

Chapter 1611

Perfect Acting

Yang Chen had actually considered sparing Luo Qianqiu because of Cai Ning's master, Tang Luyi. However, that required Luo Qianqiu to be able to mind his own business.

Naturally, he would not believe in Luo Qianqiu's claims and would have to think of another way to obtain confirmation.

Although he missed his family deeply, he had to endure it and deal with the Luo clan first.

Having made up his mind, he flew to the illusory dimension with the two women.

Along the way, he noticed that the highlands were extremely cold, as cold as the South Pole. Snowstorms ravaged the forests, burying many houses in the snow.

That causes him to frown. At the same time, Yu Xuening's expression changed a little, as though she was surprised that the outside world was different than she had imagined.

"It looks like the scale of your problem is considerable," she teased.

Yang Chen pursed his lips. "It's not a problem to me, but it's a different case for ordinary people."

It did not take long for them to enter the illusory dimension and head toward the Luo clan.

With Yang Chen and Yu Xuening's prowess, it would not be hard to hide the tracks in the illusory dimension. After all, one of them was in Shang Qing, and the other's cultivation base was so profound and most probably was above Yu Qing.

Seeing that they were getting near to her house, Luo Xiaoxiao asked anxiously, "Yang Chen, do you think my father will agree to let me be with you? What if he disagrees? Should we—"

All of a sudden, he turned around and injected some True Yian into her acupuncture point, cutting her off and knocking her out.

Wearing a teasing smile, Yu Xuening watched him and commented, "Brat, your new lover wants to elope with you. Why did you knock her out? That's cruel."

"Come on. Her train of thought is odd. I don't even remember giving her any promise, and she imagines it herself. Nothing has ever happened between us. I'm only willing to talk with her father because I felt sorry for her and some complicated relationship. Otherwise, I would've killed them all."

"Tsk tsk, you've got too much blood on your hands. That's not aligning with the way of heaven and earth, it's against it."

Yang Chen merely chuckled and said nonchalantly. "What's the difference? It won't matter once I have control of the way of heaven and earth..."

Suddenly, the smile on his face froze as something in his mind was tugged on.

It happened for a split second, and the sensation faded very quickly.

It was like an undiscovered gem that shone a little through the thick mist.

No matter how hard he tried to recall, they could not remember what was contained in that ray of shine.

When he turned back and looked at Yu Xuening, he saw that the Nine-Tailed Divine Fox was combing her hair nonchalantly as though she had nothing to do with anything.

Yang Chen swallowed hard and thought Yu Xuening might have given him a few pointers inadvertently.

However, it was pointless to say them out. One had to receive the revelation and comprehend it oneself so that it would become one's asset.

Thus, she would not admit to anything and might not even have done it sincerely.

That faint sensation had had his heart racing, but he tried his best to compose himself by taking a deep breath.

It was still not time to mull over it yet, but he could confirm that Yu Xuening was surpassing the way of heaven and earth.

At that moment, Yu Xuening stole a glance at Yang Chen.

This kid does seem to have a chance...

In the blink of an eye, they had arrived above the Luo clan.

Yang Chen asked Yu Xuening to watch over Luo Xiaoxiao since no one would be able to spot them because of her cultivation base.

Then, he took off Luo Xiaoxiao's deer jade piece.

Using the Blinding Leaf, he adjusted his cultivation base to the pinnacle of the Tai Qing stage, the same as before he entered the Eye of the Sky Demon, then landed in the Luo clan's fortress.

As soon as the oppression from his True Yuan appeared, a large number of people appeared from all sides. Among them, more than fifteen were in the Ruo Water stage.

However, those people could be ignored. After all, only Luo Pingchao and Luo Qianqiu, the father-son duo who were in the Tai Qing stage, could take one move from him.

Luo Pingchao, who had recovered, and Luo Qianqiu, whose cultivation base had improved further, headed over from two directions and landed before Yang Chen at the same time.

Seeing that Yang Chen was unscathed and was standing there leisurely, Luo Qianqiu instinctively looked around with a worried gaze.

"Where's my daughter?" he asked.

That took Yang Chen by surprise. It seems like he does care about Luo Xiaoxiao since he asked for her immediately.

"I thought you would want to know where I went and if I'm here to kill you," Yang Chen said while smiling.

"That's between you and me. Where... is my daughter!?" Luo Qianqiu's tone became heavier as he questioned Yang Chen.

With a look of resignation and guilt, the latter took out the deer jade piece and tossed it to him.

Luo Qianqiu immediately received it and looked at it. "This is the jade I gave to Xiaoxiao! Why is it with you!?"

Yang Chen exhaled a sigh. "Out of nowhere, we were sucked into the Eye of the Sky Demon. You should be aware that the Eye of the Sky Demon contains a large number of devil spirits. They pose no threat to me, but... your daughter's cultivation base is too low, so when I found her, she had lost too much vitality and was on the verge of death..."

Luo Qianqiu turned ghastly pale, his eyes turning bloodshot. Looking at the jade piece, he turned his head blankly as if he could not believe Yang Chen.

"Nonsense! With your cultivation base, how is it possible for you to fail at saving my granddaughter!?" Luo Pingchao thundered, seemingly grieving for Luo Xiaoxiao.

"There's nothing I can do if you don't believe me. I never needed any medicinal pills and have given all of them to other people. The most I can do is extend her life for a while, but she has lost too much vitality for me to bring her back from the dead," Yang Chen replied.

"Shut up! You must have killed my daughter, didn't you!" Luo Qianqiu roared, his eyes glistening with tears and his face contemptuous. He didn't appear to be an elite at the time, but rather a father in mourning for his child.

Meanwhile, unbeknownst to them, inside a powerful barrier that could not be detected by anyone, Yu Xuening awoke Luo Xiaoxiao.

That was not Yang Chen's order. She had decided to do it on her own as she felt it would be more interesting to let the young woman witness what was happening.

Initially, Luo Xiaoxiao did not understand the purpose of Yang Chen's action, but when she saw how sorrowful her father looked because of her death, she, too, pouted and started shedding tears.

Although she wanted to jump down and tell her father she was alive, Yu Xuening had a tight grip on her.

Below them, Yang Chen was showcasing his perfect acting skills, his face carrying a hint of bitterness.

"It doesn't matter if you believe it or not. Ms. Luo gave me this jade before she passed away. She said you nicknamed her Lu'er, that you treated her better than her brother, that you had many difficulties, and you're not a bad person... She wants me to stop being enemies with you and wishes that you can let go of some things. At the very least, don't be my foe because she doesn't want you to die."

Even before he finished his made-up story, Luo Qianqiu gripped the jade tightly with his teeth clenched, evidently losing control of his emotions.

He did not let his tears fall because there were too many people around him.

However, his reactions and the emotions he displayed aroused the sympathy and pity of many people.

Yang Chen waited for a moment before saying, "You should know that I'm not afraid of you if you intend to fight me to the death. In truth, if Zhiqing and I weren't indebted to Ms. Luo, I wouldn't have taken her words seriously. However, as of now, I'm willing to fulfill her dying wish, provided that you and your clan will not go against me anymore. You are well aware that I have no interest in coming to the illusionary dimension to play with you, nor am I interested in the power game. My people and I are having a great time overseas. If you hadn't sought trouble with me, I wouldn't have come over."

A look of delight appeared on everyone's faces when they heard his words.

They were not as fearless as Luo Qianqiu and wished to live as long as possible. After all, it was not easy to attain their cultivation, so they were not willing to send themselves to death by fighting an unparalleled person.

Chapter 1612 Chaos

In an instant, everyone's eyes were riveted on Luo Qianqiu. Even Luo Pingchao let him make the decision and awaited his reply.

If he insisted on fighting Yang Chen, they would not be able to do anything. Even if they wanted to deflect to the latter, he would not accept it.

Luo Qianqiu looked miserable at the time. With reddened eyes, he muttered his daughter's nickname while holding the jade in his palm. It was clear he was reminiscing about the past.

A long time later, he raised his head and let out a deep breath.

The sorrow in his eyes cleared a little as he suddenly said, "Your cultivation has improved. Why are you concealing your abilities when you're capable of taking down the whole world?"

Yang Chen was not the only one who was shocked by his utterance. Everyone else, including Luo Pingchao, was startled.

Frowning, Yang Chen wondered how Luo Qianqiu saw through his disguise when he had used the Blinding Leaf.

Luo Qianqiu forced a laugh. "You were my greatest foe, so I know you well. Even though your cultivation base doesn't seem to have changed, your aura has elevated, and so is the confidence in your eyes. I'm probably the only one here who can detect such minuscule changes."

Yang Chen was stunned. "Did you say 'were'? Does that mean..."

"How can I not accept Xiaoxiao's dying wish? Besides, I don't want a massacre to happen in my clan just like what the Ning clan went through." Luo Qianqiu sighed. It seemed as if he had aged a decade older.

He had been busy taking over the forces of the Xiao and Ning clans, obtaining the support of the Taishang elders, and removing the remaining rivals, but he didn't feel particularly successful.

His daughter was his only blood relative other than his father and grandfather.

He wanted to share his achievements with her, but she was nowhere to be found.

It was a sense of desolation different from before. In the past, he had someone to fixate those feelings on, so it was warm. That time around, he felt lonely because he could not see the future and that everything was not worth it.

As it turned out, many things were not as important as he thought, and he could let go of them.

Gradually, Luo Qianqiu no longer wished to attain a new realm and only hoped for the heavens to surprise him and return his daughter to his side.

If he could have another chance, he would not treat her harshly, criticize her innocence, or give her the cold shoulder.

However, it was all too late.

Luo Xiaoxiao's 'dying wish' gave him a chance to back out of a conflict, but it also woke him up completely.

Yang Chen let out a sigh of relief, glad that he did not have to kill Tang Luyi's ex-lover. As for his grudge against the Luo clan, it no longer mattered to him.

With the advancement of his realm, he could let go of many things because everything was under his control.

Smiling, he lifted his head and said, "All right, let her down."

Just as everyone was puzzled by his words, the view in front of them became blurry, and a woman with ethereal beauty appeared in the center.

Holding hands with her was the sobbing Luo Xiaoxiao.

Luo Pingchao and Luo Qianqiu were astonished that they failed to realize someone was watching over them in the air, not to mention she was with another person. The woman's cultivation base was far superior to theirs.

"Dad!"

Luo Xiaoxiao pounced at her father, who still looked devastated.

What's going on? A dazed expression appeared on his face.

"Xiaoxiao? You... How did you..."

The young lady was far more excited than him, pecking him in the face multiple times in front of everyone. Even her tears and saliva were left on him.

By the time Luo Qianqiu returned to his senses, his daughter had embarrassed him before everyone.

With a scarlet face, he yelled, "What are you doing?! S-Stop kissing!"

He became further embarrassed when he heard others laughing at them.

Yang Chen smirked, amused by the situation before him. It seemed like Luo Xiaoxiao was indeed the bane of Luo Qianqiu's existence.

Plenty of people had caught on and were all looking at him gratefully.

On the other hand, Luo Qianqiu felt he was tricked by Yang Chen. However, Luo Xiaoxiao kept holding onto his neck, so he could only shoot him a glare, though it did not look threatening.

Yu Xuening giggled and blinked at Yang Chen. "Bray, you did a good job this time. I thought you only knew to fight and kill."

He rolled her eyes at her. "You have much to learn about me. All right. I've settled things here, so let's go."

Yang Chen did not want to stay any longer, lest Luo Xiaoxiao said things that would make him feel awkward.

Naturally, Yu Xuening had no objections to his suggestion. Soon, they disappeared before everyone.

With their speed, no one would be able to catch up to them. By the time Luo Xiaoxiao realized Yang Chen was gone, it was too late. Thinking that she was "abandoned" by him again, she stamped her feet and called him names.

Luo Qianqiu hurriedly asked her what had happened while she was gone since he was worried Yang Chen had done something to her. As to how Luo Xiaoxiao embellished the story to her father, Yang Chen was completely unaware.

After leaving the illusionary dimension, he did not fly to the Mediterranean Sea straight away. The scene of Luo Xiaoxiao's revival with her father replayed in his mind, which led him to miss his mother.

He hesitated for a while and headed to Jiangnan military zone.

Because he had to explain many things to the curious Yu Xuening, they did not travel fast and would look at the scenery on the way.

The whole of China had entered into a terrifying winter, and most of the northern region had been deserted except for a few areas.

Even the temperature in the southern regions had dropped to below negative ten degrees in the day and negative twenty to thirty at night.

Most of the southern regions did not have heating, and the high usage of air conditioners caused frequent short circuits with no one to fix them due to the snowstorm.

Chaos descended into the northern regions. Not only was it dark everywhere, but the crime rate had also increased.

Millionaires migrated abroad, while the wealthy could only hide at home. The ordinary folks bore the brunt of the damage.

When Yang Chen and Yu Xuening arrived at the Jiangnan military zone, the sight that greeted them undoubtedly baffled him.

There was no one in the military zone. The supplies were unguarded, and the commander's residence was deserted.

Associating that scene with the things she saw earlier, Yu Xuening smiled and joked, "My, the turmoil in the world has nothing to do with my appearance, right?"

Yang Chen was not in the mood to listen to her joke. She probably wouldn't think it's a problem even if everyone in the world died.

A hint of concern and anger appeared in his eyes.

The Gods had been evasive about the function of the Gaia's Heart, but from the looks of things, it should be capable of destroying humanity, if not conquering the world.

"Let's check out Beijing."

Without delay, he brought Yu Xuening to the Yang residence in Beijing.

Eighty to ninety percent of Beijing residents had left, but the Yang residence remained brightly lit.

The snowstorm had covered the paths, and the guards of the Yang family were clearing the snow diligently.

The generator in the house worked on diesel fuel. Fortunately, they had enough supply to last for a short period.

Sensing that the Yang family members were in Yang Gongming's study, they went over there directly.

The Yangs were huddled before Yang Gongming's desk, discussing something. The sound of the door opening frightened them.

"Yang Chen!?"

When Guo Xuehua recognized her son, she was overjoyed and went up to hug him.

"My son! You're finally back! Where have you gone? Let me take a look at you! Are you alright? You gave me a scare. Why were you unreachable for so long?"

Tears streamed down her cheeks as she kept touching his face and body. It seemed like she was afraid that it was all her hallucination.

Chapter 1613

Almost Back

Yang Gongming and the rest of the family were overjoyed. Yang Pojun clenched his hands with delight.

There was no doubt that they felt pressed when Yang Chen vanished during a crisis. The First Senior Official, too, continued inquiring where he was, but the Yang family members had no idea.

With the whole world ostracising China and the array of guardians unreachable, he also treated Yang Chen as their lifesaver.

Yang Chen's heart warmed when he felt his mother's longing and affection for him. A smile blossomed on his face as he consoled, "Mom, don't cry. I'll explain everything to you. I'm fine..."

It took him a lot of effort to mollify Guo Xuehua.

Only then did they realize there was a beautiful woman behind him.

Although Yu Xuening tried to cover up her beauty, she still looked gorgeous, like the reincarnation of a goddess. It was hard for ordinary people to look away from her.

Fortunately, those present were not average people, so they did not embarrass themselves. On top of that, Yang Chen had plenty of pretty women with him.

"This lady is Yang Chen..." Guo Xuehua regarded Yu Xuening with interest and dislike. She apparently assumed her kid was busy having fun with her.

A bitter smile formed on Yang Chen's face, and he gave them a simple introduction of Yu Xuening to the others. Since the situation was dire, there was no need to hide some things. Thus, he shared everything, such as the Ten Thousand Demon Realm, the demons, and the devil cultivators.

Yang Gongming was also shocked to know that the woman before them was a Nine-Tailed Divine Fox over 50,000 years old. Seeing her youthful appearance, he found it hard to accept that he was meeting a "living fossil."

Guo Xuehua breathed a sigh of relief when she ascertained that Yu Xuening was not Yang Chen's lover. Otherwise, she would not know how to interact with a daughter-in-law who was tens of thousands of years older than her.

Yu Xuening listened to them quietly with a faint smile. From time to time, she would take Yang Gongming's books or play with the electronic devices, so she was not bored at all.

Once Yang Chen recounted his experience, Guo Xuehua recalled something and asked, "Yang Chen, do Ruoxi and the others know you've returned?"

Yang Chen shook his head. "No, I came home as soon as I solved the matter in the illusionary dimension."

His response made her happy. She hugged him enthusiastically again as if her prior sadness had faded and the cold no longer mattered.

"I knew it! My son is the best. How sensible of you to visit me first."

Yang Chen flushed a little. He felt that his mother was treating him like a little child.

Meanwhile, Yu Xuening giggled, as though she was enjoying his awkward reaction.

Yang Gongming cleared his throat and disrupted their peaceful mother and son bonding moment. "Yang Chen, you know let them know that you're. Something happened on the island when you weren't around."

Yang Chen frowned. "How is that possible? I had three experts of the Demon Sect to guard the place. No one should be able to hurt the islanders."

“They weren’t hurt. Princess Jane was summoned by the army alliance of Europe and America...” Guo Xuehua recounted the earlier incident to him.

His expression turned grim instantly. He couldn’t care less about the Noah Ark, but he could not tolerate the fact that they dared to seize Jane when they knew she was her woman.

After deliberating for a moment, he said, “The temperature in Beijing is too low, and it’s not safe here. I’ll bring all of you to the island first.”

Guo Xuehua appeared troubled and looked at Yang Gongming.

The old man shook his head. “The four major clans and the First Senior Official agreed that we would employ our forces to protect the citizens. We would not leave Beijing until the last moment. If we are at our wit’s end, we’ll contact you or the other islanders. So, be rest assured and do what you’re supposed to do.”

Yang Chen furrowed his brows as he did not expect him to be so stubborn. Perhaps, it would be more accurate to describe his obstinacy as the pride of a member of the Yang family and the mission to uphold his family’s glory.

Knowing that there would not be any problem in a short period and that his grandfather knew what to do, he did not force him to follow.

Since he had met his family, Yang Chen was eager to meet his wives and child. However, just as he turned around, Yang Gongming called him.

The latter approached him and tapped on his shoulder.

“Kid, this isn’t just about the nation’s future, but humanity’s survival. The greater your power, the greater your responsibility. Because of this, no one can force you to shoulder the responsibility. If you find yourself at a crossroads, don’t be affected by other people. Follow your heart when you make the decision. Don’t have regrets,” he whispered to his ear.

Yang Chen was quiet for a moment as he contemplated his words. In the end, he nodded.

Seeing that his son was leaving, Yu Xuening followed along, and they headed to the Mediterranean Sea.

In the forgotten realms, the temperature at the main island and the archipelagos had dropped to below zero degrees.

Snow floated above the sea, but it only specked the islands.

A large number of tropical plants had died, causing the forgotten realms to look barren.

The islanders had taken cover in their houses and lit up the fireplace to shelter themselves from the biting cold.

Fortunately, the island had emergency supplies available all the time, so they did not have to worry about food and other necessities.

Wang Ma, Su Xin, the Liu couple, Ma Guifang, and the other women’s relatives had moved into the ancient castle located by the cliff.

It had an electric generator to provide a stable supply of heat, and a large number of guest rooms allowed them to live comfortably.

At that moment, a few of the women and their relatives were seated at the long dining table.

Although the dishes were not lavish as usual, they were still scrumptious. Unfortunately, none of them had the appetite, except for Lanlan, who was chowing down on the food happily.

Sitting beside her, Lin Ruoxi would occasionally wipe her greasy mouth with a napkin or feed her some vegetables despite her rejection. It made the atmosphere seem calm and peaceful.

Cai Yan played with the spaghetti on her plate with the fork and said enviously, "Ruoxi, the world is coming to an end, and Hubby's whereabouts are still unknown... How can you stay so calm? Even Sister Tang Wan couldn't stand it and went to meditate in the basement, yet you can still feed Lanlan."

Lin Ruoxi looked up and lifted the corner of her lips into a smile before continuing to feed her daughter.

Wang Ma forced a smile. "Miss might look composed, but she's anxious just like everyone else. It's just how her personality is."

Her remark evoked a chuckle from the others. Having spent time with Lin Ruoxi, they sort of understood that she was not being aloof on purpose. It was just how her temperament was.

Having said that, they would have been extremely nervous if it were not for her repose.

After all, everyone on the island viewed her as the leader during Yang Chen's absence.

"Mommy, where's Sister Ting?" Lanlan asked suddenly.

Sister Ting was Yu Lanting. The little girl was not afraid of strangers. After the three women brought her on a trip to Europe, she started calling Yu Lanting Sister Ting, even though the latter was over 2,000 years old.

"She should be on the island? Why?" Lin Ruoxi asked.

Lanlan pouted. "Sister Ting promised to bring me to her house to play. It's been so many days, but she hasn't brought me there yet."

"She has to stay on the island to protect everyone else, so she can't bring you to her house to play yet. You'll have to wait for your daddy to come back," Lin Ruoxi said while stroking her daughter's head.

Lanlan blinked. "When is Daddy coming back then?"

"Your daddy..." Lin Ruoxi seemed pensive, then smiled all of a sudden. "He's almost back..."

At that moment, two figures appeared outside the castle and strolled in through the main entrance.

The women in the castle sensed something, and they beamed with joy. Concurrently, three figures dashed over from one direction. They were Yu Lanting and the other two demons.

Chapter 1614

Do I Look That Old

Yang Chen's appearance caused everyone to feel emotional. After getting over their initial shock, they became overjoyed. The ladies were unable to suppress their tears as their worry and anxiety for the past weeks overwhelmed them.

Seeing their misty eyes and aggrieved expressions, he felt guilty and could only force an awkward smile.

Despite his exceptional cultivation base, cold sweat formed on his palms due to the pent-up longing for his family.

"I've returned. "I'm sorry I got into an accident and caused you all to worry about me," he said as calmly as he could.

"We almost lost our minds because of you!" Ma Guifang was the first to speak, berating her son-in-law immediately.

Yang Chen could only give her a foolish smile. At the same time, he was embarrassed to face his women as he could imagine how helpless they felt when the man of the family was not around during such a helpless circumstance.

After exchanging glances with Lin Ruoxi, he realized that she looked the calmest. It was as though she knew he would soon return.

That caused him to feel a little uneasy, dispelling the joy from reuniting with his family.

Seeing that her father had returned, Lanlan put down her fork and dashed toward him. While hugging his thigh, she nuzzled her cherubic cheeks against him.

"Daddy, where did you run off to play? Did you bring a present for me?"

A surge of warmth arose in Yang Chen's heart, and he bent down to pick her up. Tightening his grip on her, he planted a few pecks on her cheeks.

Since becoming a father, his mental state has changed a lot. During his time in the Eye of the Sky Demon, he would think of his daughter every day. The affinity of blood relationship could not be explained with words.

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"You're asking for presents again. I've to ask your mother if you've been a good kid. Otherwise, you won't get presents."

Lanlan instantly looked at Lin Ruoxi pitifully, pleading for her not to reveal her recent trips out of the island for fear of upsetting her father.

Her reaction amused the elders, who chuckled in response.

The atmosphere seemed to have lightened thanks to Lanlan.

They all had the mood to recollect themselves and approached to ask Yang Chen what had happened.

Of course, they, too, discovered Yu Xuening.

When they saw such a beautiful woman dressed in traditional garb, it was difficult for them to remain calm. In truth, she was as attractive as Lin Ruoxi but more intriguing and seductive.

Yu Xuening did not mind their gazes and was checking out the decorations in the castle. Her eyes even lit up as she stared at the large television and home theatre system.

Yang Chen told everyone to have a seat so that he could recount the ins and outs of the situation.

Before that, Yu Lanting, Yu Qiyun, and Yu Wenhong, who had been dawdling outside the castle, finally suppressed their excitement and walked in.

The members of the Qingqiu clan had a unique way to identify each other. To put it simply, they could sense the familiar scent of foxes.

Although they had never met their ancestor, they could deduce through her scent and profound cultivation base.

However, the blissful news came too sudden that they found it hard to believe.

The three demons stood in the corridor, staring at Yu Xuening, who was looking around the living hall, from afar. They dared not approach, holding the hem of their dress tightly, their bodies trembling, and their eyes reddening.

At that sight, Yang Chen could not bring himself to talk to his family yet and hollered at Yu Xuening.

“Hey, Yu Xuening, didn’t you want to meet your clan members? They are the clan leader and elders of the Qingqiu clan.”

The second they heard him call Yu Xuening, the three women lost all strength in their legs and prostrated themselves on the ground.

“Ancestor!”

The sudden change frightened the others. This woman with ethereal beauty is Yu Lanting’s ancestor!?

Naturally, they cast curious gazes at Yang Chen, who nodded and explained what happened at the Ten Thousand Demon Realm.

Only then did Yu Xuening return to her senses and look at the kneeling women apologetically. “You may rise. I’ve been too preoccupied with the fascinating things here that I neglected the three of you. What are your names?”

The three women rose to their feet carefully and introduced themselves. At the same time, they shook their heads and said she did nothing wrong and that they were at fault for intruding.

Those present knew that the three demons were thousands of years old, so they were amused to see them look so afraid like children meeting their parents.

Smiling, Yu Xuening walked over and stroked their heads. Though they seemed to be the same age in terms of appearance, the way she stroked them resembled an elder’s attitude towards young children.

Suddenly, her eyes glowed in green like two green gems.

The same thing happened to the three women, but the glow in their eyes was dimmer.

After a while, Yu Xuening nodded. "I've let down the clan 50,000 years ago, but I'm glad you have inherited the noblest and purest bloodline in our clan. I'm gratified that a grave mistake didn't happen because of me..."

Yu Lanting shook her head vehemently. "No, no. Ancestor, you're our clan's glory. The rise and fall of the Qingqiu clan don't depend on you solely. We've always believed that you're still alive. From now on, we still need you to lead us to new heights!"

Yu Xuening smiled a little but did not respond to her statement. "Don't call me 'ancestor,' do I look that old?"

"Ah? No... no... That's not it..." The three women flushed, wondering if they had offended Yu Xuening.

Yu Xuening sat on the couch and said to Yang Chen, "Kid, I'm not in a hurry to talk to my descendants. Don't you have a serious matter to talk about? Go on."

At that moment, Tang Wan, Cai Ning, and the rest of the women who were cultivating had come out. They were all waiting for Yang Chen's explanation eagerly.

Immediately, he began providing a brief narrative of his previous experience, omitting as much as he could about Luo Xiaoxiao and the devil spirits. After explaining why he couldn't return in time, he swiftly inquired about Jane's condition.

Compared to the global drop in temperature and Gaia's Heart, he was more concerned about searching for his woman.

"Hubby, when you weren't around, we've investigated that America and the main countries in the European Union have built a massive military base in the highland of Ethiopia. The temperature there is higher, and it's sparsely populated. The transport of minerals is also more convenient. They're planning to build the Noah Ark there and bring it underwater. Jane should be there. Because they've threatened her with the lives of civilians, so... Jane could only help them build the Noah Ark. Otherwise, she could've returned on her own, given her cultivation base," Rose explained.

Yang Chen sneered. "Noah Ark? That's just a lie to deceive themselves. With human's current technology, it would be pointless for them to do anything if the Gods are planning to obliterate them. Even Jane can't defeat the Gods through technology..."

He could sense that the mental-spiritual energy housed within Hades' divinity had reached new heights. It was on par with the genuine Yuan in the Full Cycle of Tai Qing in terms of pure mental-spiritual vitality!

If the situation continued to develop in such a way, his mental-spiritual energy would reach Shang Qing.

As his divinity was inherited, he had yet to unleash its full potential. Moreover, Poseidon, Athena, and the rest were originally more powerful than him.

That was a probability that Poseidon's space law was in Shang Qing, at the very least.

In the face of such Gods, he did not have the confidence to fight them, even if he was in Shang Qing Heavenly Lightning.

Yang Chen had believed the Gods' claim that they only had twenty to thirty percent of their abilities left.

Back when the Gods first arrived on Earth 20,000 years ago, their powers were sealed by Gaia's Heart.

If Gaia's Heart was not sealed, the Gods would have dominated the world 20,000 years ago.

Chapter 1615

Collaborate

When everyone heard Yang Chen's utterances, they became solemn. Although they knew this matter would lead to the final war between humans and the Gods, they did not expect him to lack the confidence in stopping it from happening.

"Then what should we do? Are we going to watch the temperature continue to drop?" Mo Qianni asked worriedly.

Yang Chen contemplated for a moment. "Let's put that aside first. I have to bring Jane back. Instead of wasting time to build the Noah Ark, it's more important to have her stay here so that her safety is ensured."

The ladies had no objection. They dared not make a decision on their own when Yang Chen was not around, but now that he had returned, they would follow everything he said.

Meanwhile, Yu Xuening did not plan to wander around with Yang Chen. She called upon the three demons and headed to the Honghuang realm to visit the clan.

Yang Chen was not worried about what would ensure after her return to the clan. No matter how displeased they devil cultivators were toward him and assumed he was unwilling to save their peers, they dared not do anything to him. After all, Yu Xuening came out of the Ten Thousand Demon Realm through her own capability. It has nothing much to do with him.

After finding out the location of the military base, he headed there alone.

The highland of Ethiopia was more than four thousand meters above sea level, the source of four rivers which included the Atbarah River.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Russian army built the military base there for two reasons. Other than the rich water source, they could excavate the highland and build the Noah Ark within the mountain for protection and convenience to enter the sea.

Once he arrived above the sea near the highland, he saw multiple army fleets waiting below and all sorts of warships equipped with Aegis Combat System.

All the countries except China had formed an alliance, so the number of troops came up to a terrifying number. At first glance, there seemed to be at least two million soldiers stationed outside.

Yang Chen scanned the entrance of the base with his divinity before flying down.

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The vicinity of a massive mountain area was enclosed with a high strength alloy gate over one hundred metres tall and three hundred meters wide.

When Yang Chen appeared on a nuclear powered aircraft carrier outside the gate, it immediately attracted the garrison's attention.

“Stand right there! Who are you!?”

Fifty-odd fully armed Navy SEALs gathered from all directions, and three Apaches also monitored him closely.

Yang Chen did not bother to talk to them. After striding to the metal gate, he leaped dozens of meters upward and threw his fist at the center.

Thud!

With a deafening sound, the mountain shook, and boulders came rolling down, alerting the nearby troops.

Under countless terrified gazes, Yang Chen created a massive hole inside the alloy gate that was over ten metres thick.

Yang Chen sauntered into the base through hole, leaving the dumbfounded American soldiers behind.

The space excavated within the highland was so massive that it astonished Yang Chen.

It was like a magical world that appeared out of nowhere without an end in sight.

The height of the whole space must be over three hundred metres tall, the central region containing a pond formed from inflowing water.

Right above the pond were two conspicuous black and gold giant iron beasts, their size far bigger than aircraft carriers.

Like those in sci-fi movies, they looked majestic. Although they had the appearance of a submarine, they looked more like cruise ships for most details.

On each corner of the space were frameworks made from iron, and hundreds of buildings erected in the form of iron fortresses. They all had their own function, mostly used for processing and development of the Noah Ark.

The white lights peppered the sky like stars, shining from above and lighting up the whole area.

The workers, researchers, and supervisors were all busy as bees, doing their job in this world.

Yang Chen was puzzled as to when humans possessed such terrifying excavating and constructing abilities. After all, it was not a small project. That base could be considered the human's miraculous world.

Because of Yang Chen's forceful intrusion, sirens were blaring inside the space, and red lights were flashing at all corners.

“Attention, everyone! Attention, everyone! An intruder has breached the perimeter!”

While some of the workers were still in a daze, a large number of soldiers and guardians had emerged from all areas, dashing towards Yang Chen.

He soon realised that the situation there was more complex than he had thought as humans were not the only ones there.

A large group of people clad in black with skin as white as snow rushed over. They were all high-ranked members of the blood race.

Following closely behind them were a group of people with superpowers.

In fact, the blood race’s mortal enemies, the werewolves, bared their fangs as they ran towards Yang Chen.

Surprisingly, even the Vatican, the Dark Parliament’s foe, had dispatched their Crusaders and Knights of the Holy Palace to besiege him.

A smile appeared on Yang Chen’s face. As he stared at the crowd that appeared out of nowhere, he understood many things.

The humans could build such a large base in a short time because of the help they received from the werewolves, blood race, and superpower users.

The wizards from the United Kingdom’s Merlin Magic Association alone could make use of powerful spells to disintegrate the earth element inside the mountain and thus excavate it speedily. As for the werewolves and blood race who had invincible strength, they could carry items that human’s machines failed to lift.

In the group of blood race that first arrived before Yang Chen, someone recognised him and immediately halted the others.

This beautiful and sexy woman was Lilith, who he once had an encounter with.

“Everyone, stop! It’s His Majesty Pluto!”

Lilith was stunned for a moment before she immediately issued an order to halt the others.

At that moment, a few more princes of the blood race and the elders of the werewolves came along with a few human generals and special forces.

Some of them included Yang Chen’s acquaintances—Lilith’s father, Sargerass, Director of FBI, Balotelli, and Frodesa from DGSE, who had all recognised Yang Chen.

However, they were all wary of him, wearing solemn expressions.

Seeing the hundreds of special guards of different levels of capabilities, Yang Chen could not help but lament.

“Tch, I used to think that the church and the Dark Parliament would always be on opposing sides, there would never be peaceful days between the werewolves and the Camarillas, and the FBI would never

allow the KGB to appear in the same place. It seems like reality has proved me wrong today. All of you are collaborating,” he remarked, smirking.

The prominent figures present knew his appearance since Hades had long been one of the Gods known by humans.

Due to the situation between humans and Gods, they naturally felt nervous.

“Your Majesty, it isn’t appropriate for you to show up here,” Sargerass said, frowning.

Yang Chen chuckled. “Sargerass, have your wounds recovered? The injury caused by seraph won’t be healed so easily.”

Those from the church clearly felt awkward, while Sargerass was unfazed. “I haven’t recovered, but I can’t continue sleeping... The humans’ extinction might not necessarily equate to the blood race’s survival.”

“Your Majesty, even though you’re one of the Gods, you’re still human. Please don’t make things hard for us. We know you’re formidable, but we’ll go all out in order to live on...” A hint of sorrow flashed across Lilith’s eyes, but her hands had gripped her weapon.

Yang Chen shrugged. “You guys are overthinking. I’m merely here to bring my woman home. Where is Jane? Why can’t I sense her presence in this region?”

Chapter 1616

Coincidence

Even though Yang Chen was infuriated that the countries collaboratively seized Jane, he could understand the humans’ survival instinct since their lives were on the line.

Now that he had returned, he could not just sit around, hence he came to bring Jane home.

At that moment, he was weirded out by the fact he could not locate Jane even with his divinity. Could there be another base?

When the others heard his question, they appeared to be troubled and nervous.

Yang Chen’s expression darkened as his heart sank. “Did something happen to Jane?”

After a long silence, Lilith was the first to speak. She sighed and said, “Your Majesty, we can’t hide it from you. Princess Jane was abducted.”

His gaze turned chilly. When his eyes ranged over those who were present, they became alerted and broke out in a cold sweat.

Judging from their reaction, Yang Chen knew Lilith did not lie. After all, they dared not deceive him.

“What do you mean by that?” he asked in the calmest tone he could manage.

Sargerass explained, “It happened at night three years ago. An expert breached into the base and took Princess Jane away. We couldn’t tell how they managed to do it, but judging from their movements, they should be Chinese cultivators. Because Princess Jane struggled a little, she was restrained with greater strength.”

Yang Chen felt uneasy. Could it be someone from the illusionary dimension? But they have no reason to abduct Jane, same for the demon and devil cultivators from the Honghuang realm.

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“Your Majesty, we didn’t inform you earlier on this because we did not know about your whereabouts. The construction of Noah’s Ark remains our main goal even after Princess Jane’s disappearance. We dare not have any mishaps since we’re racing with time,” a general dressed in a military uniform uttered.

Yang Chen knew it was pointless to be anxious. It seemed like someone had indeed abducted Jane, but their motive was unknown. Nonetheless, she should be fine since they would have killed her if they wanted to instead of going through the trouble to kidnap her.

“Can you still continue constructing without Jane?” he asked while frowning.

The general replied, “Princess Jane has completed the blueprint for the Noah Ark. Although there are some minor details that require further discussion, we are confident that we can complete the construction speedily with our manpower from all over the world,” the general replied.

That surprised Yang Chen. Jane actually managed to design such a massive battleship in such a short time? Has she thought of creating something like this before? What is in her brain?

Despite the questions in his mind, he knew they were the least of his concern for now. He had to think of a way to find Jane. As long as she was on Earth, he should be able to find her.

As for Gaia’s Heart, he had to come up with a solution too.

Just as he turned to leave, Lilith suddenly walked forward and asked, “Your Majesty, w-will you help us?”

Yang Chen halted in his tracks and turned around, only to be greeted with expectant and hopeful gazes.

Although the construction of Noah’s Ark was going on smoothly, everyone in the base, including the major forces, knew the true trial was not the drop in global temperature, but whether or not Gods would massacre humans.

People like Sargeras had witnessed Yang Chen’s prowess, so they felt apprehensive about the prospect of a battle with the other eleven Gods.

All of a sudden, he felt an emotion he had never experienced before.

In the past, he did not think there was a difference between being a human or a God with inherited divinity. He was still Yang Chen, a human and also a God.

It was only then did he understand that humans and Gods were two different races.

In the world of animals, two different species might be able to live peacefully together for years, but there was a chance that the stronger one would eat the weaker one due to starvation. It was just a matter of time before it happened, and it had nothing to do with sentiments or morals.

Yang Chen parted his lips to speak but could not form the sentence. In the end, a sigh was all that fell from his lips.

Disappointment was written all over their faces when he offered no reply. Nonetheless, they had expected such an outcome since he could not fight against a mighty group on his own.

Yang Chen soon left the base and returned to The Forgotten Realms.

On his way back, he slowed down his pace a lot, which put him in a solemn mood too.

As soon as he arrived above the island, he sensed something was amiss and quickly appeared in the castle.

In the living hall, the atmosphere was frighteningly tense. The women and their relatives were all seated, staring at an unfamiliar-looking man.

He was sitting at Yang Chen's usual spot, sporting a rather old white shirt matched with grey slacks. As for his hair, it seemed like he had it trimmed by a roadside hairdresser.

The man had no facial hair, with a sharp chin and quite handsome facial features. If it were not for his woeful gaze which made him seem old, one would have taken him for a university student.

Yang Chen frowned when he spotted Lin Ruoxi's Fengxiang bracelet in his hand.

Moreover, he had been stroking it absordedly as if it was a treasure.

"Hubby, you're back." Lin Ruoxi came forth and greeted him with Lanlan in her arms. "This senior has been waiting for you," she added with a smile on her face.

Lin Ruoxi was probably the only calm one here. It was as though she was not worried by the strange newcomer.

"Why does he have the Fengxiang bracelet?" Yang Chen asked.

She smiled resignedly and replied, "He took it from me as soon as he came in. We're no match for him."

He nodded and confirmed she and Lanlan were fine before walking forward to ask, "Who are you?"

The mysterious man raised his head and chuckled. "Young man, you shouldn't talk to an elder so rudely."

"This Fengxiang bracelet belongs to my wife. Give it back to her." Yang Chen was displeased, but he could not come to blows with him due to certain reasons.

However, the man raised a brow and pointed at the bracelet. "That's a coincidence. This belongs to my wife too."

Everyone, including Yang Chen, was stunned by his statement. Is he crazy?

"Even though you're at the pinnacle of Shang Qing, you might not win against me. Thus, you'd better return it to my wife before you infuriate me."

Yang Chen's utterance caused an uproar in the room.

This mysterious man has the cultivation base of the pinnacle of Shang Qing!?

Earlier on, they had heard from Yang Chen that he had gone through the heavenly lightning tribulation of Shang Qing, so they assumed no human could have a cultivation base greater than him. Yet, a monster appeared before them.

Chapter 1617

Too Superficial

“Oh... You’re only in the middle phase of Shang Qing, yet you could tell my cultivation base. It seems like you’re not inferior to me in terms of advancement of the cultivation realm,” the man remarked, beaming at Yang Chen.

After receiving some “unintentional” pointer from Yu Xuening and through his incredible comprehension skills, Yang Chen had indeed undergone a rapid advancement in the cultivation realm. However, it took time to accumulate True Yuan, so he was still in the middle phase of Shang Qing.

It puzzled him that the man would praise him and seemed delighted by his achievements.

“Who exactly are you? Why are you looking for me?” Yang Chen asked while frowning.

The man stood up and walked toward him. He did not bother to be courteous, staring Yang Chen in the eye and declaring, “Nothing much. I just want to test out your prowess.”

Before he finished his sentence, he had taken a big stride forward and gripped the latter’s collar.

Yang Chen’s eyes widened in disbelief when he realized he had failed to dodge.

The step the man took might seem like nothing to the others, but Yang Chen could sense an unprecedented “Dao” from it!

It was as though the man never moved from the original spot, yet he did grab Yang Chen’s collar.

Indeed, most of the women who had cultivation were confused because the man had walked toward Yang Chen at a very slow speed, yet the latter did not dodge or counter

“This isn’t a suitable place for a fight. I’ll give you a ride.”

Yang Chen was still puzzled about the situation when the man lifted him and threw him out of the castle.

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He was propelled into the air above the sea at a couple of hundred kilometers per hour, like a human shell.

Just as he stabilized himself, the man flew out of the castle and stood before him with a grin on his face.

At that moment, Yang Chen was certain that the man did not harbor malice and truly intended to spar with him. Otherwise, the latter could have attacked when he was caught off guard earlier.

“This place is spacious enough. We wouldn’t hurt the islanders if we’re careful.” The mysterious man spread his arm and gestured for Yang Chen to begin.

Although Yang Chen had calmed down, he was still baffled by the man’s “Dao” and intention.

However, he could not stand still when the man struck first. I should just take him down and talk later.

The Heaven and Earth energy in the vicinity started twirling at a crazy speed according to his control.

Very quickly, large groups of dark colors conjured in the sky.

Like black horses, they galloped across the sky.

Everyone on the island could see the majestic sight. The commotion that roared across the sky had the women widen their eyes in astonishment.

Even though they knew Yang Chen’s cultivation was powerful for being in Shang Qing, they did not expect it to be so destructive. It seemed as though he could destroy the world.

However, the mysterious man, who stood a dozen feet away from Yang Chen, shook his head in pity.

“Do you think you can frighten me with the commotion?”

Yang Chen snorted. “Don’t be so overconfident.”

As soon as he said those words, he summoned two bolts of purple-blue Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning from the dark clouds above.

Rumble!

The lightning bolts intertwined with each other like dragons, blazing brightly above the sea in blue and purple.

The mysterious man did not seem to dodge, letting the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning bolts strike him.

Yang Chen frowned. Is he so slow that he can’t dodge even one Heavenly Lightning bolt? That doesn’t make sense. I can still feel his True Yuan, and it’s not weakening... Could it be... No!

His heart sank. Just as he had an ominous feeling, someone had kicked him on his back.

Thud!

Despite the dull sound, the force he felt on his back was about thousands of kilograms, sending him downward.

As though he was a beam of laser, Yang Chen flew hundreds of meters forward into the sea.

That heavy strike caused him to feel like his organs were crushed, and he almost coughed out a mouthful of blood.

Yang Chen’s body was technically invincible, but the kick from the mysterious man contained his True Yuan of the pinnacle of Shang Qing, not to mention that his power was all focused on his leg, so the force carried by the kick was greater than Shang Qing Heavenly Lightning.

Yang Chen's mind went blank. As the Heaven and Earth energy dispersed, the dark clouds naturally dissipated.

He panted as he flew back to the sky from the deep sea. He was clearly enraged, as evidenced by his inflamed eyes.

"You're seeking death..." he snarled.

The man shook his head and sighed. "It's useless. Even if you have a greater 'Dao' than me, you can't win against me since you don't know how to use it... I suppose finding you to spar is a boring thing. Kid, you're still too young, and it seems like it's not suitable for you to shoulder heavy responsibilities."

"Stop talking nonsense with me! Get straight to the point! Who are you!?" Yang Chen did not use Shang Qing Heavenly Lightning as he was afraid of killing the man directly, but in hindsight, he regretted being merciful.

The mysterious man guffawed. "Why are you acting like a kid who refuses to admit defeat after losing a fight? Don't you understand? No matter if it's Tai Qing, Shang Qing, or even Yu Qing Heavenly Lightning, you won't be able to defeat me because you can't land a strike on me! When one reaches a certain realm, the sharpness of the knife no longer matters but rather the technique. Your knife is a hundred times sharper than mine, but your skills are subpar. Your heavenly lightning might work against the mediocre cultivators in the illusionary dimension because their realms are inferior to you, but you're lacking when compared to me."

Yang Chen's face turned pale as he thought the man's words made sense. That was because Yu Xuening had told him in private that his techniques were too coarse. At that time, he paid no heed to her reminder as he reckoned it would be fine as long as he could kill people. However, at present, he realized that, in battles of a certain level, he might not be able to gain the upper hand through absolute strength.

Still, he refused to give up without a fight.

Silver-blue electric current started crackling around him like a lightning shield. It was the Shang Qing Heavenly Lightning!

As the range grew, two silver-blue spears about the length of tens of meters appeared in his hands.

The Shang Qing Heavenly Lightning bolts danced like silver snakes, flicking their forked tongues that threatened to blast everything in the sky.

The mysterious man narrowed his eyes. "Oh... you're someone who refuses to admit defeat. I like it, but unfortunately, you still can't win against me."

Yang Chen made no attempt to respond. He sprinted forward, transforming into a lightning bolt, in an attempt to strike the man down. He had not considered keeping the man alive.

The silver-blue Shang Qing Heavenly Lightning were like tentacles, sweeping every corner under his demand. The two heavenly lightning spears were like his arms, tearing the spaces occasionally as he brandished them around.

Although the power of the conjured heavenly lightning was not as powerful as those that fell from the sky, he could control and manipulate them as he pleased.

However, no matter how he assaulted the strange man, he would always be one step ahead of him, disappearing from the previous area and reappearing in a safer location.

Yang Chen would be deceived by him each time. Every time he missed, he became further frustrated.

After about fifteen minutes, the number of Yang Chen's attacks had reached five digits. The women could only see the silver-blue electric current dancing everywhere, yet all his strikes would miss the target.

It was the umpteenth time Yang Chen realized all his attacks landed on an apparition did he stop. At that instant, he was overwhelmed with helplessness.

The mysterious man suddenly appeared behind Yang Chen. Smiling, he said, "Do you understand now? If I wanted to leave, I would've done so. If I wanted to attack you by catching you off guard, you would've been defenseless. If I were your enemy, I might not be able to kill you, but I guarantee you wouldn't be able to do anything to me."

Yang Chen turned around and demanded, "Your 'Dao,' does it cause people to have hallucinations?"

The man was stunned for a while before he laughed and replied, "It looks like you've regained your composure. Unfortunately, you've made the wrong guess... My 'Dao' is similar to hallucinations, but it'd be too superficial if that's all to it."