

EMPEROR 1301

Chapter 1301: Borrowing A Boat

Lord Bones boisterously laughed after being called out by Li Qiye: "This past was too long ago, I can't really remember it."

A while later, he added: "You know how ruthless the years are. I have spent nearly all of that little wealth while half of my life has been spent stuck in this place."

Li Qiye glanced at this whining skeleton and said: "Don't try to fool me. You should be praising your fortune that I'm not robbing you clean. Today, I only want to borrow something, yet you're already crying this much."

The skeleton replied with a bitter face: "Your Excellency, this is my lifeblood..." He knew what Li Qiye wanted to borrow, but it was too important to him.

Li Qiye explained: "I'll return it after I'm done, it's not like I want to steal your broken boat."

"Your Excellency, it isn't that I'm unwilling to lend it to you, but you should know that my insignificant life requires this boat to survive. I can't survive without it, and it isn't that easy to use. It needs time to recharge after each use." Lord Bones was still as sad as before.

Li Qiye nodded: "I understand. If there was another option, I wouldn't be asking for your broken boat. But don't worry, this is just a backup plan of mine, I'll deal with the other things in the Bonesea myself. When I try to cross the restricted area, I'll use your boat as a last resort without breaking it, I assure you."

"You want to go inside?" Bones was startled. He suddenly patted his head and jumped up to say: "It looks like my brain is done for, I'm not as quick-minded as before. That star went straight for the Bonesea, so I should have thought of you first. It's not the old dragon god, it's you."

Bones had a profound understanding of the Bonesea; he knew what was going on the moment he saw the black star. However, he didn't expect that it was the Dark Crow himself.

"Yes. A few things don't belong there since they belong to me." Li Qiye nodded.

"You want the Trident?" After asking, Bones felt that this wasn't right and immediately corrected himself: "Wait, no. If you wanted the Trident, you would have taken action long ago."

His jeweled eyes suddenly flashed with light: "What do you actually want if not this weapon?"

"You should know the answer to this better than me." Li Qiye gave a profound smile: "You climbed out of that place, so you should know of the things there."

"Well, well... I really don't remember." Bones hesitated for a moment and carefully searched his memories. However, despite coming from that place, it had so many secrets and mysteries that even he didn't understand them all.

Li Qiye smiled and reminded the island lord: "If I'm not mistaken, there is a maelstrom there."

“Really?” Lord Bones trembled a bit and took a deep breath: “Are you serious? I haven’t been there before, but I was able to take a glance at it from afar a very long time ago.”

Li Qiye said with a smile: “Across the ages, who has actually been there? Very few have managed this incredible task, such as Immortal Emperor Yan Shi.”

“I know of that place.” Even a character of Bones’ level became curious, so he asked: “Your Excellency, what do you want from this maelstrom? What can it do?”

Li Qiye gave a mysterious smile: “Well, that’s a secret. Plus, it would be pointless even if you find out. Your origin means that it is not meant for you unless you can be like Immortal Emperor Bu Si.”

“Fuck him. Whenever that bastard comes up, I just want to torture him.” Lord Bones’ anger was rising: “The chance back then should have been mine, but the bastard dared to cheat me!”

Li Qiye chuckled: “I don’t care for your enmity with the brat, but maybe you will be able to do something about it in the future.”

Bones thought about it for a bit. After a while, he took out the boat and gave it to Li Qiye. After Li Qiye put it away, Bones couldn’t help but add with a pained expression: “Your Excellency, take it easy, okay? What you have in your hands is my lifeblood.”

Li Qiye quipped: “Must you be so stingy?”

Bones immediately showed his pitiful side: “Your Excellency, you are the ruler of the nine firmaments, someone who can call for winds and rains. I am only a lowly character with no wealth at all, so how can I compare to you?!”

Li Qiye replied: “You don’t have to whine. If I’m successful, you will laugh until your teeth fall out. It will be a great chance for you to make a fortune, there’s no need to sneak back to the Bonesea every once in a while.”

“Is, is this really going to work?” The island lord’s jeweled eyes suddenly lit up as a hint of excitement could be heard in his voice.

Li Qiye laughingly spoke: “If you want to get rich, you better get ready for the harvest.”

Bones enthusiastically rubbed his palms and said: “If this is true, then I can get my life back.”

“That’s why I said there’s no point in crying. Letting me borrow this broken ship won’t be your loss.” Li Qiye gave him the side-eye.

“Hahaha, excuse me.” Bones laughed then thought about a different question and had to ask: “Your Excellency, if you actually do this, I’m afraid the Bonesea will flip the sky over.”

Li Qiye smiled in response: “It won’t be that fast. If it could do so, it would have done it long ago. Of course, that day will come eventually.”

Lord Bones turned quiet before querying: “Is it true that Heaven Spirit really can’t escape this disaster?”

Li Qiye jokingly quipped: “Did I just mishear you? You actually care about Heaven Spirit? Don’t forget, you are dead, do dead people care about the rest of the world?”

Lord Bones thought for a bit before replying: "Ah, you have brought this up before. Maybe it is because I have lingered on too long in this world, so I'm unavoidably attached to it. It is precisely this reason that many Immortal Emperors didn't want to leave; their children and descendants are all still here."

Li Qiye nodded after musing in his mind: "As a human, I do not like Heaven Spirit, but I do not deny that it is a really good place. Outside of a few annoying sea demons, it is truly outstanding with talents and sceneries. If I was born here, I'm sure I would have a deep love for this land."

"Yes, it is such a lovable place, even for the dead." Lord Bones sighed with emotion.

Li Qiye smiled: "But in the end, Heaven Spirit still has its own destiny. You don't need to worry, just be ready to run for your life when that day comes, or... heh, you can just imagine the result."

"Well, there's nothing else I can do but run then. Other living beings in Heaven Spirit will just have to pray for themselves." The lord smiled wryly.

Li Qiye flatly stated: "That's just how it is. In Heaven Spirit, humans are rootless duckweeds. The charming spirits, sea demons, and treants all have their own destiny. Many things have been determined long ago."

Bones helplessly replied: "The Bonesea will overturn this world one day."

"So what? It is not the only power here. If it breaks the balance of Heaven Spirit, the great maelstrom and the Divine Tree Ridge will do the same."

"When all three go crazy, wouldn't the entire world collapse?" Bones' expression shifted.

Li Qiye gently shook his head: "These things aren't set in stone just yet. The fate of the Heaven Spirit World isn't only in the hands of a few people. Outside of luck, personal effort matters as well. For millions of years, countless treefathers, sea gods, and Immortal Emperors have tried their best."

"Maybe we shouldn't be so pessimistic for Heaven Spirit, at least for the three great races." Li Qiye finished with a sentimental sigh: "The only unfortunate race might be the humans."

Bones responded: "I can only nag about these matters. If Immortal Emperors can't do anything about it, then what can I do?"

"Which is why you just need to get ready. If I'm successful, you can ride my coattails." Li Qiye said with a smile: "Once you have accumulated enough, the day Heaven Spirit falls into chaos is the day you will be free since your life won't be chained to here any longer. Use that time to run away."

"Heh, makes sense." Bones became excited: "I haven't been to other places, so if I get freed... Hehe... I guess I no longer care if Bonesea will go crazy, I'll be free like the birds in the vast sky and the fish in the wide sea!"

Just thinking about a future extrication left Bones in eager anticipation and excitement.

Chapter 1302: Meng Zhentian

After saying goodbye to Lord Bones, Li Qiye returned to Bones Island. He perused the area and let out a sigh before turning to leave.

The rest of the group was waiting on their gigantic boat. There was another one parked next to them. Its master was Bao Yujiang.

Mu Shaolong was there with him as well, along with many cultivators from all over the oceans.

“Schoolmaster Zhuo, long time no see.” Bao Yujiang hurriedly greeted Zhuo Jianshi after seeing her.

Jianshi slightly nodded in response.

Yujiang’s eyes lit up after seeing her. Of course, any man would palpitate after seeing a woman like her. This was the natural course of life.

“Schoolmaster Zhuo, would you like to come visit my boat for a while?” Yujiang asked Jianshi with the intention of getting closer to her.

Li Qiye smiled and answered before Jianshi could: “Mind your words.”

Yujiang’s expression changed after hearing this. The cultivators following him all stared at Li Qiye with strange looks as well.

“Brother Bao is inviting the schoolmaster, what does that have to do with you?” Mu Shaolong, who was a close friend of Yujiang’s, immediately spoke up for him.

“I’m in charge of this boat right now.” Li Qiye glanced over at Shaolong and slowly stated: “If you want to live on, stay away from the Dream Empyrean.”

Both youths were alarmed after hearing this. This was not only offending Shaolong, he was also provoking Yujiang.

The cultivators nearby didn’t dare to say anything and only took deep breaths. They had all heard of Li Qiye’s notoriety before.

Shaolong turned cold and said: “Is that so? Have I offended you? But even if I did, so what!”

He was very confident. His Celestial Pavilion had never been afraid of anyone before despite its low-key nature. They could still rampage in Heaven Spirit regardless of the occasion.

“While it is true that you haven’t offended me, you should be using your head more.” Li Qiye smiled and pointed at his head: “Don’t embarrass the Mu Clan.”

“You...” Shaolong wasn’t happy to hear such arrogant words and immediately glared at Li Qiye.

“Hmph, Li Qiye, I know that you are very strong!” Yujiang chimed in at this moment: “But Heaven Spirit isn’t a place for you to do as you please—”

“I can rampage wherever I want in the nine worlds and myriad realms.” Li Qiye interrupted him with an indifferent tone: “If you’re not convinced, come at me. See if I dare to kill you or not.”

Such domineering words were incredibly direct and ferocious; they didn’t give Bao Yujiang the slightest bit of face!

Yujiang's expression was not pretty at this moment as he glared at Li Qiye. However, he really didn't want to oppose Li Qiye. After all, this was someone who killed Shangguan Feiyan from the Roaring Conch.

Without the backing of any seniors and his master not being close, he was no match for Li Qiye. He could only endure this anger.

Li Qiye ignored Yujiang and turned towards Shaolong: "The Bonesea will be a troubled land. You better go back to your pavilion to avoid being killed."

He didn't care about Shaolong's response, so after he finished saying what he wanted, he went inside his boat.

While watching Li Qiye walk away, Yujiang gritted his teeth and coldly uttered: "I want to see just how long you can act arrogant for! Whenever my grandmaster comes out will be your doom!"

People quivered behind him. Even though Yujiang's cultivation couldn't be considered exceptional, he had a grandmaster that could become an Immortal Emperor!

After Li Qiye sat down in his spot, Ruyan teased with a smile: "Oh? Young Noble, were you jealous?"

Li Qiye glanced at her and replied: "Jealous? What's that?"

Ruyan blinked and asked: "Then do you have a feud with the Dream Emperian?"

"Not to that level." Li Qiye leisurely replied: "If Meng Zhentian wants to come out for the Heaven's Will in this generation, he will become bones beneath my feet."

Ruyan's mind shuddered. She understood that Li Qiye will definitely obtain the Heaven's Will, so she emotionally commented: "The path towards the throne is merciless. I have heard rumours of him coming out as well. It looks like he must have."

Li Qiye calmly said: "He is simply courting death."

Ruyan wryly smiled. Others would never dare to make such a claim. Meng Zhentian was a supreme existence in Heaven Spirit; his emergence was enough to deter the entire world. Experts from all of the nine worlds found him dreadful.

Heaven Spirit greatly valued him and thought that he would become an emperor. After all, no one among the younger generation could compete against him!

However, Li Qiye spoke of him with such nonchalance that it made him seem as if he was only an ant to be trampled on.

The thoughtful Jianshi asked: "Oh, Young Noble, do you have ties with the Celestial Pavilion?" She could see that Li Qiye was purposely trying to protect Mu Shaolong.

Li Qiye only smiled. Even though he tried to be considerate out of nostalgia, if Mu Shaolong kept on acting naive, he would kill him even if he was from the Mu Clan!

Li Qiye closed his eyes and ordered: "To the Bonesea we go."

Ruyan immediately commanded her disciples to commence their journey to the Bonesea.

The black star made many people run to the Bonesea. In fact, people usually visited this place anyway, but this event caused the stream to become more like a surging tide of people. Nearly all the powerful sects were on their way. The experts from previous generations couldn't miss this opportunity for the artifact of immortality.

Countless carriages crossed the sky in recent days. Ships and boats made their way through the tides while sea demons traveled in droves...

They were anxious to arrive as soon as possible. All of them wanted to be the first to obtain the great artifact!

"Rumble!" On this day, a divine aura engulfed the sky due to the presence of a cavalry. It crushed the void with great martial might just like an experienced imperial legion.

Though this cavalry were few in number, every single one of them were powerful and had a cold and awe-inspiring presence. Their armor was branded with a supreme insignia.

This cavalry was only the scouting force, yet it could easily destroy a lineage.

The click-clack noises of a carriage resounded. The moment this particular carriage appeared, many phenomena emerged in the sky. Laws came down like waterfalls everywhere.

A path with flashing divine lights that led all the way to the Bonesea was paved by these laws. The carriage slowly traveled forward. Even though it was very far away, its immortal brilliance was far-reaching and turned into many images. Myriad laws were encompassed within; the gods were protecting it while exotic creatures were right behind...

"Shriek!" A phoenix hymn echoed in the sky. The beast pulling this carriage was a golden phoenix. It looked to be cast from pure gold and had a sharp blade-like gaze capable of cutting through everything.

However, upon closer inspection, there was a difference between this bird and a real phoenix. Its head was still that of an eagle.

The carriage was incomparably luxurious with inlaid ancient jades and Immortal Emperor runes. This was a carriage blessed by an emperor, so when it slowly traveled across this world, an imperial aura suppressed the location.

What was even more frightening was that it was completely surrounded by an alternating Yin and Yang, making it clear that a true master was inside.

A treant elder was driving the carriage. He didn't bother hiding his Godking aura at all, emitting a crimson flame capable of scorching the sky vault.

This was a driver of the Godking level — a truly shocking sight.

Alas, the most terrifying of all was the aura being exuded from the carriage. Even though no one could see who was inside, this terrifying aura made it seem like an Immortal Emperor sitting in an untouchable throne. Just this aura alone made others want to prostrate in fear. He alone was invincible in this world.

“Just like an Immortal Emperor...” Juniors were completely frightened by this scene. The suppression of this aura caused the weaker ones to immediately kneel on the ground.

An older expert saw the insignia and exclaimed: “Meng Zhentian, he really has come into being.”

“Meng Zhentian!” This name struck everyone’s ears like thunder, shocking them all.

Even gods and devils would retreat when they heard this name in Heaven Spirit. All masters would definitely show him some respect.

Chapter 1303: Ever-present Threat

“He really is coming out.” Even a paragon who had been born in the same generation as Meng Zhentian gasped.

In the past, those who were lucky enough to see him could never forget his invincible disposition. Even if he couldn’t become an emperor, he was still worthy of being admired for a lifetime.

“The Heaven’s Will now has a master, others shouldn’t think about becoming emperor.” Other geniuses and their seniors were drowning in despair.

His name, for many people, was the start of a nightmare. Almost all people in Heaven Spirit had heard of him before. They might not know about the powerful Dream Empyrean, but they couldn’t possibly not know Meng Zhentian.

Legend states that he was born in the same era as Immortal Emperor Ta Kong. The two of them became sworn brothers and developed a deep friendship. It went on to say that Meng Zhentian was unbeatable in his life. Even the emperor in his youth had lost to Meng Zhentian.

Future generations had always wondered why Meng Zhentian didn’t become an Immortal Emperor. Some said that it was because of his love for his brother. He didn’t want to compete and fight against Immortal Emperor Ta Kong for the Heaven’s Will.

Others believed that he was one step slower than the emperor and lost the initiative, so he lost the Heaven’s Will.

Regardless of the reason, his prestige didn’t diminish. Even after becoming an emperor, Immortal Emperor Ta Kong still treated him as an elder brother like before.

From this point alone, one could see just how powerful and frightening he was.

Meng Zhentian didn’t become an emperor in the previous generation, but he had now come out with the intention of aiming for the throne in this one. Everyone in Heaven Spirit knew the day of his coming meant that no other genius had a chance of becoming emperor!

The most alarming thing was that during the previous competition, he didn’t only accumulate enough experience, he gained sufficient strength as well. There were many Godkings under his banner in addition to a formidable legion.

Other geniuses simply couldn’t compete against such an opponent!

An old paragon saw the scouting cavalry and exclaimed: "Heaven Suppression Legion, what a domineering name! In the past, outside of Immortal Emperor Ta Kong's own legion, no one else could compete with it."

Just imagine the years past, Meng Zhentian led his legion and swept through the world while defeating every opponent!

A junior enviously stated while looking at the bird: "That golden phoenix... only an Immortal Emperor would enjoy such treatment." He dreamed of the day that he could experience this treatment.

A senior explained: "That's not a true phoenix, it's only an eagle with the bloodline of a phoenix. Nevertheless, it is still very rare and strong."

A treant recognized the old man driving the carriage. Even while dazed, he managed to murmur: "Isn't that Ancestor Crimsonflame from our treant race? He, he is already an amazing Grand Godking, why is he driving for Meng Zhentian?"

"Meng Zhentian is qualified to have this treatment." A jealous spectator had to admit: "He is the leading candidate to become the next emperor. Once he becomes an emperor, a Grand Godking will be nothing. It would become an honor to be Meng Zhentian's driver at that point."

His appearance shocked the entire Dragon Demon Sea and even Heaven Spirit as a whole. Due to the volume of travelers heading towards the Bonesea, many of them got to see his divine style with their own eyes. The entire region was in a clamor.

Liu Ruyan was walking on the blue waves when the carriage of Meng Zhentian was crossing the sky. Her group saw the frightening scene as well.

Zhuo Jianshi commented with emotion: "The Dream Emphyrean is considered the oldest charming spirit lineage. Even though they have never produced an Immortal Emperor, they never had a lack of talents."

It was the biggest charming spirit sect in the Dragon Demon Sea and one of the strongest in all of Heaven Spirit.

"Even though we are all charming spirits, I have to admit that their divine reflections are unmatched when compared to lineages like ours. They can be praised as supreme." Even someone as proud as Liu Ruyan had to nod her head in agreement.

There was a particular saying in the Heaven Spirit World. If the Void Imperfection Three Schools had the best immortal physiques, then the Dream Emphyrean had the best divine reflections.

A divine reflection was a unique talent of charming spirits and varied from one individual to the next. However, disciples who came from the Dream Emphyrean were believed to have the best reflections in Heaven Spirit.

Their progenitor was Shen Mengtian, the one who created and named the sect after his own name. [1. Shen Mengtian means Divine Dream Heaven — Dream Emphyrean.]

Legend states that when he was still alive, he cultivated his divine reflection beyond all other charming spirits and surpassed the limit. His achievements in this regard were at the very peak.

Though Shen Mengtian didn't become an emperor in his generation, he stood shoulder-to-shoulder with Immortal Emperors. Back in that era, some historians believed that even the emperor back then respectfully called him "teacher".

Another tale claims that his ultimate divine reflection could see through both the past and future, gazing into the mysteries of this world. Because of this, even Immortal Emperors have had to rely on him at times.

Jianshi nodded and said: "The Dream Empyrean has the most orthodox and purest bloodline out of all the charming spirits. Because of this, their divine reflection far exceeds that of other charming spirits, it's not strange at all."

Li Qiye smiled and told the two girls: "Most orthodox and purest? It's not their turn to receive this praise. In terms of purity and history, this can only belong to the Buzhan Clan. Even though the Dream Empyrean originated from the Spirit Abyss, their bloodline isn't that pure."

"The Buzhan Clan..." Both the sisters glanced at each other. The Buzhan Clan was so ancient as to be untraceable. Only they themselves knew just how old their clan and bloodline was. Maybe even the clan itself didn't even know all the details.

"I heard the Buzhan Clan consists of descendants of immortals, far from just having an ancient bloodline." Ruyan became interested as her pretty eyes blinked: "Young Noble, do you think this rumor is true?"

Li Qiye looked at her and replied: "How are you defining immortal? Are there immortals in this world?"

This was a very confusing and difficult topic because no one had seen an immortal before.

Jianshi interjected: "Well, the Celestial Pavilion has been known to house an immortal in the past."

Li Qiye glanced at her and smiled: "Young beauty, are you borrowing your sister's cunning to try to set me up?"

Jianshi slightly blushed and lowered her head without answering. Her elegance had a hint of youthfulness this time around.

"Celestial Pavilion..." Ruyan was much bolder compared to the slightly reserved Jianshi. There was no topic that she would purposely avoid: "Young Noble, you are too nice towards Mu Shaolong. Could it be that you are aiming for the pavilion's secret, the Immortal Dao City?"

The low-key Celestial Pavilion was rumored to be attached to one of the nine heavenly treasures, the Immortal Dao City. Outsiders couldn't confirm this, and the pavilion itself never addressed this question.

"You are looking down on me too much." Li Qiye couldn't help but laugh: "If I wanted their secret, would I need to start with a junior? I just need to directly ask them, it isn't difficult at all."

"What is your relationship with the pavilion?" Ruyan gave a cute wink that contained boundless grace.

Both of the girls were quite curious after noticing Li Qiye's special treatment of Mu Shaolong. After all, he was someone who wouldn't even bother looking at a young junior of Shaolong's level.

Li Qiye didn't reply, he only silently stared at the blue waves in the distance.

He was worried about many things at the Celestial Pavilion. It was not only due to the Lunargrasp Fairy, some past matters played a part as well.

It was just as the two girls had said, he had a special spot for the pavilion in his heart. Mu Shaolong's special treatment wasn't only because Shaolong had the last name of Mu.

The two girls were quite curious, but they didn't dare to pry any further, not even the daring Ruyan.

At this time, a disciple from outside reported: "Schoolmaster, Young Noble Bao from the Dream Emyrean is requesting to board our boat."

Chapter 1304: Smugness

After hearing the disciple, Liu Ruyan frowned and thought about why Bao Yujiang might have come here again.

Li Qiye smiled and lightly said: "It looks like he hasn't given up."

Ruyan asked the disciple: "What did he come here for?"

In terms of status, Yujiang was not qualified to see Ruyan or Jianshi. In fact, his master was barely on the same level as them.

The disciple hurriedly responded: "He said he is representing the Dream Emyrean to see you, Schoolmaster."

"Let him in." Although Ruyan had no interest in this visit of his, if he was representing the empyrean and she were to refuse an audience, it would make the Void Imperfection Schools seem petty.

A bit later, Yujiang came with Mu Shaolong beside him. Their friendship was great, so they came to the Bonesea together; they were completely inseparable.

Yujiang came in and saw Li Qiye. He felt some displeasure since this was the man he didn't want to see the most. However, this wasn't his territory, so regardless of his personal annoyance towards Li Qiye, there was no way around it.

"Schoolmaster Liu, Schoolmaster Zhuo, we meet again." He cupped his fists and handed over an official letter from the Dream Emyrean.

The two glanced at the letter and read the header. It was written by Yujiang's master, Bao Guojian.

This formal letter meant that it was an official visit and not a personal one from Bao Yujiang.

Jianshi put the letter away and slowly asked: "May I ask what you are here for?"

Yujiang replied: "I am here to talk with Schoolmasters about the direction the world will take in the future."

Yujiang's demeanor had drastically changed. He was even more excited and confident, made evident by his imposing momentum. He carried himself as if he was equal to or even above everyone else.

It was no wonder why he was this emboldened. His grandmaster, Meng Zhentian, had finally emerged to become an emperor. This made him bolder as he walked proudly with a straight posture. [1. I believe I used ancestor in the past for Meng Zhentian when Yujiang was talking. It is because Ancestor and Grandmaster are the same word in Chinese. Now that I have some context, we'll be using grandmaster.]

Jianshi smiled gracefully in response to this statement. He made it sound like he was on equal footing with them, like old friends with a deep friendship.

The “future” he spoke of seemed very threatening, as if he was in control of everything. There was a regal intonation to his speech.

Of course, Jianshi was an experienced schoolmaster. She didn't take this kind of posturing to heart.

She plainly said: “Elaborate.”

Her insipid reaction left him a bit disappointed. At this moment, he was speaking with so much confidence and charisma that anyone would show him some respect. Alas, a beauty like Jianshi was acting nonchalantly, as if it was no big deal, making him feel a bit lost.

He calmed down and replied: “Schoolmaster Zhuo, Schoolmaster Liu, my master entrusted me with discussing an alliance with you two. Our Dream Empyrean is willing to stand together with the Void Imperfection Three Schools in order to create a flourishing world.”

The two girls understood what he meant right away. This so-called alliance was only in name. Meng Zhentian wanted the Heaven's Will, so he had the ambition to fight the rest of the nine worlds.

As for Bao Guojian, his ambition must also be burning. If he could sway an imperial lineage like Void Imperfect or young geniuses like Liu Ruyan and Zhuo Jianshi to become legion generals for his master in the future, his status would soar in the sect and ultimately, the world.

“You want us to work for your grandmaster?” She gave a charming smile, but there was a chilling touch in her voice.

Even if Meng Zhentian wanted to become an emperor and recruit their sect, Bao Yujiang wouldn't be qualified to be the messenger.

However, Yujiang was feeling quite complacent, apparent by his smug appearance. He didn't hear the cold implication in her voice and quickly said: “Schoolmaster Liu, if you become my grandmaster's general, your future will be even more brilliant. You will have a great position alongside Schoolmaster Zhuo in all the nine worlds...”

Bao Yujiang was elated with pride. He thought he had managed to convince the two of them.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye quietly sat there and watched this recruitment play out. He smiled and eventually dozed off as he was too lazy to reason with him.

Jianshi faintly smiled while an amused glimmer flashed in Ruyan's eyes.

If Meng Zhentian himself said these words, they would certainly take it more seriously. However, Yujiang was too weak to make such promises. He didn't have the clout to persuade these two.

Even if Meng Zhentian were to become the next emperor, the Void Imperfection Three Schools was a behemoth in Heaven Spirit. They couldn't be lobbied this easily by a junior like Bao Yujiang.

After Yujiang finished speaking, Jianshi shook her head in response: "Our sect appreciates your good intentions. However, our schools do not care for competition and power in the nine worlds. Please return and tell Daoist Cao that we accept his kind gesture. Unfortunately, we won't be able to comply."

Yujiang grew anxious after hearing the swift refusal. He thought for a bit and said: "Schoolmasters, you shouldn't reject such an important matter this quickly. You should talk it through with the elders of your schools before making a decision. If you don't mind, come visit our Dream Empyrean before deciding."

Yujiang didn't only want to succeed and complete this task for his master. He also wanted to use this opportunity to get close to the two beauties if they were to accept the recruitment.

Ruyan and Jianshi were supreme beauties with no lack of admirers in the Heaven Spirit World. In the past, Yujiang knew his own limits. It wasn't his turn to get close to these kingdom-toppling beauties.

But now was a different story. The moment his grandmaster becomes an emperor, he would become an imperial granddisciple. His worth would soar a hundred-fold. At that point, he would be on the same level as the Profound Monarch and Seashield Prince.

If Ruyan and Jianshi were to truly become his grandmaster's generals, then he — as the imperial granddisciple — would be able to ride his coattails.

"There is nothing to negotiate, please leave." Ruyan was much more direct than Jianshi with her response.

Even if their schools had ambition, they wouldn't necessarily join the Dream Empyrean or highly value Meng Zhentian. On the other hand, they were much more optimistic about the mysterious Li Qiye.

"Schoolmaster Liu, you shouldn't decline so quickly. You really should reconsider." Mu Shaolong chimed in: "Senior Meng will become an Immortal Emperor, so forming an alliance with the Dream Empyrean will surely benefit Void Imperfection."

Even though Shaolong and Yujiang hadn't made a pact of brotherhood, their friendship was just as strong. Because of this, Shaolong was willing to help him.

"Yes, Schoolmasters, there is no harm in thinking it over." Bao Yujiang busily added: "You two should come visit my Dream Empyrean, we will show you our sincerity—"

But before he could finish, his mouth slowly stopped. His eyes were instantly attracted, and the same went for Mu Shaolong.

Fairy came out from inside with her matchless temperament, instantly drawing the two in.

They looked as if they were struck by lightning and couldn't focus at all. It was not enough to call Fairy the number one beauty in the nine worlds, so of course these two would be intoxicated the moment they saw her.

Mu Shaolong's mind returned. He seemed to have forgotten about everything else as he quickly stood up to come before Fairy: "My name is Mu Shaolong from the Celestial Pavilion. May I ask for your name, Goddess?"

Bao Yujiang couldn't endure it either. He was enamored and didn't want to lose: "I am Bao Yujiang, hailing from the Dream Empyrean. My grandmaster is Meng Zhentian. To be able to meet a goddess like you is a blessing of three lifetimes..."

Jianshi and Ruyan both laughed after seeing their behavior. They knew all too well just how irresistible Fairy was. Yujiang and Shaolong were ordinary men, so they naturally couldn't resist her charm.

Fairy glanced at them with the same dazed expression and then sat down next to Li Qiye without caring for the two.

This was not due to her arrogance. In fact, ever since she woke up from the coffin, she had been like this, maintaining an indifferent attitude towards everyone except Li Qiye.

Yujiang was immediately filled with jealousy after seeing her next to him. Li Qiye's special relationship with Ruyan and Jianshi was already enraging enough, but now, this peerless goddess was acting incredibly close to Li Qiye as well. He was going crazy with jealousy.

Chapter 1305: A Single Stomp

Bao Yujiang gathered his wits and quickly turned over to look at Zhuo Jianshi and Liu Ruyan with cupped fists: "Schoolmaster Zhuo, Schoolmaster Liu, is this lady a disciple from your school?"

Ruyan had a smile that wasn't a smile while Jianshi only elegantly chuckled and stared at Li Qiye. [1. An idiom — like a smirk that doesn't show teeth. Just a slight perching from the corner of the lips or cheeks.]

Yujiang swiftly offered a proposal: "How about this? This miss can come to the Dream Empyrean as a guest. She can observe our sect and have the chance to see our sincerity for this alliance..."

Mu Shaolong became anxious as well and added his own suggestion: "Schoolmasters, the doors of the Celestial Pavilion will always be open for the Void Imperfection Schools—"

"Alright, stop acting so shamelessly before me. Return from whence you came." Li Qiye took the initiative to respond before the two girls had the chance.

This abrupt interruption wasn't well-received by the two boys. They were too fascinated by Fairy at this moment.

"Li Qiye, I'm not bothering you, so you should do the same." Yujiang's stance was quite tough as he coldly uttered: "This is business between the Dream Empyrean and the Void Imperfection Schools..."

"I'm in charge here." Li Qiye interrupted him once more: "If you choose to conduct yourself in such a shameful manner, then you might as well scram..."

"You!" Yujiang was furious as he glared at Li Qiye with fiery eyes. Rarely did he ever get accused and scolded like this. Moreover, who would dare to do so now that his grandmaster had come into being?!

Even though Shaolong was not as enraged as Yujiang, he also coldly stated: “Li Qiye, even if you are in charge here, you can’t act this imperiously. We are talking to the Void Imperfection Schools, you are not part of it...”

Yujiang sneered: “That’s right. Li, though you are used to being tyrannical everywhere else, it is best that you open your eyes. It is no longer the same, even supreme geniuses must tuck their tails between their legs for it is my grandmaster’s era now—”

“Bang!” Li Qiye’s response was straightforward. Before Yujiang could finish, he simply stomped the youth down into the ground, causing him to spit out a mouthful of blood!

Yujiang shouted while being trampled upon: “Li, you, if you dare to hurt me, my grandmaster will not let you go...”

“Crack!” Li Qiye exerted more force to break the boy’s bones, causing more blood to gush out from his mouth. He could no longer speak as his face reddened.

“Li Qiye, you are acting out of line!” Shaolong angrily shouted and tried to save Yujiang.

However, the gap between the two parties was too great. He couldn’t do anything before being gripped by the neck and suspended in the air.

Li Qiye coldly stared at him and said: “It is good to make friends with outsiders, but open your dog eyes wide and understand who you can and can’t afford to provoke! Don’t throw away your clan’s reputation! The Mu has been wise for many generations, don’t let them down through your own foolishness!”

Shaolong was not convinced and cried: “What, what does it have to do with you! My Mu Clan has nothing to do with you, I’ll do what I want!”

“Slap!” Li Qiye mercilessly slapped him, but Mu Shaolong still didn’t give up, so he added ten more. The boy’s face was completely swollen like a pig’s head.

“Mouth off against me and I’ll break your legs then beat you until even your parents won’t be able to recognize you.” Li Qiye maintained his glare.

When his gaze became this chilling, Shaolong finally felt fear since he understood that Li Qiye was a man of his word.

After being slapped beyond recognition, Shaolong kept his mouth closed and didn’t dare to talk back.

“Pop!” Li Qiye threw him on the deck and stated: “Scram back to the Celestial Pavilion. If you keep prancing around in front of me, I’ll personally kill you sooner or later!”

Shaolong could only scowl. Despite his unwillingness, he didn’t have the courage to retort. He felt indignant and shamed after being scared by Li Qiye. In the end, he couldn’t help but murmur: “I’m, I’m not afraid of you!”

Li Qiye cruelly threatened: “You don’t need to be afraid of me. Just run back to the Mu Clan and start acting sensibly, or else I’ll rip your skin off.”

“If you, you think you’re so capable, then come to my Celestial Pavilion, we aren’t afraid of you!” Shaolong finally talked back.

Li Qiye burst out in laughter after hearing this.

“Pa! Pa!” Li Qiye slapped him twice more.

Li Qiye was truly ruthless this time; two teeth came out of Shaolong’s mouth.

“Fool!” The smile disappeared on Li Qiye’s face, leaving only a cold visage behind: “Only an idiot like you would use your sect as a threat! You think I’m afraid of the pavilion? If I go there and give you a beating, your ancestors would have to obediently watch on the sidelines!”

“Stop, stop your ludicrous ravings!” Shaolong was still stubborn: “My pavilion isn’t afraid of you! I dare you to go act arrogantly there, you won’t be able to come out! My matriarch can crush you with one hand!”

“You mean the Lunargrasp Fairy?” Li Qiye looked at him with disdain.

“That’s right! Hmph, even if you are stronger than me, many others are stronger than you. You are nothing compared to our matriarch!” Shaolong became tenacious at this moment.

Li Qiye revealed a cold smile and said: “Very well, go back and tell the Lunargrasp Fairy that Li Qiye from Mount Qilian wants to see her.”

“Why, why should she grant you an audience?!” Shaolong grew a bit uncertain, but he remained steady.

Li Qiye demanded: “You don’t have the guts to see your own ancestors? Go back and tell them.”

With that, he kicked Shaolong flying into the ocean, issuing a loud splash.

At this time, he turned his focus towards Bao Yujiang beneath his foot and indifferently spoke: “One does not kill the messenger even in times of war. You are lucky that I won’t kill you. Scram. Show your face again and you will meet your maker.”

He kicked Yujiang away as well. Yujiang’s body turned into a shooting star and disappeared into the horizon.

Shaolong eventually got out of the sea and hovered in the sky while shouting: “Fine, Li Qiye! You, you win this time! Remember what you have done, I, I will tell them your message!”

In fact, he was completely scared at this moment, but his mouth kept on running.

Li Qiye sat down and chuckled, ignoring the boy.

Shaolong couldn’t do anything else, so he ran away. He didn’t want to be slapped again.

“Young Noble, you have too much patience for the Mu Clan.” Ruyan charmingly smiled after Shaolong’s departure.

From Li Qiye’s actions, anyone with a pair of eyes would find it as clear as day. Li Qiye didn’t bother looking at Bao Yujiang from the Dream Emyprean; it was as if he was only an ant. However, it was completely different for Mu Shaolong.

Though he didn't show any mercy in his beating, it carried good intentions.

Li Qiye looked at Ruyan and chuckled: "The Celestial Pavilion does indeed have some ties with me."

With that, he didn't say anything else.

"Do you want to oppose the Lunargrasp Fairy?" Jianshi asked with concern: "Even though the world believes that Meng Zhentian will become the next emperor, I heard my ancestors say that if the fairy comes out and wants the throne, even Zhentian will have to stand to the side."

Ruyan added: "The lifelong rival of Empress Hong Tian, as beautiful as a fairy. I would like to see her..."

There were too many legends about her in Heaven Spirit. She had lived for such a long time that the moment she came out, her prestige would overwhelm even Meng Zhentian.

Li Qiye remained quiet with his eyes closed, refusing to respond to the two.

After a while, the confused Fairy asked: "Where are we going?" She seemed to be lost in thought all the time; no one knew what was on her mind.

"The Bonesea." Li Qiye looked at her and answered: "That place will help you remember. Maybe you will even get something good."

"The Bonesea." Fairy tilted her head as if she was trying to remember something, but it was only an ephemeral flash that she couldn't grasp.

"Let's go, you'll find that this is a place worth visiting." Li Qiye gently stroked her hair.

She nodded while contemplating his words.

Chapter 1306: Sima Yujian

The boat of the Evil Devourer School continued onward. Because Li Qiye was not in a hurry, its speed was quite slow. Many cultivators from behind surpassed them.

Today, it suddenly stopped.

After noticing the situation, Ruyan asked: "What happened?"

A disciple immediately reported: "Schoolmaster, someone is in our way and won't let us pass."

"Who is in our way?" Ruyan frowned and thought about some possibilities. Not too many people in Heaven Spirit would dare to stop the Void Imperfection School.

"Sima Yujian from the Swiftdao Holy Land." The disciple revealed the name.

After hearing this, Ruyan and Jianshi looked at each other before going outside.

There was a girl standing above the blue sea. The ocean seemed to be freezing due to her presence. She emitted a chilling aura that spread throughout the entire region. Anyone would shiver after sensing this cold and heartless aura.

She looked very young, even younger than Zhuo Jianshi. Her gray dress was very simple without any adornments.

Her simplicity was different from others. It was a style that rendered everything superfluous, like a weapon for murder without any unnecessary parts.

Her hair draped over her shoulder as she wore an ice-cold expression. Her gaze infiltrated the soul. Upon closer inspection, one could see a fiery bloodthirst surging deep in her pupils. Anyone would quiver when staring into her eyes.

In terms of coldness, Li Shuangyan and Bai Jianzhen were both cold. However, there was a distinction.

Li Shuangyan was an apricot flower standing strong amidst a blizzard while Bai Jianzhen was like the chill of steel. Meanwhile, this girl had a frigid ruthlessness capable of killing anything and everything. She was the sharpest edge that could penetrate someone's heart at any moment.

With an oval face and clear complexion, she was actually quite beautiful. The sparkle of her eyes made them seem like gems and her lips were as red as flames. Her features made others think of a particular phrase — a beauty was as precious as jade.

Moreover, her figure was also excellent. Her exquisite curves were clear with a single glance. She had a tight belt that accentuated her figure even more, especially her plump breasts and round buttocks. It was a sight that brightens the eyes.

Unfortunately, people wouldn't notice her pretty face due to the murderous intent being exuded from her body. Many would retreat instead of approach.

Her bloodthirst overshadowed her beauty.

Many cultivators would actually take the long way around or simply observe from a distance when she was around.

"Sima Yujian!" Some from the Abyss Sea were alarmed to see her.

"The most famous assassin in Heaven Spirit, and the youngest one at that!" People were shocked after hearing her name.

Ruyan and Jianshi came out and saw the girl. Ruyan's eyes glimmered as she murmured: "Sima Yujian..."

This was a name that would instill shivers into the heart of listeners.

A charming spirit spoke: "A genius with incredible potential. What a shame that she chose the path of assassination."

Another cultivator from the Abyss Sea felt regretful as well: "The Swiftdao Holy Land should have had two wondrous geniuses. What a pity."

Yujian came from an imperial lineage, the Swiftdao Holy Land. Her talents were exceedingly high. After joining the sect, her cultivation suddenly flourished. In this aspect alone, few youths in Heaven Spirit could compare to her.

Unfortunately, someone else started cultivating even faster than her later on — her junior brother, the Swiftdao Celestial God.

Rumor has it that his cultivation speed broke all records, even exceeding their own progenitor, Immortal Emperor Su Dao! [1. Su Dao = Swiftdao.]

She who basked in the glory met someone who was even faster than her in cultivation. The two began to compete for the seat of sect master of the holy land. Ultimately, Yujian lost to her junior brother.

Keep in mind that during this bout, Yujian had already embarked on the path of the heavens at the realm of Dao Sovereign.

After her defeat, she left the holy land right away. Even though she didn't cut ties with it, some say that she never returned afterward.

When she showed up again as an assassin, she had an entirely different image in the eyes of the world. A formidable one she was; in just one night, she killed eight famous big shots.

People started saying that after her departure, she created a supreme grand dao, one of emotionless murder. Because of this, she had turned into an assassin.

In the cultivation world, few people were willing to become assassins, especially those who could reach the Virtuous Paragon realm. The reason was that at that level, they would enjoy prestige and fame. Why would they choose to become something with a bad reputation like an assassin?

Every single assassination attempt from her was successful. In the past, she was already famous, but now, her success only amplified her fame.

"Miss Sima, what are you here for?" Jianshi asked despite knowing that it wouldn't be anything pleasant.

Yujian coldly uttered: "I want to see Li Qiye." Her voice was chilling to the bones as her murderous intent seeped into the sea water.

With her amorous and seductive aura, Ruyan chuckled in response: "May I ask why you want to see him?"

Despite her charming posture and careless appearance, she was very cautious at this moment.

Jianshi shared the same mindset, but this didn't mean that they were afraid of Yujian. After all, it was easy to avoid a spear in the open compared to an arrow from the dark.

Sima Yujian was truly a terrifying assassin, so even the two of them walked the path of prudence.

"To kill him." Yujian was direct as her bloodthirst soared.

Jianshi and Ruyan glanced at each other after hearing this frank response. The spectators in the distance also trembled with cold sweat running down their backs.

"How fierce, challenging a monster like Li Qiye." The crowd was startled to hear such a direct challenge.

Li Qiye's infamy couldn't be any greater. Few from the younger generation would dare to challenge him, let alone declaring their intention to kill him.

“In terms of cultivation, Yujian is no match for the Swiftdao God, but if she wants to assassinate someone, then it is a different story. Two years ago, the Seaweed Monarch from the Jade Sea was assassinated by her.”

A sect master from the Jade Sea elaborated: “The Seaweed Monarch was a True Monarch. He was prepared for her, but he was still killed in the end.”

“It wasn’t just him either.” An information seller added: “The death of the White-whale Godking has something to do with her too.”

“But he’s a Grand Godking, how could she have killed him?” Many people were skeptical of this claim.

“Of course she wouldn’t be a match for him in a direct confrontation, but assassination is different.” The seller stated his own opinion.

There were six different levels for Godkings: Grand Godking, Heavenly Godking, Supreme Godking, Apex Godking, Dominating Godking, and Nine Worlds Godking.

On the side, Ruyan chuckled a bit after hearing Yujian’s response: “Young Noble Li is our guest. If you want to harm him, you will have to get past us first.”

Yujian coldly glanced at her and mercilessly said: “As long as someone pays, I won’t mind killing you two as well.”

“So you’re saying that someone paid you to kill me.” A leisurely voice sounded as Li Qiye came out from inside.

“Fierce is here.” Many people shouted after seeing him. His fame was no lesser than Sima Yujian’s.

Her eyes were instantly fixated on him. They emitted a terrifying glint as if they could penetrate his body.

Many people felt their bodies being pierced by razor-sharp swords under her sweeping glance. However, Li Qiye didn’t care at all.

He looked at her and smiled: “I’m actually curious, who paid for my life?”

He looked very nonchalant, as if he was talking about the weather. He didn’t show any signs of the fact that Yujian was here to take his life. Other people would be scared to death and drop to the ground or act quite cautious.

“Can’t say.” Yujian coldly replied: “I’ll come for your life in three days!”

The crowd was astonished. Her actions demonstrated her great confidence. In fact, this was her typical style, informing people before killing them...

Chapter 1307: Darkcorpse Evil Water

Li Qiye couldn’t help but laugh and shake his head after listening to Yujian. He replied: “Such a vulgar action, hiring an assassin. Okay, I don’t care who wants to buy my life, I’ll pay you ten times more. What do you want, Immortal Emperor Refined Jades, imperial weapons, or supreme manuals? Just say the word.”

The crowd was dumbfounded after hearing this. Everyone thought someone as fierce as Li Qiye would immediately erupt in anger upon finding out that someone wanted his life. A fight would then ensue.

No one expected for him to act as if he could smash someone to death with just money. He directly mentioned Immortal Emperor Refined Jades and imperial weapons. This youth was far too rich, he really could kill someone with wealth at any moment!

Yujian coldly said: "The buyer has already made the payment."

Li Qiye shook his head: "No problem, everything is negotiable in business. Just tell me what you want. I don't need you to tell me who the buyer was, you just have to kill him. I'll repay this lowly act in the same manner. Tell those who want my life that I have too much money and will pay ten times what they can afford."

Many were speechless. This was completely contrary to their image of Li Qiye being a warmonger. Right now, he was acting like a young master who had just fallen into wealth and wanted to show off his money.

Yujian didn't agree with his request; instead, she coldly uttered: "Prepare for your funeral, I'll take your life three days later."

"Fine, if you want my life, why wait? Take it now." Li Qiye smiled and suddenly teleported behind her before finishing his sentence.

He was way too fast. The majority of the crowd didn't see how he got behind her.

In this split second, Yujian also took action. Her sword silently flashed like a scorpion delivering a fatal sting under the guise of night.

This sword glint was incomparably fast as it aimed for Li Qiye's chest.

There was no technique behind it, only pure murderous intent. This direct prick could pierce through his abdominal cavity.

She might be fast, but he was even faster. His two fingers immediately clamped the blade. However, this flashing edge seemed to have a life of its own as it jumped up to evade him.

Just like that, it pierced through his clothes and made contact with his flesh. A section of his skin was revealed.

The sword move didn't make full contact with him; Yujian immediately retreated with extreme speed the moment Li Qiye's skin was exposed. The sky was filled with her shadows, no one could tell which was real or fake.

"A bit interesting." Li Qiye smiled at this scene. He stretched out his palm.

"Whoosh!" A black hole emerged as Li Qiye's vitality soared. The black hole expanded as if it wanted to devour this whole region.

Heaven Devourer Evil Fist! This fist could devour all existences in the world with its tyrannical power of absorption. Once locked onto by this attack, no one would be able to escape.

The shadows in the sky couldn't escape, all was devoured by the black hole. In the end, only one shadow was left. She flew away from the black hole like a ray of light with incredible speed, successfully fleeing.

"How far can you run?" Li Qiye laughed while watching the fleeing girl. He took a single step on the ocean and traveled a thousand miles in order to capture her.

"Pluff! Pluff! Pluff!" He was right behind her when countless arrows shot out from the void. These arrows were quite fast as they penetrated the fabric of space. One could hear space being torn apart by their barrage.

The terrifying aspect of these arrows wasn't their speed, it was their material. They were made from refined white bones and carried an extremely terrifying corpse energy. The type of miasma trailing from these arrows was the real weapon.

This energy held great destructive force and was capable of killing everything in its path. One could easily tell that they were crafted from some horrifying skeletons. Once hit, even if the impact didn't kill the enemy outright, the corrosive force of this corpse energy would destroy the body and true fate.

Sima Yujian came prepared without a doubt. She had come up with a path of retreat and laid these arrows beforehand.

Li Qiye didn't bat an eye against this oncoming onslaught. He casually pointed forward and space rippled. Even though Li Qiye was standing right there, the spectators started seeing a strange illusion.

The space surrounding him seemed to be liquefying. The fast arrows were going through this watery space right for Li Qiye, but strangely enough, they didn't make contact with his body.

After they reached his flesh, Li Qiye's body suddenly turned into air as space was restored to its initial form. The arrows all disappeared as if they were never shot in the first place.

This was space displacement, a technique from one of the four space controlling arts of the Space Scripture. It could move space around in the blink of an eye. Because of this, all of the arrows failed to hit Li Qiye's body since they were transferred to a different space.

With this opportunity, Yujian decisively escaped even further away, not daring to stop for a second.

The space Li Qiye was standing on suddenly lost all gravity. With a strange noise, a drop of water floated up from the sea.

A drop of seawater shouldn't be special at all, but the moment this drop touched Li Qiye, it wrapped around him completely. Moreover, this single droplet immediately became huge. It sealed his body completely and began to slowly petrify him in a block of amber.

At first, everyone thought that this was another trap left behind by Sima Yujian. However, they felt that something was amiss because Yujian was nowhere to be found. If this was another attack from her, she wouldn't have escaped this quickly.

Jianshi was startled and immediately warned Li Qiye: "Watch out, this is the Darkcorpse Evil Water!"

"Hehehe, you are indeed a schoolmaster. How knowledgeable, to be able to recognize my ultimate treasure." A gloomy laughter resounded at this moment.

Continuous splashing noises came from the water. Next, a person with a sinister smile surfaced from the sea.

The moment people saw who it was, they shivered in fear due to his horrific appearance. The man had a big, round fish head with many thorns protruding from it like needles.

Despite having a human body, many tentacles branched off from his body. These tentacles were very small, only around three to five inches long, so they looked like extra lumps of meat.

These lumps were all moving, instilling chills into the spines of the spectators. Moreover, they were as black as ink with poisonous juices leaking out.

A schoolmaster recognized who he was and exclaimed in horror: "Thornspur Ancestor!"

"Thornspur Ancestor?" Some people had never seen him before, but they had heard of this name: "That's the man whose body is poisonous through and through, right?"

"Hehehe, I haven't been out all these years, yet someone still remembers my name." The Thornspur Ancestor was happily feeding off the fear of others with a smug expression.

Thornspur belonged to a branch of sea demons, an extremely rare branch. Members of this branch were born with toxic bodies. Anyone who made contact with them would be poisoned to death unless they were strong enough to withstand the toxins.

Because of this characteristic, they could kill in secrecy. Thornspur was special among them. He himself was a Virtuous Paragon and had killed many great characters in the past with his poison.

"Hahaha, Junior, you might be strong, but there is no escape from my Darkcorpse Evil Water." The ancestor stared at Li Qiye trapped in the bubble and deviously laughed: "Blame the person who paid the high price for your life. I'll turn you into amber before going to collect my bounty!"

"Is that so?" After the ancestor's gloating, Li Qiye unexpectedly went outside of the water that was sealing him. No one saw how he escaped.

"How?!" Thornspur was completely stunned and aghast.

"Trying to seal me with such a petty trick?" Li Qiye sneered. After training with the Space Scripture, not to mention this type of water, even the most heaven-defying sealing technique would find it prohibitively difficult to imprison him.

Chapter 1308: Provocation

The Thornspur Ancestor was shocked at the failed suppression and knew that the situation had gone sour. He turned to flee because he knew of Li Qiye's fierce reputation.

He initially wanted to ambush Li Qiye with his most terrifying Darkcorpse Evil Water, but after failing, he didn't dare to linger here any longer.

"Stay and play." Li Qiye suddenly appeared in front of him.

The frightened ancestor immediately changed directions and fled towards the horizon, but he couldn't escape. Li Qiye blocked his path again. The ancestor shifted once more, but Li Qiye was much faster in stopping him.

The ancestor's expression turned unsightly. He knew that his speed was inferior to Li Qiye's, so escaping was impossible. He could only risk it all at this moment.

"Since you can't run, you might as well die." Li Qiye laughed and declared after seeing that the ancestor had given up on running.

With that, his finger aimed straight for the ancestor. It was just a very casual touch without any destructive force.

The ancestor didn't try to dodge and instead rushed forward. It was as if he had become suicidal and wanted to be pierced by this finger.

"Pluff!" Unsurprisingly, Li Qiye's finger pierced the ancestor's chest.

Many people were confused by his actions and the intended consequences.

"Not good, Li Qiye fell into the trap. You can't touch the Thornspur Ancestor, his entire body is poisonous." An older cultivator reacted right away with a shout.

Although being pierced left him with unbearable pain, the ancestor still gave a devious smile with a gloating demeanor: "Hehehe... Little animal, you are truly strong, but you will still die to me. Even if you are a God-Monarch, you won't be able to survive. The poison from my body is a hundred times stronger than the external ones I can create."

The crowd was dumbfounded after hearing this. They knew that he was poisonous, but not to this extent.

"It really was a trap." An old cultivator murmured: "If his natural poison is really that strong, it will be insufferable even if Li Qiye could escape death."

Li Qiye was not surprised at all. He chuckled in response: "This is considered acute poison? What a joke, you think this can kill me?"

The gloating ancestor suddenly stopped after seeing that Li Qiye was just fine standing there. He cried out: "Impossible!"

"Nothing is impossible in this world." Li Qiye smiled. He cultivated the Void Imperfection Physique, so even if this poison was stronger, it wouldn't hurt him in the slightest.

Having said that, he slammed his palm into the ancestor's chest. The palm became infinitely dazzling as if he was holding a sun.

"Ah—" The ancestor screamed pitifully. His chest was being incinerated, then his entire body turned to ashes.

He couldn't escape at all since this scorching fire torched him in a split second.

Extreme Yang Fist. The ancestor's poison trap backfired on him. He allowed Li Qiye to get close only to be burned by Li Qiye's fist.

Li Qiye patted his palms clean and flatly said: "Trying to kill me at your level?"

Many cultivators on the sea surface were alarmed after seeing this and quietly stared at each other.

They had heard of Li Qiye's reputation and he lived up to it today. A poisonous creature like the Thornspur Ancestor was easily annihilated by him. Even the frightening Sima Yujian almost got killed as well.

They trembled and thought about staying away from him in the future in order to avoid an indignant death.

After Li Qiye returned to the boat, Ruyan ordered her disciples to embark on their journey once more.

"Sima Yujian then the Thornspur Ancestor..." Jianshi spoke after Li Qiye sat down: "The bounty must be very high for people like them to take action. Not many can afford this price in Heaven Spirit."

"It's no big deal." Li Qiye smiled a little without a care in the world. In fact, he had a pretty good idea of who placed the bounty on his head.

Ruyan chuckled and added: "Wealth moves the heart and bounty invites brave people to accept challenges."

"That's fine, the more the merrier. Killing a few hundred thousand will only be a warm-up." Such a casual remark left the two girls silent.

For cultivators, killing was a way of life in order to improve. However, Li Qiye's style of murder was different as shown by his earlier conquests. Calling him Fierce was a polite way to put it since he was more of a butcher.

"Sima Yujian is actually a bit interesting." Li Qiye commented while the two girls had wry smiles on their faces.

Jianshi replied: "She is indeed a rare genius. Unfortunately, she was born in the wrong generation, having to meet her junior brother and master. Otherwise, she would be the current sect master of the Swiftdao Holy Land."

"If she had stayed at the holy land and the Swiftdao God didn't exist, maybe she would have been the youngest person to be recognized by the Heaven's Will in Heaven Spirit." Ruyan chuckled and added: "Her talents are incredible, plus that holy land is known for its cultivation speed, making her a tiger with wings."

The Swiftdao Holy Hand was created by Immortal Emperor Su Dao. He didn't have as many eternal tales as the other emperors, but he created a supreme grand dao, allowing for the fastest cultivation speed in this world.

It could be said that under the same conditions and aptitudes, cultivating his emperor law would double the speed of other emperor laws or more. This was the reason why their disciples improved much faster than those of any other lineage.

“I’m talking about her assassination arts.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Assassination arts?” Jianshi asked: “Young Noble, do you know the origin of her tactics?”

Sima Yujian had never returned after leaving the holy land. By the time she showed herself again, she had already become a frightening assassin. People said that from that day onward, she stopped using merit laws from the holy land. Because of this, many believed that she had created a supreme dao of assassination.

Li Qiye only smiled without responding.

At this point, the boat suddenly stopped again.

Ruyan frowned and asked her disciples: “What is it this time?”

A disciple came in and reported with a strange expression: “Something, something is happening outside.”

She inquired: “What’s the matter?”

The disciple hesitated and glanced over at Li Qiye, but he didn’t know how to phrase his words. Eventually, he stammered: “Some, someone has put a sign in the ocean.”

“Let’s go take a look.” Li Qiye noticed his demeanor and smiled before walking outside.

There was a floating buoy with a particular message: “Li Qiye will die if he goes this way!”

There was also an arrow above the words pointing forward.

They were large enough to be visible from a distance. Many cultivators saw the message as well and started to whisper to each other.

This was blatantly provoking Li Qiye. Without a doubt, this was creating an irreconcilable feud with him.

Jianshi grimaced and said: “Someone is trying to goad you into a trap, Young Noble.”

Li Qiye revealed a smile and replied: “I actually want to see what they can do with this trap.”

“It’s not Sima Yujian.” Ruyan stated her opinion.

Jianshi gently shook her head: “I think so too. Despite being an assassin, she still has the pride of a great genius. She wouldn’t bother using this type of scheme.”

Li Qiye looked over at the direction of the arrow and cheerfully commanded: “Go that way.”

“But what about the trap waiting for you?” Jianshi was rather worried.

Li Qiye answered: “I’ll just go alone. I like breaking others’ schemes and seeing the desperation on their faces.”

Ruyan chuckled and said: “If you want to go, then we will naturally follow you. Not too many people in the contemporary can scare us.”

Chapter 1309: The Trap

The great ship traveled north along the direction of the arrow at a steady pace while remaining cautious.

Many cultivators were surprised to see the boat's trajectory. Any reasonable person would know that the buoy from earlier was an attempt to goad Li Qiye towards the trap.

They weren't willing to be fooled and would rather avoid it completely instead of being led by the nose. Everyone knew that Li Qiye was aware of this trap, but to their astonishment, he still chose to go towards it.

"Knowing that there is a tiger on the mountain yet still choosing to climb, how bold and decisive. What a confident person!" Even sea demons unavoidably felt a little admiration for Li Qiye.

"Prudence allows for a ship to sail ten thousand years." An old cultivator murmured: "The path towards the dao is endless with countless dangers. If not careful, even the most amazing genius might find their boat capsized one day."

"Come, let's take a look. I actually want to know who is trying to mess with Li Qiye." Some cultivators couldn't contain their curiosity and decided to follow.

Someone had already placed a high bounty for Li Qiye's head, and now there was this blatant provocation and trap. The person behind this must have an irreconcilable feud with Li Qiye.

The boat didn't go too far before seeing another message on the sea with an arrow: "Li Qiye will die if he goes this way!"

The boat, once again, followed the direction without any hesitation. After some distance, they kept seeing the same sign again and again with a new direction.

"Just what kind of trap is waiting for him?" The quantity of the signs built up the anticipation of the cultivators following behind the boat.

Eventually, the boat stopped because of a large sign with "Li Qiye will die here!" written on it. There wasn't an arrow above the words this time.

The spectators knew that the trap was before them, so they stopped to watch from afar.

Li Qiye told the two girls: "Stop here, I'll go take a look."

"Be careful." Jianshi reminded him after seeing that he wanted to go alone.

"Don't worry, I actually want to be killed." Li Qiye looked at her and smiled: "It will be a good thing."

The two sisters were speechless. This was their first time hearing someone who wished to be killed.

Li Qiye slowly walked on the waves towards the sign in front of him. He seemed to be taking a stroll through his own garden instead of walking towards a trap.

The sea demons in the distance were surprised by his carefree demeanor. One of them said: "This Li might be arrogant, but he can really back it up. Courageous and domineering, a very unique individual even among the young geniuses in Heaven Spirit."

“It’s about to begin, I wonder how strong his enemies are.” Some spectators were holding their breaths in anticipation. They didn’t want to miss a single detail. Some wanted to see just how strong this trap was and if it could deal with Li Qiye or not.

Li Qiye glanced at the buoy and casually threw it away before smiling: “Come, do your worst and impress me.”

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” At the initial location of the buoy where Li Qiye was standing, great pillars soared into the sky from the bottom of the sea.

They surrounded this region and runes began to appear on their surfaces.

“Clank!” These runes instantly connected with each other like iron chains and sealed the entire area.

“Whoosh!” They emitted a powerful aura and a blinding light. Even space seemed to be frozen.

A spectator blurted after seeing this brilliance: “The aura of a sea god! This is a sea god’s method!”

Now that the nearby space had been frozen by the pillars, they began to emit an energy to suppress Li Qiye and cut off all paths of retreat.

“These are items personally refined by a sea god.” Someone commented after seeing some clues on the pillars.

A cultivator asked: “Which sea god?”

The paragon slightly opened his mouth, but he refrained from answering. He didn’t want to expose the background of the sea god. After all, he and Li Qiye didn’t know each other. There was no need for him to run his big mouth and provoke a sea god’s lineage.

“Buzz!” When Li Qiye gathered his blood energy, a seal of the sea god surfaced on the pillars in order to suppress his energy; it was immediately successful.

Another expert wondered: “I wonder if Li Qiye can withstand this level of suppression in that sealed space.”

Li Qiye didn’t seem to mind at all and stopped gathering his blood energy. He smilingly said: “Fine, I can still destroy you all without using my blood energy and merit laws. It’s time to show me your worth, don’t waste my time.”

When all of his power was converged, he looked just like a mortal. The crowd was dumbfounded by his actions.

Even in the face of a sea god’s suppression, he still chose to not use laws and his blood energy. Just how confident and domineering was this?

Small buds stretched out of the sea. It looked like new branches were growing from them. Just like that, more and more of these young buds surrounded this sealed area for as far as the eye could see.

“What is this?” The crazy growth of these buds creating a meadow-like location on the sea left many astonished.

They didn't know what these buds were. Shortly after, the buds grew into large vines like swimming serpents. They wove together and created a huge net that wrapped around Li Qiye.

While this was happening, he stood there without moving while watching this scene with a smile.

"It's the Blazing-serum Treant!" The nest-like creation formed from these vines was finally recognized by a cultivator.

Treants emerged from the sea as well as inside the sealed sky. Their heads were skulls while their bodies were made from vines and roots. Their bodies were very muscular, like horned dragons taking root in the sea. They grew with frightening speed and immediately crowded the entire area. Suddenly, huge vines covered everyone's vision.

Next, the net made out of giant vines began to rapidly shrink. It seemed to be using a mighty force to strangle Li Qiye inside.

A different type of sea demon was standing on these gigantic vines as well. Their bodies were transparent like seawater, rendering their organs visible. When their bodies swayed with the vines, liquids continuously gurgled out into the vines themselves.

Meanwhile, the vines crazily absorbed this liquid. It looked to be greatly nutritious since the vines could grow even faster to occupy the area.

All of this happened very quickly. Starting from the buds until they grew into the entrapping vines, it only took the time it takes to perform a merit law.

Escaping this sealed space was truly a challenge. Moreover, Li Qiye couldn't move at all since he was wrapped by the vine net.

"Ice-spirit Sea Demons, no way!" A sacred lord from the Dragon Demon Sea was startled.

An unfamiliar cultivator asked: "What do you mean?"

"Ice-spirit Sea Demons and Blazing-serum Treants have been mortal enemies for generations. They have always been at odds!" This sacred lord blurted out: "But these two races are complementary to each other. The water of the Ice-spirits is extremely nutritious for these treants, allowing them to mature faster. This means that the explosiveness of the treants would be dozens or a hundred times greater in combat..."

"... at the same time, the roots and buds of these treants are also nutritious for the sea demons. All along, the Blazing-serum Treants wanted to capture the Ice-spirit Sea Demons to suck their water dry while the Ice-spirits wanted to absorb the Blazing-serums' roots and refine them into their own treasure liquids. They have massacred each other for generations, so why would they work together like this...?"

Chapter 1310: Blazing-serum Treants and Ice-spirit Sea Demons

"Boom!" The tightly woven net of vines suddenly caught on fire at the center. In fact, calling it a fire was far from sufficient to describe what was going on.

This explosion left the net stranded in a sea of fire, making it seem like the sun itself. It immediately spread and exploded some more, emitting terrifying smoke. This ferocious flame swept through the entire area.

The fact that the space was sealed exacerbated the scale of this flame of indescribable power. Its high temperature could burn everything to ashes.

In this split second, the wooden net was no longer there, only a gigantic sun with its flames surging for thousands of meters could be seen.

These terrifying flames assaulted the world and burned everything. Li Qiye, who was stuck in the center, was affected the most. The flame had probably burned him to ashes.

The monstrous fire made it difficult for others to look straight at it. Many spectators were slack-jawed. Even a paragon was nothing in the face of this intense heat.

“This is why the Blazing-serum Treants are so scary. If they are willing to risk it all by using their lifespan, they could incinerate their own bodies to kill their enemies.” A treant ancestor explained: “The presence of the Ice-spirit Sea Demons made these treants grow even stronger and amplified the power of the explosion.”

“Is he still alive?” Someone squinted to look at the center of the ball of fire, but the blistering flames blocked their vision. Even a heavenly gaze couldn’t see through its blinding light.

As the blasts continued, everyone became curious as to what Li Qiye’s situation was.

Suddenly, the flames moved wildly. This sky-searing flame caved in as if something within the artificial sun was devouring its power.

More scorching sizzles resounded. The sealed space continued to quake as the blazing sun became smaller and smaller; it was as if it was losing its source of power.

Eventually, the sun became small enough for one to see what was happening. Everyone could now see Li Qiye frantically devouring this sunflame.

He had opened his fate palace. The cauldron of life emerged with the Heavenly Dao’s Primal Chapter. The cauldron itself already had an eternal flame of life while this primal chapter had an affinity for high temperatures. Thus, their combination was fundamentally flawless and allowed for the perfect absorption of all flames.

Meanwhile, the blazing flames of these treants were predicated on them burning their bodies. This type of flame was quite nutritious for Li Qiye, so his own fire of life grew much stronger after devouring it.

How could he let go when such a good opportunity was brought to his doorstep? He directly used his cauldron of life to turn everything into his own.

“How can this be? Something like this is actually possible?” Many people couldn’t believe their own eyes.

Everyone knew that the flame of this race was a wondrous substance since they burned their own life force in order to create it. However, not just anyone could withstand such an overbearing fire. Devouring this blazing flame could easily destroy their own cauldron of life.

The Blazing-serum Treants became distraught after seeing all the fire being devoured by Li Qiye.

The experts of their race shouted: "Combine!" All of their branches grew at an astonishing pace as they took root within the deepest part of the earth.

At the same time, the Ice-spirit Sea Demons combined with the treants. Their own bodies merged with the branches, then they poured their spirit water inside.

"This is so incredible, seamless cooperation from mortal enemies. Someone must have paid a sky-high price to make them work together like this to kill Li Qiye." A sect master was astounded to see this teamwork.

At this time, the treants seemed to be blooming with flowers. However, petals didn't come out from the hollow holes filled with darkness.

"Rumble!" Lava rushed out from these holes. Some sprayed to the sky before aiming straight for Li Qiye.

Shortly after, lava gushed from all directions, aiming to drown and annihilate Li Qiye.

"The treants are using their killing move! Do not get hit by this hot serum or you'll explode right away!" A treant expert lost his voice while screaming.

The blazing serum from this race was quite terrifying. Not only did it have a high temperature, once it touched its prey, it would seem to come to life and invade the body before exploding.

Moreover, the power of this explosion was enormous; it was dozens of times stronger than the flames from earlier. Even the strongest body wouldn't be able to withstand the internal explosions.

These serums that resembled lava came tumbling down from the sky, causing relentless explosions. The sealed space trembled, but everyone saw an unbelievable scene.

Li Qiye's cauldron of life immediately opened wide and crazily swallowed all the incoming serum. It violently quaked as explosions resounded inside. Without a doubt, this serum was detonating within.

However, the Heavenly Dao's Primal Chapter and its laws fortified the cauldron of life by sealing it. The barrage of explosions couldn't harm the cauldron at all. How could these blazing liquids blow away an item at the primal chapter's level?

Jaws dropped at this spectacle.

"Is his cauldron of life made out of immortal metal? It is perfectly fine after this many explosions, even the strongest Godking cauldron wouldn't be able to handle so many powerful outbreaks." A sea demon of the paragon level was shocked.

"Rumble!" More blazing serum shot out in an endless manner. It crazily attacked Li Qiye's cauldron of life as if this treant race wouldn't give up until he was blown to pieces.

A few sea demons were lost in admiration. One of them said: "It is fortunate that these two races are mortal enemies. If they work together, they might become one of the most terrifying lineages in the Dragon Demon Sea. This endless barrage of serum could instantly destroy a great power."

"No, that's not right." A Virtuous Paragon from the previous generation was quite experienced. After watching for a while, he shook his head and said: "Something is wrong, they are not in control of their serum anymore."

This paragon was right. At this time, the experts from the two races were completely frightened because their serum kept on gushing out. They had lost control of the situation as they kept on feeding Li Qiye's cauldron of life as if it wanted to squeeze them dry.

Even though their serum was quite powerful and horrifying, it also came at a heavy price. It was equivalent to a cultivator's blood energy or even longevity blood. This lavish barrage of their serum meant that their longevity blood was being drained.

An expert from the treant race shouted towards the Ice-spirit Sea Demons: "Separate!"

Due to the previous fusion, their serum became stronger and, of course, this meant that Li Qiye was absorbing an even greater amount.

"We can't!" These sea demons were alarmed as well. Their spirit water was supporting the treants and their serum. However, Li Qiye was not only devouring the longevity blood of the treants, he was also sucking them dry since they were one with the treants.

They desperately tried to separate their bodies, but Li Qiye's cauldron of life had a formidable swallowing nature. It locked the two races together in a way that they simply couldn't separate.

Waves splashed everywhere. Despite the struggles of the two races on the sea, they failed to escape from Li Qiye's grasp.

"Oh mother! This is not the Blazing-serum Treants attacking Li Qiye, he is simply devouring their longevity blood!" Finally, people understood the situation and couldn't help but quiver in horror.

"No!" Ultimately, the experts from the two races screamed pitifully. Li Qiye had completely devoid them of their energy source. After a couple moments, countless corpses floated on the sea.