proper. You guys can just call me Qing Shui. If you don't think of it badly, I'll call you Uncle Zheng."

Yu Zezheng was contemplating. At his old age, he was naturally aware that there were no free lunches in this world. Although he wasn't sure why Qing Shui came, improving relations with him was crucial. Still, he couldn't help but worry about the potential costs.

"This is akin to putting this old man on the spot. Those with power should take the lead. I may be old, but I can't handle being your elder." Yu Zezheng stated, trying to reveal Qing Shui's intentions.

"Back in my home, there's an order of seniority. We only consider age. No matter how powerful a son is, he can't be the big boss in front of his father." Qing Shui smiled as he said.

"Fine then. I'll take up this mantle," Yu Zezheng said, feeling uneasy in his heart.

Qing Shui could naturally detect his unease, as he comforted him: "Senior, you don't need to worry. I have come here for a good thing."

"I know, I know."

"Third Uncle, Sixth Uncle, you seem to have reached a bottleneck, I will help you break through it later," Qing Shui offered as he looked at the other two old men.

"We can really break through?" The two were filled with joy.

"You'll see later. This is not a difficult task because you have already reached the pinnacle. You're just missing that one opportunity."

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The men sat down at the guest hall. Yu Zezheng then decided to start the conversation: "May I ask the reason for Mister Qing's presence here?"

Qing Shui knew that he couldn't loosen up without knowing, so he just said: "I'm here to propose a marriage."

Qing Shui's words naturally surprised the three elderly men as they simply couldn't speak, their facial expressions changing quickly.

Qing Shui realized that they were perhaps led astray, as he followed up: "Not for myself, but for my disciple, Big Tiger of the Imperial Cuisine Hall."

They took a breath of relief when they heard his words, as they asked: "I wonder which of my Yu Clan's little lasses have caught Miraculous Physician Big Tiger's eyes?"

Yu Zezheng's face lit up with joy as this was a great opportunity to forge closer bonds with this youth before him. Big Tiger was this youth's disciple, and this relationship was sufficient, as disciple and master were akin to father and son.

"I only know that it's the Third Young Lady and that they are both in love with each other. I just saw the Third Young Lady with Big Tiger. However, Big Tiger is afraid that Uncle Zheng would reject him, so I'm proposing this on his behalf," Qing Shui explained, already knowing that this was guaranteed to be a success.

Chapter 2090 - Kong Clan, Poison, I Can Cure This

What followed was naturally a joyous affair. Qing Shui left behind some dowry as a gift and helped Yu Zemian and Yu Zehuo to each make a breakthrough. This small breakthrough, however, was not insubstantial. If they could only rank around ten thousandths in the Northern Blue Domain before, they would basically advance by half and could continue to advance further.

There were many cities in the Northern Blue Domain and Azure Rainbow City was amongst the lowest tiered. Therefore, despite their dominance here, the Yu Clan was barely comparable to a second-tier clan in the top cities.

Qing Shui granting them aid was also beneficial to himself, as the Yu Clan would become a staunch and loyal ally with a marriage of coincidence between two willing parties. Yu Zehuo still had a lot of potentials to become a powerhouse throughout the Northern Blue Domain.

As for Big Tiger, his path was still uncertain, but with the Third Young Lady's entry into his life, he was destined to go beyond the Martial King Stage. At least, he would reach Martial Saint.

However, Big Tiger had already used the Xiantian Golden Pellet, which inspired Qing Shui to think about refining something else that surpassed the Golden Martial King Pill. Perhaps the Martial Saint Golden Pellet?

Big Tiger's affairs were all settled, including the date of the marriage, which was just a month away. Qing Shui and Big Tiger knew that he wasn't getting any younger.

Qing Shui returned to the Imperial Cuisine Hall just as Big Tiger and the Third Young Lady were about to leave. Even though the New Year festivities hadn't ended and there were patients, there were other doctors holding the fort which allowed Big Tiger to relax carefreely.

"Master, this is Mantong," Big Tiger introduced, slight embarrassment shown on his face.

"Nice to meet you, Young Lady Yu!" Qing Shui smiled as he greeted her.

"Nice to meet you too, Mister Qing!" Yu Mantong said with poise.

Qing Shui took out some Youth Retaining Pills, as well as a few self-refined treasures. He said, "Big Tiger is my disciple. He might be a bit thick-skulled but he's not dumb. This is my greeting gift. Here's to a good future for you two."

Yu Mantong looked back at Big Tiger, who simply laughed and said: "My master is giving gifts. Just accept them. He's like a father figure to me."

Though Big Tiger looked older than Qing Shui, Qing Shui was actually old enough to be Big Tiger's father, as he had lived another life before. Qing Shui was very important to Big Tiger, as everything he had was given by Qing Shui.

"Thank you, Master!" Yu Mantong received the gift and bowed in appreciation.

"I've already made a trip to the Yu Clan. You are now officially engaged. The wedding will be on the thirtieth of the next month. Somebody else will make the preparations. Big Tiger, you have to work hard to master the Five Elements Art in this month."

"En, I'll do as you say!"

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Two days later, three men, accompanied by Yu Xixuan, came to the Imperial Cuisine Hall. Two of the three men were middle-aged with the last one on the younger side. Entering the inner courtyard, Qing Shui was looking mindlessly at the fish in the pond before turning around upon noticing their presence.

“Qing Shui, these are the Kong Clan people that I have talked to you about.”

The Kong Clan was not amongst the five great powers of the Northern Blue City but some speculated that they weren't far off in strength. It couldn't be confirmed nor denied, but the rumors existed on the basis of certain truths. The Kong Clan would definitely be powerful.

“Miraculous Physician Qing is truly very young!” Said the middle-aged man on the left.

The middle-aged man was very handsome, but with a hint of arrogance in his being. It was not enough to incite hatred, but not enough to attract others either. This kind of men was always skilled.

“Why, are you doubting my medical abilities?” Qing Shui smiled.

“We wouldn't. Cases where people become great in old age are rare. True experts would become famous in their youths,” The middle-aged man said with a chuckle.

“Come. Let's have a seat!” Qing Shui gestured for the men to sit at a stone table near the pond.

“I am Kong Di. This is my older brother Kong Yan, and his son Kong Yi,” Kong Di made the introductions.

“You've already discussed the conditions with Xixuan, so let's jump right in,” Qing Shui looked at the youth and said.

The youth held out his arm and Qing Shui took his pulse. Qing Shui could immediately understand his situation.

“Complete loss of cultivation. No wounds. Unable to gather Qi in the Dantian. Shriveling meridians and heart pain.” Qing Shui retrieved his hand as he stated casually.

The trio all revealed expressions of shock. This was too masterful, merely taking the pulse and immediately knowing the problems. This title of Miraculous Physician was fitting for Qing Shui.

“Miraculous Physician Qing, can he be cured?” Kong Yan asked nervously.

“Do you know the cause of this?” Qing Shui asked in response.

Kong Yan shook his head and the other two were also oblivious.

“I can only tell you that this is poison. He was set up with poison.” Qing Shui's eyebrows furrowed as he answered.

Hearing his words, the trio turned pale, especially the youth. His eyebrows were furrowed, as he raised his head to ask: “Miraculous Physician Qing, are you sure that I've been poisoned?”

“Did you assume that this was due to an injury? It seems that you were severely injured right before your cultivation fell.”

“Indeed. All of my meridians and organs were harmed, so I always assumed that my drop in cultivation was due to the extreme injuries,” The youth explained his situation.

“This kind of poison is very strange, without scent or smell. It couldn’t exactly be called poison, but acts to worsen injuries. The key is that it is usually hidden, acting out occasionally, causing your heart, Dantian, and meridians to ache. You may mistake it as a hidden wound from your previous injuries. However, it is not mistaken that it is due to this poison that you can never recover.”

“Is this poison fatal?” Kong Yi asked.

“Yes. You only have three years before it kills you so it was known in the ancient times as the Three Lives Stone. It is incurable by any means.” Qing Shui said firmly.

“Can Miraculous Physician Qing not cure it?”

“It would’ve been impossible in the past, but you’re in luck. I can’t guarantee anything, but I have a 70% confidence in curing you. At the very least, I can allow your cultivation to return, giving you a hundred years of life.” Qing Shui thought a bit before saying.

Kong Yi’s eyes lit up: “Really?”

Kong Yan and Kong Di were both overjoyed, as they didn’t have any hopes before.

“Definitely. In fact, even if I can’t cure you now, I’ll be able to fully cure you in a hundred years’ time,” Qing Shui said and smiled.

This made them even more relieved, as Kong Yan requested seriously: “Please cure my son. The Kong Clan will owe you a debt of gratitude if you do. Whatever you need, we would not decline.”

Qing Shui didn’t expect Kong Yan to be so forthright, nodding: “We can discuss it later then.”

Qing Shui was also clear that the Kong Clan was playing the long game, using a debt of gratitude to profit. Qing Shui didn’t feel repulsed, as everyone knew what was going on. He had a need for the Kong Clan and vice versa.