

Domination 391

Chapter 391: Undersea Shrine

Back when Li Qiye was looking for another island and had no results despite having searched everywhere, he also found this ancient shrine under the sea. He once looked through it and thought that this shrine and the other island had something to do with each other, but he also felt that this shrine was lacking a certain something, so he gave up on researching it.

“A master from the Mollusk Tribe was passing through this area some time ago. A light suddenly shot upward so he went down to look and found this ancient shrine. Then, they found a gateway hidden below this area.” Lu Baiqiu reported.

“A gateway?” Having heard this, Li Qiye suddenly became serious and rushed into the ancient shrine like the wind.

Sure enough, there was a gateway floating inside the ancient shrine. However, during his investigations in the past, this gateway had not been there.

Li Qiye carefully observed this gateway. The other side contained a miniature continent that was as black as ink.

Li Qiye gently reached out to feel this gateway. He felt a fluctuation of space and murmured: “So this is the case, a dimensional banishment!”

His previous speculation of this shrine missing a certain key item was correct. This gateway was banished in the past.

“I learned from the Mollusk experts that there has always been a legend in their ocean, that there was a mythical island that was lost through time. It had been hidden in a divine shrine, and only when one could solve the secrets of this shrine would one be able to reach this island.” Lu Baiqiu said: “After the Mollusk Tribe found this ancient shrine, they immediately tried using refined jades to open this gateway to reach the lost mythical island. Unfortunately, they weren’t even close to having enough refined jades, so they had to plunder the sea jewels that we produced.”

She continued on: “When I came here, refined jades and sea jewels were abundant at this place, but it was still not enough to open the gateway.”

“How could it be so easy?” Li Qiye carefully looked at the gateway and responded: “The legend isn’t necessarily accurate. To be more specific, this is not a lost mythical island, but the hundredth island!”

“The hundredth island?” Lu Baiqiu was a bit perplexed as she asked: “What is this hundredth island?”

“The hundredth island of the Thousand Islands!” Li Qiye meticulously rubbed the gateway and felt the fluctuations of space as he continued: “Your Thousand Islands has a total of one hundred islands. Moreover, this hundredth island is far bigger than the other ninety-nine combined!”

“But, but this is only a legend!” The astounded Lu Baiqiu couldn’t help but utter: “I have also heard of this legend, but no one had ever been able to find this island. Not to mention that if it was actually bigger than all the other ones combined, someone would have found it already.”

“There are a few things beyond one’s imagination!” Li Qiye asserted with a smile: “There are a few mysteries that one can never touch!”

With a changed expression, Lu Baiqiu looked at Li Qiye who was studying the gateway and hurriedly asked: “Can this gateway be opened?”

“That would depend on who is operating it!” Li Qiye withdrew his hand and chuckled: “In order to open this gateway, first, one must have Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades, and second, they must understand this gateway.”

“Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades!” Lu Baiqiu had to take in a calming breath. An item of this caliber was a huge sum even for the Static Stream Country, let alone her!

Li Qiye smiled and said: “This is only the beginning.” Then, piece after piece, he took out Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades and slowly inserted them into the gateway.

“Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades!” Lu Baiqiu was stunned with her mouth wide open after seeing Li Qiye take out multiple pieces. Even her country didn’t have that many, but now, Li Qiye freely took out so many!

Before, she assumed that he was an ordinary disciple of some sect, but even someone from a great power would not be able to take out so many Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades!

She felt a bit stupefied while looking at Li Qiye. At this moment, she understood that he was hiding his abilities like a murky mist, completely undetected by her.

“Open!” Li Qiye activated the refined jades that were embedded in a particular manner on the gateway. From his cry, the gateway emitted a bright radiance.

“Ka—ka—ka!” At this time, an amazing thing happened as the initially large gateway shrunk down to the size of a fist and fell into Li Qiye’s palm.

“Bang—bang—bang—” Suddenly, the entire area started to shake as the ancient shrine that stood strong for countless years began to crack.

“What happened!?” Lu Baiqiu became startled by the commotion and drew in a deep breath.

“Go!” Li Qiye shouted as he dragged Lu Baiqiu away. They immediately soared to the sky and escaped from the current in just the blink of an eye. The moment they got out, an unceasing mist covered the initially blue sky.

“What is going on?” The shrouding mist that covered the sea caused others to be disoriented. The moment Lu Baiqiu looked all around, she became quite shocked and pointed up ahead.

On the other side of the shrouding mist, there were majestic towering peaks that one would find on a continent.

“It is so!” Seeing the huge mountain range shrouded in mist, Li Qiye’s eyes narrowed as he murmured: “Truly unable to find the destination after wearing out iron soles, then inadvertently finding it without any effort.”

“Could this be the mythical lost island?” Lu Baiqiu uttered with emotion: “People say that this island buried all the treasures from immemorial deities. We need to go take a look!” Having said this, she intended to rush through the mist in order to reach this island!

“Don’t go!” Li Qiye quickly caught her and shook his head to say: “It is not so easy to get there. Take another look if you don’t believe me!” With that, he casually threw a rock with the speed of a meteor towards the island where it pierced through the mist.

However, the moment when it approached its destination, this huge rock suddenly disappeared.

Lu Baiqiu’s expression greatly changed after seeing the sudden disappearance of the rock. It was as if the rock was swallowed by a giant monster. At this time, the vast rolling mountains inside the mist were like a monster silently waiting with its maw open for wandering prey.

“What is this place!?” Lu Baiqiu couldn’t help but utter.

Li Qiye smiled a bit and said with squinted eyes: “This is the hundredth island and also what you guys call the lost mythical island!”

After calming down, Lu Baiqiu gravely said: “I must return to the capital and report this to His Highness. What is your opinion on this matter?”

Li Qiye gazed towards the mountains in the mist and casually said: “You go, I will stay behind to think for a bit.”

Lu Baiqiu bade a fond goodbye to Li Qiye and then immediately returned while Li Qiye stayed behind to think about this mist. He knew that as long as he could pass through this misty layer, he would be able to get into the one hundredth island.

This place had many secrets that were purposely hidden from others. It dated back to a very old age, so it was not an easy matter to board this lost mythical island.

Li Qiye tried to get closer, but the result left him with a chilling sensation. The all-encompassing mist was like a ferocious beast; anyone who went close would suffer a horrific fate no matter how strong they were.

After pondering for several days, he understood that one must cross this layer in order to reach the island, but it was also a suicidal endeavor. This went on for a long time before he eventually smiled and left the sea to go back to the island where he used to live.

At this moment, he was not in a rush to reach the lost island. He was waiting for the right moment, waiting for other people to court their deaths. The layer of mist was a bloodthirsty monster. Only when it became satiated would one be able to reach the island; otherwise, it was an endeavor harder than reaching the heavens.

Thus, he was waiting for others to come. When the time was ripe, he would easily set foot on the lost island. He was also not afraid of the items that he wanted being taken by others since he was certain of victory. After all, he was the one holding the real key of the lost island. With this settled, Li Qiye leisurely stayed on his island and cultivated in peace.

A short time ago, Li Qiye created nine stars so he had reached the peak of Enlightened Beings.

In fact, creating seven stars already signified grand accomplishment Enlightened Being, but Li Qiye was able to create nine stars. This was a challenge to the limits of cultivators — to reach the apex of the Enlightened Being realm.

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“A master from the Mollusk Tribe was passing through this area some time ago. A light suddenly shot upward so he came down to look and found this ancient temple. Then, they found a gateway hidden below this sea.” Lu Baiqiu reported.

“A gateway?” Having heard this, Li Qiye suddenly became serious and rushed into the ancient temple like the wind.

Chapter 392: Ancient Saint

In fact, to Li Qiye, creating nine stars at this realm was a matter of course. His dao foundation was firm; especially after the Worldly Prime Liquid tempered Li Qiye, his foundation became unshakable right after he opened the sixth palace.

For a Royal Noble, having six palaces carried great significance. It meant that their future path was paved for success.

This was Li Qiye’s attempt at challenging the limits — to reach the peak by using his solid foundation. During the battle at the Tiger’s Howl School, Li Qiye devoured all the worldly essence of the White Tiger Great Vein in order to accumulate enough energy to create the nine stars in an even more favorable condition.

Thus, after he reached Enlightened Being, creating nine stars was only a matter of time and determination. Li Qiye’s stalwart dao heart allowed him to tread forward no matter how arduous the path was. Even if other people thought that it was impossible to create nine stars, he remained with the most relaxed frame of mind as he challenged the limits, allowing him to complete this task with ease!

At the same time, there was only one chance to pluck the stars, so creating nine stars was especially important to Li Qiye. There were three chances to open Fate Palaces, but only one chance for plucking stars, thus this single opportunity became even more valuable.

In fact, for tens of millions of years, creating the eighth star was more difficult than opening the sixth Fate Palace.

The phrase “Nine Stars allowing for Eternal Prestige” was not just empty words. Since time immemorial, those with the title of Eternal Prestige were fewer than few. Nine stars did not just mean that the person had obtained a key to the Path of the Grand Era or the Path of the Heavens, it also meant they had created their own sky!

Having one’s own sky was a marvelous and unfathomable feat because the Ancient Saint realm was the last chance for any cultivator to open another palace.

If a Royal Noble stopped at the third palace, then once they reached Ancient Saint, they had the chance to open the fourth, the fifth, and so on and so forth...

Four palaces to form a domain, eight palaces to form a kingdom, twelve palaces to form the heavens! Since the start of time, every cultivator believed that having twelve palaces was the limit of cultivation.

In fact, this was not an unreasonable statement because those who had twelve palaces could be counted on one's fingers. Even the majority of those who eventually became Immortal Emperors did not open twelve palaces.

The reality was that opening eight palaces was already quite amazing. Once one obtained eight palaces, it meant that the person would have the power of a kingdom. This meant that there was a large possibility for them to found a country and eventually be bestowed the title of a god! [1. This last sentence meant that the person could become a Virtuous Paragon, or even reach a higher level.]

As for nine palaces... This was a great restriction. Countless geniuses in the previous millions of years stopped at eight palaces, unable to open the ninth.

Because of this, there was a remark passed down from generation to generation: Nine deserves utmost veneration, ten strives for extreme perfection, eleven creates an immemorial miracle, and twelve decides the Immortal Emperor's throne!

Achieving twelve Fate Palaces was essentially an impossible matter. There might be a sliver of hope for historical devilish geniuses to open eleven palaces, but any genius would have to give up on opening the twelfth.

However, being able to create nine stars at the Enlightened Being realm would indeed qualify one as a historical devilish genius, so there was still some hope of opening the twelfth.

Nine stars Eternal Prestige meant that one would have their own sky, and twelve palaces forming the heavens meant that having nine stars was a requirement to reach twelve Fate Palaces in the future! [2. Gotta have a sky to have the heavens. I initially wanted to use the term empyrean/firmament instead of sky, but empyrean sounded even higher than heaven so I changed it to sky.]

Without a doubt, Li Qiye held the ambition of reaching twelve Fate Palaces; thus, after creating nine stars and reaching the Ancient Saint realm, he kept on solidifying his foundation one step at a time.

With his past achievements of six palaces and nine stars in their respective realms, he would be able to fiercely soar forward and create a miracle by becoming a Heavenly Sovereign — a true expert in a short amount of time. However, upon becoming an Ancient Saint, he slowed down again since his ambition was not limited to just becoming a sovereign.

His real goal was having twelve Fate Palaces, or even the mythical thirteen palaces! If he could succeed, then in the future, he could actually reach the real apex of the grand dao.

As he sat in the room, his blood energy circulated after being channeled by his Life Wheel. The newly refined Longevity Blood then flowed back into the Life Wheel with a surging radiance.

At this time, the six palaces above Li Qiye's head floated up and down and turned into a domain. The worldly essence caused the domain to be filled with primordial chaos and vitality as if it was gestating millions of existences!

The nine stars surrounding Li Qiye created a sky that loomed above Li Qiye as if he had been removed from the outside world and isolated in a different one.

A heavenly beam shot up into the sky as if it wanted to communicate with the heavens and inquire about the heavenly dao. From another perspective, this beam seemed to be talking to the gods of this world. Nevertheless, this beam caused Li Qiye to appear sacred; it was as if he was the high heaven's favored child or the son of the earth.

This heavenly beam of light was formed from Li Qiye's cultivation of the Daylight Sky Immortal Secret. The moment it connected to the heaven and earth, it allowed for Li Qiye to become one with the grand dao as his body was immersed inside the path.

These secret laws were powerful and mysterious, but their power was not just limited to the battlefield. Compared to other powerful techniques, Heaven's Will Secret Laws didn't seem to be worthy of their fame while the Heaven's Will was still in its infancy stages.

However, once the Heaven's Will of a generation slowly manifested to its grand stage, the advantages of these secret laws would finally show themselves.

In this instant, Li Qiye's Neigong meridian continuously rumbled as if something wanted to climb out from the earth.

This was Li Qiye trying to open his seventh palace. Of course, opening a palace was a long and arduous process.

There were three stages in the Ancient Saint realm. From beginning to end, the stages are Palace Opening, Domain Formation, and City Creation!

To an ordinary cultivator with only three palaces, they just needed to open the fourth to reach the Ancient Saint realm.

Four palaces form a domain, so in the Ancient Saint realm, one would need to turn these four palaces into a domain, then turn this domain into a city.

For Li Qiye who had six palaces that had turned into cities capable of supporting existences, he could directly surpass grand accomplishment Ancient Saint and reach Heavenly Sovereign right away!

However, Li Qiye did not do so. He stopped at the Ancient Saint realm in order to fortify his foundation and absorb worldly essence to continuously strengthen his True Fate to open the seventh palace...

Ancient Saints also had three levels: Little Saint, Young Saint, and Grand Saint. However, Li Qiye was not part of this classification because opening the fourth palace was the beginning of this realm.

A five palace saint is a Heaven Restoration Saint because a Royal Noble with four palaces is called a Heavenly Noble, so an Ancient Saint with five palaces was only making up for what they were lacking back in the Royal Noble realm.

A six palace saint is called a Dao Restoration Saint due to the same principle of catching-up as the previous title.

The moment one opened the seventh palace, they would be called a Heavenly Saint. This was the real starting point of Ancient Saints, just like the fourth palace of the Royal Noble realm.

Those who opened the eighth palace were called Grand Dao Saints, and those with nine were called Pinnacle Saints.

Having nine palaces was the limit of Ancient Saints, just like how having six palaces was the limit of Royal Nobles.

Within this realm, a person with nine palaces could directly suppress others of the same level. It did not matter how strong the opponent's cultivation was, as long as they didn't have nine Fate Palaces, they would suffer a direct suppression.

This was the reason why Bing Yuxia could be so proud with her nine palaces. Even Deity Jikong Wudi and Goddess Mei Suyao had to be wary of her.

As a Pinnacle Saint, she was a tyrant amongst all saints. It didn't matter which merit laws other saints cultivated since they were directly pressured by her palaces!

At this time, Li Qiye's blood energy soared like a magnificent rainbow as his Neigong meridian resounded with thunderous explosions, signaling the opening of the seventh palace. Li Qiye had absolute confidence that obtaining nine palaces was not a challenge to him, and even opening twelve palaces was not a test. His real ordeal was the mythical thirteenth palace!

With a thunderous rumble, Li Qiye's Hell Suppressing Inner Physique suddenly disappeared while the second Inner Physique was also quivering.

The trembling second Inner Physique was shaking as if an immortal existence was gently shaking its wings, stagnating the flow of time so that one flap of these wings would allow for Li Qiye to escape the temporal restriction!

The Soaring Immortal Physique was the second Inner Physique that Li Qiye wished to cultivate.

For others, cultivating two Immortal Physiques was impossible, but not for Li Qiye. At this moment, his Hell Suppressing Godly Physique was at minor completion and was still a long ways off from grand completion.

So at this time, he slowed down the cultivation of the Hell Suppressing Godly Physique and spent more energy and time on the second physique instead.

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Chapter 393: Don't Provoke Me

The Soaring Immortal Physique was no worse than any other Immortal Physique! Once successfully cultivated, it allowed its user to have unmatched speed.

Once one's speed was invincible, treasures and techniques would no longer be important because if the opponent could never catch up to their speed, then the enemy would be killed before even having the chance to make a move.

Once this physique reached grand completion, it could pass through any spatial fabric or even stop time itself! Imagine how frightening a person with unparalleled speed would be, then imagine how much more terrifying a time-stopper would be!

This was why once a person reached grand completion with the Soaring Immortal Physique, essentially, no one in this world would be able to kill him. Someone once commented that only time would be able to kill a grand completion Soaring Immortal Physique user.

Li Qiye had his own reasons for picking the Soaring Immortal Physique. The Hell Suppressing Godly Physique could destroy all things, but it had one weakness — its lack of speed.

Currently, his Hell Suppressing Godly Physique's speed relied on the Kun Peng's Six Variants. Although this allowed him to reach sufficient speeds, it was far from enough for Li Qiye since he desired an unbeatable speed.

Imagine the heaviest body plus the fastest speed, what would be the result? This meant that Li Qiye's body would become the most powerful weapon, which was why he chose the Soaring Immortal Physique!

The Soaring Immortal Inner Physique shook once more as time seemed to become slower around Li Qiye's body. With gentle waves of buzzing sounds creating a melody that came from Li Qiye's Neigong meridian, Li Qiye was immersed inside...

"The lost island!" In the capital, the Static Stream Lord sat on his draconic throne and pondered after hearing the report from Lu Baiqiu, who had just rushed here from the Thousand Islands.

"Your Majesty, the lost mythical island is but a legend!" At this time, a young man inside the imperial court spoke. With high spirits, he spoke in a dignified manner without attempting to hide his Royal Noble cultivation. It was as if his cultivation realm was a reason for pride.

He quickly added: “Our Static Stream Country is a great nation, so how could we randomly take action just because of a baseless legend?”

“Xuan Shaojun, the mythical island is out there right now so how could it be baseless!” Lu Baiqiu immediately retorted with a grave voice.

The young man snorted and said: “That is not for certain. Fog on the sea is a common occurrence, so maybe Region Lord Lu had blurry vision. If His Majesty takes a trip for this matter and it turned out to only be ordinary fog, then wouldn’t this be a waste of effort? Hah, then wouldn’t some say that Region Lord Lu exaggerated the matter just to gain some contributory merits?”

This young man’s name was Xuan Shaojun, a rare genius of the Static Stream Country. He had reached Royal Noble one year ago and became one of the few potential king candidates among the younger generation.

He had always viewed Lu Baiqiu as a powerful opponent. Although Lu Baiqiu had been at grand accomplishment Named Hero for the last two years and was very close to Royal Noble, she had contributed a lot more despite her weaker cultivation. Moreover, Lu Baiqiu’s fame in the country was great, and its elders all believed that she could handle the great responsibility.

Because of this, Xuan Shaojun had always viewed her as his strongest rival and opposed her every opportunity he could.

“You!” Lu Baiqiu’s expression sank after hearing his words.

At this time, the Static Stream Lord gently waved his hand to interrupt their quarrel and said: “It is better to believe this as opposed to ignoring it. Although the lost island had always been a legend, it is said to be left behind by True Gods of an ancient era, hiding great secrets! If there is even a sliver of a chance, then we should let the Imperial Advisor go take a look.”

“Understood!” An old man stood up and accepted the order.

Li Qiye did nothing except train while he stayed on his small island. However, there was a guest today — Lu Baiqiu.

“Dao Brother Li, this is our Static Stream Imperial Advisor.” Lu Baiqiu introduced the old man standing next to her. Besides the advisor, there were other masters from the country.

“Our Imperial Advisor wants to know about the lost mythical island.” Lu Baiqiu hurriedly explained.

The advisor took a quick look at Li Qiye and found that he was completely ordinary without any outstanding characteristics. Although Lu Baiqiu had told him that Li Qiye was special, in his eyes, this was only due to Lu Baiqiu’s lack of knowledge.

In reality, after the Worldly Prime Liquid refined Li Qiye’s body, how could a mere Imperial Advisor from the Static Stream Country see through him?

In the advisor's mind, Li Qiye was only a common cultivator while he was the Imperial Advisor of the Static Stream Country — a Grand Saint with a powerful cultivation. Someone like Li Qiye really had no chance of entering his sight.

"I heard from Baiqiu that you were the first one to find the lost island. Tell me what you saw!" The Imperial Advisor spoke with a deep tone.

Li Qiye looked at him and flatly replied: "The lost mythical island isn't something your Static Stream Country can venture into. It is better for all of you to go back and pretend as if you didn't see it."

"How presumptuous!" Before the advisor could say anything, the young man right next to him darted out and contemptuously yelled at Li Qiye: "Ignorant junior! Daring to look down on my Static Stream Country... Are you tired of living!?"

The young man who darted out was Xuan Shaojun. He came along with the Imperial Advisor to find an opportunity to make a great contribution, and Li Qiye's words just now created an opportunity that he immediately latched onto.

Lu Baiqiu's expression quickly changed. Li Qiye was her friend and Xuan Shaojun's words were too out of line!

"Boom!" Li Qiye didn't bother to look at Xuan Shaojun. He simply flicked his finger and immediately blew Xuan Shaojun away. With a flop, Xuan Shaojun suddenly fell into the ocean. Completely enraged, he wanted to rush back up, but a giant hand suddenly slammed down on him. It pressed him all the way down to the ocean floor, not allowing him to climb back up.

"Don't hurt him!" All of the other experts who came along with the Imperial Advisor shouted and suddenly pounced on Li Qiye.

Li Qiye remained motionless. With a bang, all the attacking experts were knocked flying by Li Qiye as they spewed out blood.

"Little Friend, the Static Stream Country isn't a place where you can act as you please!" With some shock, the Imperial Advisor's Grand Saint aura suddenly surged as he took out his fate weapon to attack.

Li Qiye's body suddenly shifted with a flash. "Bang!" Before the Imperial Advisor could figure out what was going on, blood had already sprayed everywhere as he was also blown away. Before his body could fall to the ground, Li Qiye gripped him by the neck in the air.

"You..." Suddenly aghast, the Imperial Advisor wanted to speak, but Li Qiye clamped down. The sound of broken bones rang. The Imperial Advisor couldn't breathe anymore as his body became immobilized. He now had a complexion as pale as snow.

"Dao Brother Li, please show mercy!" Lu Baiqiu was also deathly pale after the sudden turn of events. When she heard the noise of bones breaking, she quickly pleaded.

Although the group of Xuan Shaojun acted out of line, in the end, they were still part of the Static Stream Country, so Lu Baiqiu couldn't idly stand by.

Li Qiye casually threw the Imperial Advisor to the ground. Like a dead snake lying on the floor, the pale advisor struggled to finally take a single breath.

Li Qiye didn't bother to look at him and said: "Because of Region Lord Lu, I will spare your lives today! Next time, if you dare to clown around in front of me, do not blame me for not being considerate towards Region Lord Lu."

The Imperial Advisor was an experienced person. As a Grand Saint, he couldn't even withstand one blow before being subdued by the enemy. Just how frightening was this person!? If it wasn't for Lu Baiqiu's pleading, ten lives still wouldn't have been enough for him.

After thinking about the consequences, the Imperial Advisor felt a chill as cold chills ran through his palms. He took a deep breath and didn't dare to linger for a second longer. He carried the other wounded disciples and left. They also struggled to dig up Xuan Shaojun, who was suppressed on the ocean floor.

"Dao Brother Li, I didn't expect for this to happen!" Before leaving, Lu Baiqiu awkwardly smiled and apologized.

"It is fine, this had nothing to do with you." Li Qiye gently motioned with his hand and said: "Go back and tell your Royal Lord that it is better not to provoke me, lest I destroy your Static Stream Country!"

These words astounded Lu Baiqiu, sending a shiver down her spine. His first warning was a threat about destroying a country, how tyrannical and arrogant was this!

But after thinking about how their Imperial Advisor was quelled after just a single move by Li Qiye, she didn't think that Li Qiye was simply blustering! It seemed that Li Qiye was even more terrifying than she had imagined.

In the end, Lu Baiqiu deeply bowed to Li Qiye and then turned around to leave.

"What—?" After the Imperial Advisor's group came back, the Royal Lord couldn't help but become enraged after hearing the report as he emotionally said: "Even the Imperial Advisor is not his match!"

"Your Majesty, it is truly shameful, but I have to admit that I couldn't withstand a single blow. I couldn't even recognize his background!" The Imperial Advisor quickly responded.

Despite being defeated by just one blow, the Imperial Advisor didn't dare to bear any resentment. He had experienced many waves and storms, so he knew that there were a few existences in this world that he could not provoke!

"Region Lord Lu, just what is this Li Qiye's identity?" The Imperial Advisor asked with severity.

Lu Baiqiu shook her head and said: "Your Majesty, I don't know anything about his background. I only met him by chance, and it was with his advice that I was able to defeat the Mollusk Tribe."

"Hah, Region Lord Lu, you are so close with that Li fella but you actually don't know his identity? Who would actually trust your words?" The injured Xuan Shaojun spoke with a strange undertone.

Chapter 394: Suppressing A King With One Hand

He was quite resentful after being put down at the bottom of the sea by Li Qiye. A genius like him being suppressed by an unknown junior was an extremely shameful matter!

“Such a master... I actually want to personally witness his strength!” The Static Stream Royal Lord’s gaze became fierce as he spoke with austerity. Having said that, divine rings emanated from his body. Without a doubt, the Royal Lord was a powerful Heavenly Sovereign.

“Your Majesty, you shouldn’t!” Lu Baiqiu became aghast after hearing this and quickly spoke: “Brother Li is only here for the mythical island and not to oppose our Static Stream Country...”

“Ah, Region Lord Lu, what do you mean by that?” Xuan Shaojun sneered: “Hurting our disciples and shaming our Imperial Advisor — how is this not opposing our Static Stream Country? His Majesty is invincible, so what can a little junior do? Could it be that Region Lord Lu is on the same side as that Li guy and wants to collude with the enemy...?”

“You—” Lu Baiqiu was angered, but she endured it and tried to persuade the Royal Lord: “Your Majesty, in my opinion, Brother Li is not here to harm our Static Stream Country. Why don’t we take a step back and all shall be well.” Lu Baiqiu trusted that Li Qiye was not joking around. If the country actually provoked him, then he might kill his way into the Static Stream Country.

“Your Majesty, I also feel that Region Lord Lu’s words make a lot of sense. This conflict was due to my rash conduct!” The Imperial Advisor quickly said: “If he was really antagonistic towards us, then he wouldn’t have let us go. In my opinion, he must have a heaven-frightening origin, so there is no need to compete with him and court a powerful enemy!”

“No matter what, I still want to go and see for myself.” The Royal Lord gravely spoke: “A powerful master like this appearing in our country... How could anyone be at ease if we don’t know his identity?”

Lu Baiqiu became quite anxious after hearing the Royal Lord’s words. She didn’t wish to see the country in conflict with Li Qiye because she trusted that Li Qiye was not a person who liked to joke around!

“Bang—bang—” Countless people were alarmed as a battle chariot flew over the Thousand Islands. When the young cultivators of the Thousand Islands saw the several thousand armored soldiers in the sky, they couldn’t help but become wary.

“What happened? The Royal Lord himself is venturing out!” Seeing the Royal Lord riding his dragon chariot, many cultivators turned pale. The Royal Lord was a great Heavenly Sovereign and rarely showed himself outside of huge events.

Thus, it was a big deal for the Royal Lord to travel in person, and it alarmed many spectating cultivators.

In the blink of an eye, thousands of Static Stream experts quickly surrounded the island inhabited by Li Qiye.

Lu Baiqiu’s heart was quite heavy, but she still wanted for her country to negotiate with Li Qiye so she quickly said to the Royal Lord: “Your Majesty, could this disciple invite Brother Li here for a talk?”

“Hah, Region Lord Lu, you are friends with that Li person, so who knows if you will be informing him or not? If that Li person escapes, then will you be able to bear the responsibility? Region Lord Lu, I only want what’s best for you, treason is not a small crime!” Xuan Shaojun alleged.

Lu Baiqiu’s expression greatly changed with anger after being accused by Xuan Shaojun like this; she couldn’t help but coldly say: “You would indeed say just about anything to frame someone!”

"I only want what's best for Region Lord Lu. If you are devoted to our country, then you should step aside to avoid arousing suspicion." Xuan Shaojun commented: "Royal Lord, let me go tell that Li guy to come out!"

"Go, ask him to come and see me." The Royal Lord sat on his dragon carriage with an overbearing sense of nobility. This was not an act of disdain; after all, as an expert who had basked in prestige for a long time, he was indeed qualified to act like this.

Lu Baiqiu gently sighed. It seemed that this storm would not pass by very easily. She did not wish for this feud, but alas, she had absolutely no say in this matter.

After Xuan Shaojun received the order, he appeared above Li Qiye's island and shouted: "Li, quickly come and greet His Majesty!"

Li Qiye, who was sitting on the small island, only gave a passing glance and, with a poof, Xuan Shaojun didn't even have the chance to scream before being rendered into a bloody mist under one flick of a finger.

This sudden development jolted the accompanying Static Stream experts. Xuan Shaojun, who was the most promising genius of their Static Stream Country, was killed by someone in this manner.

"Junior, you are insane!" The Royal Lord was appalled as he stood up with his divine rings expanding from his body; there was a total of seven rings!

Amidst his rage, a shadow suddenly flashed as Li Qiye stood right before him. He moved with an extreme speed that could not be followed by anyone else.

"Protect our king!" The Imperial Advisor screamed out in shock.

In an instant, the experts around the Royal Lord all cried out at the same time and many weapons aimed for Li Qiye's head. There were pagodas, divine blades, and swords crafted from sacrificing one's blood. They all continuously emitted explosive detonations.

Such an offensive didn't even make Li Qiye bat his eyelid a single time. He swung his arm downward and, with a loud bang, none of the attacking treasures could stop Li Qiye's invincible physique and were immediately shattered. The incoming experts' blood was spilled as they were blown away.

"Watch yourself!" The Static Stream Royal Lord became angry as each divine ring opened up a wave of grand dao, carrying a majestic force that rushed forward.

"You're just a Little Sovereign without a complete nine rings, yet you still dare to attack me!" Li Qiye was as calm as ever as he exuded an emperor's power. A Kun Peng flew to the sky and followed Li Qiye step by step. This Primordial Kun Peng leaped and created an enormous tidal wave that was sent towards the Royal Lord.

Kun Peng's Six Variants — Sea Transformation! When this Primordial Kun Peng flapped its wings, all of the skies became an ocean with gigantic surging waves that were capable of drowning the stars.

"Bang!" Even though the Royal Lord was a Little Sovereign, he couldn't help but take several thumping steps back under such a sweeping emperor law. The lights in his divine rings suddenly became dim; his blood energy was unstable after this strike from Li Qiye, causing him to turn pale.

Li Qiye was an Ancient Saint with six palaces and nine stars and he also cultivated emperor laws. How could a Little Sovereign like the Static Stream Royal Lord compete with him?

Li Qiye's gaze turned cold as he emotionlessly spoke: "Continuing to provoke me time and time again... Your ancestors' face is no longer enough! If I don't kill you all, then people would really think that I am easily bullied." [1. Raw is "made of tofu." Soft and moldable, easily bullied, too nice.]

Having said this, his five fingers stretched outward as they encompassed the Royal Lord like the heavens itself.

"Brother Li, please wait!" The frightened Lu Baiqiu quickly rushed forward and stood in front of the Royal Lord as she urgently begged: "Brother Li, our Static Stream Country doesn't have any animosity towards you, it was only a misunderstanding."

When Lu Baiqiu stood and blocked the front, Li Qiye paused for a moment and looked at Lu Baiqiu. Then, he withdrew his heaven-like fingers before dismissively speaking: "Region Lord Lu, there are times when your face alone is insufficient!"

Lu Baiqiu couldn't help but wryly smile. As a disciple of the Static Stream Country, she couldn't just stand there and watch Li Qiye massacre its people. She then quickly spoke: "Our Royal Lord only wanted to speak to Brother Li about the lost island. There was a misunderstanding; I hope that Brother Li can forgive us."

At this time, the Royal Lord had a shocked countenance. He saw the Kun Peng above Li Qiye's head and took in a deep breath. The emperor aura soaring in the sky caused him to realize that he had kicked a steel wall. Since the person cultivated an emperor law, without a doubt, he was from an Immortal Emperor lineage. Their Static Stream Country could not afford to provoke such a lineage.

"Which emperor's sect is Fellow Daoist from?" The Royal Lord inquired while shivering inside. He couldn't do anything but bend down. A Grand Sovereign was far from enough to mess with an Immortal Emperor lineage, let alone a Little Sovereign like him.

Li Qiye glanced at the Royal Lord and said: "Out of respect for Region Lord Lu, I shall let go of this matter this time! You can go and meet me on the island with Region Lord Lu alone!" With that, he turned around and quickly disappeared as he headed towards his island.

Many of the accompanying experts were shocked at Li Qiye's tone when he addressed the ruler of a country.

"Region Lord Lu, follow me to the island!" The Royal Lord took a deep breath. As a Royal Lord, he couldn't help but consider himself superior at times. However, he was also an experienced man and knew when to back down!

"Your Majesty!" Many experts were alarmed when they heard that the Royal Lord wanted to go to the island by himself and wished to become the vanguard, but the Royal Lord stopped them with a wave of his hand: "Even if all of you come along, it would only end in even more meaningless deaths. Wait here!"

When a Little Sovereign like him was insufficient, other experts would just be giving up their lives trying to oppose Li Qiye.

After the Royal Lord entered the island, the other experts went into a battle-ready formation. As long as there was any sign from within, they would immediately rush in for the rescue.

Li Qiye was sitting directly on the island. The moment the Royal Lord saw him, he calmed himself and bowed down towards Li Qiye with a slightly submissive attitude and said: "This time, my Static Stream Country only wanted to ask about the matter of the lost island. I didn't expect for such a misunderstanding to occur, truly unfortunate."

The Royal Lord was a smart man. All the old cultivators like him were as wily as devils and knew the right time for small sects like them to acquiesce.

In his eyes, Li Qiye came from an Immortal Emperor lineage, a monstrous existence that his country could not afford to deal with. Moreover, Li Qiye's strength was clearly enough to defeat a Heavenly Sovereign.

This why was the Royal Lord first chose to admit his faults in order to ease the atmosphere between them.

[spoiler title='394 Teaser']He was quite resentful after being put down at the bottom of the sea by Li Qiye. A genius like him being suppressed by an unknown junior was an extremely shameful matter!

"Such a master... I actually want to personally witness his strength!" The Static Stream Royal Lord's gaze became fierce as he spoke with austerity. Having said that, divine rings emanated from his body. Without a doubt, the Royal Lord was a powerful Heavenly Sovereign.

"Your Majesty, you shouldn't!" Lu Baiqiu became aghast after hearing this and quickly spoke: "Brother Li is only here for the mythical island and not to oppose our Static Stream Country..."

"Ah, Region Lord Lu, what do you mean by that?" Xuan Shaojun sneered: "Hurting our disciples and shaming our Imperial Advisor — how is this not opposing our Static Stream Country? His Majesty is invincible, so what can a little junior do? Could it be that Region Lord Lu is on the same side as that Li guy and wants to collude with the enemy...?"

Chapter 395: Beginning Of The Storm

In fact, the Static Stream Royal Lord did not mean to start a feud with Li Qiye in the beginning; however, as a Royal Lord, he couldn't help but act a bit imperiously. He didn't expect for Li Qiye to be so ruthless as to immediately kill someone at the first sign of discord.

The Royal Lord became even more wary towards such a ruthless man since when a person of this type took action, they held no reservations!

Li Qiye looked at the lord and said: "Forget it. You seem like a reasonable person with a sense of propriety, so I won't make it difficult for you."

The Royal Lord sighed in relief after hearing these words. He was a bit regretful of listening to Xuan Shaojun's urging instead of Lu Baiqiu's advice; otherwise, this troublesome matter wouldn't have happened.

"This time, I came to inquire about the lost island. I heard Region Lord Lu say that the lost island was found by you, I wonder if you can tell me a thing or two about it?" The Royal Lord quickly said. [1. Here,

the Royal Lord used “fellow daoist” to refer to Li Qiye to show respect/friendliness, but I didn’t want to use fellow daoist several times in the same line.]

Li Qiye gently shook his head in response: “The lost island isn’t something your Static Stream Country can handle. Without caution, it will attract a sect-destroying calamity.”

Having heard Li Qiye, the Royal Lord became disappointed, but he didn’t dare to force the issue.

“However...” Li Qiye gave him a look and suddenly had an idea, so he added: “Very well, you can help me with something. Your Static Stream Country does not need to get involved in this affair, and if there is something good in the future, I will give you a bit of the spoils.”

“What kind of something?” The Royal Lord’s mind shook a bit after hearing this. It was naturally a good thing if the Static Stream Country could have a good relationship with an Immortal Emperor lineage.

Although the Static Stream Country was attached to the Thousand Carp River, there were many tributary sects like them in the Distant Cloud region. Moreover, their country was far to the south of the Thousand Carp River, so the sect did not value their country very much. Now, if they could befriend another emperor’s lineage, it would be a beneficial endeavor.

“What you need to do is very simple; spread the news about the lost island, and that an immortal medicine of the island had been unearthed. The miracle of the Legendary Era will come!” Li Qiye said with a smile.

“Unearthed an immortal medicine?” The Royal Lord was astounded after hearing such words.

“Go, there will be benefits for you in the future!” Li Qiye gently motioned with his hand.

The Royal Lord stood up and bowed his head towards Li Qiye, then he turned to leave with Lu Baiqiu. But at this time, Li Qiye spoke: “Region Lord Lu, stay here.”

“Me?” Region Lord Lu was a bit startled as she looked at Li Qiye, then the Royal Lord.

Li Qiye nodded and said: “You are worthy of my grooming. If you are willing to stay, I shall grant you a new fortune in the future.”

Hearing this, the Royal Lord was ecstatic and quickly told Lu Baiqiu: “Region Lord Lu, you can stay behind and be in charge of communications!”

He wanted to befriend Li Qiye. If Lu Baiqiu could join an Immortal Emperor lineage in the future, then it would be absolutely amazing for their Static Stream Country.

Lu Baiqiu looked at the two of them again, then she finally nodded her head to say: “Since Your Majesty says so, I shall stay behind.”

Immediately after, the Royal Lord said a few words to Lu Baiqiu and then left with the others.

After he left, Lu Baiqiu sat to the side of Li Qiye. She took another look at him and couldn’t help but ask: “Which Immortal Emperor lineage is Brother Li from?”

During their first encounter, she thought that Li Qiye was either a vagrant cultivator or someone who came from a small sect, but this was certainly not the case now.

Regarding the speculations of the Royal Lord and Lu Baiqiu, Li Qiye couldn't refrain from smiling and shook his head: "Is which Immortal Emperor lineage I come from really that important?"

Lu Baiqiu was still curious and started to guess: "There are only two Immortal Emperor lineages that take in humans at the Distant Cloud — the Thousand Carp River and the Simple Mountain Immortal Kingdom. If Brother Li came from the river, then we should have heard of your famous name, so Brother Li must have come from the Simple Mountain Immortal Kingdom..."

"No to both." Li Qiye gently shook his head and said: "These things are not important to you. The most pertinent matter is to let go of your restrictions and focus on cultivation; this is the thing that you should do."

"Brother Li wants to teach me cultivation?" Lu Baiqiu couldn't help but jokingly ask: "I wonder what creation you will be able to grant me?"

Although Lu Baiqiu was usually stoic, she sometimes couldn't help but brim with vivacity as a girl.

"That will depend on what you choose." Li Qiye looked at her and said with a smile: "If you choose to stay by my side, then I will give you quite an excellent creation. If you choose to stay at the Static Stream Country, then I will point you to a particular dao path."

Li Qiye indeed had thoughts of training Lu Baiqiu. Compared to the girls by his side, Lu Baiqiu's talents were indeed too ordinary. She could not compare to Li Shuangyan and was even weaker than Chi Xiaodie.

However, Li Qiye fancied her attitude; she was someone with an open mind, someone who was capable, sensible, and a true cultivator.

"Could it be that Brother Li will introduce me to your sect?" Lu Baiqiu couldn't help but reply with a smile: "Even if I enter your sect, I'm afraid my future accomplishments will not be any better than in the Static Stream Country."

Coming from an ordinary background, Lu Baiqiu knew herself very well. Her talents could not compare to the other geniuses. If she entered a different sect, then she would have to start from the beginning. Moreover, she would not be greatly valued in a new sect with her aptitude.

Rankings were extremely strict in an Immortal Emperor lineage. If a disciple was not valued, they would not be able to cultivate emperor laws or have access to more resources.

"There is no need for that." Li Qiye smilingly said: "Right now, I am missing a driver. If you are willing to stay, then you can control my carriage for me."

"Brother Li, this joke isn't funny." Lu Baiqiu was taken aback, then she shook her head to say. Although Lu Baiqiu was someone with a broad mind, such words still made her feel uncomfortable.

Although she knew that she was not a genius, her future in the Static Stream Country was not bad, so she still had confidence in herself. But now, Li Qiye wanted her to be a driver, something no one would want to do. If Lu Baiqiu wasn't so tolerant, then she would have been stricken with anger thinking that Li Qiye wanted to humiliate her.

Li Qiye looked at her and calmly spoke: "Don't think that controlling my carriage for me is dishonorable. Not too many people in the Nine Worlds are qualified to control my carriage! If it is someone I don't like, then even if their talents were better or they came from an amazing background, they still wouldn't be eligible to be my driver."

Li Qiye was not bragging. Since ancient times, the moment his carriage appeared, all gods retreated and Immortal Emperors had to welcome him! And his drivers were Virtuous Paragons capable of forming their own countries!

Lu Baiqiu became astounded. Such nonchalant words from Li Qiye carried an indescribable confidence as if it was part of the natural order. If these words came from someone else, then she would have thought that they were nonsensically blustering, but Li Qiye's speech seemed to dictate that this was how it should be.

After calming down, Lu Baiqiu's pretty eyes blinked as she smiled: "Even if I am willing to drive for you, do you have a carriage?" Finished speaking, she intentionally looked at Li Qiye as if asking where his carriage was.

Lu Baiqiu was a valiant and straightforward girl. Her slight smile was a refreshing scene and it was indeed a bit charming.

"There will be a carriage." Li Qiye leisurely said: "Think about it carefully, this opportunity is quite rare."

Li Qiye's tone left Lu Baiqiu in deep thought. If other people offered her a driving position and then told her to think about it carefully, she would have thought that they were insane, but Li Qiye's words caused her to really think it through in silence.

Due to the Static Stream Country deliberately spreading the news, the information about the lost islands quickly traversed the Distant Cloud and then to all the other three regions.

"Lost mythical island? Isn't it only a legend?" After hearing about the island's appearance, many cultivators from the great powers were skeptical.

However, the great powers who were close to the Static Stream Country quickly sent scouts and really found the divine island lost inside the mist in the ocean.

Not long later, many great powers confirmed its appearance, and the skeptics began to believe this matter.

In a short amount of time, internal discussions were rampant inside these great powers. Some sects especially convened meetings to discuss the lost island.

"The mythical island is only a legend and no one had ever found it since the start of time, but it suddenly appeared now without any prior indication... This is a bit too strange." Many great characters wished to wait and see.

A different sect master said: "Rumor has it that this lost island has existed since the Legendary Era, but no one knows what the place actually contains."

Especially when masters who wanted to cross the sea mist to enter the islands were devoured, many sects adopted a wait-and-see attitude instead.

However, the next message made many people unable to sit still in their chairs. A message with unknown origin suddenly declared that immortal medicines had appeared on the lost island.

Chapter 396: A Fiance Out Of Nowhere

“Immortal medicines appeared—?” Having heard this news, even great characters could no longer sit still as they immediately inquired about this matter.

In the beginning, many remained skeptical. But later on, someone vowed seeing an immortal light piercing down onto the lost island, and that they heard the cries of dragons and phoenixes.

“The miracle of the Legendary Age is about to appear!” Afterwards, many smaller reports came from all around the Distant Cloud region, and they were getting more and more outrageous.

Some said that a true immortal was about to come into being while others stated that true dragons and immortal phoenixes were descending. There were a few statements regarding the appearance of an immortal potion as well...

These messages were everywhere, including people who swore on their lives that they saw all kinds of strange phenomena out at sea including dragons and immortals...

As these bits of gossip were flying around, many great powers sent their own to watch the lost island.

Just like the rumors, in a short amount of time, many changes happened to the lost island shrouded in mist. Sometimes, strange images would appear, or a golden light would rush out as if an immortal was visiting the mortal realm. Wondrous hymns emanated from the island, but screams were even more common; it was as if the island was a prison of devils from the ancient ages.

“Could it be that this is the sign of the immortal medicine?” Many experts wondered after seeing all these strange images.

All of a sudden, many great powers who initially intended to wait became impatient and planned on entering the lost island, but the experts who attempted to do so were swallowed by the mist and turned into blood. This scene was extremely frightening, causing people’s hair to stand on end.

Although the mist lingered like a beast wanting to devour trespassing cultivators, human hearts remained greedy for the immortal medicine.

Even Lu Baiqiu, who was staying with Li Qiye, had heard all of these things. These were all messages intentionally spread by Li Qiye, but now they had travelled far and people actually confirmed that immortal medicines were there on the lost island.

Since these two were the first to find the lost island and knowing that Li Qiye had intentionally spread these messages, Lu Baiqiu did not believe any of it. But now, these rumors had escalated to the point of becoming truths. This caused Lu Baiqiu to be surprised as she asked Li Qiye: “What is there on the lost island? Are immortal medicines and miracles really descending?”

“What is there on the island you say?” Li Qiye couldn’t help but smile at her question: “There could be immortal medicines, and there could also be miracles.”

“Really?” Lu Baiqiu had to take a calming breath. She assumed that Li Qiye only wished to spread false rumors when he asked their lord to propagate them.

“On this lost island, immortal medicines and miracles are not worth anything compared to the true existence there!” Li Qiye said with a relaxed smile.

Lu Baiqiu shivered after hearing such words. Just what were immortal medicines? These were priceless treasures even for Virtuous Paragons!

To cultivators, although physique pastes could strengthen the flesh, longevity medicines could prolong life, and fate pills could solidify one’s foundation, all of these pills had a limit. For example, once the lifespan of great characters dried up, they could only use a certain amount of longevity medicine before it stopped being effective.

At this time, they must use different divine treasures to prolong their life, and among these things, immortal medicines were the best option. Moreover, these medicines were all-purpose panaceas that were capable of growing new bones and flesh, prolonging life by a thousand years, and solidifying one’s foundation...

Real immortal medicines were priceless treasures craved by all no matter who they were.

After calming down, Lu Baiqiu couldn’t help but ask: “Then what is this item that exists on the lost island?” What in the world could make immortal medicines seem like nothing?

“Well...” Li Qiye cheerfully smiled with narrowed eyes and continued: “I’m afraid no one in this world knows. Only after coming onto the lost island will you know just what kinds of things you will find.”

Who would actually be privy to the truth about an immemorial legend? And who could be so sure of what exists there?

Intuition told Lu Baiqiu that Li Qiye must know what it was, but Li Qiye didn’t want to tell her, so she didn’t dare to pry further.

Meanwhile, many people were clamoring about the lost island outside. While they wanted to reach the island, Li Qiye continued staying on his small island without a care for the outside world. He didn’t do anything outside of cultivating.

However, the Static Stream Royal Lord brought someone to see Li Qiye one day. Before they could come, Lu Baiqiu had already informed him: “A protector from the Thousand Carp River wants to see you!”

“A Thousand Carp River’s protector?” Li Qiye opened his eyes after hearing this, but he didn’t pay it any mind. Not long after, the Royal Lord brought an old man onto the small island. The old man was also a Little Sovereign.

“Young Noble Li, this person is Protector Xiao of the Thousand Carp River.” The Royal Lord quickly made introductions. Although this Protector Xiao might not be that much stronger than the Royal Lord, even he who was the ruler of a country was very respectful towards this protector.

It was not unreasonable for the Royal Lord to show this level of respect. Despite being the ruler of a country, there was no good reason for him to put on airs before a Thousand Carp River’s protector.

The Thousand Carp River was one of the two most powerful Immortal Emperor lineages, and it was the only emperor lineage built by the demon race at the hands of Immortal Emperor Qian Li.

Remember that Immortal Emperor Qian Li was one of the last three emperors during the Emperors Era. Immortal Emperor Ta Kong, Immortal Emperor Yin Tian, and Immortal Emperor Qian Li were the last three emperors.

It could be said that in the Sacred Nether World, Immortal Emperor Qian Li was the one closest to the present, thus the Thousand Carp River that was erected by him had plenty of frightening emperor's power remaining.

The sect's influence was still great due to having the most recent emperor, so in spite of there being other Ancient Kingdoms more powerful within the Sacred Nether World, even dual emperor kingdoms were quite wary of the Thousand Carp River.

The Static Stream Country was nothing compared to a huge monster like the river sect, not to mention that the country had always been a tributary state. Thus, the Royal Lord being respectful to Protector Xiao was understandable.

"You are that Li Qiye!" Although Protector Xiao was not an ostentatious person, he was still arrogant before Li Qiye. He simply gave him a glance and said slowly.

"That Li Qiye?" Li Qiye lightly smiled. He would remain nonchalant even before a more unfathomable character, let alone a mere protector. He looked at the protector and said: "I'm the only Li Qiye that I know of among the people I've met."

Protector Xiao slowly spoke: "Today, I came here on the orders of the elders in the sect to break up this engagement with you!" At this time, Protector Xiao purposely acted in a very amiable manner, at least, in his eyes. [1. "I" here is the "I" someone would use to speak to someone of lower status — not very respectful.]

"Engagement? What engagement?" Li Qiye couldn't help but smile.

As for the Royal Lord and Lu Baiqiu, they naturally became a bit astounded, especially the Royal Lord. When the protector said that he wished to see Li Qiye, he believed that it was about the matter of the lost island, and he was living in anxiety due to this. However, after listening to the contents of this conversation, he couldn't resist being surprised.

"You obtained a piece of jade at the Soaring Remembrance Village, correct?" Protector Xiao deepened his tone: "This was only caused due to a moment of anger from a little girl. As long as you and Yunzhu dissolve this marriage, our Thousand Carp River will not mistreat you."

"What—?" Having heard this, the Royal Lord and Lu Baiqiu were instantly shocked, but they immediately shut their mouths.

"Oh, you are talking about that little girl from the Soaring Remembrance Village." Li Qiye suddenly understood and looked at Protector Xiao, then he replied with a smile: "What does my fiancée, whom I have never met before, have to do with the Thousand Carp River?" Li Qiye initially didn't care about this marriage arrangement back at the Soaring Remembrance Village. In fact, it was not so easy to become his fiancée.

“Yunzhu is our Thousand Carp River’s descendant!” Protector Xiao said in a serious manner: “Not just anyone can be her match!”

Protector Xiao’s words were obvious enough. Today, he came to end this arrangement. Otherwise, which unknown junior would be worthy of his presence?

Lu Baiqiu and the Royal Lord were astonished as well since Lan Yunzhu, the descendant of the Thousand Carp River, was a legend among the younger generation.

She was a person with dual saint talents! Despite so many geniuses appearing at the Thousand Carp River, she was soon chosen as their descendant. Keep in mind that an Immortal Emperor lineage like the Thousand Carp River would never lack potential candidates for this position, yet someone with a humble background like Lan Yunzhu was chosen as the descendant by the elders at such a young age. This was telling of her talents.

One had to know that not only was Lan Yunzhu talented, she also had an indescribable beauty. Even if she was not the prettiest girl in the Distant Cloud, she was definitely amongst the top five.

Countless young geniuses in the Distant Cloud fell in love with her at first sight and lost their minds for her. Many geniuses from other emperor lineages came to propose, but all were refused.

[spoiler title='396 Teaser']“Immortal medicines appeared—?” Having heard the news, even great characters could no longer sit still as they immediately inquired about this matter.

In the beginning, many remained skeptical. But later on, someone made a vow about seeing an immortal light piercing down onto the lost island, and that they heard the cries of dragons and phoenixes.

“The miracle of the Legendary Age is about to appear!” Afterward, many smaller reports came from all around the Distant Cloud region, and they were getting more and more outrageous.

Chapter 397: Breaking The Marriage Arrangement

Lan Yunzhu — the descendant of the Thousand Carp River, a famous genius of the Distant Cloud, and a beauty that captivated the hearts of many young men.

The Static Stream Royal Lord and Liu Baiqiu were dumbfounded since they didn’t expect that Li Qiye was actually Lan Yunzhu’s fiancé despite her having so many suitors.

This news was really shocking to the two of them. A girl like Lan Yunzhu was a high and above existence, but now it turns out that she was actually betrothed to a nameless person.

“So what if she is the Thousand Carp River’s descendant?” LI Qiye responded in a lazy manner: “Even fairies from the nine heavens are nothing special.”

Protector Xiao almost vomited blood from anger, but he calmed down in order to successfully cancel this marriage: “Young Friend, today, our Thousand Carp River came with sincerity.” He even lowered his prideful attitude even more: “As long as Young Friend is willing to cancel this marriage, everything will be easily negotiable... Treasures, immortal gifts, the finest of items — our Thousand Carp River can discuss giving you all of these things. And if you want to, you can even join our sect and become a disciple.”

The recruitment for an emperor's lineage disciple was extremely stringent. Protector Xiao's rhetoric did show that their sect came with good will.

"Yes, that does indeed show some good faith." Li Qiye sometimes had a really bad temperament. He was the type who liked soft attitudes, not hard ones. If the opponent was arrogant, then he would be even more aggressive!

Li Qiye then said with a smile: "But to me, sincerity is not just about treasures or immortal gifts. If you really want to cancel this marriage, let her come and tell me in person, then I might think about it. It isn't a bunch of old men from your Thousand Carp River getting married, so why are you all taking charge of this?"

Of course, this marriage was just an accident to Li Qiye. If the girl really wanted to cancel this engagement, he personally didn't mind it at all. However, if the Thousand Carp River wished to forcefully cancel it, then he wanted to torture them a bit.

Protector Xiao was very exasperated and really wanted to teach this stinky brat a lesson, but he was still able to hold back.

Li Qiye began losing interest in an old man like Protector Xiao and no longer wished to debate any further. Protector Xiao became angrier and angrier, but he still managed to maintain a friendly tone as he said with seriousness: "You can think about it. This is a great opportunity for you. Let the Static Stream Royal Lord pass on your response once you have figured it out."

After Protector Xiao left, Li Qiye smiled and murmured: "Immortal Emperor Qian Li's future generations are actually not bad!"

Despite Protector Xiao still acting arrogantly, in the end, he still didn't use his background to bully people and forcefully dissolve this marriage. Otherwise, Li Qiye would have been happy to teach these old men a lesson in Immortal Emperor Qian Li's stead.

"You... Since when did you become Fairy Zhu's fiance?" After the protector left, Lu Baiqiu asked; she was no longer able to bear her curiosity.

Rumor has it that many people had proposed to Lan Yunzhu, but all of them were rejected, so this fiance appearing out of nowhere was really too sudden.

"I picked up this marriage arrangement on the road." Li Qiye smiled and said.

Lu Baiqiu was out of words. Lan Yunzhu was one of the prettiest and most powerful goddesses in the Distant Cloud, so how could becoming her fiance be so easy? If one could pick up such a thing by just walking on the road, then countless people would have been walking nonstop!

If Liu Baiqiu knew that this marriage arrangement really was picked up by accident, then she definitely would be even more aghast.

The Thousand Carp River coming to cancel the marriage was only a small matter to Li Qiye. He still stayed on the small island and waited for the right opportunity to enter the lost mythical island.

And during this period of time, the Thousand Islands became busier and busier as more experts from the great powers rushed here. The sky of the islands was filled with flying treasures and huge beasts heading towards the ocean.

Moreover, everyday, the sky of the islands was filled with blood energy. The auras of Heavenly Sovereigns and Heavenly Kings towered in the sky since countless great characters from the big powers had personally come.

Such a grand scene caused the islands' cultivators to feel nervous for the inevitable storm.

In order to avoid being caught up in this trouble, after the Royal Lord received Li Qiye's order, he immediately evacuated his disciples and even the residents of the islands.

Especially when one great power after another appeared, the Static Stream Royal Lord became even more cognizant of the eventual storm, so he hurried the evacuation process.

Of course, this evacuation was only temporary. They would come back after the trouble was over.

During this period, constant explosions could be found each day out in the sea. Sometimes, the earth would even shake as huge tidal waves reached the sky itself. At the lost island's location, dazzling radiance was a common sight. Some emanated from treasures, and some were immortal lights that came from inside the lost island.

"It is not just the Distant Cloud anymore, even great characters from the Misty Field, Nether Border, and Green River have arrived."

Lu Baiqiu had been keeping contact with the outside and constantly informed Li Qiye. She couldn't help herself from worrying: "In the last few days, some Jewel Sovereigns have arrived and almost flipped the ocean over. Should we leave this place first?"

"No." Li Qiye shook his head and then said with a cheerful countenance: "If Jewel Sovereigns have come, then we can go take a look."

Li Qiye and Lu Baiqiu went to the sea once more. Compared to the last visit, the island was a lot more chaotic this time. Many flying treasures were stopped above the ocean with gigantic vessels hovering in the sky along with pavilions and divine mountains...

There were many cultivators, including great characters, who wished to reach the lost mythical island, but some of them were also here just to watch the fun. Some rode strange looking beasts while others were on flying treasures. Some were situated above the sea while there were also those who chose to just stay in the water.

And there were many great changes within the fog-shrouded lost island itself. Its dome had seven-colored rays beaming outward with continuous transformations. Sometimes, they took the form of majestic sceneries, divine beasts, or just disappeared altogether. Magnificent cries emanated from the island along with beastly howls as if there was a fierce creature imprisoned on the island!

Even the mist surrounding the island had changed and turned into a faint crimson mist.

This bloody color was from the remnants of those cultivators who wished to cross the mist. They intended to forcefully enter the island, but were devoured and turned into a bloody mist in just a second, becoming part of this never-dissipating layer.

Li Qiye couldn't help but narrow his eyes as he gazed at the great changes taking place on the lost island and didn't speak for a long time.

Now, right outside of the fog, the great powers had started to divide the ocean into their own camps and built small territories on the surface to house their armies.

What was even more impressive was that above the mists, there were great characters with divine rings around them in all cardinal directions. The auras emitted by their bodies caused all the great demonic beasts in the sea to run; they were surely unfathomable characters. Some were Heavenly Sovereigns, some were Heavenly Kings. They were all mighty rulers of their own countries or sects who rarely showed themselves, but all of them appeared right here in the present.

"Nightwalker Sect, Coiling Dragon Country, Sky-Towering Gate..." Looking at the camps from all of these powers, Lu Baiqiu could recognize their insignias and murmured: "So many top level sects are here!"

"Not just great powers, even a few old undyings who didn't want to come into being are also here right now along with a few ancestors." At this time, a person suddenly appeared right next to Li Qiye and continued on: "Yesterday, the Ironstone Valley's ancestor also came. He wanted to force his way into the lost island, but alas, he was instantly rendered into a bloody mist."

[spoiler title='397 Teaser']Lan Yunzhu — the descendant of the Thousand Carp River, a famous genius of the Distant Cloud, and a beauty that captivated the hearts of many young men.

The Static Stream Royal Lord and Liu Baiqiu were dumbfounded since they didn't expect that Li Qiye was actually Lan Yunzhu's fiance despite her having so many suitors.

This news was really shocking to the two of them. A girl like Lan Yunzhu was a high and above existence, but now it turns out that she was actually betrothed to a nameless person.

"So what if she is the Thousand Carp River's descendant?" Li Qiye responded in a lazy manner: "Even fairies from the nine heavens are nothing special compared to others."

Chapter 398: Daoist Heaven Calculating

The person that appeared out of nowhere was a young man around the age of twenty. He wore a daoist robe while holding a fan with the word "Calculate" on it.

He was adorned with a daoist crown and showed an experienced demeanor. Moreover, his face wore a mysterious smile as if he was hiding many secrets.

This man suddenly coming around with a very familiar expression caused Lu Baiqiu to look at Li Qiye. She thought that this young man was his friend.

"I am Daoist Heaven Calculating, my words of steel can end life and predict the future!"

This young daoist smiled to greet Li Qiye and Lu Baiqiu, then he continued on with a seasoned look: "I am here because of fate and meeting Fellow Daoists is its working. Do you two want to have your fortune read?"

Although Daoist Heaven Calculating assumed a veteran and proper appearance, his age betrayed him. Especially when he asked if Li Qiye and Lu Baiqiu wanted their fortune read, he gave off the air of a charlatan.

"We don't need any divination." Lu Baiqiu shook her head and said: "A cultivator aims to defy the heavens and change their own fate, so why the need for divination?"

Lu Baiqiu's words were already quite polite. For others, upon seeing a trickster like this, they would have chased him away much earlier.

"Miss is a bit mistaken. I can see through the past, present, and the future. If you can see your future fate, then all the dangers in your future cultivation path will become harmless." Daoist Heaven Calculating quickly solicited his business: "I can calculate the heavens above and the gods below, see through the past across the ages..."

In order to drum up his business, this daoist spewed out a deluge of heavenly flowers as if he could actually back up his words. [1. Deluge of heavenly flowers is an idiom meaning extravagant embellishments.]

Lu Baiqiu didn't say anything and ignored the daoist. Only Li Qiye smiled at him and said: "Are you really so amazing? Someone capable of calculating even the heavens and the gods?"

"If you don't believe me, then let me read your fortune. If you think it is not accurate, then I won't take any payment." Daoist Heaven Calculating quickly answered.

Li Qiye put on a very interested appearance which confused Lu Baiqiu. A glance was sufficient to tell that this Daoist Heaven Calculating was a charlatan, so why would Li Qiye suddenly believe him?

"Okay, then go ahead and read my fortune." Li Qiye spread out his palm with a wide smile while looking at Daoist Heaven Calculating.

"Very well!" The daoist was ecstatic to see a customer and immediately looked at Li Qiye's palm. At the start, the daoist was pretty relaxed, but as time went on, he became more serious as he stared at Li Qiye's palm lines with a focused glimmer in his eyes as if he wanted to see through everything.

"Oh mother!" Right when he utilized his magical technique, he suddenly turned pale as if he was bitten by a poisonous serpent and had to take several steps back!

After retreating, the pale daoist stared at Li Qiye as if he was seeing a ghost. Lu Baiqiu did not expect his reaction; it was only palm reading, must he exaggerate so much?

"Gods, ancestors, please protect me!" The frightened daoist regained his sanity and quickly turned around to escape. However, he only managed several steps before Li Qiye grabbed him by his collar and pulled him back.

"Big Boss, I am only a little nobody trying to survive in this world." The daoist quickly begged: "Big Boss is a great and benevolent character, so you shouldn't bother with a little guy like me."

The daoist suddenly begging for mercy caught Lu Baiqiu off guard. She was good-hearted so she appealed in a low tone: "He didn't mean much harm, just let him go."

In her eyes, Daoist Heaven Calculating was only a common charlatan that fooled common folks. Even though these swindlers were annoying, she was too lazy to make it difficult for such characters.

Li Qiye shook his head and cheerfully spoke to Daoist Heaven Calculating: "What are you in a rush for? I won't eat you. Look at your panicked appearance, do I look like a beast to you or something?"

However, Li Qiye was even scarier than a beast in the eyes of Daoist Heaven Calculating. With a blanched expression, he shook his head as if he was beating a drum and quickly begged for mercy: "This insignificant me displayed my slight skill before an expert; I'm only trying to get by and did not know the immensity of the heaven and earth. Please be benevolent and forgive this pitiful one."

"Well, stop talking!" Li Qiye let the daoist go and laughed: "I actually have something for you to calculate."

Li Qiye's demand left the daoist aghast as he quickly dodged: "Boss, I am a nobody without any skills. I only eat and sleep, so how could I calculate Boss' great matters?"

"Is that so?" Li Qiye narrowed his eyes to gaze at the daoist before saying: "If you can't calculate it, then I shall destroy your bones. What do you think about that?"

Having heard this, the daoist became despondent like a deflated ball as he patted his head and helplessly said: "I will try my best if Boss wishes so."

Lu Baiqiu found the whole thing quite strange with Li Qiye wanting to make it difficult for a trickster.

Li Qiye drew something down on a piece of paper and handed it to Daoist Heaven Calculating as he cheerfully said: "Divine this and tell me the answer. And don't even think about running or I'll destroy your nest!"

The daoist looked at the item on the paper and had a bitter look on his face. His appearance was even more bitter than eating yellow lotuses as he dejectedly hung his head downward.

"Well, Boss, since you believe in this little one so much, then I will calculate and tell you once I have some results!" The daoist then put the piece of paper away and quickly answered Li Qiye.

"Go." Li Qiye gently waved his hand. This word was like the sound of salvation to the daoist as he quickly escaped, not daring to linger for a half second longer. It was as if Li Qiye was a plague.

After the daoist left, Lu Baiqiu couldn't help but look strangely at Li Qiye.

"He is not a charlatan." Li Qiye leisurely answered her curiosity: "He is a natural diviner from the Heart-ghost Tribe."

"Heart-ghost Tribe!" Lu Baiqiu murmured in shock: "A fabled ghost diviner from the legends!"

It was said that the Heart-ghost Tribe was a very mysterious tribe. They were born with a heart mirror that could read the mind; they were capable of calculating disasters and the future, so countless great characters in the Sacred Nether World searched for them.

“Why does he not have a heart mirror?” After regaining her wits, Lu Baiqiu asked.

Li Qiye replied with a smile: “Not all Heart-ghosts have a heart mirror from the moment they were born. And having one doesn’t necessarily mean that they can predict the future.”

She also wanted to ask why the daoist ran away in fear as if he had seen a ghost after reading Li Qiye’s palm.

“Oooo!” At this time, a dragon’s roar radiated throughout the vast sea. A golden dragon soared above the mythical island and disappeared in its deepest location.

“Is that the mythical Golden Dragon?” Even though it was just a passing scene, this shocked many people in this part of the ocean.

A real mythical beast had always been part of legends — no one had actually seen them. Today, all of them saw a Golden Dragon flying in the sky, and this was too astonishing.

“Could there really be immortal medicines? It is said that immortal medicines are naturally guarded by mythical beasts!” At this time, even a few great characters waiting right outside the mist became quite impatient.

In just a short moment, there was an upheaval above the ocean as many people wished that they could reach the island in order to find these mythical immortal medicines.

“Open!” Finally, a great character standing right outside of the mist became impatient and exuded a divine light. He roared with a vigor capable of destroying a star.

“Boom!” After his attack, a clear pathway penetrated the fog, revealing a visible vacuum. This great character was indeed amazing and was absolutely of the ancestor level. He could easily pluck the stars and moon in the sky.

At this moment, unrivalled treasures emerged all around this ancestor’s body. He then turned into a Flood Dragon and used an incalculable speed to rush into the vacuum space he created in order to reach the lost island.

Many held their breath while watching this ancestor. Earlier, an ancestor had already died in the mist, so everyone wanted to see someone capable of creating a miracle right now.

“Pfuff!” However, the moment the ancestor stepped into the vacuous space in the mist, no matter how many treasures were protecting his body or how strong his own power was, he was instantly annihilated as his body turned into a bloody mist without being given even a chance to scream.

Such a terrible scene sent terror through all the spectators and stopped all of those who wanted to reach the island on the spot!

Lu Baiqiu lost her mind from fear as cold sweat drenched her palms. She also wanted to rush into the island during the initial discovery, but fortunately, Li Qiye stopped her. Otherwise, her result would have been the same as this ancestor just now.

Even a powerful ancestor like this was instantly turned into a bloody mist, so her fate would be needless to say.

The bloody mist that was once the ancestor slowly integrated itself into the mist, causing the whole entity to become even more crimson. The current crimson mist in the sea became even more demonic, causing people's hair to stand on end.

"We shall go back now, the time is not yet ripe." Li Qiye gently shook his head and turned around. He must wait even longer before crossing this mist!

Chapter 399: Pressure From The Thousand Carp River

After Li Qiye returned to his small island, the Static Stream Royal Lord was already waiting there.

"Young Noble Li, the Thousand Carp River asked me to inquire about whether you have thought about it or not." The Royal Lord was in a bit of a dilemma after being sandwiched by Li Qiye and the Thousand Carp River. Needless to say, the burden of this hard work fell on his shoulders.

"It seems that the Thousand Carp River is very worried." Li Qiye said with a smile.

The Static Stream Country felt quite helpless inside. How could the Thousand Carp River not be in a rush? Lan Yunzhu was their descendant that had been groomed with countless efforts. It would be strange if the sect didn't go insane at the prospect of her marrying an outsider.

The Royal Lord then quickly took out a tray with many different pills laid on top that exuded a pleasing medicinal fragrance, causing others to relax.

"Young Noble Li, this is a small token from the Thousand Carp River. The sect hopes that you can quickly make a decision." The Royal Lord placed the small tray in front of Li Qiye.

"Five Transformation Fate Pills!" Li Qiye smiled and said: "Oh? The Thousand Carp River wants to serenade me first? But these are only Five Transformation Fate Pills, they are still a bit lacking."

"The Thousand Carp River didn't say that these pills would be enough, they only wished for both sides to have a good start. This is only a small token." The Royal Lord quickly tried to smooth things over.

Li Qiye didn't care to look any further and casually handed the pills to Lu Baiqiu on the side and lightly said: "You can keep them for your own use."

Lu Baiqiu couldn't help but become lost in a daze. Five Transformation Fate Pills were not something a Region Lord and someone who had only stepped into the Royal Noble realm like her could enjoy. They were extremely precious since they were pills for Ancient Saints; obviously, they also had great benefits for Royal Nobles.

Even the elders inside the Static Stream Country that wanted a Five Transformation Fate Pill would not find it easy to obtain one. However, these pills were akin to garbage in Li Qiye's mind. As he gave them to her, he didn't even bother to look at them. Such a style was not something a small country like the Static Stream could compare to.

The Static Stream Royal Lord wryly smiled and thought that people from emperor's lineages were indeed not the same as the disciples from ordinary great powers. Such extravagance of not even caring for Five Transformation Fate Pills!

“When does Young Noble Li plan on going to the Thousand Carp River?” The Royal Lord quickly asked. It was not easy for him being in the middle of Li Qiye and the sect.

“If the river truly wants to cancel this marriage, then let Lan Yunzhu personally tell me. A bunch of old men does not need to worry about this!” Li Qiye didn’t pay it any mind as he said with a smile.

The Royal Lord wanted to cry, but no tears would come out. He had no way of reporting such an answer. Li Qiye was really a bit too overbearing. The elders from the river were all great characters who could shake a domain with a single stomp of their foot. Very few people of the younger generation dared to disrespect them, but Li Qiye didn’t care for the elders at all. Maybe this was the boldness of a disciple from an emperor’s lineage.

The Royal Lord wanted to leave, but he hesitated a few times as if he wanted to say something. He ended up stopping two or three times.

“If Royal Lord has something to say, go ahead and say it.” Li Qiye noticed this and saved him from this difficult state.

After some hesitation, the Royal Lord still spoke in the end: “Young Noble should really give them an answer soon. I heard people over there say that although the river wants to resolve this matter in a friendly manner, there are also those who wish to use a more high-handed approach.”

“A high-handed approach?” Li Qiye narrowed his eyes and grinned, revealing his teeth that were as white as snow.

The Static Stream Royal Lord said with a wry smile: “Young Noble already knows, but it is not easy for the river sect to train a descendant. Its inner power has quite a few people who wish for Fairy Zhu to find a companion from the sect itself instead of an outsider.”

“Don’t let one’s own fertile water flow into others’ fields.” Li Qiye could understand this matter. In fact, this was the traditional practice of many great powers.

“I heard several high elders from the sect were very adamant about this.” The Royal Lord reminded Li Qiye.

To the Royal Lord, regardless of the result of this marriage between Li Qiye and Lan Yunzhu, he was just hoping that this would end soon. Being stuck between the two of them was a very painful thing. If this went on any longer, it would be even more difficult for him.

“Adamant?” Li Qiye rubbed his chin and smiled: “I actually like the rough ways of doing things. Very well, if the river wants me to end this soon, then I’ll go visit them.”

“Visit the Thousand Carp River?” Having heard this, the Royal Lord was startled with a changed expression.

Li Qiye’s words were not very friendly at all in the ears of the listeners. It was as if he wished to release his anger upon the sect.

“Don’t worry, I have always been a peace-loving person. If the sect is willing to negotiate, then I’ll go and speak to them in a nice manner.” Li Qiye gave a devilish smile.

Lu Baiqiu and the Royal Lord couldn't help but glance at each other. The sky would fall before they trusted his words. Just one unfriendly exchange of words and he immediately killed someone... If he was a peace-loving person, then everyone in this world would be accomplished monks.

"Does Young Noble actually want to go to the Thousand Carp River?" The Royal Lord said with a bitter expression: "If you choose not to have a friendly settlement, then it would be the same as walking into a tiger's den."

Of course, he was not actually worried about Li Qiye's safety. However, he didn't want this thing to escalate beyond control. If his Static Stream Country became involved, then he wouldn't be able to escape unscathed!

"Tiger's den?" Li Qiye responded with a smile: "I am one without too many hobbies, but one of them is that when I know there is a tiger on the mountain, I love to go towards it."

The Royal Lord's pain could be seen from his expression. If he knew that Li Qiye would do such a thing, he wouldn't have said anything even if he was beaten to death. Look at the situation now! Not only did he fail to persuade Li Qiye, he actually caused Li Qiye to go to the Thousand Carp River.

But then he thought about it more carefully. If Li Qiye actually went to the river sect, it might not be a bad thing for their country. In the end, their country being stuck between the two truly was an awkward state.

"Baiqiu, do you want to go with me?" Li Qiye was the type who immediately took action after making a decision, so he spoke to Lu Baiqiu. "Of course, if you don't want to, I won't force you."

Lu Baiqiu couldn't help but look at the Royal Lord. After some hesitation, the Royal Lord finally gave up with a wry smile and sighed: "Region Lord Lu can decide for yourself."

No one would know whether the trip would end in good fortune or a disaster, so the Royal Lord let Lu Baiqiu decide her own fate.

After pausing for a bit, Lu Baiqiu finally answered Li Qiye: "I'll go with you!"

The Royal Lord gently sighed and left without saying anything.

After he left, Lu Baiqiu immediately asked: "Are we going to the river sect right now?"

Although she was not mentally prepared to face the storm since the result of this trip was unknown, this might be a good chance to broaden her horizons. In the end, the Thousand Islands was too small.

"If you don't have any arrangements to make, then we will go now." Li Qiye said: "I'm actually looking forward to this trip!" He couldn't help but smile at this point. The Thousand Carp River was a location worth remembering.

"What about the lost mythical island?" Lu Baiqiu asked since she knew that Li Qiye came here for the island.

Li Qiye gently shook his head and said: "It is not so easy to land on the island. We can take our time and wait until there are enough people here. That will be when an opportunity arises!"

As long as enough blood was shed and enough lives were taken, there would be a chance to go to the lost island.

Of course, Li Qiye wouldn't say these words out loud.

Lu Baiqiu didn't have to make any arrangements, so she went with him to the Thousand Carp River.

In fact, the Static Stream Country was very far from the Thousand Carp River. Of course, it was not an issue for Li Qiye; it didn't take long before he got there.

The Thousand Carp River was an emperor's lineage erected by Immortal Emperor Qian Li, and he used the river as its name. As an emperor's lineage, they had control of the majority of the land on the two banks of the river.

And even if they didn't have direct control, many countries and sects on the two banks were subordinated to the sect.

Its power and influence were both great. As the most recent Immortal Emperor of the Sacred Nether World, Immortal Emperor Qian Li's prestige remained strong.

Despite being named after the river, the sect's ancestral ground was not built at the source of the river. Instead, it was built at the largest lake at the center of the river, the Thousand Carp Lake.

When standing on top of the Thousand Carp Lake, no one would think that it was a lake since it looked more like an ocean! It was not strange to have such a feeling since, as the largest lake of the Sacred Nether World, it was extremely vast. The lake's surface had majestic waves, just like a mighty ocean.

There were many legends about the Thousand Carp Lake along with many hidden secrets. The Distant Cloud to the south had tales about how Immortal Emperor Qian Li came from this lake! Because of this origin, the emperor had the title Qian Li; he even created the sect and placing the sect's emperor foundation right below this river. [1. Another reminder, Qian Li = Thousand Carp.]

Of course, these were just anecdotes and no one knew the truth. The secrets hidden within the lake were just like the emperor — shrouded in mysteries.

While standing above the lake, anyone could feel the moisture and spirit energy combine together to rush to their faces. It was as if the lake was a cornucopia of gathered worldly energy.

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Chapter 400: Finding The Fiancee

Li Qiye brought Lu Baiqiu next to the lake and could see the blue surging waves smashing into the bank. Looking around further, one could see many islands in the lake, creating a beautiful green scenery that had many magnificent buildings and mighty bridges...

Many pavilions stood close to each other on these islands with ancient temples floating above the sky. There were even pagodas down below the surface of the lake, emanating formation array beams. Then, there were ships as big as islands entering the sky above the river. Amazing bridges connected these islands along with ancient tree trunks...

The center of the lake was even more auspicious with a faint shrouding energy as if it was covered by a veil. It was extremely mysterious and caused others to want to go inside to see everything.

However, the even more eye-opening aspect was not the landscape, but the demons entering and leaving this area. Many great demons were on patrol across the lake. Some had a human's head with a snake's body, then there were fish-men and turtle demons carrying thick shells.

There were many demons living in the Thousand Carp River. It was the sect made of humans and demons, the most powerful symbol of these two races in the Sacred Nether World!

Inside the river and amidst the deep grooves, sometimes there were dragon-like hymns as a Flood Dragon would appear in the lake, creating terrifying tidal waves.

"Is that a True Dragon?" The sound of the splashing water as a Flood Dragon jumped up then immediately dove back down to the lake incited Lu Baiqiu's question.

"It is only a Flood Dragon. Its bloodline is not even close to that of a True Dragon." Li Qiye answered with a smile.

Further in the horizon, one could see a type of phoenix-fish swimming in schools together. The moment they jumped out from the lake's surface, they were like a group of phoenixes flying in the sky with immortal lights covering the atmosphere, illuminating the lake.

On each of the boulders beneath the lake, there were turtles sleeping and absorbing worldly energy with an origin core in their mouth. Although these turtles had not reached the dao, they had already obtained an amazing creation from this world.

There were also monstrous crabs who were blowing out bubbles. Once these bubbles fell to the ground, they turned into jewels that some disciples immediately collected.

Divine birds were nesting on the cliffs of these islands. They used precious grasses to build their nests, so despite lying in their nests, they still lit up the whole island with a five-colored radiance.

Lu Baiqiu was astonished as she took in all of these rich scenes from the Thousand Carp Lake. She was just like an older wet nurse, visiting the house of a great official for the first time. Despite regularly seeing the ocean at the Thousand Islands, it was not as beautiful as the Thousand Carp Lake since it didn't have so many miraculous scenes!

There were also demons in the Thousand Islands, but they were far from being as amazing as those found here.

In fact, this was not strange at all. Many powerful experts of the river sect all came from the lake. This lake was a treasure ground, so many existences that grew here could eventually reach attainment and become a demon.

After these creatures obtained their own sentience, they had the chance to join the Thousand Carp River and become a disciple. Moreover, these demons had a great advantage because they grew up inside the lake and accepted the grooming from this treasure ground, so their future path was very optimistic. One could say that more than half of the upper echelon of the Thousand Carp River were creatures from the lake that had turned into demons.

Because of this, many people in the Sacred Nether World believed that the Thousand Carp Lake was an unfathomable treasure ground. There were even amazing characters who believed that there was a supreme treasure hidden beneath the lake.

Standing above the lake caused Li Qiye to have many feelings. Such a familiar feeling... This boundless spirit energy from the river caused him to drown in memories.

Before such a wondrous scene, who would know that in the past, this lake did not have such an appearance? Who would know that before the river sect was established here, no one would have thought that this place was a treasure ground!

While the two of them spectated the area by the lake, a small patrol boat came by. Standing on the small boat was a shrimp demon with a human head and a shrimp body, wielding a pitchfork. He came closer and asked Li Qiye and Lu Baiqiu: "Do Fellow Daoists only wish to sightsee, or do you want to enter the sect?"

To the sect, the lake produced many wondrous treasures and this would lead to countless cultivators' greed. Thus, once outsiders came close to the lake, it would immediately lead to questioning from the patrolling disciples.

"Go tell your elders that your sect's son-in-law is here to visit his maternal family." Li Qiye said with a wide smile.

His words caused this shrimp demon's expression to greatly change as it spoke with a grave tone: "Fellow Daoist, one can eat many things carelessly, but one cannot say careless words or else they might cause trouble for themselves."

Lu Baiqiu was very kind, so she told the demon in a low voice: "This person is the fiance of Fairy Zhu. He came here to see the elders of the sect." She indeed had good intentions and didn't want to see this shrimp demon offend Li Qiye; that would lead to a disaster!

This shrimp demon was distraught as he stared at Li Qiye in disbelief. There was only one person referred as Fairy Zhu in their sect, and it was their young lord, Lan Yunzhu!

It gazed at this ordinary-looking fella before it. Their princess was the prettiest in the southern Distant Cloud, someone who was adored and courted by countless descendants from the great powers. Even just within their sect, many geniuses had a crush on her, but no matter how amazing these geniuses were, none of them had earned their princess' favor.

Now, a fiancée suddenly appeared. Moreover, no matter from which angle one looked at it, this person looked ordinary! Ordinary appearance, ordinary temperament, and ordinary cultivation!

The shrimp demon didn't dare to make a decision on its own regarding such a matter. It took a big breath and immediately said: "Wait here, I will immediately go and report this!" Having said that, it galloped away and quickly disappeared in the mist.

After it left, Li Qiye looked at Lu Baiqiu and revealed a gentle smile: "It seems that you really have a kind heart ah!"

Lu Baiqiu wryly smiled and said in a low voice: "We don't necessarily have to mess with the river sect till the point of an irreconcilable feud, right? If everyone just takes a step back, then we can all enjoy the boundless open vistas."

Of course, Lu Baiqiu was different from Li Qiye. She ultimately had a humble background, plus the Static Stream Country was only a second-rate sect. She didn't have the power to oppose a huge monster like the Thousand Carp River.

"Take a step back?" Li Qiye softly smiled and shook his head to say: "That is not up to me, but up to them. If they wish to oppose me, then there is no need to take a step back!"

Lu Baiqiu could only secretly sigh. Although she hadn't followed Li Qiye for a long time, she had a little understanding of Li Qiye's personality. He only liked soft and not-hard attitudes.

The shrimp demon didn't dare to hide the matter and immediately reported Li Qiye's arrival. This very quickly came to the elders' attention.

In fact, through the course of the report, many hall masters and protectors were also surprised at this news. Lan Yunzhu's fiancée? Their first impression was that this was impossible!

Lan Yunzhu was their Thousand Carp River's proud daughter — their princess. Even descendants from emperor's lineages were not worthy of her, so how could there be a fiancée out of nowhere?

Nevertheless, this was a serious matter. Although some hall masters didn't believe this news, they still reported it to their superiors.

"A bit courageous ah, actually coming to our door in person." After hearing this news, an elder immediately convened a meeting, resulting in another elder's resentment.

An optimistic elder who wanted to resolve this marriage in a friendly manner said: "Maybe this Li Qiye came to break off the engagement. If he is a cultivator of the southern Distant Cloud, then he should know better and know the immensity of the heaven and earth."

"Nothing would be better than him willingly canceling this marriage. I hope he knows what's best for him. Hmph, if he came here to bargain, then all of his plans would be for naught." Another elder stated.

An even more emotional elder declared: "Why must our Thousand Carp River negotiate with a nobody like this little brat? No matter if he is willing or not, we have to cancel this marriage! Give him something good and chase him away. Hmph, if he doesn't know any better, then just capture him!"

“We shouldn’t break the friendly discourse so quickly.” The Thousand Carp River’s sect master, Daoist Bao Gui, shook his head and slowly said while sitting in his chair: “We have to discuss this with Yunzhu first, to see what she thinks about this.” [2. Bao Gui = Treasure/Jewel Turtle. I suppose Jewel Turtle Daoist or Daoist Jewel Turtle could work, but that sounds so silly like many titles when translated into English.]

“Sect Master, Yunzhu is our Thousand Carp River’s seed and descendant, we cannot marry her off to an outsider!” An elder immediately expressed.

Another elder added: “Yes, Senior Brother, Yunzhu is our sect’s hope of reaching the Heaven’s Will in this generation. She has a big chance of becoming our sect’s second Immortal Emperor ah! Plus, even if Yunzhu has to start a family, it cannot be with a nobody. At the very least, it has to be a descendant of an emperor’s lineage!”

Daoist Bao Gui gently shook his head with a smile and said: “No matter what, we have to hear Yunzhu’s opinion first. It is not like you guys don’t know this girl’s personality. Moreover, maybe the fella came with good intentions so there is no need to start with force from the outset.”

“Hmph, to a nobody like this, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, a carp crossing the dragon gate, how could he give up such an opportunity!” An elder who was already antagonistic towards Li Qiye exclaimed! In the end, Lan Yunzhu was their sect’s biggest chance of grooming an Immortal Emperor in this generation!

“First, we must accommodate our guest and ask Lan Yunzhu before making any decisions.” Daoist Bao Gui smiled: “Our sect is an honorable sect, not one that would go back on its words. He is a guest, so let the disciples treat him like an honored guest without any delay!”

Although some elders disagreed with this, since the sect master had decided, the other members didn’t say anything else.