Domination 231

Chapter 231: Contention for the Underworld Boats (1)

At this moment, both the dead and the living were competing for the Underworld Boats. As the battle became more heated, more and more people died pitifully in the Underworld River; even Earth Immortals and Treasure Lords were no exceptions.

Many experts — including Treasure Lords — fell into the Underworld River. This river was very ghastly; not everyone could do what Li Qiye did with his green hair taking root in the Underworld River. Some experts no longer came out once they fell into the river, they simply floated downstream until they disappeared in the layers of fog.

The Earth Corpses had a great advantage in this regard. It was as if they were especially blessed by the Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground. They could climb up from the Underworld River much more easily than other cultivators and Treasure Lords. At the end of the day, they were the dead and thus, they had a much higher affinity with the river.

One peerless Treasure Lord channeled the entire universe in his palm. He wanted to use this invincible momentum to pull an Underworld Boat towards his direction. However, the moment the boat became separated from the Underworld River, it became the size of a palm. In addition, it was only a rotten wooded plank! There was no resemblance of a boat at all! Moreover, when this piece of rotten wood left the water, it immediately turned into dust and floated along the breeze down into the Underworld River.

Such a scene surprised everyone, including the undying old men, Treasure Lords, and even the unbeatable Earth Immortals. They all had one question on their minds — just what on earth are the Underworld Boats?

There were more than 10,000 Underworld Boats floating on the vast Underworld River. In the end, Earth Corpses were the most successful in boarding these boats. At this place, they had the numbers advantage along with powerful strength. And not to mention, they did not fear the Underworld Water. As the dead, they had an advantage that cultivators and Treasure Lords could not compare to.

The great powers within their coffins suffered the heaviest losses. However, not all undyings inside the coffins were actually dead. In fact, many of these undyings buried in dust still had one remaining breath, and they were extremely heaven-defying. Once they were near a boat, they would exert one last blow. To put it simply, they would kill gods if gods blocked their way and slay devils if devils deterred their path.

There were also a few great powers who were invincible during an era who actually brought their dead ancestors here. They wanted to bury them on the Underworld Boats, hoping that their ancestors would have a chance to come back to life and regain their supreme prestige.

This type of the dead found it even harder to board an Underworld Boat. It required numerous experts from the sect to make a path in order to bury the coffin on a boat! Unless this great power was extremely formidable, it would be even harder to bring the dead onto a boat compared to reaching the heavens! This was why, within this grand battle, countless experts from these powers fell and ultimately died in the Underworld River.

After waves and waves of killing cries amongst endless merit laws in the sky and ringing universal laws, one treasure after another rode the wind. A bunch of legendary characters crawled out of their coffins, causing many spectators by the ferry to be lost in this spectacle.

"Seven Celestial Heavenly Monarch, War God of the Stone Golem Race, Demon Emperor of Long River, Evil Saint Flood-Dragon, Sacred Lord Myriad Poison..." Seeing a bunch of undyings coming out of their coffins made many people lose their minds. The old Turtle Monarch from the Flying Dragon Lake possessed extensive knowledge and, after seeing so many legendary undyings who had been dead for a long time coming out, he lost his colors as if he was bleached white. These characters were all unbeatable during their own eras!

Today, all of these undying old men climbed out of their coffins contrary to the rumors of their deaths. Since the immemorial times in the Nine Worlds and Eight Desolaces, no one actually knew how many undyings were holding on to their life using the blood-halting property of the Era Blood Stones.

For these invincible old men, the main reason why they chose to prolong their life was to protect their descendants and sects. Of course, there were some who buried themselves in the blood stones for the hope of staying alive as well!

Li Qiye's gaze was fixed on the Underworld Boats the moment they flew out from the fog. At this time, his eyes became as bright as divine torches; he didn't let go of a single intricacy from the boats.

In this world, outside of hell itself, no one understood the Underworld Boats better than him. One could even say that because he had lived from the Desolate Era until now — as the Dark Crow floating through time, he had lost count of how many times he had observed the Underworld Boats. It would not be an exaggeration to state that he had come to see the Underworld Boats every generation when they made their appearance. He even went as far as to use a heaven-shattering treasure to seize quite a few Underworld Boats and sealed them for his own investigations!

His mind concealed a great secret of knowing how to detect life-boats and death-boats! This was his biggest accomplishment after collecting many Underworld Boats throughout the years.

"Which Underworld Boat is right?" In contrast to Li Qiye's calmness, an elder of the War God Temple couldn't maintain his composure. After seeing different people climbing on the boats as they floated downstream through the layers of fog, he couldn't help but frantically urge Li Qiye for an answer.

"Don't bother me, do you want to go on a death-boat?" Li Qiye angrily replied as he gazed towards the Underworld Boats.

His reply annoyed the War God Temple's elders, but they could only acquiesce with silence. This burial trip was too crucial for them and only success was acceptable!

"You, pick that one over there." Suddenly, Li Qiye shouted at Middle Continent Princess and pointed towards an Underworld Boat that had just arrived at the ferry.

At this time, there were more than one thousand Underworld Boats and all of them were basically identical. The one Li Qiye pointed at had no discernible characteristic compared to other boats from the spectators' perspectives.

Middle Continent Princess stayed silent and simply stared at Li Qiye. Meanwhile, Li Qiye immediately raised his voice again: "Hurry up, it will be too late if someone else takes it!"

At this time, even the ancestors of the War God Temple were moved with their own thoughts. There were so many floating boats yet Li Qiye picked this particular one; there must be a reason why. However, their Forefather had warned them against underhanded actions. Even though they were tempted, robbing this boat was outside of their audacity.

However, Middle Continent Princess still emotionlessly stood there while staring at Li Qiye with a cold demeanor.

"Time is running out, hurry and go!" Li Qiye roared at Middle Continent Princess. At this moment, it seemed as if he had turned into a different person with a divine dignified expression not to be questioned by anyone. However, Middle Continent Princess still wouldn't budge.

Li Qiye couldn't help but become flustered as he angrily shouted: "Would I lie to you in this life? Hurry up and get the hell up there!" At this time, there were so many people who wanted to board this ship, how could Li Qiye not became insane from the rush?

In the blink of an eye, Middle Continent Princess shifted her body and stepped towards the Underworld Boat. With a loud detonation, everyone who tried to seize this ship all exploded. No matter whether they were the undyings invincible in their own eras, the Treasure Lords who were reigning over their own generations, or the fearless Earth Corpses, in the blink of an eye, everything that approached this ship all burst into nothingness without a trace remaining.

Her heaven-defying power caused everyone to take a deep breath, including the ancestors from the War God Temple. They all shuddered at the strength of this woman.

"Just who on earth is she!?" A Demon Monarch murmured as he gazed at Middle Continent Princess's compelling might.

At this time, another person took action. He was the last gate master of the Thousand Emperor Gate! With a quick maneuver and just a flash, he aimed for the same Underworld Boat as Middle Continent Princess. Compared to the other Earth Immortals and Treasure Lords, the last gate master was very lucid. He had always been staring at this Underworld Boat. After seeing Middle Continent Princess attempt to board this ship, he became determined to also seize it.

"Zhanggg---" In a split second, Middle Continent Princess opened her eyes as two bloody rays shot out. With an unbelievable speed, the two bloody rays turned into two supreme divine spears that god-killingly pierced the sky and the six dao. The sharp gleams of the two divine spears chilled everyone's hearts. These are truly monstrous divine spears!

The approaching divine spears shocked even the last gate master of the Thousand Emperor Gate. He immediately dodged and returned to his initial place.

"Pooof!" The divine spears struck the air and created a black hole. The fabric of time and space was shattered by the divine spears and became a void. If struck by these spears, even the old invincible undyings would turn into nothingness without a chance to even become ashes.

Such a mighty display rendered everyone speechless. This person was too monstrous and could even annihilate time and space. She was simply an existence at an abnormal level!

After returning to his spot in a flash, the last gate master no longer took action for that Underworld Boat. Without a doubt, he was very dreadful of Middle Continent Princess.

At this point, even the War God Temple's elders were amazed. Even though the Thousand Emperor Gate fell at the hands of Empress Hong Tian, its power was beyond the imagination of mankind. The last gate master of the Thousand Emperor Gate was absolutely an unparalleled paragon; however, he was still so cautious against the princess like this!

After the princess boarded the ship, she did not immediately enter and simply stood at the bow. Standing there, she opened her beautiful eyes — with flashing glimmers — to look at Li Qiye at the far distance.

Looking at the princess from afar, Li Qiye gently sighed and finally mustered his voice: "The heaven and earth is eternal. One day we'll meet again!"

After watching Li Qiye for a while, Middle Continent Princess eventually went inside the boat as it floated downstream.

Meanwhile, Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao were puzzled and thought that their young noble and this Middle Continent Princess seemed to be former acquaintances.

Chapter 232: Contention for the Underworld Boats (2)

Li Qiye remained silent while focusing his gaze on each boat as they came out. Just a moment later, the last gate master of the Thousand Emperors Gate finally made his move. He quickly stepped on top of an Underworld Boat. The moment he took action, everyone could clearly hear the crisp and clear sounds of bones breaking. Everyone who competed with him for the boat was grinded into mince-meat. Such a domineering scene caused everyone's hearts to shiver.

"Truly worthy of coming from the Thousand Emperors Gate!" Even the ancestor of the War God Temple murmured in astonishment.

As the boats floated out, there were more and more people who aimed for them. However, there were too many Earth Corpses; even when more than ten thousand boats came out, each one was still highly contested.

The truth was that it was a huge gamble to climb up on an Underworld Boat. More than ten thousand boats flew out in every generation, but they were essentially death-boats. The legendary life-boats numbered at no more than three. Moreover, each of them prolonged one's life for a different amount of time. A few gave dozens of years while others gave several hundred or even several thousand years. There was even a legendary one that flew out from hell and granted an entire lifetime!

"That one!" Finally, Li Qiye selected a boat for the War God Temple's Forefather and immediately shouted towards the person inside the ancient coffin.

After Li Qiye's words came out, with a "whoosh," the wooden coffin rushed out and soared towards that Underworld Boat. This Underworld Boat was also contested by hundreds of people with the majority being Earth Corpses.

"Zhangggg--" The person inside the wooden coffin did not climb out. Instead, he only slashed a sword light outward. This sword light illuminated the nine spheres with a "phoosh" sound. The brilliance of this single sweep of the sword annihilated all undyings, Treasure Lords, and Earth Corpses as the wooden coffin flew towards the boat.

"Stars in the Sky Sword!" A grand character recognized the origin of this one sword after seeing the sword light. This Sacred Lord — with a shocked expression — exclaimed: "It's the War God Temple!"

Upon hearing the words "War God Temple," everyone felt a shiver inside. The War God Temple! This could be said to be one of the oldest existences in the Mortal Emperor World for its inception was during the Desolate Era. It still stood strong and had secret ties with many Immortal Emperors. It was both mysterious and powerful and had an unshakable foundation in this world!

Around this time, numerous people looked at the group of men dressed in black who were standing behind Li Qiye. They finally understood that Li Qiye was working for the War God Temple and helping their matter of burial! At the same time, many intelligent men were interested in the low-profile attitude of the War God Temple. Just who was the person being buried from the War God Temple?

As the boats gently floated downstream, Li Qiye finally told Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao: "This is my time to board. Both of you, along with the Nine Saint Demon Gate, should go back with these old men. No one will dare to cause trouble with them around. If I don't come back in half a month, go back to the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect with Niu Fen's group. You don't need to worry about me."

"What..." There were ten thousand words and questions in the minds of Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao, waiting to be spoken. They naturally didn't want their young noble to board the Underworld Boat, but there was no way to persuade him.

"You want to go on the Underworld Boat?" At this time, even the ancestors of the War God Temple had their mouths wide open. Was this brat going insane? Only people near their death — with no other choice — would board the Underworld Boats. Everyone was aware that going on the Underworld Boat was akin to dying. The chance for life prolongment was truly miniscule; it was one out of ten thousand! However, this brat at such a young age actually wanted to board a ship — this was truly insanity.

"I should go now." After seeing the last Underworld Boat fly out, Li Qiye spoke.

Meanwhile, Chen Baojiao and Li Shuangyan did not want to leave. They completely wanted to change Li Qiye's mind, but the words would not come out. They were aware that no piece of advice would deter their young noble.

"If I die, then you guys are free. The sky will be high and the earth will be vast again; feel free to remarry." Seeing the two girls' reluctance to leave, Li Qiye made a joke. [1. This is a joke. Remarriage is really frowned upon in ancient China]

"Mouth of a black crow!" Chen Baojiao couldn't stop herself from exclaiming: "You will surely come back alive!" Having said this, her eyes became teary. [2. She is saying that he is saying ominous words, so he is a black crow. I find this amusing because he is actually a Dark Crow]

Li Shuangyan showed her cold-as-ice demeanor. The thousands of words waiting to be spoken in her mind only came out as one phrase: "I will wait for you to come back!"

"Go, wait for my triumphant return!" Compared to the two girls' dejected sad states, Li Qiye — on the other hand — was quite lively. He shouted and commanded the Tetra-War Bronze Chariot to fly towards the last Underworld Boat.

At this point, even the last boat was being competed for by others. However, with the leaping Tetra-War Bronze Chariot and its neighing, Li Qiye thunderously shouted: "Scram!"

The four bronze horses rushed forward while kicking with their hooves. All contesters were kicked flying away as Li Qiye rode the chariot to the front of the boat's bow.

"Go back, I will return." On the bow, Li Qiye waved towards Li Shuangyan and the others as he smiled out loud.

"Have a good trip." In the end, the beautiful eyes of Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao were filled with mist as their noses were feeling sore. They then waved back towards Li Qlye.

With a gallant laugh, Li Qiye drove the chariot into the boat as its doors slowly closed.

After he embarked on the Underworld Boat, everyone became stunned. This was an unthinkable matter because everyone who went on these boats were near death. These people had all taken a large amount of longevity drugs and treasures along with immortal medicines and true dan. These people were no longer able to be cured and could only wait for their death. If they had any other options, who would be willing to go on these boats? One had to know that going on the boat was not much different from going to their demise!

However, Li Qiye was still young; he was only around fifteen to sixteen years old. The world was still beautiful to him, and his adventure had only just begun. However, this brat chose to go on the Underworld Boat; he had truly become insane.

"Is this kid out of his mind? He's alive and well like this, yet he's running to his death!" Many people became dumbfounded seeing the last boat drifting into the foggy layers down the river.

A few people found this to be unfathomable as they murmured: "This kid must be haunted by a suicidal Longevity Spirit. Only people who are tired of living would board the Underworld Boat!"

At this moment, no one understood the reason. It was understandable for the dead to board the ship, but a young person? Truly suicidal.

Jewel Pillar Saint Child, with bright flashes in his eyes, was very excited. Li Qiye simply sought his own death by boarding the ship! If Li Qiye didn't come back, then that would be one less powerful enemy for him. What was regrettable was that this brat carried the supreme Immortal Physique to die!

Bai Jianzhen, the descendant of the Sword God Sacred Ground, was still cold and emotionless as always. She stared at the last ship floating down the river and couldn't help but contemplate. This matter was really strange.

Meanwhile, Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao dejectedly sighed. They silently prayed for their young noble and hoped that he could return safely. They believed that he would be able to work a miracle and come back alive.

In fact, they were just as lost as the others. No one knew where the end of the Underworld River was. Once one boarded an Underworld Boat, only the people on the life-boats would come back alive; the rest will never return.

People began to evacuate after the end of the Underworld Boats because the Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground will soon recover its energy. If they did not leave now, then maybe they would die inside the burial ground.

Of course, many experts at their time of withdrawal started treasure hunting one last time before the burial ground recovered its strength. Naturally, many of them still died at this time for the burial ground was still a dangerous location even when all the Earth Corpses had not returned.

A great power was unlucky for they looted treasures on a Treasure Lord's territory. One could only imagine the outcome; a Treasure Lord climbed up from the ground and annihilated everyone, causing heavy losses to this great power.

As for Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao, they went along with the Nine Saint Demon Gate and the War God Temple's elders to leave the burial ground, to return to Ancient Sky City to wait for Li Qiye.

The Underworld Boats floated silently, and they were completely soundless inside as well. One did not know where they were floating; even if they opened the door, they couldn't see the scenery outside. It was a vast nothingness with no visuals. Even the other boats were nowhere in sight.

It was as if there was only one boat gliding above this endless river and all the other ones had disappeared!

Inside the Underworld Boat, there was nothing else besides a bed. Li Qiye sat on it with a calm demeanor as if it was his own home. Li Qiye then took out an item from his Fate Palace. This was a stone tablet that was not too large; however, it was extremely heavy. The tablet had many holes and complicated runic lines were carved on top; these were completely undecipherable by others.

This stone tablet was taken by Li Qiye from the Treasure Armory of the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect. Its elders did not know the usage nor effects of this stone tablet. The truth was that no one knew what it did, where it came from, or who took it. Everything was unknown ever since the historical annals of the sect were created.

The moment he obtained it, Li Qiye immediately knew that this stone tablet's origin was frightening! Afterwards, he had always been researching this stone tablet.

One had to know that he had lived for an endless amount of time and had even trained Immortal Emperors. He had trod on the twelve Burial Grounds and six Great Immortal Former Earths — the places

that humans didn't dare to intrude! What had he not seen in this world? However, he had never seen this stone tablet before.

Recently, he had a little breakthrough while researching this stone tablet, so he came up with an idea.

Chapter 233: Myriad Star Water (1)

Li Qiye contemplated and observed these runic lines engraved on the stone tablet for a long time. These patterns were extremely rare, but he had seen them before at a certain place — the Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground!

As the Dark Crow, he had entered the deepest area of the burial ground not just once since the start of time. One could even say that he was the authority in this regard, but he could not connect this stone tablet together with the burial ground's deepest area.

That night, when the Underworld River came out, Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao's conversation sparked a few lights in Li Qiye's mind. At that time, he had a bold conjecture; this stone tablet was related to a legendary place, a place that even he had not been to before. One could even say that no one had ever been there since the beginning of time!

The appearance of the Underworld River signals the rise of rebirth — countless people have heard this phrase in the Mortal Emperor World and had long been familiar with it. This referred to the fact that the chance for rebirth was possible with the arrival of the Underworld Boats.

However, very few people knew that this was not the complete phrase. In fact, the completed version was: Underworld appears, rebirth begins; heaven's path revealed; divine stone initiated. Entered heavenly coffin, achieving myriad old. Awaken corpse earth, heaven bringing eternality. [1. This is the English version and my own interpretation of the phrase: "The appearance of the Underworld signals the rise of rebirth; the path to heaven debuts the way to the divine stone. Enter the heavenly coffin to obtain eternality; awaken the corpse earth to achieve the everlasting blessing of the heavens." This whole thing is meant to be hard to grasp so I tried my best to leave it in the original Chinese structure. Even the English version is surely not 100% accurate, for the raw itself leaves a lot to the context/imagination, which is the author's intent]

This phrase was the actual complete version! However, there were not many people in the contemporary times that were aware of this complete version; no one knew from which era did it begin to circulate.

However, Li Qiye knew that this phrase could be traced back to the mythical Legendary Era! The truth was that during the Desolate Era, the Desolace Expansion Era, and even the Emperors Era, many people tried to understand this phrase. However, people could only understand the first half, and that was: "The appearance of the Underworld signals the rise of rebirth"; both of these things had happened before. The Underworld Boats would appear each generation and would grant people a chance to rebirth.

However, the latter half of the phrase... The path to heaven debuts the way to the divine stone, enter the heavenly coffin to obtain eternality; awaken the corpse earth to achieve the everlasting blessing of the heavens — this was still mystifying because more than half of it referred to things that had never been seen before.

No one had ever seen the heaven's path or met this thing called the divine stone, nor did they see the heavenly coffin along with whatever unbeatable existence that was inside. As for obtaining eternality and the corpse earth to achieve everlastingness, these were simply ethereal rumors!

What Li Qiye thought about was that perhaps the Underworld Boat did not simply prolong one's lifespan. The crucial part was whether one had a divine stone or not! Thus, Li Qiye came up with an outrageous thought! What would happen if one traveled with the Underworld Boat while having the divine stone?

Because of this bold speculation, Li Qiye formulated a crazy plan to board the Underworld Boat! In fact, Li Qiye had no way to be sure that the stone tablet in his hand was the divine stone; he didn't know whether this trip would take him to the heaven's path or not! However, he still wanted to take a gamble. From his understanding of the tablet's runic patterns, this tablet definitely had an integral connection to the Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground. This was the only thing he was certain of!

He desired to see the thing inside the heavenly coffin that was wept for and ultimately buried by the Former People of all worlds in the immemorial age.

He wanted to know what the eternality bred by the heavens was! In fact, he had always wanted to figure out this mystery for millions of years during his existence!

On the Underworld Boat, it seemed as if he had silently floated in this place for an eternity. It felt like time itself had stopped, and there was nothing but the void!

"Baby, I hope that this time will be successful. Otherwise, your father will really have to meet those ghastly things in hell. I still don't want to die just yet!" Li Qiye gently patted this stone tablet while murmuring.

The Underworld Boat endlessly wandered in complete silence above the Underworld River. There was no heaven above nor earth below, there was only a vast nothingness as the boat drifted above the world.

The world had always assumed that the Underworld Boats would eventually travel to the deepest part of the Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground. However, this remained a mystery even till now for no one knew the end of where the river flows. There had even been an Immortal Emperor who invaded the deepest location of the burial ground to find it, but it was all for naught.

While drifting for an unknown amount of time while sitting inside the boat, Li Qiye had been cultivating. He channeled his laws as his Life Wheel rotated cycle after cycle with flowing blood energy before finally refining it into a drop of Longevity Blood.

Even though the destination was unknown, Li Qiye was still able to maintain his calm after enduring countless adversities in his past.

Eventually, the endless drifting boat finally got a response. The stone tablet in front of Li Qiye gradually brightened as the runic lines became clearer. It was seemingly brimming with vitality and slowly moved like the flowing river branches or a network of blood vessels.

When the runic patterns on the stone tablet activated, the pitch-black Underworld Boat also reacted. There were also runic outlines forming and brightening on the ship's exterior. An observation would make it clear that the runic outlines on the boat and the stone tablet were completely identical.

Prior to this, the boat essentially had no such outlines, but at this moment, the boat seemed to be able to feel or accept the call as a mysterious power gave birth to identical engraved runic outlines on both items.

At this time, the boat actually seemed to be driven by this mysterious force, allowing Li Qiye — who was sitting inside — to clearly feel that it had changed its drifting direction.

One was not able to tell the cardinal directions while being inside the Underworld Boat for it gave off an endless illusion of stillness.

But at this moment, Li Qiye was certain that the Underworld Boat changed its direction. However, Li Qiye was unable to tell where it was going.

"It seems like this gamble was a success." Li Qiye murmured with happiness after clearly feeling the change in direction of the boat.

It drifted even longer towards the new destination as the runic outlines on both the stone tablet and the boat became increasingly brighter. In the end, it was as if a dazzling splendor shot out from the patterns and intertwined together into a heaven and earth's written clause. Li Qiye meticulously gazed at this worldly clause, but he could not understand its true content right away.

Keep in mind that with countless years of experience, Li Qiye was more adept at interpreting universal law clauses than anyone else. No matter whether it was the Ancient Ming's chapters in the legends or languages from the mythical Legendary Era, he had seen them all. He had seen things that the world had never even heard of; however, the worldly written clause in front of him was completely different from anything he had seen before. This was outside of his comprehension, and this mere sheet of paper alone was more foreign than even the legendary languages seen in his past!

Even though he could not understand this sequence in front of his eyes, he engraved it into his mind permanently.

After a long drift, the boat eventually and slowly came to a stop. This excited Li Qiye for he knew he had finally arrived. At this point, his eyes narrowed, creating a dignified expression. No one knew the final destination of the Underworld Boat, and no one knew what they would face once they left its interior.

After taking a deep breath, Li Qiye carried the stone tablet and drove the Tetra-War Bronze Chariot slowly out of the Underworld Boat.

The moment he witnessed the scene before him, even as someone who had experienced countless hardships, someone who was once hailed as an Immortal Emperor's Dao Master, and someone who was a mythical legend, he still couldn't help but become shocked!

At this time, there were no mountains nor rivers before him, or even any resemblance of a world at that. There was only an empty and endless void, deprived of any lifeforms. Let alone a blade of grass, there was not even a trace of any essence of life.

In front of him was a path leading straight up to the heavens; it seemed as if it was built by brilliant pebbles that were emitting a gentle yet eternal light! The path was seemingly endless as it reached towards an unknown destination.

He turned around and noticed that the boat was no longer drifting on the Underworld River, but rather, a resplendent river of stars, winding and coiling from a boundless unknown source.

"This is just like my expectations!" Li Qiye murmured in astonishment at the scene unfolding before his eyes. He was very excited for he could be the first one to arrive at this place since the beginning of time.

"The appearance of the Underworld signals the rise of rebirth; the path to heaven debuts the way to the divine stone. Enter the heavenly coffin to obtain eternality; awaken the corpse earth to achieve the everlasting blessing of the heavens!"

Underworld appears, rebirth begins; heaven's path revealed; divine stone initiated. Entered heavenly coffin, achieving myriad old. Awaken corpse earth, heaven bringing eternality! [2. I used the Chinese version here to reiterate the mysticism of this moment]

This was the complete legendary phrase! Over the years, many people — including Immortal Emperors — predicted that only by climbing on top of the heaven's path would one be able to see the divine stone. However, the truth was far from this! The divine stone was not inside the Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground, and it was not at the end of the heaven's path. What was called the divine stone had always been hidden in the mortal world!

The stone tablet in Li Qiye's hand could very well be the divine stone. Only with this tablet would one be able to ride the Underworld Boat to reach the heaven's path.

For eons, many people tried to find the heaven's path, including Immortal Emperors and even Li Qiye! At this moment, it seemed like the heaven's path was not necessarily inside the burial ground, and the same applied to the divine stone.

Li Qiye took a deep breath, then he slowly drove his chariot upward along the heaven's path. The moment he exited the boat, it turned into a piece of rotten wood and dispersed with the wind. This meant that Li Qiye was on a path of no return without an Underworld Boat!

Chapter 234: Myriad Star Water (2)

As Li Qiye was driving the chariot along the heaven's path, his eyes maintained a careful focus for no one knew what would be at the end of this path. It could be the heavenly coffin or something else entirely.

Underworld appears, rebirth begins; heaven's path revealed; divine stone initiated. Entered heavenly coffin, achieving myriad old. Awaken corpse earth, heaven bringing eternality. Li Qiye kept on thinking about these words. The reality was that the heavenly coffin might not necessarily be at the end of the heaven's path!

Li Qiye rode his chariot for a very long distance and an unknown amount of time before finally reaching the end of the heaven's path.

It was a mountain deprived of a notable stature, and it was not comparable to the monstrous mountain with the hanging wooden coffin found in the Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground.

However, this particular not-so-mighty mountain was befriended with the sun and the moon with hovering stars and galaxies encircling it; it was as if this mountain was the center of the sky, or the beginning of the heaven and earth.

Li Qiye went up the mountain and found that there were no other things besides a pool of water! In the middle of the mountain was a large pond that had slow flowing water.

A spurting spring existed at the middle of the pond. It did not spray high as it was only around three feet up.

Li Qiye was shaken the moment he saw the water in the pond. Its water was not much different from common water, but with a more meticulous observation, one would find that this water was not ordinary. This tranquil water had a faint shimmer, but with a careful glance, this faint shimmer was not from light; instead, they were stars along with suns and moons. The Grand Dao accompanied each of these simmers; to simply put it, this was its own heaven and earth.

Inside the glossy lights, these heavenly bodies were hundreds of times smaller than a speck of dust. This was the reason why they looked like faint shimmers from a quick glance.

"Myriad Star Water!" Even Li Qiye was astonished at the sight of this pond. After living for such a long time, what type of treasures had he not seen? Even the treasure considered number one in the world by mankind had been bestowed with his gaze.

Li Qiye had only seen the Myriad Star Water once, and it was a long time ago. It was just a single drop of Myriad Star Water back then, but it brought about a war throughout the entire Nine Worlds. At that moment, Immortal Emperors and Immortal Physiques at grand completion tried to seize this one drop of Myriad Star Water, and it brought about an Immortal Emperor level war!

Li Qiye took a deep breath as his gaze fell upon the spring in the pond. The spring was only three feet high; it was as if it was raising a piece of treasure metal!

This treasure metal was filled with primordial chaos as if it was born during the inception of the heaven and earth. Its voice was very, very indistinct, yet it sounded as if an Immortal King was preaching the scriptures with the hymns of True Gods. They exuded a majestic brass sound of majestic drums, allowing listeners to be enlightened with perfect wisdom.

The even more frightening thing was that there were nine runes upon this piece of treasure metal. They intertwined into one existence — a supreme true mantra! This one true mantra alone formed its own world and was turned into an unparalleled heavenly testament! However, this was only the first form of the heavenly testament, it was not yet at grand completion!

Li Qiye's eyes shot out a blinding brilliance to analyze the golden runes within the metal, resulting in his body shaking! In a flash, he clearly read the golden runes within this piece of metal!

"Pristine Worldly Metal!" With a shocked expression, Li Qiye took in a cold breath and couldn't help himself from murmuring.

Li Qiye had seen so many treasures throughout the ages. Regarding grand dao treasure metals with innate runic words to create Life Treasures, a nine grand dao golden rune metal was the most valuable!

However, a grand dao treasure metal with nine grand dao golden runes was not the most invaluable. There was a saying amongst cultivators: treasure metals with nine runes were not as great as treasure metals with three runes and one true mantra!

If one grand dao treasure metal contained nine grand dao golden runes, but if these golden runes were just fragmented pieces, it could only be considered a treasure metal reaching its own limit regarding golden runes! However, if this grand dao treasure metal contained three grand dao golden runes that were able to turn into one true mantra... In the eyes of many people, its value would be much greater than a nine runic grand dao treasure metal.

The reason was very simple. When these grand dao golden runes are able to form into a true mantra, its power would double! The power of three runic true mantra would be no less than a nine runic grand dao treasure metal!

Therefore, some people referred to these golden runes that were capable of forming true mantras as Mantra Treasure Metal or True Metal, and they even placed it above Immortal Metal! [1. I'll sum this up. True Mantra Metals > regular Runic Metals]

Since the immemorial times, Li Qiye had seen many True Mantra Treasure Metals, three runic true mantra metals, and even six runic true mantra metals.

However, this particular treasure metal was nine runes forming a true mantra. The more terrifying fact was that these nine runic mantras were considered to be the first supreme true mantra of the heaven and earth!

And the most monstrous aspect was that these nine runic true mantras had combined into one and turned into a supreme heavenly testament.

Golden runes forming nine worlds, and nine worlds turning into a true mantra while this true mantra culminated into a heavenly testament! This was its most terrorizing characteristic.

Even though it was just in its early form and far from being a true heavenly testament, it was already very horrendous!

One has to remember that the world has a saying: before there was the heaven and earth, in its infancy stage, the universe's primordial chaos arrived. From the primordial chaos, the grand beginning spawned. The grand beginning gave birth to the Nine Words, the Nine Words created the Nine Treasures, and from the Nine Treasures came the Nine Scriptures. These were the legends of this world!

The Pristine Worldly Metal before him was in the shape of an early Nine Treasures and Nine Scriptures. Of course, if it wanted to become a Heavenly Scripture or a Heavenly Treasure; this early form would still require an endless amount of time, perhaps one hundred million years or even a trillion years. [2. This sentence just means that it is a really long, incalculable time.]

However, this did not matter — at the moment — to Li Qlye. He couldn't wait for this Pristine Worldly Metal to turn into a Heavenly Scripture or Heavenly Treasure. In the end, he couldn't wait for such a long time.

As long as he could seize this Pristine Worldly Metal, create a supreme Life Treasure from it in the future, and, at the same time, shoulder the Heaven's Will to become an Immortal Emperor, this Life

Treasure would be unbeatable in this world. Even Immortal Emperor True Treasures would not be able to compete with it!

This Pristine Worldly Metal was just a legend that existed only during the primordial chaos of the heaven and earth. However, Li Qiye didn't think that he would actually see one today!

"Boom... boom..." During his time of astonishment, thunderous noises appeared, causing Li Qiye to immediately turn around!

Looking at the scene of the empty void ahead of him, even Li Qiye became dumbfounded as his eyes became wide open. Ants — one after another — were carrying a coffin from the mountain forward into the void.

"Ancient ants moving the coffin!" Li Qiye murmured as if he was in a trance. Not long before this, he had seen these ants carrying a wooden coffin towards the deepest area of the Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground. And that time was not the first time he had seen this phenomenon before, either. He just didn't expect to see these ants again at this time and place.

Li Qiye was certain that these ancient ants were the same ones that he had met not long ago. Such a situation even caused Li Qiye, who had seen many strange things, to be stuck in a daze!

Li Qiye felt an urge to chase after and open the wooden coffin, but he managed to calm himself because he had heard of a different legend, a legend with a bad ending!

The moment the ancient ants and the coffin disappeared into the void, Li Qiye finally regained his wits and looked at the pond ahead. After taking a deep breath, he took out an item and aimed it towards the water in the pond, then he shouted: "Go...!"

However, the water in the pond did not move in the slightest. One had to know that the jade bottle in Li Qiye's hand was a Universe Pouch. Not to mention a pond of water, it could even hold an entire river. But at this time, there was not the slightest hint of movement.

Regardless of how he tried to suck in the Myriad Star Water with his jade bottle, it was all for naught. At this moment, Li Qiye realized that this water was not something that could be carried by his jade bottle. One had to know that every small drop of this water carried a star, sun, or moon! How could an ordinary Universe Pouch be able to hold such a thing?

At this time, he thought about an item, so he took it out... the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron. After taking it out, he didn't do anything else. The Myriad Heavenly Cauldron flew out from his hand and, with a boom, it fiercely swallowed a big mouthful of Myriad Star Water!

However, the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron did not drink a huge amount of Myriad Star Water to store for Li Qiye; it recklessly tried to digest the water. In the blink of an eye, it emitted a faint brilliance and many tiny stars appeared! It was actually undergoing a transformation.

However, when it digested almost half of it, the cauldron was like a drunkard as it shifted back and forth before finally falling flat to the ground with a plop.

"Damn, this is too messed up, you're devouring such a treasure for only yourself." Li Qiye was speechless and had no choice but to recall the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron. This guy was not trustworthy at all. It ate a large amount of the water and essentially left nothing for Li Qiye.

Since it was impossible to rely on the cauldron, Li Qiye thought about a different item. He took out one Immortal Writ and folded it into a small cup, then he used it to scoop the Myriad Star Water.

"Truly worthy of being called an Immortal Writ, it is definitely matchless since the ancient age, ah." Li Qiye was ecstatic that the Immortal Writ was able to accept the Myriad Star Water.

Li Qiye — once again — folded another Immortal Writ, wanting to store even more water. However, this time, the folded paper cup was not able to load the water, not even the tiniest bit!

"It seems like this water has its own consciousness!" Even the Immortal Writ could only load the water once — and only a small cup at that — before it was no longer effective. This caused Li Qiye to understand that this water had its own sentience!

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Li Qiye felt very helpless at this moment. If he could obtain this huge pond of Myriad Star Water, then he would simply be the richest person in this world; it would be enough for him to squander crazily. At that point, it would be difficult for him not to rule over the world.

However, he had nothing that could store such a large pond of Myriad Star Water, so Li Qiye could only let out a wry smile as he sighed.

Finally, Li Qiye gave up on the idea of capturing this pond of water. His gaze fell on the Pristine Worldly Metal instead. This treasure metal could be considered the number one metal since the ages ah.

Li Qiye took a deep breath and reached for the metal above the surging spring, but no matter how he tried to grab it, it wouldn't budge!

"Move...!" Li Qiye screamed out and exerted his maximum strength to grab this piece of metal, but it still remained immobilized. His utmost effort was not enough to move this metal at all.

"Bang--bang--banngg." Li Qiye became riled up and decided to use his body to slam it, a sword to slash it, and a treasure to hit it. Nothing was capable of shaking this piece of Pristine Worldly Metal.

In the end, Li Qiye became a bit discouraged and angry. He finally struck the stone tablet forward while cursing: "Damn thing..."

"Boom!" The stone tablet smashed the metal flying away. Fortunately, Li Qiye's reaction was fast enough to immediately catch the soaring metal.

"Please don't fly away, my little treasure." Li Qiye couldn't help but excitedly exclaim after catching it.

"Rumblee--grummblee--" A swallowing sound appeared right when Li Qiye caught the metal because the stone tablet sank into the pond. It blocked the surging spring, and an unbelievable thing happened. The stone tablet crazily swallowed the water inside the pond as the water began to disappear at a rapid pace!

"What the hell..." Li Qiye was dumbfounded while watching the stone tablet sucking up the Myriad Star Water. His Myriad Heavenly Cauldron had a frightening origin, but it couldn't handle drinking the water, yet this stone tablet was able to crazily devour it. It was drinking the Myriad Star Water as if it was just ordinary water that could be drank without any difficulty.

"Please, leave a little bit for me. I still want to try to see if my body can handle some Myriad Star Water or not!" Li Qiye shook his body a bit and regained his wits as he immediately shouted.

"Xsshh..." But right at this time, the stone tablet had already drank all the water, leaving behind a dry pond.

Li Qiye wanted to cry after seeing this scene; Myriad Star Water ah. Not to mention an entire pond, even one cup alone would be enough to drive the Nine Worlds crazy, even True Gods would climb out from their graves! However, this broken stone — in the end — actually swallowed all of the water in the pond!

"Damn it, since the ages, I always consider myself to be the most prodigal man and the most extravagant spender. I didn't expect that a broken stone like you would be ten thousand times more wasteful than me!" Li Qiye looked at the dried up pond and wanted to cry.

He jumped down into the pond and kicked the stone tablet while cursing: "Get the hell out for me, don't block this spring. I want to see if there is more Myriad Star Water pouring out."

However, Li Qiye's kick did not knock the stone away; instead, a "crank crack" sound appeared. The stone tablet shattered all over the floor, revealing a stone egg. This stone egg was only a little bit smaller than the stone tablet. It was completely gloomy and dull and was seemingly cheap at a first glance.

"Egg..." Seeing the cracked stone revealing an egg, Li Qiye also widened his eyes in surprise at this seemingly insignificant egg.

"Was it you that sucked up all the Myriad Star Water?" Li Qiye was a bit shocked as he murmured: "I'm really meeting so many strange things today!"

After calming down and staring at the stone egg before him, he said with some astonishment: "I assumed that the opening of the divine stone would give me eternal life. This shattered stone gives me a stone egg instead. This is too strange, I am not a hen!" [1. He meant that he isn't a hen to incubate and hatch the egg]

Even though Li Qiye was complaining, he knew that this stone egg that was capable of devouring all the Myriad Star Water was absolutely unimaginable.

Li Qiye hugged the egg with both hands and shouted out loud: "Open for me..."

"Boom!" With a loud explosion, the stone egg was like a cannonball as it shot out into space, carrying Li Qiye along with it.

"Oh my mother, where do you want to take me!" Being suddenly shot out surprised Li Qiye as he tightly held onto the egg.

Today, Ancient Sky City was very quiet because many great powers had begun to leave the city after the end of the Underworld Boat event. Not many chose to stay behind.

A depressed atmosphere lingered over the Heavenly Grotto of the Nine Saint Demon Gate inside the city. The group of Li Shuangyan, along with Chi Yun's people, were both unhappy.

It had been twenty days since Li Qiye departed with the Underworld Boat, and there has been no news. Of course, needless to say, Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao were very worried as they prayed for Li Qiye. They hoped that Li Qiye could create another miracle and come back safely. Even though they had great confidence in him, there was still unrest in their hearts.

At the end of the day, this was the Underworld Boat ah. Since the ages, very few people returned from the Underworld Boats alive, unless they were the near-death and chose the correct life-boats. However, this was not the case for Li Qiye.

As for the group of Tu Buyu, they were first shocked when they heard about Li Qiye boarding the boat. This was the craziest thing they had ever heard in their entire life.

"Oldest brother is sure to return triumphantly!" Nan Huairen swore with this phrase as his trust in Li Qiye exploded! However, after twenty days passed, Li Qiye still had not returned. Not to mention the other disciples, even Nan Huairen — who had unwavering confidence in Li Qiye — began to worry.

Amongst them, the most reassured was Niu Fen. Niu Fen had been to the deepest part of the burial ground on an expedition, so he murmured: "Even the Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground will not be able to stop Young Lord's return!"

As for the elders of the Nine Saint Demon Gate and Chi Yun, they were even more worried, but their concern was not simply only for Li Qiye's safety!

Their Nine Saint Demon Gate guaranteed success for the War God Temple. Even though Li Qiye was the one who conducted the business with the War God Temple during this Underworld Boat burial, their Nine Saint Demon Gate also paid a huge price as guarantee. Even their Demon King had to stay behind inside the War God Temple. If Li Qiye really didn't come back, then it would be big trouble!

Even a few elders of the War God Temple did not leave. They chose to stay behind in Ancient Sky City to wait for news regarding Li Qiye for they wanted to see if he could come back alive. If he was able to, then their confidence in this trade would be much greater.

"Twenty days has passed already!" Inside the mansion, Chen Baojiao sat next to the window with her chin propped up by her hands while staring at the sky! Chen Baojiao could be considered a crazed cultivator even though she was a supreme beauty. She crazily trained harder and put out more effort than anyone! No matter the occasion, she wouldn't waste time sitting idly by without cultivating!

But in the last twenty days, Chen Baojiao was quite restless and had no desire to cultivate or to eat. Day by day, she waited for her young noble to come back. However, as the days passed by, she became increasingly worried about the absence of their young noble.

"He will come back. He is even more powerful than our imaginations!" Li Shuangyan sat to the side with her cold and aloof demeanor. However, at this minute, there was a lingering sorrow unhideable in the middle of her beautiful brows.

Even though Li Shuangyan was saying such things, her heart was still at a loss. In the end, this was the Underworld Boat they were talking about, and twenty days had passed as well!

Li Qiye told them that, if he did not return in half a month, they have to leave and bring the juniors back to the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect. However, twenty days had passed and they were not willing to leave. They were still hoping for their young noble to return.

Today, Ancient Sky City was sunny with a cloudless sky — this was a good day.

"Xshhh--" At this moment, in the wide cloudless sky, there was a sudden sharp noise piercing above as a star passed over Ancient Sky City.

"Meteor..." Many people looked up and said: "No, it is not a meteor, it is a person!"

A person was shooting across the sky with an extreme speed — just like a burning meteor — as his entire body was bursting in flames.

"It is Li Qiye..." Even though the speed was very swift, there was still a Royal Noble with sharp eyesight and was able to discern the person burning with raging fire in a flash.

Having heard this, many cultivators present were shocked. A great character lost his voice in exclamation: "Impossible, I clearly saw him ride an Underworld Boat, flowing away!"

"It really is Li Qiye!" At this time, more than just one person recognized that the burning man was truly Li Qiye.

Momentarily, many great characters were amazed that Li Qiye came back alive!

"This kid is truly too scary!" No matter whether they were royal lords or sect masters from the previous generations, or even some secluded undyings, all of them were greatly alarmed.

"Being able to come back alive after riding the Underworld Boat, this is extremely devilish!" In just a second, countless people glanced at each other and felt that this matter was impossible.

"Boom!" With a loud knock, the Heavenly Grotto of the Nine Saint Demon Gate was pierced through, frightening everyone inside.

"What happened..." The group of Chi Yun jolted because, after the attack from the Heavenly God Sect last time, the Nine Saint Demon Gate became more vigilant. Countless disciples rushed to the scene of occurrence.

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Inside the compound was a huge hole that extended for quite a bit of distance, resulting in a chasm! At this second, everyone went to look at the hole, and they only saw black smoke that carried a burnt smell.

Inside the hole was a person whose body was burnt to a black crisp; it was as if he was thrown inside a furnace. This burnt person was holding a stone egg tightly in his chest.

At this time, everyone was amazed. Where did this guy that was burnt to a dark crisp come from?

"F*ck, it really cooked me. I will sooner or later break the Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground!" At this moment, the burnt person inside the large hole swore loudly.

"Young Noble Li..." Hearing this familiar voice, Chi Yun — along with the elders — were suddenly shocked on the spot.

"Young Noble..." At this time, the group of Li Shuangyan had also just arrived along with Tu Buyu and the juniors. After hearing the familiar voice that couldn't be any more familiar, Li Shuangyan almost cried and immediately rushed down to the large crater and picked up Li Qiye, who was carrying the stone egg.

"Young Noble, it really is you..." After helping him up, Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao couldn't contain themselves from hugging him with teary eyes.

"Two great beauties, as your young noble, I naturally do not mind your passionate advances. However, I am already burnt to a crisp, if you both hug me like this, then would I not be burnt even more by desires until I become ashes?" Li Qiye spoke with an indescribable grace and calmness with his blackened body!

At this time, the extremely emotional Li Shuangyan and Chen Baojiao finally calmed down and realized that countless eyes were on them. This caused them to blush and couldn't help but cry out! After Li Qiye was carried up, Tu Buyu, along with the Nine Saint Demon Gate's elders, couldn't believe their eyes. Returning alive and kicking after boarding an Underworld Boat was truly an amazing thing!

"Haha, aha. Oldest brother, I knew you were invincible in this world. The Underworld Boat is nothing, even hell itself would not dare to take you! You will surely mess everything up down there if it takes you!" Seeing Li Qiye returning alive, the juniors of the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect were ecstatic, especially Nan Huairen who exclaimed with laughter.

The blackened Li Qiye smacked his neck with a playful scold: "Stop sucking up, I was almost burnt like a roasted duck!"

"Heh, Young Noble, this kid speaks the truth. Only Young Noble is invincible in this world. To be able to come back alive after boarding an Underworld Boat at a young age, this could be said to be a miracle throughout the ages." Niu Fen couldn't help but say with admiration.

"Young Noble Li, you are truly extraordinary! I'm afraid that you are the number one person of the younger generation, you're the only person to come back from an Underworld Boat." Chi Yun also couldn't help but add. His words were not flattery, but sincerity.

This was too incredible to all the disciples of the Nine Saint Demon Gate. Only a few of the undyings with only one breath left ever came back after being buried in the Underworld Boats, let alone a living young person!

At this moment, the elders of the War God Temple also came. They saw Li Qiye alive and well and couldn't believe their eyes. This was truly a miracle. This guy actually came back alive after only twenty days!

"Well, it is normal that your old eyes are bad. However, I came back alive." Li Qiye looked at the War God Temple's elders, who were rubbing their eyes, and leisurely stated.

This embarrassed the elders as they were dazed on the spot. They still felt amazed, however, for they would never believe such a thing unless they saw it with their own eyes.

Both the Nine Saint Demon Gate and the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect were celebrating with excitement.

"Although I know everyone means well, you should at least let me take a bath, I am almost a roasted duck over here." Li Qiye smilingly said with a carefree manner.

Eventually, everyone left and Li Shuangyan, along with Chen Baojiao, prepared a bath for Li Qiye!

After the bath, Li Qiye changed into a set of clothes with a newly rejuvenated spirit. However, nothing else mattered to him right now outside of understanding this stone egg!

"Do you need to be this focused on just a stone egg?" Seeing their young noble in a trance caused Chen Baojiao, who was taking care of him, to coquettishly complain with peerless charm.

With such an enchanting beauty along with an alluring expression was irresistible, people would have no choice but to lose their minds. However, Li Qiye paid it no mind as his eyes were focused on the stone egg.

"Girl, you don't know. This egg is truly unfathomable, very unfathomable." Li Qiye gently petted the stone egg as if he was gently caressing a lover. He wanted to feel the pulse of this egg, but there was not the slightest response. [1. This girl here is a lot more playful and a bit more demeaning in this case. One would refer to a maid as this word "girl". However, adults also call young girls "girl" as well. Just know that it is not the regular girl we are accustomed to in English or the conventional, polite Chinese "girl"]

Having heard him refer to her as a "girl," Chen Baojiao immediately glared at him with soul-capturing charm!

"Really?" Li Shuangyan couldn't help but to take a second look at this stone egg. After his return, their young noble never let go of this stone egg and always had it with him; he even gave it a bath as he was taking his own! It was as if this was his baby.

Li Qiye glanced at the two of them once before he smilingly replied: "Of course. I will not even trade it for an Immortal Emperor True Treasure."

After hearing this, both of the girls were astonished. An Immortal Emperor True Treasure was the most powerful weapon in this world!

They glanced at it again and touched it, but they still couldn't see through the mysteries of the egg. This was simply a dull, gray stone egg, nothing more.

"This looks like an ordinary stone egg, is it really worth so much?" Chen Baojiao was quite suspecting. No matter how one looked at it, it didn't have any extraordinary characteristics.

"You don't understand." Li Qiye smiled. If the world knew that this stone egg swallowed a pond of Myriad Star Water, then they would be scared to death. Even an Immortal Emperor would have their mouth wide open in shock after hearing such a thing! There was most likely no one or any existence that had swallowed more Myriad Star Water than this egg since the start of time!

What Li Qiye didn't understand was why there were no changes after it swallowed so much Myriad Star Water. He had seen many divine items; if this stone egg had any life, then it absolutely should be undergoing changes after swallowing so much.

His Myriad Heavenly Cauldron was quite amazing with a heaven-frightening origin and could be considered the number one cauldron in the world! However, it became drunk after just one big gulp of Myriad Star Water.

Yet this stone egg swallowed an entire pond without any reaction. He started to wonder if this egg had any life essence at all? If it truly had some life in it and swallowed a pond without any reaction, then it was too terrifying; he didn't even dare to imagine it! If this was the case, then what kind of existence was this!?

Li Qiye would dare to say that there were no existences in this world that he had not seen before! However, if there was a creature in this world that could swallow a pond of Myriad Star Water without any reaction, then Li Qiye really had not seen it. Even an Immortal Emperor would not be able to do so for they essentially could not refine the water without some time.

"What is this thing?" Li Shuangyan noticed that Li Qiye was not joking, so she meticulously looked again, but the result was still the same.

Li Qiye shook his head and answered: "It would be nice if I knew so that I won't have to think about how to break it! In fact, I still don't know what creature it is!"

After returning, Li Qiye had always thought about this stone egg, but it remained a mystery. He was sure that this egg hid a great secret. It did not have any relationship with the burial ground, but with hell instead. However, this was the only thing he could come up with.

Underworld appears, rebirth begins; heaven's path revealed; divine stone initiated. Entered heavenly coffin, achieving myriad old. Awaken corpse earth, heaven bringing eternality! Li Qiye kept on recalling this phrase and wanted to connect the stone egg with it, but he still didn't have a clue at this moment!

On the second day since his return, Li Shuangyan told Li Qiye: "An ancestor of the War God Temple wants to see you."

"See me?" Li Qiye batted his brows a bit before saying: "Let him come, does he actually want me to go and see him? It is him asking me for a favor, not the other way around."

Li Shuangyan became a bit speechless. Not to mention her, if the world heard this, they would be quite stunned. A War God Temple's ancestor was an invincible character; even a Virtuous Paragon would not dare to act recklessly when facing this ancestor, but their young noble was an arrogant mess!

In the end, the War God Temple's ancestor actually came. The truth was that the War God Temple didn't have just one ancestor. This ancestor stayed behind while the rest all went back to the temple.

He came in and sat down. This time, he did not wear black and was dressed in a hemp robe instead. He suppressed his blood energy so that he was just like an ordinary old man. In fact, when one was at an invincible level like him, blood energy could be freely controlled.

"This old man's name is Mu Chen." Even though this ancestor was not arrogant, he was still a bit reserved. In fact, with his status and power, he was qualified to have a threatening arrogance.

Mu Chen! If others heard this name, they would piss their pants from horror. Don't even mention existences like the Heavenly God Sect, even an ancestor of the Azure Mysterious Ancient Kingdom would lose his colors.

Li Qiye's eyelids simply lifted a little bit while looking at him. He was just a bit surprised: "You being alive is outside of my expectations. That year when the old War God Mu was buried, I heard that you were one of the pallbearers! Old Man Mu had always thought highly of you."

Li Qiye's words shook Mu Chen. Even the disciples of the War God Temple did not know of such a tale, let alone an outsider. This was an extremely ancient matter. Besides the living ancestors, no one else knew about this matter!

"It was only through the usage of an Era Blood Stone to last till now." Mu Chen spoke. If it wasn't for bringing their Forefather to this place, he would not pay such a monstrous price such as leaving the Era Blood Stone.

At this point, Mu Chen looked at Li Qiye and said: "Even though Forefather Mu lived for another generation, he couldn't make it to the present."

Li Qiye waved his hand and said: "Don't try to test me. The old man from the Hidden Immortal Hall didn't dare to inquire, do you really want to take this gamble?"

Mu Chen immediately turned silent. The truth was, to both him and the War God Temple, Li Qiye was too devilish. He felt that Li Qiye wasn't only something as simple as the prime disciple of the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect! However, their Forefather had talked about this, so he no longer dared to try searching for Li Qiye's background after Li Qiye's warning.

"War God Mu had lived for two generations, plus he buried himself in the Era Blood Stone for a long time. This was already heaven-defying! The old heaven had soon not tolerated him. It was already a miracle to live that long. It is already good that the old man from your Hidden Immortal Hall is now buried on the Underworld Boat, so don't be too greedy." Li Qiye glanced at Mu Chen once, then he continued on: "Your War God Temple is great in all aspects, but its conservative air is too heavy. This has a lot to do with having too many old men alive."

Li Qiye's words caused Mu Chen to contemplate silently. Their War God Temple had been standing strong since the Desolate Era until now, and it was due to two reasons. The first was because there were many great geniuses that appeared; the second was because they always had ancestors who were willing to be buried in the dark in order to protect the temple. The younger generation created the future while the old generation protected the heritage. Because of this, the War God Temple continued to exist until this day.

"Well, we will not waste time. If you have something to say, go ahead. Out of respect for your War God Temple's great contribution to the Human Race, I will let you know certain things as long as the situation permits." Li Qiye slowly said.

Li Qiye's words, once again, shook Mu Chen's heart. These words were not simple! He became serious and looked at Li Qiye to say: "I want to ask Young Noble Li, the end of the Underworld Boat, what is that place? Could Young Noble Li describe the circumstances and details regarding the drifting boats?"

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Regarding Mu Chen's question, Li Qiye simply gave him a stare before finally answering: "I know you want to inquire about the burial ground's secrets. Unfortunately, I do not know the answer either. As for what I saw at the end of the Underworld Boat's destination, I'm afraid I can't tell you. War God Mu used to think highly of you; did he tell you about the matters regarding the Underworld Boat and how he was reborn for another life? I'm afraid that he didn't tell you what he saw at the end of the trip!"

Mu Chen was shocked because Li Qiye spoke the truth!

"The Heavenly Ancient Corpse Burial Ground, the other twelve burial grounds, and even the six grands Ancient Immortal Grounds; there are too many taboos. Unless you personally experienced it, it would be meaningless to hear about it. There are also a few matters that you wouldn't believe just by listening because they would break your common sense." Li Qiye slowly explained.

Mu Chen could only gently sigh after hearing Li Qiye's words. He understood that Li Qiye was not willing to tell him.

"Where is our forefather?" In the end, Mu Chen asked for this was the most important matter to him.

Li Qiye slightly flicked his hand and spoke: "If I dared to do this business with you, of course I am certain. The old man from the Hidden Immortal Hall will come back sooner or later. One year if fast and two years if slow, but he surely will return. At that time, remember to bring me the items I want. There is no one in this world who can owe me anything and get away with it!"

"That item..." Mu Chen couldn't help but ponder for a moment when this transaction was brought up.

Li Qiye glanced at him and spoke: "So? Your War God Temple is regretting it? Unfortunately, it is already too late."

"This is not what I mean." Mu Chen wryly smiled. He pondered the question before answering: "Regarding this item. I have only heard of a few rumors and I don't know if they are true or not."

"If you all don't even know if it is real or fake, I can only say that you bunch of old men have been living for so long in vain." Li Qiye continued: "You and the Heavenly Dao Academy should have worked together sooner. The War God Temple and the Heavenly Dao Academy are the most ancient heritages of the Human Race with great contributions. If you guys work together, then it wouldn't be the Azure Mysterious Ancient Kingdom's turn to be so arrogant like this, and the Soaring Immortal Sect would not consider itself invincible! Hmph! During Tian Tu's era, if your heritages had combined forces sooner, then would the Mortal Emperor World deteriorate to this state!?" [1. Tian Tu here is referring to Immortal Emperor Tian Tu during Middle Continent Princess's era, whose name means Heaven Massacre]

Mu Chen's expression greatly sank when Li Qiye brought up the words "Heaven Massacre" because this was the event that the Mortal Emperor World did not want to bring up the most.

"You are all a bunch of conservative, stubborn old fools hindering all progress! That year, the Heavenly Dao Academy was also the same. However, after Wang Yuan, this matter changed a lot with many reformations. Today, the Heavenly Dao Academy is even more dazzling compared to the War God Temple! Even though War God Mu's achievement was peerless at that time and influenced the Nine Worlds, but truth be told, Old Man Mu was not as great as Wang Yuan! Wang Yuan completely changed the Heavenly Dao Academy, but what about Old Man Mu? He had the power to change your War God Temple, but alas, he did not do so. Your War God Temple is still using your decrepit style of management!"

Li Qiye continued on: "One day, your War God Temple will disappear in the river of time if this trend continues! There are many things that you should just let die, don't hold on to them forever! A bunch of old men might be important, but your temple has expended too much in this respect as your hands became chained. It would be a different era if your temple had just let them go! The grand tree of the War God Temple might be monstrous, but its leaves are too old and cost too much to nurture!" [1. Grand Tree here in Chinese means backing, something to protect you, so it is referring to the old men]

Mu Chen's heart was shaken. The world knew about how powerful and mysterious the temple was, but no outsiders understood what kind of heritage it was. However, Li Qiye was able to point out the situations of both the Heavenly Dao Academy and the War God Temple. This was not something privy to a junior so it came as an unbelievable astonishment to Mu Chen!

"Go back. If the old man from the Hidden Immortal Hall comes back, tell him that he has lived long enough! Five hundred years is more than enough. Even True Gods and Immortal Emperors cannot reach immortality, let alone him." In the end, Li Qiye gently waved his sleeve and continued: "Today, I have said too many things. It is out of respect for your War God Temple's unerasable contribution to humanity. If it was a lineage like the Azure Mysterious Ancient Kingdom or the Soaring Immortal Sect, I would not waste my breath on them!"

Mu Chen sat there silently for a bit before standing up to leave.

"The War God Temple and the Heavenly Dao Academy, all of you know that not just one Immortal Emperor learned from your places, but ultimately, the group of Immortal Emperor Bing Yu didn't come from your true heritages. Both of your factions were able to personally groom Immortal Emperors, and not just one! But what was the end result? They, in the end, were just honorary students of your War God Temple and Heavenly Dao Academy, nothing more!"

Right when Mu Chen reached the door, Li Qiye continued on: "Regarding this, both of your factions' plans and insights were far less potent than the old men from the Soaring Immortal Sect!"

Mu Chen by the door couldn't help but become suddenly stiff.

"I will stop here out of love for your temple's contribution. Think about it carefully; what did you all give up so many opportunities for!?" In the end, Li Qiye sighed softly and finished.

After Mu Chen left, Li Qiye only shook his head. The War God Temple had been through countless storms across the eras. It became even more conservative in the present day compared to its Desolate Era days. For millions of years, he — as the Dark Crow — had a great relationship with the War God Temple. He even gave them many exceptional seeds, such as the group of Immortal Emperor Bing Yu!

Unfortunately, the War God Temple did not grasp this opportunity tightly. Even though they had great relationships with some Immortal Emperors, they did not train any of the emperors after the start of the Emperors Era.

Ancient Sky City was clamoring in excitement everywhere after Li Qiye came back alive from the Underworld Boat. The matter about Li Qiye buzzed everywhere throughout the secret channels!

However, Li Qiye didn't care for these matters. After staying at Ancient Sky City for a few days, he immediately prepared to depart from the city back to the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect.

The elders of the Nine Saint Demon Gate sent him off while the War God Temple was not present. Chi Yun told Li Qiye that the remaining War God Temple's group had already left one day before Li Qiye.

Li Qiye coming back alive increased the Nine Saint Demon Gate's trust that this transaction would be successful. One had to remember that they paid a great price for this deal between Li Qiye and the temple. If it was successful, then the Nine Saint Demon Gate would not only earn the temple's support, but also its protection.

Through the warping of the dao gate, the group of Li Qiye quickly returned to the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect in a short time and was greeted in person by Gu Tieshou and the other elders along with the protectors! All of them were quite ecstatic to see everyone come back safely.

Of course, they also wanted to know the result of this trip. However, Li Qiye was not in the mood to discuss it so he left everything to Tu Buyu and said: "Junior Tu, you report everything to the elders."

Tu Buyu accepted this trivial matter and didn't want to bother Li Qiye.

However, Li Qiye only noticed that the elders and protectors were present; his circumstantial master, who happened to be the sect master, Su Yonghuang, was not. He asked with some surprise: "Where is the sect master?"

"The sect master is in secluded cultivation. Sect Master said that her physique tribulation was approaching, so she is carefully preparing for it." Gu Tieshou quickly explained to Li Qiye.

Under the strong support of Li Qiye, Su Yonghuang's position at the sect became well established. In fact, it was a joyous event for the sect to accept this sect master from the outside as well. One had to remember that Su Yonghuang was a natural born Saint Physique. Such a talent had unparalleled potential.

Any natural born Saint Physique would be competed for by all the great powers. In fact, with the status and power of the current Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect, it essentially did not have the ability to recruit such a talent!

Today, the sect was even more appreciative after accepting such a talent.

"Natural born Saint Physique, truly amazing." Li Qiye also complimented as he nodded approvingly. Even though Su Yonghuang did not cultivate the Solar Physique like Immortal Emperor Min Ren, the Extreme Yang Physique was not any weaker than the Solar Physique.

Li Qiye and Gu Tieshou chatted for a bit before Li Qiye retreated back to his place. Gu Tieshou and the others knew that Li Qiye had his own matters so they didn't bother him. They spoke to Tu Buyu, instead, to inquire about the situation.

The first thing Li Qiye did was to take out the Pristine Worldly Metal. This was the number one metal throughout the ages ah. He must refine such an item into a treasure. If this Pristine Worldly Metal became a Life Weapon, then it would absolutely be the number one weapon in the world in the future.

This metal floated inside Li Qiye's second Fate Palace. At this moment, it was still surrounded by the primordial chaos along with the hymns of the Grand Dao that were like the preachings of Immortal Kings and True Gods. One could faintly see an Immortal Scripture being excavated, causing Li Qiye to become praisingly astonished. Such a metal was indeed supremely peerless.

At this time, Li Qiye channeled his law and activated the Cauldron of Life inside his palace. In the blink of an eye, the cauldron's fire blazingly struck down and began to refine the Pristine Worldly Metal.

Cultivators had many different techniques to refine their treasures. However, most cultivators chose to use the Cauldron of Life's flame in order to refine their treasures, especially those made from grand dao treasure metals.

"Ommm--" However, the moment Li Qiye wanted to refine it with his flame of life, the Pristine Worldly Metal suddenly flashed a glint of brilliance and immediately suppressed the flame of life — not even a trace of flame remained.

Li Qiye was a bit taken aback. Such a good treasure; truly supreme, it had its own awareness. At this time, Li Qiye channeled his merit law along with his divine sense in order to communicate with this metal.

However, the metal ignored him as if it was an existence at the apex and didn't care for Li Qiye's divine sense! No matter how much Li Qiye tried to communicate, the metal didn't react at all.

Li Qiye was angry to the point of vomitting blood from such a scene. Even though this metal was peerless in this world, if there was no way to refine it, then it was still useless in the end. He couldn't use this number one metal in the world as a brick and throw it at his enemies.

As Li Qiye was enraged with exasperation, the stone egg stored inside Li Qiye's Fate Palace began to move. "Boom!" The stone egg ferociously slammed the Pristine Worldly Metal and caused it to gradually lose its brilliance.

The metal seemed to be chastened after being ferociously smashed by the stone egg. Back when Li Qiye tried to communicate with it, it had a superior arrogance and didn't care for him. However, after being smashed by the stone egg, it withdrew its conceitedness.

Chapter 238: Refining the Pristine Worldly Metal (2)

With a pop sound, the Pristine Worldly Metal suddenly knocked Little Silly's dao bone flying away. It had always been stored inside Li Qiye's second Fate Palace before being knocked away by the metal.

One has to know that Little Silly had a heaven-frightening origin, but at this moment, it could not compete against this metal, so its position was robbed away in an instant.

"Oh my god, so overbearing." Li Qiye didn't have anything to say and had no choice but to put away Little Silly's dao bone. One Fate Palace could only grow one treasure; there was no way around this.

However, Li Qiye was not too surprised at such a scene. In the end, it would not be an exaggeration to say that it was the number one metal in the world.

Right when the Pristine Worldly Metal replaced Little Silly in the True Fate position; it actually automatically called for the water of life from the Spring of Life. With another "omm--", the Pillar of Life also exerted its essence and mystical runes.

In just a moment, the Pristine Worldly Metal was bathing in the water of life, essence of life, and mystical runes of life in complete enjoyment. As time passed by, it began to change after being strengthened and bathed by all these different powers. A spirit energy was gradually formed as this metal engraved the mystical runes of Li Qiye on its body. As the grand dao intertwined, its own nine

Li Qiye was moved by witnessing such a scene; this was auto-refinement. One has to know that Life Treasures and True Treasures needed cultivators to refine. In order to increase their powers, cultivators would not only use the world's essence, life essence, and blood energy, but they would also use supreme merit laws for this refinement process and to engrave these laws onto the treasures.

However, this piece of Pristine Worldly Metal was able to start the refinement process by itself without Li Qiye's interference. Li Qiye was speechlessly happy regarding this matter!

As day after day passed by, the Pristine Worldly Metal sucked up a large amount of Li Qiye's life force and started to slowly change. It was no longer just a piece of metal, but had been turned into a refined weapon. As even more time passed by, it slowly turned into a bow!

Since it refined itself into a natural Life Treasure, Li Qiye couldn't help but praise it. It will absolutely be unfathomable once it formed. It will be the best weapon in the world in the future once he shouldered the Heaven's Will and became an Immortal Emperor.

Li Qiye couldn't contain his excitement thinking about how the utmost pinnacle of weapons will come from his hands in the future. He had lived through the ages witnessing Immortal Emperor True Weapons and True Gods' arsenals, even the more mythical and ancient mysterious treasures were seen by him! Since the ages, many weapons were praised as the world's ultimate weapon under the heavens, such as Immortal Emperor Gu Chun's Bronze Sword, Immortal Emperor Fei Yang's Banner, Immortal Emperor Bu Zhan's Spear, or even Tian Du's Flag... [1. Gu Chun's sword official name is Gu Chun Sword of course and same with the other ones, but I avoided the repetition. Gu Chun = Ancient Purity; Fei Yang = Soaring; Bu Zhan = March to Battle; and Tian Du is Heaven Massacre. Notice how Tian Du is never accompanied with Immortal Emperor even though he is one.]

But in Li Qiye's opinion, once he shouldered the Heaven's Will and ascended into an Immortal Emperor, this bow of his will absolutely surpass all weapons in the world and take the throne!

As the Pristine Worldly Metal was refining itself, Li Qiye was also devilishly training his own cultivation.

At this moment, Li Qiye had entered the Heaven's Primal realm. Before, Li Qiye was only at the Purified Rebirth realm, but right when he was undergoing his tribulation with everything going his way, he went all the way from Warrior Canopy at grand achievement to Purified Rebirth at grand achievement. One

could even say that Li Qiye surpassing one grand realm in one day was a miracle never before seen throughout the ages.

Li Qiye had always believed in taking it one step at a time even though he had the Revolving Crescent Sun Law along with the Kun Peng's Six Variants — a supreme Longevity Law along with an Immortal Emperor Fate Merit. He initially had a way to quickly increase his cultivation, but he chose to consolidate his foundation step by step.

However, at the Purified Rebirth realm, he was able to break through an entire realm — this was truly the fastest speed this world had ever seen!

However, it was only because of the perfect circumstances with controlling the devil physique and stealing its fortune along with the Underworld Water! It could be said that this Purified Rebirth realm at grand achievement was quite perfect. Even Li Qiye, who believed in taking it slow and meticulously, was satisfied with such a soaring jump.

However, Li Qiye understood very well that such a thing could not be repeated because a favorable circumstance like that — under the heaven and earth — was unlikely to happen again.

Now that he was in the Heaven's Primal realm, he went back to his step by step training process for a solid foundation.

Heaven's Primal was a boundary for cultivators. Once one reaches this realm, one could be considered an expert. Many cultivators over the years believed that anyone lower than Heaven's Primal would only be ordinary disciples and cultivators. However, they became experts the moment they reached Heaven's Primal.

The most important thing regarding Heaven's Primal was the refinement of one's Heaven's Primal, or True Fate. Once the True Fate reached grand achievement, it would be called the heaven's will primal soul, which is also the origin of the name, Heaven's Primal. [2. Might be a bit confusing here, but a lot of words have identical meanings. Fate and Soul are nearly identical, which is understandable. Heaven's Primal just means the origin, so one's soul. Let's just say that all of these refer to one's soul/fate to make it easier to understand.]

Once a cultivator's True Fate reached grand achievement and became a primal soul, one could recreate their flesh. For example, if they meet a powerful enemy and their flesh became disabled or destroyed, as long as their primal soul still existed, then no matter if their Fate Palaces were destroyed along with a shattered Inner Physique, there was still a chance for survival!

The quality of the primal soul correlated to one's future in cultivation. It could even be said that the quality of the primal soul directly affected whether one would be able to reach Immortal Emperor and shoulder the Heaven's Will or not.

After Heaven's Primal was the Soul Creation realm, then the Mysterious Fate realm. Cultivators of these two realms were referred to as Named Heroes and Royal Nobles, respectively. In today's world, Named Heroes and Royal Nobles were the main force, especially Royal Noble cultivators. They had a prominent position in today's society.

Heaven's Primal had three levels. From lowest to highest, they are in the following order: Wisdom Opening, Fate Tempering, and Bridge Creation!

When cultivators reached the Bridge Creation level, they would be able to soar through the span of thousands of miles without the need for any treasure. This was the foundation for cultivators to reach the sky and enter the earth in the future; they would be able to pillar the nine heavens above and explores the nine worlds below!

As the essence of the heaven and earth was poured in with the tapping of the Fate Merit, sounds of the grand dao resonated within the True Fate, taking the shape of a Kun Peng!

However, Li Qiye did not imagine that his four symbols and his Fate Palaces themselves were all affected by the Pristine Worldly Metal. When the Fate Palace was growing the metal, the metal that was filled with primordial forces also affected the Fate Palaces. Unknowingly, Li Qiye's Fate Palaces were filled with primordial power! [3. Four symbols = pillar, cauldron, tree, and spring]

This scene left Li Qiye in shock. This was a symbiosis process as his Fate Palaces and the Pristine Worldly Metal were working together, exchanging life essence for primordial power. Otherwise, Li Qiye's life force would not be able to nurture the immensity of the Pristine Worldly Metal by itself.

In the end, if a Life Treasure was too powerful, then a Fate Palace would not be able to nurture it. If a Life Treasure absorbed way too much life essence, then it would be a lose-lose situation just like a fisherman draining the pond to get to the fish.

At this moment, Li Qiye's Fate Palace was growing this metal while the metal returned primordial energy back to the Fate Palaces. This was a win-win situation for both sides as they both reaped the benefits!

Li Qiye cultivated non-stop once he was back at the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect. He did not care about foreign affairs. In the end, his cultivation was not powerful enough. Even if he had many schemes to destroy his enemies, the true and correct path was to have a powerful self-cultivation.

Of course, Li Qiye was not the only one practicing hard back at the sect. At the moment, the sect's atmosphere was great. All of its disciples, especially the younger generation, were extremely diligent. Luo Fenghua, Zhang Yu, Qu Daoli, and Xu Pei's groups were great role models for the other disciples.

"Zhang, zhang, zhang..." Waves of melodious music rang back at the Zither Pavilion, formerly known as the Ghost Pavilion. Li Qiye gently stroked his ancient zither as he played his tune.

During his leisure moments away from cultivation, Li Qiye couldn't help but come to this place to play a song. Today, his ancient zither was no longer an Emperor's Possession; the battle at Ancient Sky City had completely expended its emperor's power and immortal intent.

This ancient zither was given to Immortal Emperor Min Ren by him. There were too many memories attached to this place, so Li Qiye couldn't help but sigh after he finished his tune.

During his reminiscence, another soft sigh appeared as a shadowy figure who was always there to quietly listen to the music as if she was spell-bound.

"Flowing Water Mortal Home..."

Su Yuhe could only lament as she was only a yearning sentiment; she wasn't even a ghost nor human, she was only a yearning sentiment without any trace of life!

"In the end, I can't play it as well as Little Brat Min Ren." Li Qiye finished playing and smilingly spoke.

Su Yuhe was melancholic as she replied: "The Immortal Emperor only felt pity for me. Your Excellency is different; you are supreme for all generations so your song is different from the Immortal Emperor's song."

Li Qiye gently shook his head and said: "Why must you do this? It has been too long, there is no need for you to suffer like this."

Su Yuhe, a yearning sentiment, became silent and didn't say anything.

"Nevermind..." Li Qiye gently continued on: "How about this, I will go to the Eastern Hundred Cities and take your remains! Just let everything dissipate. A million years of being neither ghost nor human... Even if Little Brat Min Ren was here, he wouldn't want to see you like this."

"Thank you for fulfilling my wish." Su Yuhe prostrated and said: "If I could be buried under the peach tree, I will no longer have any yearning sentiment!"

"That year, I buried you under the Yearning Lunar Peak. Your fateful connection with Min Ren was also because of me." Li Qiye said with some helplessness: "Now, I will bury you under the peach tree, and this could be considered the end of your fateful connection. This is a lamentable connection, so it should just end in peace."

"Yuhe will not be able to repay Your Excellency's benevolence." Su Yuhe very gratefully replied.

Li Qiye gently waved his sleeve and sighed before speaking: "This started because of me, so it should end by my hands. You should rest after being buried under the peach tree to avoid eternal lamentation. Little Brat Min Ren, ah..." He didn't say anything else at this point.

He didn't have much to say about Immortal Emperor Min Ren. He had trained many invincible existences. One could say that Little Brat Min Ren had always supported him no matter what. Immortal Emperor Min Ren had never questioned him and absolutely stuck with him to the end.

Chapter 239: Heaven Protector Goddess (1)

The only thing Li Qiye regretted was Little Brat Min Ren being in love with someone he shouldn't have fallen for. There were too many women in this world; in that era, he could have matched Min Ren with any peerless beauty even when Min Ren had yet to shoulder the Heaven's Will.

Unfortunately, this little brat only loved that woman! What was even more damnable was that that pure woman was blind to the point of stupidity and loved that hypocrite, Virtuous Monarch Jiangzuo!

If Immortal Emperor Min Ren didn't beseech him that year, he would have already brought his invincible generals to massacre the Jiangzuo Clan!

The truth was that among the geniuses trained by Li Qiye, despite Immortal Emperor Min Ren not being the most exceptional, he had the highest evaluation from Li Qiye, even to this present day. One could

even say that in order to train Immortal Emperor Min Ren, he had to steal the fortune from heaven and earth itself!

Immortal Emperor Min Ren had always shown the utmost respect to Li Qye for being his teacher. The only barrier between the two was that woman. Li Qiye wanted Immortal Emperor Min Ren to forget about the unsavable pure woman, but it was also impossible to change Immortal Emperor Min Ren's mind. His heart was hellbent on loving this woman, and he never married anyone else in his life because of her.

Also, because of this woman, General Su, who had always been in love with Immortal Emperor Min Ren and held utmost loyalty towards him, left for the Heaven's Edge! This matter had almost caused the master and disciple to become enemies!

One could say that Immortal Emperor Min Ren respected Li Qiye throughout his entire life, but because of this event, a great feud had arisen between them. And since Li Qiye didn't want to care for Min Ren's mess, by the end of it all, he chose to enter his hibernation early!

Immortal Emperor Min Ren sacrificed too much for a foolish woman. If it wasn't for her, how could Virtuous Monarch Jiangzuo have had the qualifications to compete against Immortal Emperor Min Ren for the Heaven's Will that year? Li Qiye, as the Dark Crow, should have killed that hypocrite much earlier, but unfortunately, Immortal Emperor Min Ren did not want to hurt that woman. And so, under Immortal Emperor Min Ren's request, Li Qiye showed mercy and did not slaughter every last one of them.

In that era, the divine generals under him could have turned over the sky! How could a meager Jiangzuo Clan dare to oppose them? He could have killed their entire clan at any moment! Alas, Immortal Emperor Min Ren had already set his mind on this matter.

"Such a shame for the Wise Heart Jewel Box!"

The Wise Heart Jewel Box was a supreme protection treasure that he gave to Min Ren when he started his cultivation road. Unfortunately, Immortal Emperor Min Ren — as if possessed — gave this treasure to that simple woman for her protection.

What was even worse was that the hypocritical Virtuous Monarch Jiangzuo used convincing words to trick the innocent woman into giving him the Wise Heart Jewel Box! This matter had once enraged Li Qiye, and he even ordered his generals to trample over the Jiangzuo Clan. However, Immortal Emperor Min Ren managed to interfere.

This was why the Wise Heart Jewel Box became the clan-protecting treasure of the Jiangzuo Clan!

"Damn, one day, I, your father, will massacre the entire Jiangzuo Clan. Such a waste of my Wise Heart Jewel Box!" At this moment, Li Qiye was very upset. If he had not been sentimentally considerate regarding Immortal Emperor Min Ren's love, then he would have sent people to destroy the Jiangzuo Clan in later generations!

As for Su Yuhe listening to Li Qiye's cursing, her mood became melancholic. She was the one who had stayed at the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect for the longest, and she knew one or two things about the

matters that year. It was not a secret that Immortal Emperor Min Ren was smitten with that woman during that era!

"Let us forget about the past." In the end, Li Qiye didn't want to dwell on it any longer. He spoke to Su Yuhe: "Since the end is coming, prepare your heart for it. In a short period of time, I will take your remains to the Eastern Hundred Cities and bury you under the peach tree."

Su Yuhe bowed and gently sighed before suddenly disappearing. Li Qiye couldn't help but wryly smile. After millions of years, he still had to sort out the mess left behind by Little Brat Min Ren!

Li Qiye left the Ghost Pavilion and called for Gu Tieshou to say: "Carefully prepare these materials, I will start a dan refinement cauldron. The main force of the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect is not good, so we should give the middle-level disciples some Fate Pills. I plan to leave for some time to the Eastern Hundred Cities, so I will leave the training of disciples in the future to all of you."

"Going to the Eastern Hundred Cities?" Gu Tieshou was a bit taken aback. The Eastern Hundred Cities was very far away from the Grand Middle Territory, but in the end, he didn't ask for why Li Qiye was going. He trusted Li Qiye, so he wouldn't inquire about such matters.

After planning a trip to the Eastern Hundred Cities, Li Qiye carefully prepared for his departure. On the contrary, Li Shuangyan was not going to embark on this journey.

"I want to open my sixth Fate Palace." Li Shuangyan told Li Qiye her thoughts.

At the moment, Li Shuangyan was not only a Grand Dao Noble with five Fate Palaces. In fact, her cultivation had reached grand achievement and she could step into the Enlightened Being realm at any time!

However, Li Shuangyan had an even greater ambition. She wanted to open her sixth palace. Keep in mind that six Fate Palaces was the limit for the Royal Noble realm. In this generation, anyone that was able to open six Fate Palaces at the Royal Noble realm was not far off from being the number one genius in the world!

Royal Nobles with six Fate Palaces were called Supreme Nobles. Just this name alone should be indicative of how heaven-defying they were for having six palaces in the Royal Noble realm!

"This is a good idea." Li Qiye was very approving towards Li Shuangyan's ambition. He nodded his head and said: "You don't need to rush your physique tribulation at this moment. Your aptitude is very good! If you can open your sixth palace, then surpassing the minor physique tribulation will not be an issue in the future. You could even surpass it with complete perfection!"

As a Supreme Noble with six palaces along with a minor completion Void Imperfection Physique, Li Shuangyan's potential could surpass all the other geniuses in this world!

This was her intention from the very start, so after gaining Li Qiye's approval, she became even more confident.

Chen Baojiao also wanted to go along with Li Qiye on this trip to take care of him, but in the end, Li Qiye ordered her not to do so: "You and Li Shuangyan should cultivate together. Your effort will always be rewarded. Regarding innate talents, you are a bit worse than Li Shuangyan. However, your willpower is

void of any possible complaints. Your Tyrannical Valley Immortal Spring Physique is also not weaker than the Void Imperfection Physique. Your goal does not have to be like Li Shuangyan's goal to open six palaces. If you can open four palaces in the Royal Noble realm, it will be enough to be considered flawless. You also sprinted to the Royal Noble realm again. As long as you have confidence in yourself, you will also absolutely be able to open the fourth palace!"

Chen Baojiao's innate talents really were not as great as Li Shuangyan. However, Chen Baojiao had a persevering spirit regarding her cultivation; she was absolutely the most hardworking!

After hearing Li Qiye's advice, Chen Baojiao decided to stay behind with Li Shuangyan and attempt to break through to Royal Noble!

When Li Qiye was ready to leave for the Eastern Hundred Cities, Gu Tieshou came in a panic. He was not here to bring Li Qiye medicinal materials but a piece of news instead.

"Someone from the Heaven Protector City came." Gu Tieshou spoke with some anxiety as he met Li Qiye.

It was not his fault for being anxious. The Heaven Protector City, no matter whether in the past or the present, was an awe-inspiring name. It didn't matter whether it was the Mortal Emperor World or the outside worlds, the only responses upon hearing this name were shock and awe!

The Black Dragon King's fame was like a spell filled with endless charisma. He lived and dominated for three generations without resorting to external power. Even Immortal Emperors respected him!

The Black Dragon King never became an Immortal Emperor nor competed for the Heaven's Will, yet he still rampaged and reigned over the Nine Worlds. Even an invincible Immortal Emperor would not dare to challenge the Black Dragon King without some consideration!

The Heaven Protector City was founded by the Black Dragon King at the Northern Grand Sea! Under the reign of the king, this city was a prestigious power that once had expeditions all over the earth. Humans, Demons, even Heavenly Devils, Stone Golems, and Charming Spirits — whom were considered the favored children of the heavens — all lost their brilliances during the Black Dragon King's era.

There was a sect named Soaring Immortal that considered itself unbeatable. However, during the Black Dragon King's era, even the Soaring Immortal Sect had to take a step back! From True Gods to Devil-Sovereigns, they all lost their colors from hearing his name.

It could be said that during his era, for three generations, the Black Dragon King along with the Heaven Protector City was a giant palm that covered the entire world, nothing else was comparable!

Thirty thousand years ago, he fought against Immortal Emperor Ta Kong and tore the Heaven's Will apart. From then on, the Black Dragon King had disappeared from sight. Even though this era was no longer his, any heritage or great power — including Immortal Emperor lineages — still trembled from the words Heaven Protector City.

At the present day, the people from the Heaven Protector City suddenly visited the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect, so it was natural for Gu Tieshou to become worried. The Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect of today compared to the Heaven Protector City was like an ant to an elephant.

"Finally, just as they should." Li Qiye simply smiled calmly and told Gu Tieshou: "Elder Gu, there is no need to panic. Even if the sky falls down, someone will shoulder it."

Gu Tieshou was still an experienced character. Li Qiye's words — to his ears — were like a calming medicine. He took a deep breath and finally regained his composure to say: "The people from the Heaven Protector City want to meet you specifically."

"Who came and how many people are there in total?" There were too many memories when he was the Dark Crow as he sat above the nine heavens with the Heaven Protector City.

Gu Tieshou continued on: "Only one person, the descendant of the Heaven Protector City, Heaven Protector Goddess — Zi Cuining!" In fact, he was also confused. The Northern Grand Sea was too far away from the Grand Middle Territory. Logically speaking, Li Qiye shouldn't know the Heaven Protector City's descendant, Zi Cuining, but today, Zi Cuining specifically wanted to meet Li Qiye — this greatly perplexed him.

"Descendant of the Heaven Protector City!" Li Qiye narrowed his eyes after hearing this before resuming: "If she has arrived, then let her come see me."

Gu Tieshou was out of words after hearing this. This was the Heaven Protector City ah, an existence that once ruled over the Nine Worlds for three generations. Even though the Heaven Protector Goddess, as the descendant of the city, was part of the younger generation, she had an exceedingly high status in the Mortal Emperor World. Even Mortal Kings of Ancient Kingdoms and Supreme Saints from the great sects had to personally welcome her at the moment of arrival, let alone the younger generation.

At this moment, Li Qiye's behaviour was the exact opposite of the status quo as he wanted her to come see him in person. This attitude was a bit too much. This was a descendant of a supreme heritage ah; even the Azure Mysterious Ancient Kingdom would be dreadful of it.

"This is the descendant of the Heaven Protector City ah." Gu Tieshou couldn't help but to remind Li Qiye. This was not giving her any face at all!

Li Qiye looked at Gu Tieshou and still calmly spoke: "I know she is the descendant of the Heaven Protector City."

Chapter 240: Heaven Protector Goddess (2)

The helpless Gu Tieshou had no choice but to follow Li Qiye's wish. Although Li Qiye did not personally go to greet Heaven Protector Goddess Zi Cuining, Gu Tieshou — on the other hand — didn't dare to have the slightest sign of tardiness. All of the elders and protectors welcomed her in person while using the highest level of ceremonial reception.

After Zi Cuining sat down, Gu Tieshou passed on Li Qiye's message. He naturally twisted the words with finesse in order to keep Zi Cuining content. After he finished speaking, his hands were filled with cold sweat out of fear that Zi Cuining might suddenly wave her sleeve in anger and leave.

But to his surprise, Zi Cuining showed no signs of dissatisfaction. She simply pondered for a bit and agreed to go meet Li Qiye.

At the Lonely Peak, Zi Cuining finally met Li Qiye while he gauged her with a glance. The girl's aura was vast and calm like a mountain yet roaring-powerful like thunder. She was like a goddess with an ethereal, mighty ocean roaring behind her with its torrential waves.

Meanwhile, Zi Cuining also observed Li Qiye. He was absolutely ordinary with nothing noteworthy. However, there was an indescribable calmness like the water in a well; it was as if even when the heaven and earth was meeting its demise, he would still be able to maintain his composure! The focus of his eyes was an unfathomable depth; a pair of eyes that were seemingly able to surpass time itself and see through all generations!

At this time, Gu Tieshou also silently retreated and didn't dare to disturb them.

"You are Li Qiye?" Heaven Protector Goddess Zi Cuining's voice was very pleasant to the ears, just like the gentle ocean waves cleansing a lustrous jade fragment. She handed a piece of paper with engraved magical runes over to Li Qiye and asked: "Do you recognize these magical runes?"

Li Qiye looked at these magical runes and did not answer her question. He instead stared at Zi Cuining and inquired in the most serious of tones: "Is the Black Dragon King still here in this world? Tell me the truth." At this time, Li Qiye's voice was filled with majestic authority; he was like an unquestionable, solemn True God!

Her eyes turned serious after hearing these words. She had met countless illustrious characters, but Li Qiye's austere expression — at this moment — had an authority that left others with no chance for denial!

Zi Cuining glanced at him in silence for a while before finally answering: "The patriarch has not appeared after the fight with Immortal Emperor Ta Kong thirty thousand years ago."

This was not a big secret at all. Everyone in the world knew that the Black Dragon King had not shown up again after the fight that year. In fact, even Immortal Emperor Ta Kong never appeared again as well.

Li Qiye sighed softly after getting the confirmation from Zi Cuining even when he had this premonition beforehand in his heart. However, after getting such a definite answer, his heart was still not at peace. He was clear on one thing — Immortal Emperor Ta Kong wouldn't have been able to kill Little Black!

"Is High Elder Lu still around?" After a long period of silence, Li Qiye recomposed himself with a deep breath and asked.

Zi Cuining was taken aback because very few outsiders knew this name, yet this seemingly ordinary young man said it without any gravity. If it was someone from their Heaven Protector City, they would absolutely not use this title in such a frivolous manner.

"Sacred Ancestor underwent his death cultivation seclusion a long time ago and did not come out in the end." [1. Raw is death gate. It is the final cultivation attempt to try and stay alive. If one can surpass this trial by increasing their cultivation or erasing their flaws, they can live longer. If not, death is their fate]

This was a secret of the Heaven Protector City. However, after a long period of contemplation, Zi Cuining still chose to reveal it in the end.

Li Qiye couldn't help but sigh. This brat — in the end — could not hold on to the present. He had already lived for too long and could no longer bear it till now, just like Li Qiye's expectations.

"Who has the highest seniority at your Heaven Protector City right now? Who is in power?" Li Qiye inquired.

Zi Cuining was quite suspicious after being bombarded with so many questions from Li Qiye. After thinking about it for a bit, she finally acquiesced: "Normally, the elders would discuss the matters of the city together. If they do not come to a consensus, then they would ask for Ancestor Gu's advice."

"Humph! Gu Zun!" Li Qiye coldly snorted! He was not surprise that Gu Zun was still alive till now! If the Black Dragon King didn't implore for him that year, he would not be alive right now! [2. Normally, I would translate Gu Zun as Venerable Gu. But I don't think Li Qiye would call this person "Venerable" after the snort, so I'm translating Gu Zun as his name for now]

Zi Cuining shivered a bit from the statement. What perplexed her was that this young man before her was quite dissatisfied with their ancestor. But logically speaking, Ancestor Gu had not received any guests for a long time and outsiders essentially couldn't see him!

"I'm sure you have many doubts in your heart since you brought these magical runes here." In the end, Li Qiye slowly spoke to Zi Cuining: "Correct, I was the one who performed the ceremony for the Black Dragon King outside of the Heaven Protector City that year."

Zi Cuining slightly opened her mouth, wanting to say something, but Li Qiye waved his sleeve and interrupted her: "As for why I wanted to perform the ceremony and my relationship with the Black Dragon King as well as why I have these magical runes, I cannot answer you at this moment!"

"Then what can you tell me?" Zi Cuining looked at Li Qiye and gravely said. Li Qiye narrowed his eyes to look at Zi Cuining and carefully spoke: "You surely have your reasons for using the magical runes to find this place! You are the descendant of the Heaven Protector City, but this does not mean that you will only rule over the Heaven Protector City in the future and carry out its prestige! There is another mission on your shoulders!"

"What do you think my mission is!?" Zi Cuining's beautiful eyes flashed a cold glimmer. This had touched a taboo secret of the Heaven Protector City.

Zi Cuining clearly had a murderous intent, but Li Qiye was still calm as he carefully spoke: "You came from the Little Sea Village, what do you think your mission should be?"

Zi Cuining's expression completely changed the moment these words came out. A sharp glint appeared as a blade was already right next to Li Qiye's neck! At this moment, Zi Cuining's aura was extremely frightening, just like a god of death.

"How do you know?" There was absolutely zero doubt in Zi Cuining's killing intent. If it was necessary, she would definitely kill without any hesitation. Her origin was a secret even within the Heaven Protector City. Even though she grew up in the city, unless they were people who had the authority to touch such a matter, her origin was something that couldn't be discussed! Only a few people at the Heaven Protector City had such clearance.

However, an outsider just easily revealed this secret, how could Zi Cuining's urge to kill not be aroused?

"Since you came from the Little Sea Village, you should be aware of your mission! Who I am does not matter, and what I know does not matter either. The most important thing is your mission!"

Even as the blade edge met his neck, Li Qiye still maintained his composure.

Zi Cuining's soft body quivered as she took a deep breath. In the end, she withdrew her blade and looked at the young man ahead while feeling even more perplexed.

"Take out the Black Dragon Spear!" Li Qiye demanded while staring at Zi Cuining.

Another earthquake shook her heart. After looking at Li Qiye for a long time, she finally took out the Black Dragon Spear! The moment it was free, an aura permeated the sky as if a True God was descending down, or as if an Immortal Emperor had just arrived. It suddenly shocked the entire Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect.

"What is that!" The group of Gu Tieshou felt the supreme aura and became astonished. He had an illusion as if the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect's Immortal Emperor True Treasure had returned.

"You still haven't master the Black Dragon Spear." Li Qiye shook his head and said after seeing the spear. He then flicked his hand and the Black Dragon Spear fell into his palm. Right when he was gently caressing it, its momentous aura slowly converged back to the spear and disappeared. It was as if an arrogant and haughty stallion had met its fateful master, suddenly becoming docile. A light jumped around as if it was showing intimacy in the hand of Li Qiye.

The Black Dragon Spear was completely black with a faint violet shimmer. It resembled a black dragon, one that could fly up to the nine heavens at any moment. From a black shade changing to violet, this was a symbol for a Flood Dragon turning into a True Dragon — the spear of the heavens itself! [2. Flood Dragon is below True Dragon, still having too much serpent blood. It can, of course, evolve into a real dragon as its bloodline becomes purer]

Zi Cuining couldn't believe her widened eyes for this was unbelievable! One had to know that when the Black Dragon Spear was passed down to her, it had an invincible and arrogant aura. It had followed her since her youth, but she still couldn't force this spear to accept her as its master even now. But today, a stranger was able to tame it like a haughty stallion meeting its master — this was truly an incredible sight!

Keep in mind that the Black Dragon Spear was the weapon used by their Patriarch, the Black Dragon King, as he swept through the world. It brought all existences down to their shivering knees. This was an invincible spear, yet it was tamed by a stranger today. No one would believe such a tale! Even she herself didn't dare to believe it!

"Black Dragon Spear ah!" Li Qiye gently stroked the Black Dragon Spear as it made a gentle and clear sound as if it felt Li Qiye's soul.

Li Qiye had too many memories regarding the Black Dragon Spear. It originally came from him and was with the Black Dragon King as he fought against the world, sending chills down all of his enemies' spines!

"Clang clank clank..." At this moment, there was a transformation in the Black Dragon Spear in Li Qiye's hand. Even Zi Cuining was not able to clearly see the technique employed!

After the sounds of the spear resonated, the Black Dragon Spear became smaller then larger, and even its color was changed! In the blink of an eye, Li Qiye was a magician, and the Black Dragon Spear finally became a short spear!

The short spear had a crimson shade that was pretty and alluring. Its sharp brilliance carried a heaven-frightening murderous intent that caused even the heart of Zi Cuining to turn cold from horror!

However, with a gentle tap from Li Qiye's right hand, this frightening murderous intent suddenly calmed down. However, the pretty crimson shade on the tip of the spear was still shiver-inducing. Zi Cuining sensed a bloody presence and could even smell the stench of blood as she looked at this shade.

A vicious weapon! This was the first impression this short spear gave to her. She couldn't think that the Black Dragon Spear that was always by her side since childhood had turned into a short spear. She found it hard to believe this sorcery right before her eyes.

"Do you know the Black Dragon Spear's other name?" With his eyes completely still, Li Qiye looked at this short spear in his hand as if he was spellbound by it.

"What is it?" Zi Cuining was not following Li Qiye's question. This matter was too unfathomable to her for she did not know that it could turn into a short spear!

"Immortal's Blood Spear!" Li Qiye slowly enunciated each word. His voice was filled with coldness when he spoke this name.

"Immortal's Blood Spear..." Having heard this name, the first thing that came to mind for Zi Cuining was the extremely pretty crimson color on the spear's tip!

Li Qiye slowly continued on: "Because it had tasted the blood of True Immortals, this is why it is called the Immortal's Blood Spear!

"True Immortal!" Zi Cuining's pretty eyes condensed into amazement as she heard such a phrase. She then looked at Li Qiye and asked: "There are really True Immortals in this world?"

Li Qiye did not answer her question; instead, he carefully spoke: "This is a vicious weapon, and I hope that you will one day be able to grasp it! Otherwise, you are not worthy of it!" Finished speaking, he returned the Immortal's Blood Spear back to Zi Cuining.

Zi Cuining accepted the Immortal's Blood Spear as her expression became solemn and dignified. The moment the spear was in her hand, she felt an unprecedented destiny right before her that had not been there before!

"Don't ruin the prestige of the Immortal's Blood Spear." Li Qiye spoke to Zi Cuining with a serious tone: "It is not only a weapon. It has massacred True Gods and pierced through the neck of an Immortal Emperor!"

"What..." Zi Cuining was in a stupor with a shocked expression. This phrase to her was too overwhelming.

True Gods were such powerful existences, yet the Immortal's Blood Spear was able to massacre them. An Immortal Emperor was someone who shouldered the Heaven's Will and obtained the meaning of

true invincibility! Piercing the neck of an Immortal Emperor was an unthinkable matter, it was simply the most ridiculous statement in this world.

Yet Li Qiye's expression was telling her that these were not blustering and crazy words; rather, it was a fact.

In just a moment, Zi Cuining was in a daze. The Black Dragon Spear was left behind by their patriarch and finally fell into her hands. She knew that this spear was unbeatable and had dominated the Nine Worlds.

However, she had never thought that this spear actually massacred True Gods and pierced an Immortal Emperor's neck! However, today, it seemed that this unthinkable matter was the truth.