

Chapter 1061: Sleepless Night

After a very long time, she finally got up slowly. She leaned over and gently and sincerely kissed Li Qiye on the forehead.

“Go. When you have made up your mind, come and find me again.” Li Qiye gently waved his sleeve.

Mei Suyao didn't say anything else. She bowed towards him before leaving. As she stepped through the door, he spoke: “Go tell the old geezer that I have never shown mercy to my enemies, but I am also not stingy to those who pledge allegiance to me. It is a good thing that he is very sensible and smart.”

“I will relay the message.” She gently nodded and drifted away.

Not long after she left, Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao came in. Chen Baojiao checked him out and said: “Young Noble, don't tell me you bullied her. It looks like she cried earlier.”

“Does your Young Noble look like someone who bullies women?” Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: “I only helped her open her mind to a new world.”

Li Shuangyan curiously asked: “What kind of world?”

Li Qiye chuckled and replied: “It is a world that you two do not need to see because you already have happiness, joy, and aspirations. She is not the same. With an immortal bone for her soulbone, she became apathetic to all things after understanding them. If I didn't show her a new world, she would continue down this path and her end would either be converting to Buddhism or living in seclusion. That would be a waste to someone with her talents.”

“So Young Noble is saying that you want to take in the prettiest girl in the Mortal Emperor World?” Chen Baojiao blinked and spoke in a misleading manner.

He smiled and shook his head: “I'm only valuing her talents. The Eternal River School's ancestor has been trying to win my favor, so I'm simply giving her a chance. The old geezer has been very sensible this whole time.”

“Goddess Mei is the number one beauty of our Mortal Emperor World, so you should take her in. Who else would be a match for her except you?” Chen Baojiao continued on with her teasing.

“You are wrong. To be precise, your Young Noble doesn't care about that.” He smiled and shook his head.

“It is not bad to take her in. Why should we let someone else have the number one beauty?” The always-icy Li Shuangyan added with a deadpan delivery.

Li Qiye smiled in response: “Let's not dwell on the matter of my romance. I'll take you two to the Lesser Imperial Devil World now.” He looked at the two of them and asked: “Why isn't Chuyun here?”

He had promised to take Ye Chuyun to see the Buddhist Funeral Plateau before and find her some fortunes. However, she wasn't here right now.

"I don't know." Chen Baojiao shrugged slightly: "I don't know what is going on with her, I feel like she has changed quite a bit."

"She wants to live in seclusion." Li Shuangyan was much more sensitive than Chen Baojiao and said: "I think it has something to do with you. In my opinion, she wants to follow you but is not confident in keeping up, so she would rather seclude herself."

Li Qiye didn't say anything else and only sighed. He understood Ye Chuyun's choice. He had given her the option, but ultimately, she chose a different path.

He would rather leave it to fate than force the matters of this world. This was her choice, after all.

In the end, he said plainly: "If it is destined, then we will meet again."

Tonight, many people lost sleep in the Buddhist City after finding out that Evil Buddha was Li Qiye. The cultivators here went to bed with heavy hearts. This was especially true for the younger generation who were drowned in despair and saw no sliver of hope.

Everyone had seen just how invincible Evil Buddha was with their own eyes. After he was banished by Spirit Mountain, the whole world rejoiced. In their eyes, it was finally time to say goodbye to this Evil Buddha fella.

But now, Evil Buddha's real identity turned out to be Li Qiye. It didn't matter whether he was a monk or a cultivator, he was unbeatable all the same. The truth left people unable to sleep.

"This generation really leaves people in anguish. Even if Jikong Wudi and Zhan Shi's group is fairly strong, I'm afraid they still won't be able to compete with Fiercest." Someone said with emotions.

"The unluckiest is still the Jewel Pillar Mortal King. He lost again and again to Fiercest, so I wonder if his dao heart was affected or not. Will he be able to rise from defeat once more? If he can't stand up from where he has fallen, it will truly be over for him." Another murmured.

Sleep was out of the picture tonight. To all the other geniuses, Li Qiye was Mt. Tai pressing on their chests, leaving them out of breath.

Among them, Heavenly Emperor Lin was the coolest. He stared at the night sky above the city and chuckled: "This great era will surely be brilliant. I can't wait to see senior brother meet a powerful rival."

Even though Zhan Shi was not as nonchalant as Lin over this matter, he was still very determined: "There is no one who is forever unbeaten in this world, the victor will only be decided at the end of the path." He was trying to bolster his dao heart.

Under the same moon, Bai Jianzhen was embracing her sword and stood silently in place. The night engulfed her icy demeanor that was as chilling as a sword.

Unlike the other geniuses who were brilliant stars along the path towards the grand dao, Bai Jianzhen's dao of the sword was emotionless and ruthless. This was the grand dao of their Sword God Sacred Ground.

Thus, she always traveled by herself on the solitary and endless path of the grand dao.

Even though the sacred ground had sent an ancestor to be her dao protector, she refused this arrangement because she felt that it wouldn't be of much assistance to her sword dao.

After trying to understand the mad sword dao, she felt that she was reaching the end of this path. At that moment, she wanted to augment her dao foundation to become an Emperor Candidate for the Heaven's Will.

However, after fighting against Evil Buddha, she had a different perspective on the dao of the sword, something completely different from the dao of the mad sword.

She needed a breakthrough. There was a calling inside her, and she heard it too well. A cry of desire for the dao of the sword. She was born for the sword and she shall die for the sword!

"A different sword dao!" In the end, her gaze became firm and profound.

At a temple inside the Buddhist Funeral Plateau, the Mortal King was lying on a bed. His injuries this time were quite serious. However, his secret backer truly had heaven-defying capabilities and actually cured these wounds in a short period of time.

"You are not a match for Li Qiye." A person was standing next to the king's bed. He seemed to be veiled in darkness.

"I know, so I have to improve. If I have enough speed and power, I will be able to defeat him and grant him a death without a burial." The Mortal King gritted his teeth.

He viewed Li Qiye as a mortal enemy and had sworn to not share the same sky as him. He wouldn't give up until Li Qiye was dead.

"Even if your speed increases, you still won't necessarily be his opponent." The person next to the bed spoke in a serious manner: "I still can't see through him, but one thing is certain, his background is definitely extraordinary. Not just anyone can train someone like him. Even Godkings and imperial lineages wouldn't be able to."

"I don't care who is training him, I must defeat him!" The Mortal King was extremely determined without any intention to yield.

The figure next to the bed replied: "I chose you because I value your oath to never give up. However, I have spent a lot of time on you. If you just die for no reason, then all of my efforts will be in vain."

"If I have to be a coward, then you might as well let me die. Before everyone, that Li humiliated me and snatched my junior sister away. This is an unforgivable offense. Even if I die, I must take him down with me!" The mortal king spoke forcefully.

The figure could only shrug: "If you are so hellbent on going to die, I might not save you. There are too many people at the plateau right now, including some strong beings. Old Immortal and Venerable Ninesword, these two are not easy to mess with, and I have no plans of showing my face right now."

“Maybe we can join hands with the Space Trample Mountain and Jikong Wudi.” The Mortal King took a deep breath and suggested: “That sect has some invincible generals, and Master, you are untouchable as well. If we combine forces, just one Li Qiye will be nothing. Even if he has someone amazing as his dao protector, we can still kill him!”

The figure pondered for a moment before giving his thoughts: “I will consider this option and go see Venerable Ninesword. However, if you want to take revenge on Li Qiye, you should train hard right now. I have a few things prepared for situations like this to let you power up in a short time.”

“Yes, I will not let you down, Master.” The Mortal King chose to determinedly persevere. He was willing to experience even harsher training if it meant that he could defeat Li Qiye.

“Amitabha—” When night came, a Buddhist chant echoed across the entire plateau. Everyone was suddenly alarmed and stood up.

As they gazed into the night, they saw a temple emitting an endless Buddhist light. It was the Nihilism Temple inside the Lesser Imperial Devil World.

This brilliance shot up boundlessly, seeming as if it wanted to illuminate the entire lesser world. Such a blinding light carried a peerless Buddhist aura; it was what was suppressing the lesser world all along!

At the same time, people found out that the chant from earlier didn’t come from the plateau or Spirit Mountain but rather the Nihilism Temple.

Chapter 1062: Bai Jianzhen

“The Lesser Imperial Devil World has opened...” When night came, this news exploded to even the most remote corners across the plateau.

Not far from Spirit Mountain where the moonlight was shining on a sparkling great lake, a huge group was already waiting nearby with their eyes fixated on the water’s surface.

“Splash!” A sound like a carp crossing the dragon gate came about. More bubbles appeared in a very lively and happy scene as if they had their own sentience.

“Splash! Splash! Splash!” These water ripples slowly jumped and formed a huge Buddhist gate with symbols on them. Each symbol seemed to suppress the world inside, preventing the creatures within from getting out.

“The gate to the lesser world is there, let us go.” An ancestor shouted after seeing the stabilization of the portal. He brought his disciples inside and disappeared right away.

Other people quickly followed suit. They had been waiting for this rare opportunity for too long.

“Rumble!” Chariots rampaged through the sky with Venerable Ninesword in the lead.

“Jikong Wudi is coming, we need to hurry!” Many people were startled after seeing this team and pushed past each other in their mad rush into the Buddhist gate.

After Jikong Wudi came, those who hadn't entered yet made way for him. No one dared to stop them, especially after seeing the venerable sitting on a chariot. Anyone would shiver with apprehension.

After this group went inside, other geniuses like Zhan Shi, Heavenly Emperor Lin, and the Jewel Pillar Mortal King went in as well.

Many people were full of admiration after seeing the Mortal King still in high spirits and ready to fight.

"Win some lose some, the Mortal King is indeed a War God. For cultivators, defeat is not scary at all. The scary thing is not having the courage to face defeat. As long as he never accepts defeat, he will be able to reach the top." A fan spoke.

Experienced cultivators, especially the older ones, weren't afraid of losing. It was something that would eventually happen in life, even for Immortal Emperors.

"Hurry! The immortal grasses and treasures in the lesser world are waiting for us." Another ancestor yelled out and scrambled inside with his juniors.

Even after nightfall, Li Qiye still didn't make his move. On the second day, he told Li Shuangyan's group: "Ladies, get ready, get ready. We should be going to the Lesser Imperial Devil World as well."

"Young Noble, what kind of creations will you give us this time?" Chen Baojiao smiled coquettishly with a spoiled appearance. She was already pretty enough, so this coy gesture contained an unstoppable charm capable of causing souls to sway.

"You guys do not need more creations." Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: "We have plenty of treasures, and as for merit laws, what could be better than your Immortal Physiques?"

Li Qiye was right. After destroying imperial lineages like the Heavenhoof Ravine, they were not lacking treasures at all.

"Then for what reason are you bringing us inside?" Chen Baojiao continued to act cute.

"The spirit medicines and grasses in the Devil World can be said to be the best in the world. They are pure and magical, so I plan to find some suitable ones for you two." Li Qiye answered while glancing at them: "What you two lack right now is experience. This requires time and training, but the addition of some elixirs and potions will be quite effective. At the same time, you two will be able to see one of the mysticisms of this world."

"What item are you going there for this time?" Li Shuangyan's coldness contrasted Chen Baojiao's charm. It had a different attraction.

"To finish some old wishes as well as to compete against the Nihility Temple." Li Qiye chuckled without elaborating.

However, before they got on the road, a visitor came early in the morning. It was the famous Bai Jianzhen.

"I want to duel against you!" She coldly uttered the moment she saw Li Qiye.

“Duel?” Li Qiye looked at her. Even though she was still as cold as a sword, there was a clear difference. She had an indescribable natural sensation to her. Only when her battle intent surged would she truly be emotionless. At this second, she had stepped into the dao of the sword.

“The agreement between us is still in effect!” With the sword in her embrace, she became a sword, the sharpest blade in this world.

The agreement she referred to was the three swords duel back from the Heavenly Corpse Burial Ground.

Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: “Even if I want to, what are you going to use to fight me? I’m not looking down on you, but your defeat is assured.”

“How do you know I will lose without fighting!” She grimaced while a sharp glint flashed. This sword light was able to decapitate the sky.

“There’s no need to fight, I already know.” Li Qiye smiled while sitting leisurely: “What will you use? Your mad sword or will you use your fate as an offering to the sword? I know all the little tricks from the Sword God Sacred Ground.”

“It’s none of your business!” She uttered slowly: “I will die if I am defeated, but if I win, I only want your Buddhist Sword!”

“Buddhist Sword?” He chuckled: “After reaching this level, you should know that the Buddhist Sword is not about sword techniques or the dao of the sword. It relies on the heart of the sword.” Li Qiye pointed at his heart.

“I require your pointers.” She stood there coldly like a divine sword that had left its scabbard. She was ready to begin the ultimate fight of her life.

“I won’t fight you because it is meaningless to me.” He looked at her and spoke: “I have no use for a dead person. Your dao of the sword and mad sword can’t defeat me. The only thing that you can use to even compete is to sacrifice your life and fate for the sword. Even if I beat you, the only thing left will be your corpse, and I am not a necrophiliac.”

She stood there quietly. It was not that she lacked confidence, but the truth was that her mad sword was no match for him. Just like he said, she only had one real ace capable of defeating him.

“You have understood the essence of the sword dao.” He continued: “However, what you have obtained is only a tiny corner of this essence. To focus on one dao and reach for its limit — I am not saying that this is a flaw since this is a type of cultivation, a way of the grand dao. At the very end, all will return to the beginning. Just like your Immortal Emperor Ye Ti, he still managed to become an emperor in the end.”

Having said that, he gently shook his head: “However, your sacred ground’s sword dao is too extreme. For example, Ye Ti proved his dao by killing. Even though all the different dao can eventually be used to reach the throne, using killing to prove one’s dao, and you with your crazed state, these are slanted paths...”

“... I don’t want to speak about Immortal Emperor Ye Ti with such a negative evaluation. The only thing I can say is that your path will sometimes determine your outcome. Do you know the outcome of Immortal Emperor Ye Ti?” He stared at her and asked.

“What was his outcome?” Her eyes became serious. She had heard a little bit about their patriarch’s legends, but there was no way to verify them.

“If you have the chance in the future, you will find out.” He said insipidly: “The Buddhist Sword and the mad sword, these are both different parts of the sword dao, and you can follow them to the end. As it is now, you want to obtain the Buddhist Sword, but what about afterward? What do you think is after the Buddhist Sword?”

She pondered quietly while looking at Li Qiye and couldn’t come up with an answer right away.

“I can guide you so that you can understand the true meaning of the Buddhist Sword. I can even show you the way after the Buddhist Sword.” He slowly offered: “However, there is no free lunch in this world.”

She eventually asked him with a deep tone: “What do you want?”

He chuckled in response: “Stay and I will give you a home. In the future, you will surely become a Sword God, a real Sword God capable of slaying gods above and annihilating devils below.”

After a while, she answered: “You already have a sword attendant.”

“You’re mistaken.” Li Qiye shook his head and smiled: “You are different from Shuangyan. She is my personal maid, I don’t want you to take care of my daily life. What I want is a general!”

He went on to say while looking at her: “I appreciate your stubborn dedication to the dao of the sword. This stubbornness is the most important prerequisite to reaching the apex of the sword. However, what I like even more is that you are a sword yourself, a sword that I can hold in my hand, sharp and dangerous to the point of being ruthless! Wherever I point shall be severed by you!”

She contemplated for a long time. After all, this was an important choice in her life.

“Follow me and I shall give you more than just the dao of the sword.” He lightly added: “I can give you much more, such as taking you to the places that Immortal Emperor Ye Ti had visited. I can tell you his outcome as well.”

After a long silence, she finally spoke solemnly: “Okay, I agree.” With that, she unhesitatingly swore with her true fate. She was indeed a decisive person.

After an agreement was reached, Li Qiye ordered: “If you have anything to prepare, do so now. We will be heading for the Lesser Imperial Devil World.”

Bai Jianzhen didn’t say anything and quietly left.

“And here I thought that you were going to take her in as a bedwarmer.” Chen Baojiao smirked after Bai Jianzhen left.

Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: “The three swords duel back then was only a joke. I only wanted to tease her a bit. Plus, who would be more suitable to be my bedwarmers than you two?”

“In your dreams.” Chen Baojiao pouted cutely. Even the cold Li Shuangyan had a slight shade of red on her face.

Chapter 1063: Bing Yuxia’s Choice

Li Qiye departed for the lesser world with Chen Baojiao and Li Shuangyan. Bai Jianzhen also came along since she stayed true to her deal with Li Qiye.

Li Shuangyan was as cold as ice and Bai Jianzhen was the same when her sword was sheathed. It was a quiet coldness that was different from Li Shuangyan.

The two of them walking together had an entirely different style. It was quite a scenic spectacle.

“I am willing to go with Young Noble.” Another person came as they were on their way. It was Mei Suyao who was wearing a light white dress. Even though it was simple, her charm still left others breathless. At this time, her beauty was different from before. It was otherworldly yet natural. Everything was in accordance with her wishes; this gave her a freedom that was difficult to describe.

Mei Suyao met Li Qiye’s gaze in a nonchalant manner, but deep in her pupils, Li Qiye saw something extraordinary.

“The path towards the grand dao is long, but it will surely be colorful.” Li Qiye smiled and nodded his head.

She replied slowly: “Please continue to guide me. Otherwise, I shall be stuck exploring a tiny corner for the rest of my life, like a frog at the bottom of a well.”

Li Qiye only slightly nodded again with a chuckle.

“I will be staying with sisters in the future, please take care of me.” The natural Mei Suyao kept a very humble demeanor.

Chen Baojiao chuckled and stared at her for a bit before shifting her glance towards Li Qiye: “We can relax with Goddess Mei here.”

Li Shuangyan, on the other hand, only nodded slightly as a greeting. She was not talkative no matter who the speaker was. As for Bai Jianzhen, she had no response at all. She was even more quiet and cold than the others, like a piece of metal!

They went on their way to the lesser world. However, the moment they exited the city, Bing Yuxia was there.

She sat on her chariot while still surrounded by beauties. Li Qiye saw her and looked at the sky a bit to smile: “It seems like you aren’t coming with me.”

“Smelly Qiye, you have so many beauties next to you, yet you won’t share a single one with me. Who would want to go together with you? I’m actually afraid that you will try to steal my girls.” She glared at him and laughed.

Of course, Li Qiye was not worried about her because an ancestor from the Icy Feather Palace was accompanying her.

He only smiled and stepped into the sky to directly sit down on her chariot. While being next to her, she really resembled that person.

He sat there comfortably and closed his eyes. Eventually, he looked at Bing Yuxia to say: "You have made up your mind."

Bing Yuxia looked at him with a strange gleam in her eyes. After a while, she revealed a leisurely smile: "The world is very beautiful. I wish to be free; Immortal Emperors and invincibility are not important, don't you think?"

"The world is indeed very beautiful. Everyone has their own aspirations." Li Qiye gently nodded: "Being attached to the mundane world is also an enviable matter."

Bing Yuxia clapped her palm with a folded fan and laughed: "There are too many jade beauties around, I want to enjoy all the romance that this world has to offer."

Li Qiye smiled and finally handed her a manual: "This is some of my experience and findings that I wrote last night that relate to the Heaven Cutting Tablet. You should take a look."

While looking at the manual in his hand, she became quite startled. She didn't expect this to happen since she had already chosen her path.

"Why?" She murmured in a daze.

Li Qiye gently stroked her hair and said: "Maybe it is a type of fate, or perhaps, you allowed me to see something else."

She quietly put the manual away and gently nodded: "Thank you..."

These words were softly spoken, but they carried a heavy sentiment.

"The nine worlds are indeed colorful and worthy of someone spending their whole life to enjoy." Eventually, he patted her shoulder and spoke implicatively before leaving.

At this time, she held her right hand and looked at him again. An indescribable glimmer flashed in her eyes before she eventually spoke: "The entrance to the Icy Feather Palace will always be open for you. I'll wait for you there!"

"Meeting is fate, but parting is also fate." Li Qiye smiled and left her chariot.

In the blink of an eye, her chariot disappeared in the horizon. They were going ahead.

On the other hand, Li Qiye and the girls continued forward without being in a rush.

"Fiercest is here!" Someone shouted after Li Qiye came to the large lake. Many eyes were instantly fixated on him.

Everyone quickly made a path since no one dared to get in his way.

“Fiercest, the Dual Blade Beauties, Sword Goddess Bai, and Goddess Mei...” Someone murmured after seeing those behind him.

All of the eyes on him now had many different emotions — awe and admiration were only two of the many. Jealousy was there as well.

However, regardless of their feelings, no one dared to say anything. Today, the Fiercest was someone everyone was dreadful of.

People were finally able to breathe easy after his group entered the Buddhist gate to go to the lesser world.

“Damn! Fiercest is indeed Fiercest. His notoriety is peerless, no wonder why the Dual Blade Beauties, Sword Goddess Bai, and Goddess Mei are all going with him.” Someone couldn’t help but comment afterward.

A famous youth spoke indignantly: “Does he want to take in all the beauties in this world? Does he not care about the feelings of bachelors like us at all?”

“Feelings my ass!” A senior slapped the back of his head and jokingly scolded: “As if those ladies would ever look at you, take a look at yourself in a piss mirror first!”

This junior laughed awkwardly: “Uncle, you can’t pick on me like this, I’m still your nephew...”

“Fiercest is definitely worthy of his number one title.” Someone emotionally commented: “Not to mention Sword Goddess Bai, who could ever enter Goddess Mei’s eyes? I heard Jikong Wudi has tried to court her before, but she simply had no interest in him. But look at things now, she was taken in by Fiercest right away. This romantic luck is truly too enviable.” [1. Fiercest in chinese is four words — number one + brutal person. In the past, he was only Fierce. The author added “number one” to it later, so now he is Fiercest.]

“It makes people crazy with jealousy.” Another person who was afflicted with these sentiments spoke: “But this is how a man should be!”

After entering the Buddhist gate, Li Qiye’s group was instantly teleported to the lesser world. Looking around, one would find majestic mountains and rivers everywhere with billowing waves. This world appeared before everyone, giving a sense of unparalleled uniqueness.

“One thought to become Buddha, another to become Devil, but who actually knows that one thought can also become Emperor!” Li Qiye stated emotionlessly after entering. [2. Remember, Di Shi = Buddhist Emperor. Emperor here might be referring to Di Shi, not Immortal Emperor.]

“It is definitely a special feeling.” Even the reticent Li Shuangyan offered her opinion.

Chen Baojiao felt it too and added: “Yes, this is an extraordinary feeling. While standing here, I feel like there are two different forces trying to control us.”

Bai Jianzhen didn’t say anything. She stared at the horizon with a serious gaze that was seemingly capable of piercing through this world. After a while, she closed her eyes and hugged her sword while fortifying her heart.

Li Qiye smilingly said: “Mmm, Jianzhen is doing it well. The two of you should learn from her, there’s no need to be curious.”

The two girls quickly protected their dao hearts as well.

“Where are these forces coming from?” Nevertheless, Chen Baojiao still couldn’t restrain her curiosity completely.

Li Qiye looked at Mei Suyao who was standing quietly to the side with her always-transcendent presence.

Li Qiye told her: “Suyao, tell them.”

Compared to Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao, Mei Suyao was a lot more knowledgeable. After all, she came from a sect with three emperors.

She had no intention of boasting and only stated: “We are standing on the boundary between the Imperial Border and the Devil World. To the left is the Imperial Border while the right is the Devil World. So when we stand in this place, we can feel two different forces around us. If we step into the Devil World, we will feel an evil energy; if we step into the Imperial Border, we will feel an imperial momentum.”

“Devil World and Imperial Border...” Chen Baojiao was quite inquisitive: “Are you saying that there are divisions within the lesser world?”

“Correct, there are different powers here. Moreover, both of these lands have their own masters.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Devils and imperial troops?” Li Shuangyan asked as well.

Li Qiye led the way and ordered: “We’ll get going. Suyao, explain the lesser world to them.”

Mei Suyao nodded slightly and spoke: “Some people call them that, but whether they are imperial troops or devils is not something we can judge. Just like its name, this place is a lesser world. It is quite vast but a lot smaller than the Buddhist Funeral Plateau. This whole place resembles a gigantic Tai Chi symbol — left is imperial and right is devil. Both sides will do what they want and won’t interfere with each other.”

“So this is just like the outside, a world with living and sentient beings.” Chen Baojiao stated.

“It is more like Spirit Mountain.” Bai Jianzhen actually interjected.

Mei Suyao spoke: “Miss Bai is right. There are living beings here, but they are different from us. They have eternal life, or to push it even further, their eternal life is superior to that of the monks on Spirit Mountain.”

“No flesh, no life.” Bai Jianzhen coldly remarked. At this time, her gaze was locked onto a certain position.

Chapter 1064: Lesser Imperial Devil World

At this time, a tree that resembled a bridge grew in front of a cliff. There was a fruit hanging from it that looked just like a lantern.

Below this tree sat an old man meditating with his legs crossed. His hair was as red as blood and his back had two wings growing from it.

The most awe-inspiring aspect of this old man was the evil energy surging from his body. It had reached the level of materializing in the form of silk-like strings. They had a green color, so at first glance, he seemed to have a lot of green hair growing from him. A slight evil light emanated from his eyes, giving the sense that he was a devil that crawled out from hell.

His body had no blood energy and his flesh had dried up. However, he was still alive and very powerful. His situation was very similar to the sacred monks on the eighteen temples of Spirit Mountain. The only difference was that those monks emitted a Buddhist light while this old man exuded an evil energy.

All the girls entered a battle-ready state after seeing this old devil, ready to fight at any time.

Li Qiye gently shook his head: "They are not interested in us. Neither the imperial soldiers nor the devil kings care for outsiders. If we don't provoke them, they won't bother us at all.

Having said that, he freely walked around the old man. The girls followed right behind him. Just like he said, the old man continued to sit there and didn't bother to care about the passing group.

Chen Baojiao asked after they passed him while looking at the lantern-like fruit growing on the old tree: "Is he protecting that fruit?"

"Yes. Timeworn Redsun Fruit, it's quite rare." Li Qiye gently nodded.

The group moved on and traveled through creeks and hills. As they went further from the border, they felt the evil energy growing more powerful, as if it wanted to haunt their bodies. Luckily, they remained unaffected due to their powerful dao hearts.

"If the evil energy enters our bodies, will we turn into devils?" The cold Li Shuangyan asked after feeling the lingering energy.

Mei Suyao shook her head slightly: "Even though this place is the same as the Buddhist Funeral Plateau, it is different in the sense that even if this energy enters the body, one won't turn into a devil. If one has a wavering dao heart, the energy will only make the inner devil more powerful."

"What is the relationship of this place and the plateau? Is there actually a connection? How come those monks back at the plateau changed so much after being converted? No body, no blood energy, and able to live forever." Chen Baojiao curiously asked.

Even the knowledgeable Mei Suyao had trouble with this question. She glanced over at Li Qiye instead.

He smiled in response: "They are both related yet not related. As for the real reason, you don't need to know right now because you haven't reached that level."

The group marched on and saw many devils along the way. In fact, calling these things devils was not suitable, it was more apt to refer to them as dark cultivators.

These dark cultivators all had withered lifespans and were void of blood energy, yet they continued to live on.

The number of dark cultivators increased along the way. One of them was a huge serpent with steel scales. The evil energy on its body pulsed all around it. When it coiled its body, it looked just like a huge mountain. It was protecting a little rose.

Another one was just a skeleton. Blood coagulated to form the muscles of this cultivator. In its eyes were two burning flames. It was squatting down on top of a sacred tree.

One of them was just a slab of mud. This sludge slab continued to flow. When its evil energy surfaced, it would turn into a giant or a mountain. Occasionally, one could see an old vine growing on top of its body.

The dark cultivators here came in all shapes and forms, but the basic principles remained the same — they were devoid of blood energy and lifespan, yet they were still living well.

The girls all stared at these dark cultivators carefully. When they met a few of them in human form, they were especially attentive.

However, even the most well-read among them, Mei Suyao, couldn't tell which era or sect they were from based on their appearance and clothing. They all wore archaic clothing that was beyond identification.

"Even if they have been immortal all this time, they must have had a starting era?" Even the muted Bai Jianzhen commented.

Mei Suyao shook her head slightly: "I have no way of knowing. There are no records, or at least my sect has no writings on this matter."

She looked at Li Qiye at this point. Maybe he was the only one who could give an answer.

Li Qiye smiled and replied: "A very, very old era. I can only tell you guys that it is before the Buddhist Funeral Plateau came to be. However, it is difficult to say which between the Imperial Border and Devil World is older, this requires more research and evidence."

"Even before the plateau!" Li Shuangyan was caught off guard: "Rumor has it that the plateau existed before the Desolate Era. All twelve burial grounds are extremely old to the point that no one can trace back to them."

"Some things can be, others can't." Li Qiye chuckled and didn't elaborate on the topic.

"Are all the dark cultivators here watching the spirit medicines and trees?" They met many dark cultivators, but these cultivators simply had no interest towards outsiders.

"The Devil World has spirit vegetation while the Imperial Border has royal metals." Mei Suyao explained: "Dark cultivators need elixirs and grasses while the imperial soldiers require royal steel. I heard they continue to live on just because of these materials. If no one bothers them, they will stand guard over these things forever."

“Why do they need elixirs if their lifespans and blood energy are already gone?” Chen Baojiao was quite confused on this matter.

Li Qiye smiled: “It is not that they need elixirs. Don’t believe me? You can try to trade a King Medicine to them and see if they want to trade or not.” Having said that, he handed her a King Medicine root.

This action made Bai Jianzhen and Mei Suyao look at him in bewilderment. They were both from imperial lineages, but their sects considered King Medicines to be very precious all the same. However, Li Qiye was treating this root as if it was just a simple cabbage.

This only made Chen Baojiao even more curious. She grabbed the King Medicine and ran to trade with a dark cultivator. This dark cultivator had a lion head and a human body. He was inside a cave under a cliff to protect a budding blade of a leaf. No matter how one looked at it, this young grass was not comparable to the King Medicine in Chen Baojiao’s hand.

Alas, the dark cultivator ignored her request to trade. In the beginning, she was afraid that the dark cultivator wouldn’t understand her, so she communicated with her divine intent. Regardless of the place and era, using one’s divine intent was the most direct form of communication, anyone could understand it.

Nevertheless, the dark cultivator simply ignored her. He eventually became irritated by her nagging and slammed down his hand. Chen Baojiao retreated in a hurry at this point.

After she left the cave, this cultivator didn’t chase after her. He only gave her a lazy glance before closing his eyes to enter deep sleep again.

“Fine then, don’t trade. Did you need to be so rude?” Chen Baojiao muttered to herself.

She didn’t understand and asked Li Qiye: “Young Noble, what’s the reason for this? They have to know their stuff, right?”

Li Qiye answered with a smile: “I’ll take you guys to go see something and you will understand right away.”

He led them until they eventually climbed a tall peak. In front of them was a ravine with an old vine tree growing at the bottom. Who knows how long this tree had been there for? Its vines were growing all over the ravine.

It emitted a faint brilliance that resembled the moonlight in an incredibly beautiful manner.

“It has matured. Devil Imploration is about to begin.” Li Qiye sat down on the peak and quietly watched over this vine tree ahead.

Mei Suyao and the others sat down with him and patiently waited.

Moments passed by. Eventually, an arachne climbed up from the bottom of the vine. Its upper half was human while the lower half was of a spider.

This arachne was quite ancient. It looked around for a bit before a huge blast resounded. The evil energy in its entire body soared to the sky and instantly turned into a giant cauldron.

“Whoosh! Whoosh!” The vines made a lot of sounds. The entire tree was sucked into the giant cauldron. Next, the evil energy turned into a flame. After bursts of refinement, the tree was turned into a liquid as green as jade.

“Boom!” The cauldron suddenly sprayed this medicinal liquid out into the sky.

“Bang!” In the blink of an eye, a portal opened in the sky with intersecting runes that were arranged in a mysterious and complex manner. No one could discern them.

The portal instantly devoured all the medicinal essence. Next, an evil energy poured down like a surging river.

The dark cultivator didn’t think twice. It opened its mouth to swallow this evil energy. The portal then disappeared and after devouring the evil energy, the evil flame around its body became even stronger than before.

This scene left the girls astonished.

Chapter 1065: Sacrosanct Moontree

The girls didn’t expect that dark cultivators weren’t protecting the spirit vegetations to eat, but rather to sacrifice them to the heavens.

“This is called Devil Imploration. Others also call it praying to the devil as well.” Li Qiye lightly explained: “Using spirit medicines to trade for evil energy allows them to become stronger. The longer they guard the sacrifice, the more precious these medicines will be and the more evil energy they will receive.”

Mei Suyao finally turned her gaze away from the sky and asked Li Qiye: “What lies behind that portal?”

Even her Immortal Bone couldn’t comprehend that portal earlier. The runes were too mysterious and profound, not to mention the sheer number of them. It was a vast and mystical sea.

“Well...” Li Qiye’s eyes slightly peered at the sky: “It is a secret, a secret that no one knows.”

Mei Suyao knew that Li Qiye must know at least a little, but he was unwilling to divulge any more.

At this time, Li Qiye looked at Chen Baojiao and smiled: “You should now know why these dark cultivators aren’t willing to trade with you. Our spirit medicines are refined with the flames inside a cauldron. Evil energy would only defile them. However, the vegetation here is different. Growing up in this place, evil energy has no effect on them.”

“I still don’t understand.” Li Shuangyan spoke: “These dark cultivators already have eternal life, why do they want more evil energy? What’s the point of having more?”

“You are mistaken there. In the Devil World, one’s rank is very strict. The more powerful you are, the higher the rank.” Li Qiye gently shook his head.

“What’s the point of becoming stronger? They can’t leave the Devil World anyway. Don’t tell me that after becoming powerful, they would work together to break the seal from Spirit Mountain?” Bai Jianzhen asked with an indifferent tone.

“Incorrect again. They aren’t doing it to break the seal from Spirit Mountain. The suppression placed in the lesser world is for a different reason.” Li Qiye said.

Chen Baojiao inquired: “For what reason do they not leave? Even though the Devil World is big, it is still too tiny compared to the nine worlds.”

Li Qiye chuckled and responded with his own questions: “Have you ever seen a monk from the plateau leave? Or a sacred monk leaving Spirit Mountain?”

“The Buddhist sea is boundless.” Mei Suyao murmured in a daze: “I heard that after entering Spirit Mountain, there is no leaving. Well, they wouldn’t want to leave either. In their eyes, Nalanda and the Buddhist Kingdom are their final destinations. Once they ascend, they will be able to have true eternal life.”

“That statement is both right and wrong.” Li Qiye explained: “Your words are correct for Spirit Mountain, but not for the Lesser Imperial Devil World. In fact, these are two different issues.” He looked at the group and went on: “The monks and dark cultivators as well as the imperial soldiers here have different reasons for not leaving. In fact, dark cultivators and imperial soldiers will leave, or rather, with respect to this conversation, they can choose to leave.”

Having said that, he gazed at the horizon and spoke: “Their departure is different from the departure you all think of. If you think that leaving the Lesser Imperial Devil World is departure, then that would be wrong. They are departing to another place.”

“Where will they go afterward? I have never heard of dark cultivators and imperial soldiers in the nine worlds.” Mei Suyao found her vast education insufficient.

“I don’t know.” Li Qiye pondered for a bit when this question was brought up. After a long time, he slowly spoke: “The expedition of imperial soldiers and evil slaying of the Devil World, both will have an end, but who knows what this end really is?” [2. I know this is confusing. I’m translating as literally as possible because I don’t know the answer either because the author is being vague on purpose. Evil slaying here might be cutting their ties to evil energy to ascend. Who knows?]

The girls didn’t know what Li Qiye was talking about. Only Mei Suyao tilted her head and contemplated his words. Her Eternal River School had three emperors, so she was aware of more secrets.

“Okay, let us move on.” Li Qiye stood up and the group went on their way.

Many cultivators had entered both the Imperial Border and the Devil World. The Devil World had more intruders for a very simple reason — the spirit vegetation here was coveted by cultivators since they were quite precious. On the other hand, the royal metals on the other side weren’t particularly useful.

Therefore, cultivators who came to the Lesser Imperial Devil World would come for the Devil World’s spirit vegetation. At this time, one could see their presence everywhere in the Devil World.

The vegetation protected by dark cultivators seemed to be even more precious, inciting the greed of regular cultivators. This resulted in many skirmishes between the two sides.

The consequences could be easily imagined. Not to mention that these dark cultivators were quite powerful, they were also unkillable. Thus, the losers of these battles were regular cultivators. Many of them were torn apart alive or sucked dry of their blood energy and became a dried corpses.

Some strong existences did manage to steal some medicinal materials from these dark cultivators. However, when they met the truly powerful ones, they could only run for their lives. Immortality combined with raw power was quite frightening!

In the end, most cultivators couldn't beat the dark ones and had to find grasses without an owner. There was no lack of spirit vegetation in the Devil World. Alas, the more valuable ones all had an owner already.

Along the way, Li Qiye's group also saw many precious plants and flowers. When they passed by a dark valley, there was a golden tree growing in this place. A fruit that resembled a round moon hung on this tree, emitting faint rays.

"Sacrosanct Moontree..." Even Mei Suyao was moved by this golden tree. It only existed in records. Very few people had actually seen it in person.

At this time, many experts could be found standing right outside of the valley, but no one dared to enter. This was because a large group had died already. The entrance of the valley was laden with corpses and quietly flowing blood.

An old man was meditating beneath the golden tree. Evil energy was floating around him, so no one could see his face. A divine sword was lying on top of his knees and could be unsheathed at any time.

"Fiercest is here." Many people made way for his group.

Some actually hoped for him to do something after seeing his arrival. One person whispered: "If Fiercest attacks together with the ladies, maybe they will be able to obtain it."

Li Qiye stood at the entrance and shook his head to say: "That is indeed a good item, but a good item is only good if one stays alive to enjoy it. Even if a Godking comes here, they wouldn't be able to break through."

Having said that, he turned around and left.

Others were disappointed to see him unwilling to take action. Of course, they didn't dare to taunt him and quickly left as well after hearing the comment.

"That was a divine tree of the legends." Even Bai Jianzhen was in awe.

"It is indeed a divine tree." Li Qiye glanced at her and chuckled: "But that tree is not very useful for you."

"Can Young Noble actually take it?" Chen Baojiao had to ask. In her eyes, there was nothing that her omnipotent Young Noble couldn't do.

"Taking it is not difficult." Li Qiye glanced back at the divine tree and spoke: "But everything is a matter of fate and fortune. Sometimes, one can't be too greedy."

Li Qiye didn't stop here and continued on the road. They saw even more precious plants along the way and even an immortal grass on the same level as the Sacrosanct Moontree. However, Li Qiye didn't give it too much thought and kept on going.

Eventually, they reached a barren hill. It was desolate, devoid of both people and vegetation. Li Qiye looked around before standing up straight.

Li Qiye smiled and told the girls: "Stand a bit further back, I want to transform."

The group quickly retreated and maintained a far enough distance. He then opened his mind and stomped on the ground while shouting: "Open!"

"Zzz—" With that, the earth seemed to crack. Runic lines emerged and intertwined to form a grand formation.

At this point, he quickly transformed into someone else. The runic patterns on the ground weaved into his body and became a devil robe while his dao heart turned into a devil heart.

"Boom!" An evil energy engulfed the sky along with demonic plumes of flame. These plumes slowly came together and turned into a pair of gigantic wings on his back.

Once Li Qiye turned into a devil, even powerful existences like the girls trembled a bit inside. They felt a pressure that caused them to have the impulse to kneel down.

Li Qiye stood there like a supreme Devil King capable of controlling the rest of his kin in this world in an unstoppable manner. Anyone would lose their mind to fear after seeing him.

It was a shocking transformation. No one would be able to connect the dots between this form engulfed in demonic flames and his previous usual self. His eyes were especially terrifying. They drilled into the world and devoured the souls of others.

Even Bai Jianzhen was astounded to see his new form and murmured: "What is that..." She could feel his power. Even though it was not as strong as when he was a Buddha, its strength was still of a dreadful magnitude.

"One thought to become Buddha, another to become Devil." Li Qiye slowly spoke while looking at the rest of the world in disdain: "This is me, the Heaven Relinquish Devil King, the supreme of the Devil World!"

"Is this a title that you have chosen for yourself?" Chen Baojiao curiously gazed at his new form.

Chapter 1066: Heaven Relinquish Devil King

"No..." Li Qiye gently shook his head while carrying a commanding presence. The simplest of gestures from him could cause myriad devils to kneel. He explained: "This is a different existence, I am only borrowing his title."

"Heaven Relinquish Devil King, abandoned by the heavens..." Li Shuangyan murmured.

"Yes, forsaken by even the high heavens, but so what?!" Li Qiye laughed as his evil flames engulfed the sky. He raised his palm upward and declared: "The high heavens is only a wretch."

He was domineering enough in his devilish presence. Li Qiye had become Heaven Relinquish with an unspeakable charisma. Even though a Devil King was quite scary, they also had a fatal temptation to their charm.

“Borrowing alone is not enough to become a devil.” Mei Suyao was moved: “If the heart does not have evil, how can one rule the world by becoming a devil?!”

She was referring to the fact that borrowing someone’s form alone shouldn’t be enough to reach this level. If he didn’t have a devil heart, how could the evil flames be devouring the sky right now? How could he reign over the world as a devil?

“This place is the Devil World where one thought can turn one into a devil.” Li Qiye chuckled. In his current form, even his smile carried a strangely evil yet graceful aura.

“Just like Evil Buddha...” Bai Jianzhen’s expression shifted. Li Qiye had changed into Evil Buddha and now a Devil King. This transformation could be said to be without flaws; it was as if he was the real deal. In fact, this was now reality.

One could pretend to be a monk as well as borrow someone else’s name. However, the power of Buddhism and the evil presence couldn’t be faked.

For example, Heaven Relinquish standing before them was just like his name, where his flames assaulted the sky. It was a substantial manifestation.

“Have you cultivated the devil way before?” Even Li Shuangyan found it astonishing.

Prior to this, Li Qiye had cultivated Buddhism. In just a short amount of time, he became Evil Buddha with an unstoppable dharma.

“One thought can turn you into Buddha, but one thought can turn you into Devil as well.” Li Qiye only chuckled. He naturally wouldn’t reveal the secret in this.

There was a period when he used to stay in this lesser world for a long time. He became an invincible Devil King here, and before he left, he sealed his evil energy deep underground at this location.

This time, he became a devil once more. However, he didn’t use his own past name but rather one from a different Devil King. There was a reason for this choice.

“Where is the palanquin?” He ordered as an untouchable Devil King.

Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao had already prepared all the necessary items. They took out a palanquin for him.

Li Qiye sat on the carriage and commanded: “Raise it, let’s go. Remember, do not ask or say anything. Everything is up to me.”

The group acted as his bearers. Even a goddess like Mei Suyao could only take up this menial duty. However, she didn’t hesitate in carrying the palanquin at all. Her expression remained carefree and natural since she didn’t care for status.

If anyone were to see this, they would be scared silly. Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao was one thing, but Bai Jianzhen was the current Sword Goddess and Mei Suyao was even nobler. Hailing from the Eternal River School, she had unmatched looks and was praised as the number one beauty.

But at this moment, both of them could only carry Li Qiye's palanquin.

Li Qiye sat on it and closed his eyes to rest, just like a king looking down on the world. Geniuses and invincible characters could only be his servants. This was true invincibility.

The four girls carried the carriage across rivers and hills into a remote region. Along the way, they met more dark cultivators who were protecting their spirit medicines; they were sleeping for the most part. However, when the palanquin came by, no matter how powerful these cultivators were, they immediately woke up to prostrate on the ground. Even though no words were exchanged, their expressions were full of respect.

The Devil World was a place where ranks mattered. Heaven Relinquish was an exceedingly high-ranked devil, so wherever he went, these dark cultivators would pay him respect.

Eventually, under Li Qiye's guidance, the four girls carried the palanquin into a large river. After separating the current to make way, they instantly went down to the bottom of the river.

Finally, they sank into an extremely deep underwater abyss. They found that there were wisps of light in this region among the currents.

In this place was a crystal palace. However, it was closed and sealed off by a powerful force.

Li Qiye scowled after seeing the closed palace. In the blink of an eye, his devil flames soared and the entire palace trembled.

"Clikkk—" At this second, the palace slowly opened. A devil dragon swam out from within. This dragon was still a flood dragon since it had the unique characteristics of this race. However, it was on the verge of transforming into a true dragon.

It was extremely powerful and frightening and absolutely worse than some of the dark cultivators outside. It was at least at the same level as the old man sitting beneath the Sacrosanct Moontree.

"I didn't know My Lord was coming, please forgive me." The dragon lied on the ground and bowed respectfully.

Li Qiye remained emotionless with his terrifying evil aura surging about like the storm. He didn't bother answering while the four girls carried his palanquin into the crystal palace.

There were countless lights emanating from the innumerable treasures in this place. Divine stones, heavenly weapons, immortal metals... these treasures were scattered randomly on the ground. It seemed that the devil dragon had no interest in these treasures.

Any cultivator would be driven crazy by the sight of this treasury. Li Qiye, on the other hand, didn't care about these treasures. The girls were afraid of being seen through, so they maintained a calm demeanor. They focused on carrying Li Qiye's palanquin without batting an eye at the treasures.

After entering the palace, Li Qiye sat on the throne without any hesitation. The devil dragon didn't dare to show any slight. He stood to the side in a subservient manner. Nevertheless, he still stole several glances at the girls.

"What? Are you interested in my concubines?" Li Qiye coldly glared at the dragon as he sat proudly on the throne.

The dragon quickly fell to the ground and said: "Please forgive me, My Lord. This little one was only curious for a second."

The girls blushed a bit after hearing Li Qiye, but they didn't say anything to maintain the act.

Li Qiye didn't become angry. He said indifferently: "I came to your place for just one item."

"May I ask what My Lord desires? Just say the word and this little one will go grab it for you right away." The dragon responded instantly.

Li Qiye coldly spoke: "In your crystal palace, the only item that can garner my attention is the flower in your Inner Chamber."

The dragon began to hesitate after hearing the request. It softly spoke: "My Lord, about that, about that..."

Li Qiye waved his sleeve dismissively: "I know you want to use it for your Devil Imploration, so I won't take it for nothing. Write down your wish. On a different day on the Evil Slaying Platform, your wish shall be on it!"

"Thank you, My Lord." The dragon no longer hesitated and quickly bowed before going to grab the item.

After a while, the dragon came back and offered a jade box with both hands to Li Qiye. Li Qiye didn't bother looking at it and accepted it right away.

"My Lord, this is my Devil Prayer." The dragon respectfully gave Li Qiye his written wish as well. It was a divine jade engraved with his prayer.

"In the future on the Evil Slaying Platform, go to that place and your prayer shall be answered." Li Qiye spoke coldly.

"Thank you for your grace." The dragon prostrated again with true gratitude.

With a heartless demeanor, Li Qiye commanded: "Raise the palanquin."

Having said that, he closed his eyes again with an imperious temperament. This was very suitable for his current identity as a Devil King.

The girls didn't dare to snub him in the slightest. They immediately obeyed and carried the palanquin out of the crystal palace.

Once they left the river, Li Qiye casually threw the jade box to Li Shuangyan and said: "Little girl, this nice item is your reward."

Li Shuangyan was a bit surprised. She calmed down, caught the box, and opened it. A sacred light emerged in an overwhelming yet flawless manner. Anyone who saw it would feel pure inside, as if nothing was holier than this item.

It was a lotus flower that resembled a jade carving. It was flawless — truly perfect.

“What kind of immortal lotus is this?” Even those who didn’t know better could tell that it was extraordinary from just a glance.

“Earthmother Sacred Lotus.” Li Qiye lightly said: “This flower is very useful for you since you cultivate the Void Imperfection Physique. With it, you will be able to unravel the more mystical aspects of the physique.”

“Thank you, Young Noble.” Li Shuangyan thanked him and put away the jade box.

“Young Noble swindled this immortal lotus from that devil dragon.” Chen Baojiao said: “If it finds out, it will definitely go crazy.”

Li Qiye disguising himself as Heaven Relinquish to trick the lotus from the dragon was too clever. He didn’t need to expend any effort and still managed to obtain such a peerless item.

“No, I didn’t lie to him.” Li Qiye gently shook his head: “Though I am not the real Heaven Relinquish, I didn’t truly deceive him.”

This answer left the group a bit confused. They didn’t understand him.

“But you are not the real Heaven Relinquish.” Chen Baojiao commented.

“Yes, I’m not him.” Li Qiye smirked: “But the real Heaven Relinquish will help fulfill their prayers.”

Chapter 1067: Wooden Sword Dark Saint

“Young Noble wants to go meet Heaven Relinquish...” Li Shuangyan’s expression changed. After looking at her Young Noble, she knew just how terrifying this Devil King was. If the two met while Li Qiye was still in this disguise, the consequences were easy to imagine.

“No, Heaven Relinquish will come and see me.” Li Qiye smiled: “Legend states that he has been missing for a long time, but I know he is still here in the Devil World!”

“You are trying to bait him out.” Mei Suyao immediately understood Li Qiye’s true purpose.

He chuckled: “That and grabbing some treasures along the way. It would be foolish not to do so since the medicines here are indeed supreme.”

“Young... Young Noble, just what is the Evil Slaying Platform?” Bai Jianzhen spoke. Her “Young Noble” was forced compared to the others, but in the end, she still chose to say it. Since she had decided to stay behind, she had to put aside her arrogance.

Moreover, even the number one beauty, Mei Suyao, was not reserved, so why would she need to be? In terms of background, talents, and creations, Mei Suyao was above her.

“Evil Slaying Platform.” Li Qiye glanced into the distance at eventually murmured: “It is a very interesting location. Don’t worry, after taking care of a few matters, I’ll take you guys there.”

Having said that, he withdrew his gaze and ordered: “Continue, Heaven Relinquish will appear soon.”

The group moved on with the palanquin. The places they went to rarely saw visitors due to their great peril.

Eventually, they came before a vast emptiness. The sky here was shattered in several places. It was easy to see that a supreme war took place here.

After crossing this shattered space, they found a huge mountain with a bamboo forest at the peak. The gentle breeze caused the bamboo to flutter, giving a very pleasant feeling.

Eventually, the girls carried Li Qiye to the summit. The moment they reached it, they felt a frightening sword intent.

There was a middle-aged man sitting there in a meditative pose with his eyes shut tight. In front of him was a wooden sword.

However, the terrifying sword energy did not come from this man or the wooden sword on his knees, it came from a green bamboo branch right in front of him.

It was a tiny bamboo branch only three feet long. There were some leaves on it while the branch itself had a yellow tint. It was quite thick, but judging from the yellow hue amidst its green body, it was apparent that it had been growing for many years.

This inconspicuous branch emitted a terrifying sword intent. Anyone would tremble after feeling this power that, once unleashed, was capable of slicing a Virtuous Paragon to pieces.

The middle-aged man opened his eyes the moment Li Qiye was brought to the top of the mountain. Bai Jianzhen quivered after seeing the sword glint that flashed in the man’s eyes.

She was praised as the Sword Goddess with incomparable achievements on this road. Thus, once she saw the sword light in his eyes, she knew that he was extremely gifted in the dao of the sword.

“Heaven Relinquish Devil King!” The man uttered after seeing Li Qiye on the palanquin. He didn’t stand up to greet Li Qiye as he was still very proud.

Li Qiye acted as if he could stand shoulder to shoulder with the high heavens. He slightly glanced at the middle-aged man and spoke: “Wooden Sword Dark Saint, after so many years, your crappy manner still hasn’t changed. Cold and arrogant like a pebble in an outhouse, refusing to bow even after seeing me!”

The middle-aged man didn’t speak and instead closed his eyes. He was a Dark Saint, so compared to Heaven Relinquish, there was still quite a gap. However, his pride didn’t allow him to bow.

“After so many years with no news of you, I thought you must have boarded the Evil Slaying Platform.” The dark saint spoke.

“Soon. The bald donkeys are about to take action, so I have to board the platform soon.” Li Qiye sat imposingly on his throne with a suppressive momentum as the king of all devils.

The man's eyes slightly shifted after hearing this. He lifted his head to look at Li Qiye. After a while, he slowly said: "You finally want to board the Evil Slaying Platform!"

"Many people have boarded it, so my joining the fray shouldn't be that surprising." Li Qiye slowly responded: "I have been quiet for countless years since I didn't want to tread lightly into that place. However, my preparations are now sufficient, it is time to follow the footsteps of the Devil Lord."

The dark saint pondered for a long time before asking: "What do you need?"

Li Qiye's eyes fell on the small bamboo branch and spoke: "I want your Fragmented Bamboo Sword."

The dark saint's eyes rolled again as he stared at Li Qiye: "This is a bit unexpected. Just a little thing like this can enter your sight."

The girls were quite alarmed after hearing the dark saint. They were afraid that he had seen through Li Qiye's disguise.

However, Li Qiye was unperturbed. He still acted imperiously and coldly glared at the guy: "Since I want to board the Evil Slaying Platform and have taken quite a liking to these little girls, I want to give them something nice to play with."

"Devils like us do not have emotions." The dark saint stated coldly.

The girls held their breaths and became quite nervous. They were really afraid of being caught now. It looks like this dark saint was much harder to trick than the devil dragon.

"This is the gap between you and me. Your current state can't even catch up to me, let alone thinking about catching up to the Devil Lord." Li Qiye spoke emotionlessly: "You are no different than those bald donkeys! This is the best you can do!"

"You think you can become the Devil Lord?" The dark saint narrowed his gaze a bit.

Li Qiye haughtily replied: "Devil Lord? This is not worth contending over. We have an even better destination, so what's the point of competing for it against those donkeys?! The Devil Lord is gone, the Imperial Lord is gone, so it is time for me to go as well!"

The dark saint fell into quiet contemplation. Perhaps this was a question that had always weighed on his mind.

"I actually enjoy your bad temper a bit, so I came to say hello. Whether you want to give it up or not, I shall have your Fragmented Bamboo Sword." Li Qiye's eyes became cold after declaring in a tyrannical manner.

The dark saint didn't say anything in the end. He directly pulled the bamboo branch from the ground and threw it at Li Qiye.

"I don't want to owe you a favor, so leave behind your wish." Li Qiye spoke insipidly.

The dark saint hesitated for a moment. Eventually, he carved down his prayers and then turned around to disappear into the horizon.

After confirming that the dark saint was truly gone, the girls finally heaved a sigh of relief.

“That was pretty close, we were almost caught.” Even Li Shuangyan who was usually calm murmured.

Li Qiye smiled and gently shook his head: “Shuang’er, you’re truly underestimating your Young Noble too much. Even if I wasn’t disguising myself as Heaven Relinquish, I can still handle him.”

Back then, he was also a supreme Devil King with the same illustrious fame.

“Who are the Devil Lord and Imperial Lord?” Chen Baojiao asked: “Are they the masters of the Lesser Imperial Devil World?”

Li Qiye didn’t answer and only smiled. He pointed a finger towards Mei Suyao so that she could answer Chen Baojiao: “Legend states that the Devil Lord is the master of the Devil World and the Imperial Lord is the master of the Imperial Border. However, this is only limited to the legends, no one has actually seen them before. Some even speculate that they do not exist and they are just a baseless rumor.”

“No, the Devil Lord and Imperial Lord do exist.” Li Qiye sat on his palanquin and gently shook his head.

Chen Baojiao was quite inquisitive: “What kind of existences are they? Very unbeatable?”

“Who knows? No one has seen them before.” Li Qiye’s eyes were quite profound at this point while staring at the far distance.

“In addition, the Buddhist Funeral Plateau has a Buddhist Lord as well.” The reticent Bai Jianzhen also joined in: “Same as before, no one has seen the Buddhist Lord either. Just what kind of existences are these three?”

Mei Suyao couldn’t answer this question either. This was an eternal secret that even Immortal Emperors couldn’t figure out.

“There is a difference in opinions on this matter.” Li Qiye withdrew his gaze and elaborated: “There are two distinct beliefs about the Buddhist Lord. One is the Buddhist Lord that people always talk about, the ruler of the Buddhist Kingdom.”

“What about the other one?” Li Shuangyan’s curiosity was aroused.

Mei Suyao softly answered in Li Qiye’s stead: “The other belief is that there is an even higher existence at the plateau. However, no one has seen this person before, just like the elusive Devil Lord and Imperial Lord of legends.”

“What is all this about? So mysterious.” Chen Baojiao muttered.

Li Qiye gently shook his head: “It is not a legend, this person definitely exists. Of course, ordinary people wouldn’t be able to meet this Buddha.” Having said that, Li Qiye handed the Fragmented Bamboo Sword to Bai Jianzhen: “This bamboo branch is the greatest sword, so take it.”

Chapter 1068: A Sword’s Sharpness

After accepting the fragmented sword, Bai Jianzhen was dazed for a moment before she spoke: “I already have a sword, it is of the finest rank.”

Bai Jianzhen was not being conceited when saying this; her sword was indeed incredible. Her sacred ground didn’t have a lot of treasures, but they did have an abundance of swords. If there was a place

with the best swords in the world, then it would certainly be her sacred ground. Otherwise, how could they have produced a Sword God?

“Swords are not about their sharpness or power.” Li Qiye gently shook his head: “For example, I know of your Immortal Emperor Ye Ti’s sword. It is powerful to the point of being invincible, but such a sword is not necessarily suitable for you.”

Having said that, he looked at her and continued: “A sword has to be unsheathed naturally without any restraints and in accordance with one’s desires. Both the Mad Sword and Buddhist Sword lies in your state of mind, your sword heart.”

Bai Jianzhen hugged her sword while quietly taking in Li Qiye’s advice with great attentiveness.

He lightly said: “The most important thing is that in the future war, both true treasures and life weapons will not necessarily be the most suitable, but the Fragmented Bamboo Sword in your hand right now is definitely the best one for you.”

She didn’t say much and put away the bamboo sword before bowing to Li Qiye. She finally learned of Li Qiye’s generosity today and understood why the other girls still chose to follow him despite cultivating Immortal Physiques.

With her peerless dao of the sword, a single glimpse was enough for her to tell that the bamboo blade was extremely precious. It was comparable to even nine heavenly accumulation destiny stones or maybe even more valuable. Otherwise, a heaven-defying existence like the dark saint wouldn’t be guarding it in this place.

However, Li Qiye gave something so valuable to her this easily while she had only just joined him and had yet to make any notable contributions. How could people not follow a lord that was so generous to those under him?

Li Qiye let the girls carry his palanquin again. Along the way, they met a few regular cultivators and experts. Their eyes revealed their astonishment after seeing the female bearers.

Needless to say about Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao, they had Immortal Physiques and great mastery of the sword and saber. Meanwhile, Bai Jianzhen was the contemporary Sword Goddess and Mei Suyao was the number one beauty from a sect with three emperors. They were dazzling stars no matter the location.

But today, they were carrying a palanquin for someone. It was truly unbelievable. Even a Godking was not qualified to enjoy such a privilege.

The even more shocking part was that the person sitting on the palanquin was not Fiercest Li Qiye but a Devil King full of evil aura.

“Where is Li Qiye?” A stunned spectator murmured at this sight.

“Haha, Li Qiye must have provoked the great Devil King and got annihilated while the girls were captured.” A youth sneered gloatingly.

“Fool, how can you become a sect master with this kind of vision?” His senior slapped him and coldly said: “That person is Li Qiye.”

Many experts from the previous generation noticed the girls' natural demeanors and understood that the person on the carriage was Li Qiye.

"What is he doing? First he disguised himself as a Buddhist Lord, and now he is playing as a Devil King?" A Virtuous Paragon saw the Li Qiye shrouded in evil energy and became quite puzzled.

Very quickly, their question was answered. Wherever Li Qiye went, the dark cultivators would prostrate on the ground. Even if they didn't come out, their reverence was obvious.

"He is pretending to be a Devil King." An old paragon understood right away: "What is the best identity to take to travel freely at the Devil World? Naturally, it is a Devil King."

This was a source of inspiration to many people, especially the powerful older generation. They immediately changed their appearance and let their disciples carry their palanquins to pretend to be Devil Kings.

After the transformation, they went to fool the dark cultivators, trying to trick them out of their spirit medicines. However, not one was successful.

"The White Bell Ancestor wanted to copy Li Qiye. He turned into a Devil King and tried to fool a dark cultivator protecting a Myriad Era Vine. Alas, he was immediately killed on the spot."

"Not just the White Bell Ancestor. An eternal existence copied Li Qiye too and wanted to catch an Immortal River Clam, but the devil guarding that location sucked away all of his blood energy."

"Indeed... The Cloud Saint Child also pretended to be one. He hadn't done anything yet, he only walked by a sleeping dark cultivator, but the thing woke up and chopped him to death." Someone laughed while recalling the event.

In a short day, those who tried to imitate Li Qiye all died miserably. Their deception was without reward, unless death was considered a sweet release.

"Why is it that Li Qiye can pretend to be a Devil King and be treated so well by the dark cultivators? They're even kneeling on the ground respectfully! But when we do it, the only fate that awaits us is death, what kind of joke is this?!" A great power's disciple exclaimed bitterly after a senior from his sect failed and died.

"Because he has a devil heart." An eternal existence saw through the mystery and murmured: "One thought to become Buddha, another to become Devil. At this time, he is a devil, there's no need for pretension. He's even a Devil King at that." He went on: "Just like back at the plateau, he was not playing as Buddha, he was one! Thus, he was able to control the power in that place."

"This brat is too devilish and heaven-defying." Another perceptive ancestor spoke with emotions: "Many people trained for thousands and thousands of years just to begin the process of converting to a Buddhist heart, but he immediately changed into one right away. Buddha and Devil at his whim for his heart has both... just what kind of terrifying dao heart is this?"

Many people knew that the conversion process was not completed overnight. The popular phrase was supposed to be only a legend, but now, Li Qiye was able to carry it out to their dismay.

Of course, outsiders didn't know that in the distant past, Li Qiye spent countless years to become a devil. This process and pain were beyond imagination.

While Li Qiye was infiltrating the Devil World as the Heaven Relinquish Devil King, there were also a few notable others in the lesser world.

The most eye-catching one was Jikong Wudi. Under the protection of Venerable Ninesword, he entered a palace and managed to steal an ancient imperial cauldron at the Imperial Border.

"Jikong Wudi is quite a badass." Many people lamented while talking about this: "He entered so swiftly and made his way into a palace then forcefully snatched a cauldron? Truly a great vanguard."

Such actions, however, caused more people to become vigilant. An ancestor murmured: "The kingdom of the Imperial Border has many powerful existences. Jikong Wudi wasn't the only one who contributed. His army had great merits in this assault as well."

"Hmm, an old cauldron shouldn't warrant such a grand maneuver from him. Perhaps there is something else going on behind the scenes." A different paragon spoke.

A junior curiously asked: "Something else?"

The senior angrily glared at the kid and knocked on his head: "Use your damned brain instead of just swinging your fists around all day! Just what kind of existence is Space Trample Mountain? Jikong Wudi doesn't lack treasures, so why did he suddenly attack a palace? Why the need to show off his might? He, or perhaps Venerable Ninesword, simply wants to show others that their sect is strong enough to fight just about anyone!"

"Yes." A different senior nodded: "Recently, Fiercest's momentum has soared since Jikong Wudi's group all lost to him. Right now, even Goddess Mei and Sword Goddess Bai are siding with him. This is enough to show that no one in the younger generation can oppose him."

"Li Qiye's might is making the other geniuses insecure." The paragon continued: "I'm afraid all the young ones right now are worried that one day, Li Qiye would suddenly go crazy and make mincemeat out of them all. Right now, Jikong Wudi's attack on the palace is the same as the Space Trample Mountain giving everyone a warning — no matter how powerful you are, you cannot touch Jikong Wudi since their mountain has the strength to fight anyone!"

Besides Jikong Wudi, other geniuses also took actions that attracted a lot of attention. However, they were more subdued compared to attacking a palace.

For example, Zhan Shi had been staying at the Imperial Border the entire time and observed all the battles that were going on.

"What is Zhan Shi trying to do? He's not looking for treasures or medicines." People became curious since Zhan Shi was using all of his energy to observe fights.

"He wants to build an invincible legion on top of becoming an Immortal Emperor." A sect master personally went to check on Zhan Shi and said: "He has a powerful legion that consists of eight members. Moreover, all of them are the same age as him. I heard this team has challenged Jikong Wudi before and came out with their bodies intact."

A different person who was maintaining a low profile was Heavenly Emperor Lin. He entered the Devil World and stole an immortal grass from a dark cultivator. By the time they reacted, Lin had already long escaped.

Many people felt sorry for him: "I feel that Lin Tiandi has more potential than anyone else. What a shame that he is a vagrant cultivator."

Chapter 1069: Blazing Devil

All along, people were optimistic about Heavenly Emperor Lin. In fact, compared to the imperious Jikong Wudi, Lin was much more amiable. Moreover, he came from humble origins, so there was a sense of closeness felt by many people.

However, his background was also his biggest flaw compared to Jikong Wudi's group.

"Sigh, if Heavenly Emperor Lin had the same background as Jikong Wudi's group, he wouldn't need to flee just because of an immortal grass. Look at Jikong Wudi, he directly attacked a palace and took a cauldron away. This is the power of an imperial lineage." Someone commented with emotion.

Everyone knew that in the competition for the Heaven's Will, outside of one's own strength, their backgrounds mattered a lot; it was a direct influence on their chance of success.

Compared to Zhan Shi and Heavenly Emperor Lin who were relatively inconspicuous, there was another person who commanded the limelight — the Jewel Pillar Mortal King.

Recently, he had been fighting against the imperial troops around here. He would jump into the fray time and time again, gaining many victories.

At the same time, he was chased around by the great army here while stricken with grave injuries. No matter what, he became fiercer the more he fought with a world-sweeping momentum.

"What is the Mortal King doing? Imperial troops only care about digging metals; they are too lazy to deal with us." Someone noticed his actions and stated: "He isn't seizing treasures or metals, so what's the point of struggling against the imperial troops?" [1. Remember, the word "imperial" in this world is not related to Immortal Emperors. Maybe I should have used royal for it instead...]

"He is just training." A paragon watched everything and explained: "He is polishing his flaws, most importantly, his speed. If his speed could increase, then he would be much more frightening; nothing would be capable of stopping him."

Someone murmured: "Does he want to take revenge against Li Qiye?"

Everyone knew about his beating from Li Qiye at the terrace a few days ago. Li Qiye himself said that the Mortal King was too slow.

In fact, it was no secret. The Hell Suppressing Physique had infinite weight which resulted in its flaw of being slow. Many people who cultivated this physique all tried to find a way to make up for this shortcoming.

"That's for sure." Someone who knew the Mortal King well spoke: "He definitely cannot swallow this anger after losing three times to Li Qiye, but the last time was the worst. Moreover, the sacred school

had been wanting to bring Chen Baojiao back to marry the Mortal King, so this is both a feud between the sects as well as a personal matter. The Mortal King will have to obtain vengeance. One of them will have to die!”

“Li Qiye is too heaven-defying though.” Even the people from the previous generation could only say this about the situation. They knew that the Mortal King had nothing going for him against Li Qiye.

Contrary to the Mortal King’s peers, Bing Yuxia was the most leisurely. She didn’t seem to be treasure hunting at all with her large female entourage. They took many breaks during their scenic stroll. Gathering medicines and plants was only part of their relaxed process.

Of course, no one wanted to provoke her. It was a big relief to others that she wasn’t causing trouble herself.

Li Qiye led the girls to a very remote and barren land. It was a volcanic region painted in a crimson shade. One could see lava gushing all over the place.

He ordered the girls to take him next to a huge volcanic crater. The hot magma rising and flowing here could melt all things.

They descended as far into the crater as possible. Before them was a molten sea of magma with nothing else in sight.

The Devil King sat on his palanquin and coldly scowled. His flames surged to the sky with an aura capable of tearing apart this molten sea.

“Blazing Devil, do I need to go down myself?” He uttered coldly.

“Splash!” The magma whirled and revealed a long stairway that reached into the depths.

The girls raised the palanquin and followed the staircase. At the end of the pathway, they found that below the molten sea was a huge palace.

“My Lord...” A dark cultivator was kneeling in this palace. He was made from the condensation of magma and had a fiery body.

Li Qiye coldly looked down at the prostrating devil and scornfully spoke: “What now, Blazing? You think I am a fake?”

“I wouldn’t dare, My Lord.” Blazing Devil quickly bowed again.

“You don’t dare? If you didn’t, then I shouldn’t have needed to speak.” With that, his devil flame instantly erupted like a Devil King awakening from his slumber, capable of tearing this underworld apart.

“My Lord, please calm down. This lowly one was wrong, please punish me!” Blazing Devil’s body grew limp from fear. His forehead touched the ground and he didn’t dare to move at all.

Li Qiye glared at him and slightly waved his sleeve: “Rise, I don’t blame you. Recently, some ignorant fools have indeed been posing as me.”

At this time, how could Blazing dare to doubt Li Qiye? For dark cultivators like them, other things could be disguised, but not the devil heart. This was the most fundamental essence of their very being. In the Devil World, very few people had a devil heart of this level, but Heaven Relinquish was one of them!

After Blazing stood up, the imperious Li Qiye glanced over this palace and spoke emotionlessly: "You have picked up quite a treasure. This palace wasn't yours back then."

Blazing smiled dryly and replied: "My Lord, after the old Devil King went to the Evil Slaying Platform, this place lost its master, so this lowly one became bold and decided to stay here. If My Lord likes it, this lowly one will hand it over to you right away."

"I didn't come today for your broken palace. If I wanted it, I would have taken it long ago, it wouldn't have been your turn to stay here." Li Qiye said conceitedly.

"Yes, yes. My Lord is the one who holds the key to the Dark Maxim Palace, a little palace like this, of course, can't get into your sight." Blazing hastily replied.

Li Qiye batted his eyes and coldly asked: "You were born underground, correct?"

"Yes." Blazing answered right away: "That was a story from long ago. This lowly one is one of the few dark cultivators born down here."

Li Qiye took out an item then threw it to him before speaking dismissively: "Have you seen this thing before?"

The item was the thing Mei Suyao took from Vedas Vajra and was finally put together successfully by the Mortal Monarch.

Mei Suyao was not surprised to see the complete form of this item. Since Li Qiye wanted it, he must have known of its effects.

Blazing carefully looked at it. After a while, he murmured: "I'm afraid this lowly one has never seen this thing before."

"Look closer, there should be a similar type of runes underground like the ones on there." Li Qiye coldly spoke.

Blazing looked again. After pondering for a long time, he was jolted and exclaimed: "Yes, I think there was a place like this."

"Tell me the exact location." Li Qiye commanded.

Blazing mused it over before answering: "This lowly one dares not deceive My Lord. It was too long ago, so I am not sure. I think that place should have runes like this, but I am not one hundred percent certain."

"Draw a map. As long as you remember the terrain, it should be simple." He ordered once more.

Blazing naturally didn't dare to snub Li Qiye. He held a calligraphy pen and began to draw. After each stroke, he tilted his head in contemplation and made many modifications since he didn't dare to make the slightest mistake.

After drawing for some time, he finally finished it and handed it to Li Qiye to let him take a look. Li Qiye checked it meticulously and gently nodded: "This should be right."

Keep in mind that Li Qiye had stayed in the Lesser Imperial Devil World for a long period in the past, so he understood it quite well. However, he wasn't completely certain of the location he was searching for. After narrowing the range with Blazing's drawing, he finally knew where it was.

After putting the drawing of the terrain away, he coldly glared at Blazing: "If I remember correctly, this inner earth gave birth to a Fire God's Calmheart."

"That, that, heart of the fire god..." Blazing felt quite awkward once Li Qiye brought up this topic.

Li Qiye coldly stared at him: "I have calculated with my fingers. Since the last sacrifice, the heart here has reached maturity."

"Yes, that's true..." Blazing coughed nervously.

Li Qiye waved his sleeve gently and commanded: "Go fetch it."

Blazing didn't know what to do, so he only stood there while hesitating.

"You have been protecting it through the long years, so I won't mistreat you. I, Heaven Relinquish, never owe anyone a favor." Li Qiye imperiously declared: "I will grant you a devil wish!"

"My Lord wants to climb the Evil Slaying Platform!" Blazing startingly murmured after hearing this.

"That's right." Li Qiye chillingly confirmed without batting an eye.

Blazing stood there in a daze. After a while, he spoke: "Ever since the God-Tyrant Devil King went up there, no other kings have done so. If My Lord is going this time, who will be the future holder of the key to the Dark Maxim Palace?"

"You don't need to know that. Just leave behind a devil wish." Li Qiye's eyes turned cold.

Blazing didn't dare to make Li Qiye unhappy. He immediately took out the Fire God's Calmheart. He knew that his refusal was useless. Who could actually stop Heaven Relinquish if he wanted to seize it by force?

Chapter 1070: Fire God's Calmheart

A moment later, Blazing Devil carried a box back and respectfully held it before Li Qiye.

Li Qiye didn't glance at it before he took it and said: "Where is your devil wish?"

Blazing quickly carved it down and gave it to Li Qiye. Li Qiye casually took it and then he got up, wanting to leave.

"My Lord." At this time, Blazing couldn't help but open his mouth to say something.

Li Qiye glared at him and said: "Say it, don't waste my time."

Blazing took a deep breath and bowed towards Li Qiye: "This lowly one wants to ask My Lord, what is waiting for us in the future of this world?"

Li Qiye indifferently stared at Blazing in response: "What do you think? Or rather, what kind of world do you wish for?"

"I, I don't know." Blazing hesitated for a moment to come up with an answer: "A world where we are free."

"It is not difficult to find out. Just personally climb the Evil Slaying Platform, right?" Li Qiye spoke without emotion: "If you want to reach the best step, then take it slow."

Blazing turned silent. In the Devil World, anyone could climb the Evil Slaying Platform. However, there were different levels of steps. No one knew what would happen after going up there.

Li Qiye ignored the guy and went back on his palanquin. The girls immediately carried him away.

After they left, Chen Baojiao smiled cutely: "Young Noble, this is killing two birds with one stone. You found out what you wanted to know and obtained a treasure as well."

"Just part of the process, this treasure is actually incidental. I want Heaven Relinquish to come find me." Li Qiye revealed a faint smile.

"If the Heaven Relinquish Devil King finds out, I'm afraid he will go all out against you." Li Shuangyan commented.

Just looking at the Wooden Sword Dark Saint was enough to know how powerful he was. An existence like him was definitely at the Godking level. However, he was actually afraid of Heaven Relinquish. From this, one can extrapolate how frightening this person must be.

Li Qiye calmly sat there and leisurely replied: "He won't."

With that, he handed the box containing the Fire God's Calmheart to Chen Baojiao: "Use this item well, it will be quite beneficial to you."

Chen Baojiao opened it to take a look. It surprised her quite a bit because it contained a beating heart.

"Do I have to eat this thing?" She was quite creeped out by the thought of doing so.

"This is not a heart." Li Qiye gently shook his head: "This is a Fire God's Calmheart. Although it is called a 'heart', it was formed from the fusion of the extreme flames underground. It's powerful but not violent, hence the word 'calm'. It is gentle like jade yet brimming with endless explosive power. It is very suitable for your Tyrannical Spring Physique."

After hearing his explanation, Chen Baojiao carefully checked it again and found that it was not truly a heart. The rhythm was not a heartbeat but rather the pulsing of a divine fire. It seemed to contain an endless fiery power that could explode and destroy an entire world.

"Imperial soldiers embark on an expedition while dark cultivators climb the Evil Slaying Platform." At this point, Mei Suyao who had been quiet added: "Just what kind of worlds are they going to? Is it outside of the nine worlds?"

Mei Suyao knew more than the other girls. Her Eternal River School had several records about the Lesser Imperial Devil World that other lineages were not privy to.

After hearing Blazing Devil earlier, all kinds of feelings rose in her heart. The records back then uncontrollably popped up in her mind, but she had no answer, so she had to ask Li Qiye.

Li Qiye's eyes became serious and full of longing. He answered: "Who knows about what is outside the nine worlds."

"Is it the legendary tenth world?" She asked softly because she knew quite a few things from Li Qiye. He had shown her secrets unknown to others across the eons. Even her school knew very little about them due to their scarce records.

"The tenth world?" Li Qiye gently shook his head: "This is not that simple. Perhaps no one knows where they are going to, outside of the imperial soldiers and dark cultivators who have actually embarked on this journey to a, maybe, different world."

Li Shuangyan and the others listened carefully, especially Bai Jianzhen. She tried her best to understand the secrets within using this rare opportunity from listening.

"Only when one goes to that world would they be able to know what it is." He ended with a profound glimmer in his eyes.

The lively Chen Baojiao asked: "Even though I don't know any of that, why is it that dark cultivators have to go on the platform and imperial soldiers have to go on their expedition?"

Li Qiye couldn't help but smile: "Why is it that cultivators have to compete for the Heaven's Will? Why do so many people break their heads from fighting just to vie to become an Immortal Emperor? You can think of it as our will or an external temptation. In short, this is their aspiration. Just like us who embark on the road to the throne, we tread forward knowing that there might not be a way back, knowing that we might become nothing but heaps of dried bones paving the path for another."

The girls turned quiet after hearing this. For millions of years, too many people had tried to become an emperor, but only one could succeed each generation.

"Let's move on. Does Young Noble need to find a treasure or spirit medicine for Miss Mei as well?" Chen Baojiao didn't wish to dwell on this heavy topic and smiled coquettishly.

Compared to her time back at the Jewel Pillar Sacred School, the current Chen Baojiao had become very lively. She was already enchanting enough, but her youthful fire made people's heart sway even more as they became lost in insanity from her beauty.

"I'm already satisfied with learning so much by following Young Noble." Mei Suyao smiled. She was as pretty as always, especially in her simple yet transcendent state that was so close to the origin.

"Suyao does not lack treasures." He smiled: "If she wants treasures, she actually does not even need to come here."

Mei Suyao smiled back. It was true that she followed Li Qiye and carried his palanquin not for treasures, but because Li Qiye had given her something that was more precious than any artifact.

"Okay, we have traveled for quite a while so we should stop and take a bath." Li Qiye stretched and smiled.

“Nice try.” Chen Baojiao coquettishly quipped as her face became red for some reason.

A huge forest could be found in the southern region of the Devil World. It was lush with green vegetation of a single type. These plants resembled an old tree with leaves and thick branches. The most noticeable aspect was that there were crimson fruits growing from these trees. Each of them was only the size of a thumb. They were translucent and red like carnelian gemstones.

The even more shocking part was that these gem-like fruits exuded a fragrance similar to the intoxicating scent of fine wine. Even strong-willed cultivators couldn't help but swallow their saliva after smelling them.

Monkeys were hanging around these trees and fruits. They were around the size of cats. They had golden fur, but when they opened their eyes, an evil energy would surge, as if it could devour the soul of just about anyone.

Many cultivators stood outside of the forest, but no one dared to enter. They could only drool and watch.

The reason was very simple, those monkeys weren't actually monkeys but rather dark cultivators. The moment anyone entered, they would instantly be attacked by the horde.

Someone looked at the red fruits on the trees and murmured: “It would be so nice if those dark monkeys weren't guarding this forest.”

A Virtuous Paragon from a great power gulped as well: “Right. According to our sect's writings, these are Dark Wine Fruits, really good stuff that can ferment into immortal wines. This wine can calm the mind and remove evil. It really is incredible.”

The cultivators standing outside all wanted to go pick these fruits, but their lack of courage prevented them from doing so. Of course, the numerous corpses under the trees were a deterrence as well.

Prior to this, many cultivators went inside, but they were besieged by the monkeys. Even a Virtuous Paragon would be ripped into pieces in the blink of an eye against a large group.

Thus, they were relegated to mere spectators. At this moment, they saw a young man enter the forest. He was very young and extremely handsome. His eyes were his most outstanding aspect. They looked just like precious gems, profound and moving as though they could speak. Anyone would instantly be attracted to his eyes.

A cultivator from the Grand Middle Territory shouted: “It's Shen Menghui from the Azure Mysterious Ancient Kingdom!”

“Just like the rumors, he truly has unparalleled potential. Unfortunately, he was born in the wrong era, or rather too late. If he was born ten years earlier, I think he would be able to stand shoulder to shoulder with Jikong Wudi's group.” An older cultivator commented while watching this young man enter the forest.