

Emperor 1421

[Chapter 1421: Treecorpses Secret Plan](#)

She wondered: "Isn't it just scribbles then? Maybe it doesn't have any meaning?"

Li Qiye grinned and replied: "No, at the very least, it shows that the treecorpses are evolving and beginning to gain intelligence. In addition to this text, they also have another method to express themselves. Otherwise, not many corpses would gather here to negotiate."

She felt puzzled: "Then what method did they use to arrange this meeting?"

He replied: "It must be another type of innate skill that allows them to call the other members to gather. No matter what, they are evolving and showing great improvements outside of their innate skills, such as this type of text. It looks like the stronger ones have a better chance of changing. Hmm, I might have been neglecting them all along."

"What were they deliberating then? The dead actually discussing something? It must be earth-shattering." Xiaoxiao was now very interested in the treecorpses as well.

In the last few days of following Li Qiye and watching the withered then the treecorpses, she felt as if she was watching the birth of a race.

"I don't know, but you are right. If creatures like this have gathered for a meeting, it means that something big has happened in their own world." Li Qiye gently shook his head.

"Then let's go and see?" Her curiosity was piqued. This was even more enjoyable to her than finding treasures.

"Yes, they'll keep gathering. We just need to find more lairs, then we'll see them again and maybe we can even figure out what they are talking about." Li Qiye agreed with her idea.

He had other things he wanted to do at the Divine Tree Ridge, but this matter of the treecorpses happened unexpectedly and garnered his attention. Thus, he put everything else to the side and decided to focus on this first.

"How do we find the other lairs?" She was very eager and wanted nothing more than to continue their search.

"With me around, do you think we won't be able to find them?" Li Qiye smiled and held her tiny hand before disappearing in a flash.

In the next few days, the duo went to several large lairs. They were extremely secretive and well-concealed. The entrances were dangerous so even if one knew about the locations, they wouldn't necessarily be able to enter.

However, this didn't trouble Li Qiye. He intruded these places with ease and stealth. He opened his Cryptic Space and hid inside with Ye Xiaoxiao, not allowing any corpses to detect them.

Not to mention these creatures, even a character like a sea god would have problems detecting them. His main purpose was to find what they wanted to do, so stealth was necessary.

After entering the last few lairs, he finally found something. The strongest treecorpses could always be found together in a meeting.

Although they didn't have a language for communication, they could use their innate instincts to talk to each other. Sometimes, they would draw some signs on the ground. This was the beginning of their own system of writing. All of this contributed to his eventual understanding of their goal.

"What do they want?" Xiaoxiao was also watching, but she didn't know their intentions.

He finally arrived at a reliable conclusion and slowly replied: "A group of them will relocate."

"Relocate? To where? And why do they want to move?" This girl was like a curious baby and kept on asking questions.

"You'll know soon enough." Li Qiye smiled and left with her.

They went to an extremely deep valley. Not only was the entrance secretive, it was also full of peril. When cultivators came here, seeds would crazily attack and try to drill into their foreheads even before the sight of blood.

They went in deeper and found that a large number of corpses have gathered here. Moreover, these ones were considerably mightier than before. After careful observation, Xiaoxiao noticed that she had seen some of them in the previous meetings.

There was no doubt that the corpses eligible for this meeting were among the strongest of the world of treecorpses.

At this time, these corpses were walking deeper into the valley. She found this scene quite strange.

They were carrying weird items. One had a chair made from two tree trunks, another had branches woven together to barely form a bed, and one more was holding a chiseled rock that resembled a chair... The weirdest part was a cumbersome item carried by more than ten of them. It looked like a small room made from trees put together.

All of these things were simple and rough like the work of some little children. Surely, the treecorpses were the ones who made these items.

"They know how to make items now." She found this quite amusing. Despite the simplistic and rugged nature of these items, they were still the culmination of the treecorpses' effort.

"Their transformation is exceedingly slow, but maybe they still have a chance." Li Qiye spoke with a tinge of emotion after witnessing this scene.

She wondered: "What are they going to do with these things? Will they be using them?"

However, she rejected this notion because they didn't need these items inside their lairs.

Li Qiye went silent for a moment before slowly answering: "A new life is about to be born." He was aware of the events that were about to transpire after learning the contents of the previous meetings.

"A new life? What kind of life? Another generation of treecorpses? Can they actually reproduce?" Xiaoxiao was startled.

Everyone knew that the withered could give birth. However, this remained a mystery for the treecorpses since they were only failed products.

“Maybe.” Li Qiye pondered a bit: “This world has too many unimaginable things, even the villainous heavens can’t expect everything. Maybe this is the earth-shattering event that they were alluding to. After all, a new life is about to be born!”

“What kind of life will the next generation of treecorpses be? How does it compare to the withered?” She took a deep breath and murmured: “Didn’t you say the dead can’t reproduce? The withered are already near-dead and can barely produce life. Moreover, their second generations are mostly failures.”

“Even the villainous heavens can miscalculate sometimes. The world is just full of surprises, if the dead can actually reproduce...” Li Qiye turned quiet again.

This whole event reminded him of a particular race with all sorts of unfounded rumors. Even after this much time passed, these tales went on about how this race was produced by the dead! Therefore, if a completely new life can come from the treecorpses, it would be a monumental change and an unfathomable development.

The corpses brought along all kinds of items to the deepest region of the valley where there was nothing other than a cliff.

Strangely enough, they didn’t stop before the cliff and continued forward. Any spectator would think that they were going to collide with the cliff, but in reality, they all disappeared inside.

Xiaoxiao asked: “Where did they go?”

“A different world.” He slowly explained: “A world inside the Divine Tree Ridge unknown to others. In principle, only these moving corpses can enter this particular world.”

“A world where only the dead can enter?” Xiaoxiao was surprised: “Then why don’t they just stay there if there is such a world?”

“It’s not as simple as you think. You can’t just stay there on your whim, it is an inner world.” He shook his head in response.

[Chapter 1422: The Overbearing Spirit Abyss](#)

She asked: “An inner world? What do you mean?”

He smiled and answered: “That’s why the ridge is so magical. You can say that is where the real ridge is located since it contains all of its essences.”

“Can we go there?” She turned excited and wanted to enter the cliff as well.

He replied: “You can definitely go there as long as you follow me. Moreover, I’ll even take you to a place where you alone can grasp its mysteries.”

“Is it related to my bloodline?” She was very keen this time and understood his implication instantly.

“Yes, it’s because of your bloodline.” He nodded and said: “The time is about right to trace back to your origin. You will even be able to understand its profundities. After doing so, you may be able to understand your treefather’s origin as well.”

She couldn’t wait any longer and blurted: “Then what are we waiting for, let’s go in right now!”

“Not here.” He shook his head: “We can’t go inside this location. There is only one entrance for us, the only place that is temporarily available for outsiders to enter the inner world.”

She looked at the cliff and asked: “How come these treecorpses can enter but not us?”

“Because they are already dead. Like I said before, the Divine Tree Ridge adores them and grants them protection. Because of this, they can enter many locations here, but we can’t. The inner world rejects outsiders unless we can find the real entrance.”

“That’s fine too, let us go there then. Which direction?” She gave up for now.

He cheerfully replied: “The Undying Gate.”

“The Undying Gate?” She was caught off guard: “This sect has already declined, do they still have any power?”

He gazed towards the distance and eventually explained: “This is why the Undying Gate is so amazing and unique. If you could understand this sect, then you would understand why Immortal Emperor Bu Si chose to build it here at Godhalt.”

“Hmph, you sure know how to build up the suspense.” She was very dissatisfied with his answer and stomped his foot again while gritting her teeth.

He was still all-smiles: “You don’t need to know everything except for the mysteries of your bloodline. Even a little bit would be more than enough for a lifetime of benefits.”

“Well, let’s go then.” She helplessly glared at him.

The two left the Divine Tree Ridge for the Undying Gate.

The gate could be said to be one of the two sects situated in Godhalt despite its vast territory. The other one was the Spirit Abyss. It would be inconceivable for this to happen on any other continent.

They hadn’t yet reached the gate before meeting a certain person. In the blink of an eye, this person fell down from the sky and landed right in front of Li Qiye.

“Who?!” Xiaoxiao was startled and shouted.

It was Sima Yujian who was completely pale! Normally, her expression would be cold and emotionless like ice itself. However, the paleness this time was due to her injuries and a considerable loss of blood, making her unstable condition clear. She must have sacrificed some longevity blood.

She was also covered in blood. Who knows if it was her own or her enemies’?

Nevertheless, she still looked quite aloof with an emotionless gaze. After seeing Li Qiye, her mouth slightly opened as if wanting to say something, but no words came out. She wanted to walk away, but her steady pace nearly made her fall to the ground.

He immediately helped her and pressed his palm to her head to pour an endless amount of blood energy into her. This finally made her breathe easy.

“Where are you hiding!” In the next moment, a group arrived from the sky and immediately surrounded the three without leaving an inch for escape.

This group wore the same uniform and exuded a mighty blood energy and aura. Moreover, they didn’t try to hide their power at all and let their blood energy soar to the sky in an overbearing manner. They looked as if they could do whatever they wanted with wanton regard for others.

Their leader was an old man with an even more terrifying blood energy. He also exuded a holy light and had a thunderous voice. Just a glance alone was enough to know that he was a mighty paragon.

The gazes from the blockading experts were quite unfriendly. They even looked ready to attack at any moment without caring about who Li Qiye was. Just the slightest sign of disobedience would prompt them to kill him.

“Where are you going to run to now?” The leading old man stared at Sima Yujian and sneered.

She was still aloof at the moment while being supported by Li Qiye and felt no need to respond.

The old man turned towards Li Qiye and Xiaoxiao and coldly ordered: “The two of you better be smart and not meddle with other people’s business. Hand her over right now.”

Li Qiye chuckled to see this arrogant demeanor from him. Not to mention the fact that he wouldn’t let anything happen to Yujian, even if he didn’t know her, he would meddle anyway just because of the old man’s attitude.

After recognizing the group based on their clothing, Ye Xiaoxiao told Li Qiye: “They’re from the Spirit Abyss.”

“That’s right, I am an elder of the Spirit Abyss.” The old man arrogantly declared: “This woman is a notorious assassin, so don’t meddle in this and leave immediately. We won’t make things difficult for you!”

Sima Yujian had failed and couldn’t kill her target while simultaneously exposing her whereabouts, so the experts from the abyss managed to trap her.

It wasn’t due to her lack of strength since she could easily assassinate a God-Monarch without any problems. She had prepared sufficiently this time around. Even though her cultivation had been suppressed, she thought that success was still within reach. Alas, she underestimated the abyss. Like Li Qiye had mentioned before, there was no stealth play in that location. Even the escaping art she was most proud of had lost its power.

The encirclement was a harrowing event. Nevertheless, she was still a fierce assassin; with her plethora of techniques and traps, she managed to kill her way out. However, there was no way of running out of

Godhalt due to her grievous injuries. In this helpless situation, she thought about Li Qiye and used the blood he left behind in order to find him!

Li Qiye smirked at this imperious elder and leisurely spoke: "I have a particularly bad habit. When others don't want me to meddle in their business, it only makes me want to do so even more."

"Is that so?" The elder squinted and smiled before coldly uttering: "Then you can fix this bad habit today! It is no longer up to you at Godhalt. I'll let you think about meddling in other people's business once I break your legs and make you kneel on the ground!"

"Break my legs?" Li Qiye couldn't help but laugh: "The ones who can break my legs haven't been born in your Spirit Abyss just yet, not even in all of the nine worlds."

One of the disciples gravely shouted: "What a naive fool. Those who oppose the Spirit Abyss will be killed without mercy!"

In Godhalt, their abyss was the supreme existence and their words were laws. There was no sparing dissenters!

"Quite bold." The elder sneered: "You must be a big shot at Heaven Spirit, right? It's too bad that this isn't any other location in Heaven Spirit. I don't care who you are. At Godhalt, even dragons have to coil before us and tigers must lie down obediently or else we'll break their tendons and take their marrow!"

This elder was domineering to an outrageous extent. In fact, his sect indeed had the power to act in this manner. Any lineage or genius would be suppressed at Godhalt and would want to ask their sect for help.

They had an absolute advantage at Godhalt since they were already strong enough on top of not suffering the suppression! Outsiders were only fish on a chopping block, ready for their taking!

Under such favorable circumstances, how could the Spirit Abyss not be aggressive and overbearing while acting as the master of this continent? There was no need for reason! Their words were the truth and guiding principles!

[Chapter 1423: Trampled Ant](#)

Xiaoxiao was quite amused by the posturing elder. She glanced over at Li Qiye and then back at the elder before revealing a cute smile: "Do you know who he is? This is a famous great character, Li Qiye!"

"Li Qiye?" After hearing this, the elder laughed in response: "Your reputation precedes you. The younger generation will surpass us in time."

His attitude bore no semblance of admiration, he was clearly mocking him in a dismissive fashion.

"However, this place is Godhalt!" His smile disappeared, only the arrogance remained: "I don't care if you are Li Qiye or Li Baye, tuck your tail between your legs before our Spirit Abyss for your own sake! Even if you are stronger, a dragon crossing the river, opposing us on our turf will only result in us severing your tendons and breaking your spine until you submit." [1]

In the present, very few of those who knew Li Qiye's deeds would dare to show such an arrogant attitude and utter these overbearing words.

However, this elder dared to do so. In his eyes, it didn't matter who the hell came to Godhalt, they better start acting sensibly and obey the rules even if they were the most incredible genius.

Even a character like Meng Zhentian would have to send tributes and act politely to them while visiting Godhalt. Because of this, he showed no apprehension towards Li Qiye.

The abyss was an uncrowned king in Godhalt, the greatest existence. They wouldn't be afraid of anyone unless an Immortal Emperor personally came!

"How fearless." Xiaoxiao was astonished at the elder's confidence: "Watch it or it will bring about sect-destruction!"

She wasn't trying to flatter Li Qiye since she believed that he was strong enough to carry it out.

"Sect-destruction?!" The elder's expression turned cold as he uttered: "Who cares if he is an amazing genius? Before becoming emperor, he is nothing but a dog before our abyss..."

This retort was powerful enough. It was the same as pointing straight at Li Qiye and criticizing him.

"With your comment just now, I will consider destroying your Spirit Abyss." Li Qiye couldn't help but smile. In the blink of an eye, a great hand reached for the elder.

"Come, show me just how much strength you have left!" The elder shouted and released his energy without a care before attacking Li Qiye with a monstrous pressure.

In his mind, Li Qiye was being suppressed by Godhalt right now so he shouldn't be that strong. He believed that he alone could kill Li Qiye.

"Boom!" Li Qiye's hand only slightly moved, but it could destroy everything with the Hell Suppressing Fist. The elder's attack was simply not worth mentioning.

"Ba!" He easily clasped the elder's neck.

"You..." The elder was aghast due to this sudden development.

Another disciple shouted: "Junior, don't be presumptuous, release him right now!" Despite the call for a ceasefire, they attacked without holding anything back.

"Mere ants." Li Qiye laughed and reached out with one finger.

"Pluff! Pluff! Pluff!" All of the disciples' attacks were penetrated. They fell face-up with horrifying holes on their foreheads where blood continued to seep out.

"You're not being suppressed!" The elder was shocked since he realized something at this critical moment.

"Correct, but there is no prize." Li Qiye responded with a grin.

The elder's expression turned extremely ugly right away. Not even in his wildest dreams would he expect for something like this to happen. It was simply impossible. Without the abyss' help, everyone would be suppressed by Godhalt. Immortal Emperors were exceptions, of course. However, Li Qiye definitely didn't get any help from the Spirit Abyss yet he was doing just fine — simply inconceivable.

“So what if you’re not suppressed?” The elder regained his composure and coldly uttered: “We are not afraid of anyone at Godhalt. Be smart and hand over the assassin now or you will regret it sooner or later. At that time, it will be too late to beg for forgiveness.”

His rampant arrogance was still undeterred despite falling into Li Qiye’s hands. He had absolute confidence in his sect, and if Li Qiye dared to oppose them, he would be killed soon enough should he chose to stay on this continent.

Li Qiye stared at the arrogant elder and revealed a smile: “You know, the Spirit Abyss you are so proud of is nothing more than a nest of ants in my eyes. Even if the ancestor in the deepest location of your sect comes out, he will kneel and wipe my shoes before licking my feet. Actually, your coven of bastards isn’t even qualified to do so.”

“You!” The elder nearly vomited blood from anger as his face turned red.

He thought he was arrogant enough, but Li Qiye viewed them as mere ants or something even inferior to ants! Like Li Qiye said, he wouldn’t want their ancestor to wipe his shoes since he felt that he was unqualified to do so.

“Good, good, good, Li, I’ll see just how long you can be arrogant for. Our Spirit Abyss will make you regret this...” The elder’s fury turned into a crazed laughter.

“Crack!” Li Qiye crushed his dao foundation before he could finish.

With his foundation crushed, the elder’s blood energy dissipated. He withered away with white hair and a face full of wrinkles. The unreachable elder has fallen. Now, he was as feeble as a candle flickering in the wind.

The elder screamed: “What have you done?!” He was extremely afraid and his wits still hadn’t returned.

Cultivators weren’t afraid of death, but having a destroyed foundation was a life worse than death!

This was doubly true for this ancestor. Normally, he would act haughtily towards the great characters that visit Godhalt since they had no choice but to be humble before him. He had grown accustomed to this lifestyle of flattery. But now, with his dao foundation crushed, he was only a cripple inferior to even ordinary mortals — completely defenseless!

Falling down from the pedestal to the ground was a contrast too grim to imagine. He simply couldn’t accept this reality.

Li Qiye threw him away like trash and flatly said: “I’m sparing your dog life so that you can send a message to the abyss. Tell them to be smart or I’ll destroy all of them! You’re only a bunch of bastards, do not prance around in front of me!”

The elder returned from despair and screamed at Li Qiye: “Li, kill me if you dare! If not, you’re merely a coward!”

Li Qiye chuckled at the desperate old man: “I won’t kill you. If you are brave enough, go find a place to hang yourself.”

“Li, you cowardly trash, kill me if you dare!” The elder continued to scream while grabbing onto Li Qiye’s legs with the intention to die.

Li Qiye casually kicked him away and replied: “Aren’t the people from the abyss always arrogant? Like I said earlier, even your oldest ancestor is nothing before me, he’s only worthy of disdain!”

Having said that, he ignored the elder and supported Sima Yujian then left. Ye Xiaoxiao kept up with them right away.

The elder desperately screamed while watching the group depart: “You little bastard, you goddamn animal! You don’t dare to kill your grandfather? I’m your grandfather, come kill me if you dare!” [2]

He wanted nothing more than for Li Qiye to give him the sweet relief of death. Li Qiye simply ignored him. It was too easy for him to trample on the elder’s pride.

“Should we kill him?” Ye Xiaoxiao looked back. She was too young and couldn’t bear to watch.

“He’s only an ant, don’t worry about him.” Li Qiye gently stroked her hair: “The world is always cruel like this. Their imperious abyss has no consideration for others, so let them taste despair. They’re only a bunch of monsters that crawled up from the ground, yet they actually think they are the progenitors of the charming spirits, the darlings of the heavens.”

Xiaoxiao didn’t say anything back. She naturally understood how vicious this world was. An enemy would never show mercy to their opponent.

[Chapter 1424: Lotus In The Autumn Water](#)

The group left together, but they didn’t directly go to the Undying Gate. Instead, Li Qiye found a secret place to hide Sima Yujian in order to heal her.

Despite her heavy injuries, Li Qiye had the Heaven Restoration Ointment so this was not a problem at all. After applying the medicine, she was quite shocked since she could feel her wounds recover at a rapid pace. Shortly afterward, both her internal and external injuries were cured without leaving the tiniest scar.

She was moved by this from understanding just how precious this incredible medicine was, yet Li Qiye still gave it to her. Next, Li Qiye took out the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron and controlled its flames. This fire actually liquefied and turned into a scintillating amber fluid.

Fire changing into water was an inconceivable endeavor. This cauldron fire control has reached the apex of mastery.

When this water emitted a wondrous light, Li Qiye ordered: “Take off your clothes and get in.”

She immediately glared at him. Although her eyes no longer had a murderous intent, they were still as cold as ice.

“Hey, since when did you change from Ego King to a big pervert?” She glared at him as well after noticing that Yujian was fine and indignantly said: “You are using this opportunity to take advantage of a young lady! Damn pervert, I’ll teach you a lesson!”

Having said that, she stomped on his foot as usual.

Li Qiye flicked his finger and pushed her outside while flatly saying: "It would be too easy for me to take advantage of her, there's no need to come up with an excuse."

Yujian coldly said: "My wounds are healed."

"I know." Li Qiye leisurely replied: "I'm not healing but rather expelling something for you instead. Otherwise, don't think about going to the Spirit Abyss since you won't be able to hide there."

She turned silent from not understanding his intention.

"Hmph, you are too weak. You can't even master the Coiling Dragon Sword yet you still dare to go to the abyss." He flatly said: "You still don't know what lies at the bottom of the abyss."

"What is it?" Yujian still asked despite her emotionless demeanor. In fact, she had done her research on the abyss before attempting the assassination.

"They aren't things you can provoke." He replied: "You will light up like a candle once you step inside the abyss. With the way you are now, you simply can't utilize your stealth there. Under its light, they would be able to see you clearly like their reflection in a mirror."

She had indeed failed this time. In fact, the whole event was still puzzling her. In terms of strength, even with the suppression at work, her Godslaying Dao and other assassination techniques along with traps and treasures should have been enough to kill the target.

Recalling the whole incident, it was indeed quite strange. At the climax of the hunt, the enemy seemed to know where she was coming from and laid out a great trap for her. She didn't understand why they were aware of her location when she was the only one who knew about the assassination.

"Get in already." Li Qiye didn't want to waste words and ordered again.

When Li Qiye turned serious, even Xiaoxiao — who was spoiled by him — didn't dare to say anything.

Yujian hesitated for a moment but chose to take off her clothes in a very stiff and unnatural manner. Despite being a ruthless killer, she still felt bashful at times.

Keep in mind that she was completely pure. Not to mention taking off her clothes in front of a man, she had never experienced any intimate contact with others before. Thus, stripping before Li Qiye was extremely embarrassing for an innocent girl like her. Nevertheless, she still took them off despite having trouble adapting.

The entire place lit up with her splendor. Anyone would marvel this scene and be lost in admiration. The bare beauty ahead was too beautiful.

Her fair skin was no different from white jade. Her slender waist, naturally ample breasts, and her round and plump buttocks left no room for criticism.

The most captivating things were the two red dots before her breasts; they looked like two blossoming flowers. There was a sense of incomparable tenderness as well as the shyness of a maiden. Such a sexy

scene was too difficult to describe since the only thing people could hear would be the sound of their beating heart.

A figure as brilliant as the color of ice — this was not an exaggeration to describe Yujian's beauty. Her creamy skin gave a cool feeling as if she was an ice sculpture. All would be stirred by this painting. Her name was very apt and in accordance with her beauty. [1]

"So pretty... so big..." Xiaoxiao praised and smiled coquettishly: "Let me touch them a little bit."

She reached for Sima Yujian but the naked woman dodged right away from embarrassment. Being an assassin didn't completely override certain feminine characteristics.

Li Qiye looked at her wonderful figure and insipidly said: "Go in, don't delay this for too long."

For him, her soft body was marvelous indeed. However, he had seen more than enough in the past, some even more beautiful and seductive than Yujian. Thus, she was only average in his eyes.

Yujian didn't say anything and quietly sank into the cauldron to be immersed in the fiery liquid. She was puzzled as well. As an assassin, she never paid attention to her own appearance. However, she felt a sense of loss, a sense of defeat after being stared at by Li Qiye.

Despite not caring, she was still a supreme beauty after all and could definitely be placed among the top ten in Heaven Spirit. However, he only gave her a nonchalant glance when she was standing naked before him as if she was no different from all the other existences in the world, as if she was another trifling and common spectacle. In any case, she felt a bit frustrated. It was more difficult to calm down from this compared to the failed assassination earlier.

At this time, under Li Qiye's control, the fiery liquid began to flow as if it was washing her or helping her expel something. After a while, strands of light rose from the water. To be more exact, these strands seemed to be crumbling. They had been hiding in her body, and the cauldron's fire finally expelled them.

He resoundingly commanded: "Get ready. Protect your dao heart and steady your vitality, do not be shaken."

She took a deep breath and followed his order.

"Pluff!" The fiery water suddenly turned into lines as thin as silk. These little lines shot into her body as if wanting to penetrate her completely.

She couldn't help but quiver from the pain. At this time, these meticulous lines dragged out an item from her body. This was a tiny dao rune that was locked by the fiery lines so it couldn't move at all.

"What is this?" Xiaoxiao was taken by surprise.

Yujian was even more astounded. She had been struck by someone's dao rune without noticing at all!

Li Qiye explained: "The moment you set foot in the Spirit Abyss, its holy light enveloped you. Without the abyss' permission, this light left an indelible mark on you. Because of this, you can't hide there. It didn't matter what kind of techniques you employed, they could see you clearly."

Her mind slightly trembled. She didn't think that the abyss had such a mystery and finally understood why her assassination had failed completely.

He said: "Come out now."

She stood up like an elegant lotus rising on the surface of the water. The radiance of spring filled the room. The water beads dripping down from her white breasts were too temptatious.

"She really is pretty." Contrary to Li Qiye's nonchalant attitude, Xiaoxiao relished this sight despite being a girl.

Yujian was inevitably shy for her first time leaving water in plain sight of a man. She hurriedly put on her clothes.

"Poof!" The fire suddenly erupted like a volcano and burned the lights and the dao rune to ashes, leaving nothing behind.

[Chapter 1425: Joining](#)

She stood there coldly after getting dressed in silence. She wanted to say thanks, but the words wouldn't come out. This was her nature, and the path of an assassin had only amplified it. The words "thank you" were too difficult to say since self-reliance was her way of life.

He gestured for her: "Come."

She hesitated for a moment but still walked in front of him. He placed his right hand on her breast, causing her feminine mind to tremble.

This sudden move from Li Qiye made her take a step back. After all, an innocent girl like her had never experienced something like this before.

"I've seen everything already." Li Qiye looked at her and flatly said: "If I wanted to take advantage of you, would I need to wait until now?"

Recently, she had been heartless as if she was transforming into an ice sculpture. Her emotions rarely swayed due to being an assassin. However, after hearing this, she felt an urge to beat Li Qiye up. It could be said that this man was really asking for it by saying such words.

In the end, she took a deep breath and took one step forward to stand in front of him again. His right hand met her chest again and the same shudder ran through her mind.

She could feel his strong palm full of calluses through the thin clothing. It was rough yet powerful, giving her a sense of security. A feeling of pins and needles spread from her chest to the rest of her body. This was a strange feeling she never had before.

"Whoosh!" His hand lit up like a lamp and her body followed suit.

"Clank!" A metallic noise came about as laws intertwined around his palm. Space seemed to have been dislocated since it lit up around Sima Yujian. She saw these chain-like laws locking her space and suppressing her.

At this time, the laws entered her body and lit up the space within. With this, everything became sealed both inside and out.

“Clank!” The sound of a lock unlocking came about. The laws that entered this space seemed to be unlocking one shackle after another.

After these mysterious shackles were unlocked, the mysterious laws in this space retreated like spirit snakes and vanished without a trace.

In the blink of an eye, her entire body trembled. She felt the lock press down on her body disappearing. A loud blast ensued as her vitality majestically erupted and returned like a soaring dragon.

She was quite startled and finally understood that he had removed the suppression from Godhalt from her body. Her regular cultivation was back at last.

After seeing this, Xiaoxiao asked him: “You can actually undo the oppression of Godhalt?”

Li Qiye looked at her and flatly said: “Nothing’s strange about it. At Godhalt, there are secrets and rules to follow. Why is it that so many people come to the abyss for help after arriving here? It is because they can undo this suppression. However, unlike me, they rely on treasures to do so.”

Even the aloof Yujian had to ask: “And what about you?”

Li Qiye chuckled in response: “As long as I follow the rules, everything can be undone. Godhalt has obscured some mysteries, so as long as you understand them, you can undo the suppression.”

Of course, it wasn’t easy to ponder these mysteries. Just this alone required Li Qiye, as the Dark Crow, to spend a long time and many trips to this place before achieving success.

Yujian reverted to her frosty and silent demeanor. It gave a piercing feeling and made others not want to go near her. Li Qiye looked at her and said: “Even though I won’t accept a disciple, from today on, you will follow me so that I can teach you the Godslaying Dao!”

This prompted her to stare at him intensely. As a woman of few words, she actually wanted to question him to dispel her skepticism.

She didn’t believe that he could guide her on this path. After all, an outsider couldn’t possibly teach her the Godslaying Dao.

“I can cultivate it myself.” She coldly refused him.

Li Qiye gave her the side-eye in response: “By yourself? Too slow! You think I want to bring an unwanted stepchild everywhere? Your dao is only at this level, yet you dare to come to the abyss for a mission? Don’t smear the reputation of the Godslaying Night Corps! To let someone as weak as you inherit the corps’ ultimate techniques is an affront to its prestige!”

“You...” She was livid after hearing this despite being an emotionless assassin and glared at him.

“You don’t need to angrily stare at me in disagreement.” Li Qiye smiled and said: “If you have truly grasped the essences of the Godslaying Dao, you wouldn’t have failed today. Moreover, the Coiling Dragon Sword would be in your possession. Even though you were selected as the successor, you are

not at the level to wield the sword, the weapon that represents the supreme prestige of the Godslaying Dao!”

She had no response to his claim. Despite feeling some anger, he indeed pointed out her insufficiencies correctly.

He commanded again: “Come, let me have a look at your sea of memories.”

She immediately retreated after hearing this. For any cultivator, this wasn’t something they could show to anyone, not even the closest confidants.

He noticed her guard and lightly said: “You think there’s a point to being cautious of me? If I wanted to see your memories, there is no escaping since you can’t resist me. Besides, if I want the merit laws and secrets of the night corps, I wouldn’t need to use you either since your knowledge is too limited! As long as I give the command, your masters would tell me everything!”

Yujian didn’t lower her vigilance and stood there motionlessly.

“Come here!” Li Qiye glared at her and spread out his mighty aura. When he turned serious, others would be nervous and fearful. He had become a supreme existence that hands out orders!

Yujian was shaken and felt a primal fear. This wasn’t because she wasn’t strong enough. For some unknown reasons, she couldn’t refuse him and walked forward as if possessed.

His dignified demeanor left no room for resistance. She felt as if he was the king of the night, the ruler of darkness. He possessed a charisma that she had no answer for. In fact, she was strong enough to resist even a Godking. Unfortunately for her, she had met Li Qiye. He could be considered the creator of the Godslaying Dao, the unquestionable lord of the Godslaying Night Corps, its real master.

Thus, he left an unerasable mark on this dao. In the past, he had ruled over the entire corps, so how could she resist him, the king of the night?

Even Xiaoxiao was greatly affected by Li Qiye’s temperament. When he became dignified, she was startled and found it difficult to refuse him. Anyone would feel the urge to obey.

Regardless of how strong one might be, the moment this supreme tyrant becomes angry, they would quickly prostrate before him.

Yujian was now standing inches from Li Qiye. He raised her icy face and profoundly stared into her. She felt no choice but to obediently raise her head to meet his gaze.

“Whoosh!” His eyes illuminated her sea of memories as well as the deepest depths of her soul!

However, an even more incredible thing happened. The sealed location in her mind suddenly unlocked completely with a click.

Keep in mind that every lineage had their own methods. After each disciple learns a particular merit law, certain parts of their memories would be sealed so that outsiders couldn’t forcefully open it lest they risk their minds blowing up.

This type of sealing domain was mainly used to prevent their disciples' memories from being forcefully read by the hands of masters. It rendered stealing entirely impossible.

[Chapter 1426: Truths Of The Godslaying Dao](#)

Her soul fluttered as Li Qiye entered her mind, but she had an indiscernible yet wonderful feeling. She felt naked as Li Qiye opened her seal; it felt as if he could see through her completely.

Not to mention an assassin, even an ordinary cultivator knew just how taboo it was to let someone else read your memories. She wanted to resist, but Li Qiye's charisma possessed her like a moth running to a flame. This sense of willingness couldn't be described with words.

She did feel slightly embarrassed due to this intrusion because everything about her was lying bare before him.

Finally, he let go of her. Her wits returned as well as an incredible sense of astonishment. She took several steps back in fear and stared at him as if he was a ghost.

"You, you know some demonic arts!" In her mind, this was simply inconceivable. Because of her steady mind and dao heart along with her powerful cultivation, she wouldn't be awed so easily. However, she was captivated by his charisma and was seemingly possessed to the point where she was unable to resist him. He was actually able to open her sealed domain! This was simply impossible, her sea of memories should have exploded into nothingness!

Alas, he opened it so easily that it made it seem as if her domain didn't resist him. What made her feel even more scared was that deep inside, she might be enjoying this feeling. Him opening the sealed domain was the same to opening her Godslaying Dao's palace entrance. It was as if he could go there and hand her the keys to its secrets.

In this instant, she felt as if she was willingly letting go of all resistance towards him so that he could grant her everything. He was the light on her path towards the grand dao, illuminating her life. While basking in this warm and splendid radiance, she could see her future.

Li Qiye plainly said: "Welcome back. This is the real Godslaying Dao. Your previous perception of assassins was misguided. They are not just killing machines without emotions or feelings. It looks like the person who taught you the dao had a slanted understanding of it. Your comprehension of this dao was stopped at a relatively shallow level."

She looked at him in fear. After hearing his statement, she suddenly realized something. A light flashed in her eyes and gave her a warm feeling. Countless feelings raged in her heart as if she had returned to the past. Her sealed heart had its layers unwrapped one by one.

Sima Yujian and Bai Jianzhen were different. Jianzhen started on the ultimate heartless sword dao at a young age. Because of this, her coldness was a murderous sword dao formed in a natural manner.

As for Sima Yujian, she didn't use to be so emotionless back then. Arrogance and pride were present, but she wasn't this cold and heartless.

However, after losing to the Swiftdao God in the competition for the sect master's position, her fate changed as she embarked on the path of the Godslaying Dao. This changed her from a pampered

daughter to an assassin. During her training, she was as cold as ice like the sword in her hand. She became a weapon destined to kill!

However, she felt a return to the olden days. Her heart was jumping as if she was no longer an assassin!

Li Qiye noticed her expression. He was too familiar with this process and gently shook his head: "This is something everyone needs to experience. In the beginning, many will think that the Godslaying Dao is an art of subterfuge, a ruthless weapon for killing. However, even a tool for killing doesn't need to be cold and emotionless. An assassin is primarily himself and then a weapon. If you aren't even a person, how can you achieve a grand dao?"

She wanted to speak, but silence was the better answer.

"I know what you want to say." He read her like an open book: "That's right, an assassin has no need for a wavering heart, especially during the hunt; they need to be emotionless! However, this created some erroneous interpretations for many people."

"Do you know where the problem lies?" He continued in a serious tone: "It is not about removing emotional fluctuations completely. Think of it as cultivation. Is your dao heart so easily shaken? With a strong dao heart, your will will be as firm as a rock. However, this doesn't mean that you are an emotionless weapon."

She listened attentively to his preaching.

Li Qiye noticed this and slowly continued: "The Godslaying Dao and the night corps. As an assassin, you can consider yourself a monarch drifting through the night. However, just because you lurk in the shadows doesn't mean you are darkness. You are searching for your own light in the darkness, or perhaps even the light of this world."

After a while, she asked: "What is light?"

"We won't talk about anything grand such as defending the nine worlds or saving everyone — this type of moralistic beliefs and righteousness." He smiled and replied: "We'll focus on ourselves, or you in particular. As the successor of the Godslaying Dao, what is your light? Is it only to kill?"

Yujian couldn't formulate an answer.

Li Qiye continued: "Or perhaps is your light being able to surpass your junior brother, the Swiftdao God?"

This question from him spoke directly to her heart. In the beginning, she chose this path in order to reach the apex and overtake her brother. She wanted to prove that she could be stronger than him.

However, the further she went, the more confused she became because the Godslaying Dao seemed to be different from her pursuit. They were two completely different paths!

"I can only say that the whole thing is absurd!" Li Qiye shook his head: "If it is only to kill or to surpass your brother, picking the Godslaying Dao is a complete mistake. If you don't think this through, you will never be able to surpass this inner demon and will never be able to control the Coiling Dragon Sword."

"I..." Countless words ran through her mind, yet she didn't know where to start and became even less articulate.

"It looks like your master has tried his best in teaching you cultivation but failed to enlighten your perspective in life." He shook his head once more: "He only taught you merit laws and techniques but didn't help you comprehend the dao. I can only say that he is a responsible master, not a good one."

Yujian immediately retorted with a cold tone: "I won't let you say so!" She had the utmost respect for her master because when her life hit rock bottom, he was the one who pulled her back up.

"I am simply telling you the truth." Li Qiye flatly said: "The Godslaying Dao is not a merit law or an assassination art. It is a grand dao at heart, and a supreme one at that. Otherwise, why would dao be part of its name? Might as well name it 3,860 killing techniques then."

This was something he rarely did — carefully imparting his knowledge to her.

Li Qiye explained: "The most important thing to start the path towards a grand dao is to have a dao heart, and an inquisitive one at that. A dao heart is essential before obtaining a grand dao. If you consider yourself a weapon of murder, an emotionless sword, then you won't even have a heart, let alone being able to seek the dao.

"When people say that the grand dao is heartless, it doesn't mean that the seekers should be heartless as well, that's just the nature of the grand dao itself. On the godslaying path, both murdering people and hunting beasts, traps and skills, all of this for the Godslaying Dao is only a means towards sharpening oneself so that the user can go further and further before reaching the apex.

"In fact, becoming an assassin is no different from cultivation. As you grow stronger, you can kill those even stronger than you, or you can use your assassination arts to achieve your objectives. This is simply a process for you to become a supreme expert and not something as superficial as a weapon.

"It's like practicing an ice technique. Once successful, you can freeze the eight directions and imprison myriad realms. Then does that mean the goal of this particular path is to become an ice woman? No, that's not the case. It is so that the user can become an Immortal Emperor or another expert standing at the pinnacle. This is a true grand dao. If this isn't your aspiration in your training, then it would just be learning techniques and tricks, and those alone will never allow you to reach the peak!" He wholeheartedly preached about the grand dao.

He had no thoughts about taking in a disciple. However, Yujian was indeed gifted in this particular aspect while he had always worried about the Godslaying Night Corps. Thus, his patience today was to repay the night corps and to fulfill one of his own wishes.

Li Qiye finished with a serious expression: "Thus, if you want to surpass yourself and reach the peak of the Godslaying Dao, you first need to stop being an emotionless weapon. Second, you're not on this path only to surpass your junior brother. You need to treat it as a supreme grand dao, something worth pondering. This is how you will cultivate yourself to the apex!"

[Chapter 1427: The Undying Gate](#)

After such a long session, Yujian was dazed and couldn't regain her wits for a long time. Before she knew it, Li Qiye had opened a new door for her, an unprecedented one that would reach all the way to the grand dao.

In fact, Xiaoxiao enjoyed this preaching as well. She stood there with one hand on her chin, completely immersed and fascinated by his words. She calmed down at the same time as Yujian and ran over to tap on Li Qiye's shoulder: "Ego King, were you an assassin in the past?"

Li Qiye laughed at this inquiry: "Who says I'm an assassin? Are you saying that one can't understand something without experiencing it firsthand?" [1]

"Please, I don't believe your nonsense at all." She glared at him: "It looks like you are lying. Hmph, you must have been a big assassin before, maybe even a perverted one."

She laughed after making this claim. It was not unreasonable for her to think this way. Even Yujian was suspecting that Li Qiye might be from the night corps or a supreme assassin that they secretly groomed.

"Your imagination is too rich." Li Qiye saw her expression and understood what she was thinking then shook his head: "I am not an assassin secretly groomed by the Godslaying Night Corps and definitely not an assassin. I am me, Li Qiye, that's all."

Her face turned slightly red after being read by him, but she assumed her stoic manner again right after. After being an assassin for so long, she had a hard time adapting to these feminine expressions.

He stood up and told Ye Xiaoxiao: "Alright, we'll go to the Undying Gate."

"Let's go!" Xiaoxiao was ecstatic. She had been wanting to enter the Divine Tree Ridge's inner world. Sima Yujian, on the other hand, was hesitant.

For her, there was no need to follow Li Qiye. Not to mention that he used to be her target, more importantly, the two of them didn't know each other and he wasn't part of the night corps. Following him would mean exposing everything about her.

After noticing the girl's hesitation, Li Qiye turned around and flatly asked: "What now, you still think that I'm plotting against you?"

She couldn't answer right away.

"Keep up." Li Qiye didn't waste time and lowered his tone.

With his serious demeanor, she felt a jolt and couldn't help but follow him as if star-struck. Her legs wouldn't listen to her any longer due to Li Qiye's infinite charisma; she could only follow him.

The three ran to the Undying Gate. However, it looked like only Li Qiye and Xiaoxiao were present. In fact, Yujian was right behind them with her amazing stealth techniques from being the successor of the night corps. The weaker people simply couldn't detect her.

They arrived at the gate very quickly. The moment it came in sight, Xiaoxiao excitedly said: "We're here."

Li Qiye only smiled after seeing it.

The Undying Gate was created by Immortal Emperor Bu Si, once famous and deterring for a generation, especially during his era. Despite its vast size, there were only two lineages at Godhalt — the Spirit Abyss and the Undying Gate.

Today, the gate had fallen and was inferior to the abyss. However, during the emperor's era, the gate was very prestigious while the abyss was the underdog. It was a time when experts coming to Godhalt would also visit the Undying Gate to show their respect instead of just the abyss. Alas, this was no longer the case.

Anyone would be suppressed at Godhalt. This in addition to old rumors about a slow cultivation speed, no one wanted to stay at this vast continent outside of the Undying Gate and the Spirit Abyss.

Strangely enough, both of their disciples weren't affected by Godhalt, and their cultivation speed remained the same without slowing down because of the land.

There were certain credible sources for why the abyss was unaffected. Some supremes believed that the abyss had some incredible treasures on top of their bloodline. Because they claimed to have the oldest bloodline of the charming spirits, they were unhindered by Godhalt. However, it was a different story for the Undying Gate. No one knew why this particular sect was fine.

The two powers were different from each other. The abyss had been built on Godhalt during an ancient era. The gate came later from Immortal Emperor Bu Si. This lineage was a miracle of this land. Even the guests who came to stay in this sect were freed from the suppression.

Because of this, the same belief of an amazing treasure being at work applied for the Undying Gate as well. As for why their disciples were untouched in the other locations of Godhalt, this remains a mystery.

The abyss had an ancient bloodline, but it wasn't the same for the Undying Gate, an all-embracing sect. At its greatest height, they had countless disciples from all the races including humans, sea demons, and charming spirits.

Thus, the answer didn't lie in their bloodlines. Eventually, there was an even bolder hypothesis. It stated that the reason for their freedom was because of the merit law created by Immortal Emperor Bu Si, the secret for his immortality.

There had been many legends about this particular secret, and the miracle of the Undying Gate only fueled its validity.

Because of this, countless experts and great characters came to the sect in search of this art of immortality after its decline. This resulted in a catastrophe for the Undying Gate, a disaster that nearly drove it to the point of destruction. However, it managed to weather the storm. Nevertheless, it failed later on and became an insignificant sect with few disciples.

While standing at the entrance to look at the entire sect, both Xiaoxiao and Yujian marveled its spectacular appearance. Its location was extremely dangerous and shrouded in fog and clouds so it looked quite surreal.

Its mountain ranges were fairly magical as well. Each of the ranges produced unbelievably steep cliffs as if they were hanging in the air. Some were intertwined in a very intricate and complex manner!

Many would be in awe of this magnificent geography. There were rivers and waterfalls three thousand feet in the air pouring down among the aerial mountain ranges.

“So magnificent, such strange physical features.” Xiaoxiao commented with admiration.

Li Qiye smiled and said: “There’s a reason for this. The Undying Gate is not only located in Godhalt, it is also closest to the Divine Tree Ridge. In fact, the ridge begins here with its source.”

“This is the source of the ridge?” Xiaoxiao was skeptical after hearing this: “But people don’t go here first when they visit the ridge.”

“Not everyone can see it.” Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: “This is indeed the root of the ridge. The emperor back then realized this, that is why he built the Undying Gate here. At Godhalt, there are two supreme places to establish sects, both taken by the abyss and the gate. These locations are supreme treasure lands. This is why the emperor was so great. He struggled for a long time in order to find many secrets of the ridge and established his sect here.”

Of course, there was something Li Qiye didn’t mention. A big reason why the emperor was able to figure out some of these secrets was due to his origin.

While the three were standing outside the entrance, an old man with three disciples came to greet them.

The old man cupped his fist and introduced himself: “This humble old man is the Undying Gate Master. My last name is Huang, given name Nengquan.”

[Chapter 1428: First Time At The Undying Gate](#)

Li Qiye chuckled at the old man’s introduction and replied: “I am Li Qiye, an idler.”

After hearing the name “Li Qiye”, Huang Nengquan’s expression changed. He subconsciously took one step back as if he had just stepped on a snake.

“It looks like my reputation isn’t very good.” Li Qiye noticed all the changes to the gate master’s demeanor and smiled.

The gate master immediately smiled back: “No, no, of course not. Young Noble Li, it is just a misunderstanding. Your reputation precedes you and I am lost in admiration. I can’t believe you are actually gracing us with your presence today, what an honor for our sect and this lowly one.”

Despite his smile, he was lamenting inside. Although their sect was far removed from the Dragon Demon Sea, some cultivators from there had visited Godhalt so he had heard of Li Qiye’s notoriety.

The gate master was very afraid of this monster who had a penchant for race annihilation. Even if the guy didn’t come to the Undying Gate to cause trouble, he had enemies everywhere in the world. Therefore, Li Qiye’s presence might turn their sect into a battlefield.

Their fallen clan could no longer be compared to the past and wouldn’t be able to handle the pressure. Turning into a battlefield might result in them turning into smoke.

“Is that so?” Li Qiye showed a mirthless smile in response.

The gate master was alarmed and immediately answered: "Of course, of course. Young Noble Li is the pride and glory of our human race. All humans in Heaven Spirit are proud of you, who is vying for the imperial throne and prestige. All humans will celebrate when that day comes."

Even though his flattery slightly betrayed his true thoughts, the last sentence came from his heart. The gate master was afraid of being implicated by Li Qiye's presence, but he was still a member of the human race and desired for Li Qiye to be the next emperor. If the humans could have one this generation, its people could finally walk with their heads held high and no longer have to rely on others like they are now!

Li Qiye laughed after hearing this and asked: "If that's the case, are you not going to invite me in?"

The gate master calmed down and coughed: "Young Noble Li and young miss, please come in!"

He bowed and welcomed them in. In fact, Yujian was also next to Li Qiye, but since she was in stealth, the gate master couldn't see her.

They found the entire Undying Gate to be quite vast with magnificent mountains and rivers, a showing of the uncanny workmanship of its creators.

Countless mountain ranges ran above the steep cliffs in the sky. This magical scene was enveloped in mist and fog just like a realm of immortals.

If one could stand on a sufficiently high elevation overlooking Godhalt, they would find that the Divine Tree Ridge occupied a vast amount of land on this continent in spite of its gargantuan size.

It could be said to be the center of everything. There were many mountain ranges outside of the ridge, but they all originated from this place. With the same vantage point, one could also see that the Divine Tree Ridge looked like an immeasurable and towering tree that fell on top of Godhalt.

With this imagery in mind, the Undying Gate would be situated right at its root. These mountain ranges hanging in the sky were formed from its unbelievably thick and long branches.

Alas, after being led inside by the gate master, the group was met with a melancholic atmosphere. Despite its majestic appearance, the gate itself was in a state of disrepair. Many mountains were broken as if people had excavated this land to pieces. Many temples and pavilions had collapsed as well. Even the mountain ranges and buildings left intact were declining from many years of neglect while showing signs of collapse, evident by the weeds everywhere.

One could only imagine how prosperous this place used to be despite its current feeble appearance. Back at its peak, this sect might have had ten thousand temples with hundreds of thousands of disciples.

The land was still majestic, but the sect was unfortunately far from it. The prosperity of old never came back.

Among the valleys and mountains were the places where disciples searched for the dao. Bridges used to connect these great mountain ranges. Back then, male and female disciples would meet each other above these heavenly bridges and partake in romance beneath the moonlight...

Today, there were only several hundred disciples all living in a single corner. The majority of them traveled to the four oceans as well, so this vast sect looked even more desolate.

The gate master led them into the main hall and served some tea. This was the central area of the Undying Gate; only ancestors could stay here in the past. Alas, the lower population made it so that even disciples could stay at this ancestral ground now.

After exchanging some cordial formalities, the gate master respectfully said: "May I ask why you are visiting our sect, Young Noble? If we can be of use, you only need to say the word."

The gate master had already prepared for the worst with Li Qiye's arrival. Compliance was his creed in dealing with Fierce. After all, going head-on against this man was suicidal. He didn't want the gate to end by his hands.

"You're too nervous." Li Qiye smiled after seeing his expression: "I might be fierce, but not to the level where I would swallow your Undying Gate."

"Ah..." The gate master forced a smile: "Young Noble Li is unparalleled and matchless. Our Undying Gate is only a shrimp in the vast ocean, of course we wouldn't get into the sight of a true dragon such as yourself."

Li Qiye chuckled from knowing what the gate master was thinking about. He smirked and revealed: "Don't worry, I'm only here to take a look for a few days."

"Only a few days?" The gate master was surprised.

In fact, he was ready to give Li Qiye whatever he wanted as the worst case scenario.

"What, am I not welcome here?" Li Qiye looked at the master in disbelief and chuckled.

The gate master regained his wits and quickly said: "No, no, we definitely welcome you. This is our honor, this lowly one's honor."

"Rest assured, I know the rules of the Undying Gate. I won't stay for nothing since I'll be renting your Crane Beak Peak for a few days." Li Qiye casually threw a small black pouch with refined jades inside onto the table.

The master was caught off guard once again and didn't dare to check to see how many jades were in the pouch. He quickly gave it back to Li Qiye and said: "Young Noble Li, you and the princess visiting us is our honor. How could we take payment from our guests?"

After its decline, many people had ideas about the Undying Gate. Many powerful lineages had attacked them in the past. The sect fought back, but they only managed to repel the enemies.

The decline never faltered. The gate eventually became helpless as outsiders still tried to enter since everyone believed a supreme treasure was hidden here.

Later on, the Undying Gate sent out a message and opened the majority of its territory. Those who were interested in the gate could rent a peak or mountain inside. The sect wouldn't care what they were going to do, even if it meant excavating every inch of the land.

Of course, the so-called rent was only an attempt at saving face. If some powerful cultivators and sects didn't wish to pay, the Undying Gate couldn't do anything about it. However, the truly powerful

wouldn't mind paying such a little amount of money. After all, they were all people with great statuses and could afford the meager sum of some refined jades.

Li Qiye smiled and had no intention of taking back the black pouch.

The gate master saw Li Qiye's demeanor and understood. He busily cupped his fists in response: "Deference is no substitute for obedience. This lowly one will take the payment then." He put away the black pouch afterward.

He told Li Qiye: "To be honest, Young Noble, the Crane Beak Peak has been abandoned for a long time. I will tell some disciples to go clean it up, I hope you don't mind staying here for now."

He didn't know why Li Qiye wanted to go to that place, but he didn't dare to ask too much lest he incites a sect-destroying disaster.

[Chapter 1429: The Decline Of The Undying Gate](#)

Li Qiye smiled and suggested: "Then let's take a walk to enjoy the views of the Undying Gate."

The gate master didn't dare to show any slight and quickly volunteered as the guide.

In fact, this was not Li Qiye's first time here. He was familiar with every mountain and river of this sect, so he didn't need a tour guide, it was a casual stroll for him. On the contrary, Xiaoxiao was curious about everything, especially the mountain ranges hanging in the sky with bridges connecting them.

Many of these peaks towered to the clouds as well as very deep valleys and ravines. Both of these places had many buildings and temples. Despite being deserted at the moment, one could still see just how grand they used to be.

"It looks like your sect has many heavenly grottos." Xiaoxiao spoke during her sight-seeing escapade.

The master replied: "According to our records, we had over a million disciples at our peak. They traveled around the nine worlds to see all the races. As for the sect itself, we had 80,000 temples and more than 100,000 disciples present at that time."

He became a bit excited after recalling the past glory of the Undying Gate. After all, they were once extremely prestigious in Heaven Spirit.

This was especially true during Immortal Emperor Bu Si's era. The nine worlds and the other races all paid their tributes. Just how prosperous and glorious was this? Unfortunately, the past was gone and everything has turned into smoke. He eventually sighed at the current state of the sect.

The group saw many broken mountains and buildings. It must have been done by others who came in the past to search for the legendary treasures.

"Rumor has it that your sect was completely excavated back then. It is really a miracle for it to survive until now." Xiaoxiao was a talkative girl with no qualms about her words.

"It is thanks to the ancestors' protection." The gate master coughed awkwardly in response.

Li Qiye smiled and added: "That's an imperial lineage for you. If the Undying Gate doesn't provoke a truly powerful enemy, it won't be that easy for it to be destroyed completely. After all, it still has some

secret powers left, so experts will find it difficult to obliterate it in full. Even a monstrous Godking wouldn't be so idle as to do something like destroying the Undying Gate."

Xiaoxiao found some truth in this response. After all, this place was still protected and once blessed by an Immortal Emperor. Ordinary experts wouldn't be able to flatten it completely. As for the Godkings who had the abilities to do so, they wouldn't destroy an imperial lineage unless there was an unforgivable feud.

Ultimately, they could destroy an imperial lineage right now, but if there was a single cinder that could reignite, the revitalized sect could destroy them in retaliation. Thus, without a substantial vengeance, no one would try to destroy the fallen Undying Gate. Plus, it was located in the distant Godhalt Continent, the only thing valuable here was the art of immortality.

"That's true, an ordinary Godking wouldn't be able to shake an Immortal Emperor's foundation." Xiaoxiao nodded.

She curiously stared at the gate master and cutely smiled: "Everyone comes here to search for the artifact of immortality or the technique for eternal life, is this true?"

"Of course not, there is absolutely no such thing!" The gate master's expression greatly shifted as he hurriedly replied: "These are only baseless assertions. How could we have an artifact or technique like that?"

These words scared him quite a bit. This was an earth-shattering matter, so if more rumors about them were to be spread, it would bring about great trouble to their sect again.

"Really?" Xiaoxiao looked at the gate master with skepticism.

"Absolutely true!" The master instantly swore: "For millions of years, countless treefathers and sea gods have visited the Undying Gate, and even Immortal Emperors have come before. If we had an artifact that relates to immortality, it would have been taken away long ago."

Xiaoxiao agreed with these words as well. After all, how could this sect hide anything from those powerful existences, especially the emperors?

She inquisitively asked: "What about techniques and merit laws?"

The gate master smiled wryly and replied: "Another fake rumor, these don't exist for sure. Back then, Immortal Emperor Wu Gou had checked all of our secrets and guaranteed that we do not have an art of immortality."

"I did hear something about Immortal Emperor Wu Gou's guarantee." She pondered for a bit before smiling.

Back then, the news about the Undying Gate's immortality art spread across all of Heaven Spirit. Many desired this mythical art, and some wouldn't mind destroying the gate for it.

However, that was the era when Immortal Emperor Wu Gou ruled the nine worlds. During this perilous time, the Undying Gate invited the emperor to preside over the situation. In the end, he publicly presented a message to the world.

They gave every single merit law and ancient scroll to the emperor in order to prove the lack of a technique for immortality. After the emperor went through every single one, he truly didn't find anything of the sort. In fact, the sect didn't try to hide it at all, not to mention that it would be useless trying to trick an emperor in the first place. Because of his guarantee, these rumors quieted down for a good while.

Despite some still believing that this sect had an immortality technique, no one could prove otherwise.

The gate master hurriedly added: "Not just Immortal Emperor Wu Gou, later on, several other emperors took a look too. We really don't have an art of immortality."

Alas, it was a very sad thing for an imperial lineage to show other people their merit laws. Fortunately, invincible existences like emperors wouldn't steal their techniques for they would look down on such despicable actions.

Xiaoxiao spoke with a smile: "That's not necessarily true. People keep saying that your sect does have such an art, so either Immortal Emperor Bu Si didn't pass it down or you have lost the inheritance."

No one would doubt Immortal Emperor Wu Gou's words. Even though some secretly believed that the sect had such a method or was once in possession of it, one thing was certain at the very least — the world indeed had a supreme technique for immortality.

It was not unreasonable to maintain this train of thought. Immortal Emperor Bu Si had died time and time again, but he was still able to revive — this was the best evidence. However, after the emperor, no one else from the Undying Gate had been able to replicate this deed.

Because of this, some people speculated that the emperor never passed down this art or the gate might have lost it. From then on, this technique was no more.

"Well, I don't know about that." The gate master cheerfully laughed: "Descendants like us have no way of knowing whether our ancestors had this art of immortality or not."

The truth was that he didn't want his sect to have anything to do with this art at all. Such a thing was tempting, but it could bring about a total catastrophe.

Regardless of the gate master's responses, Xiaoxiao was still full of interest about the Undying Gate. She looked at the mountain ranges crossing the sky and said: "Even if your sect doesn't have this art, it isn't being suppressed by Godhalt."

This was the second thing from the gate that was so desirable by others. Only the abyss and the gate were spared from this fate. The abyss' case was a bit more clear cut while the gate's reason remained a secret. A few believed that it was due to their art of immortality, but the most common speculation was that they had a treasure just like the abyss. However, no one has been able to find it.

The master smiled awkwardly before having no choice but to say something: "Well... Princess Ye, you might not be aware, but it isn't the same as before. In the distant past, we were indeed freed from the suppression, but there are limitations now. Inside the Undying Gate, we are completely fine, but our disciples are will be suppressed in the other parts of Godhalt."

"Really?" She was skeptical.

The gate master sincerely answered: "It's completely true. A lot of people have tested this and we don't need to lie about it. In addition to this, although we might not be suppressed in our sect, our cultivation speed is much slower compared to the past. We really don't have any treasures since it would have been taken by the emperors already."

He didn't want anyone to misunderstand. It was one thing for the little sects to think this way, but a behemoth might destroy the sect completely if they thought there were treasures here.

"Then why was your sect not suppressed at all in the past? Why is it slowly starting to be suppressed now?" Xiaoxiao was unrelenting with her questions.

[Chapter 1430: The Gates Secret](#)

The gate master wryly smiled and shook his head at this question: "I'm not sure about this. A long time ago, our disciples were indeed fine in all of Godhalt. Later on, the suppression gradually affected us. Nowadays, we are fine in our ancestral ground but not anywhere else. Moreover, our cultivation speed has slowed down. Who knows the specific cause?"

"You're not being very honest right now." Li Qiye, who had been gazing into the distance, turned back and chuckled: "I can understand that you don't know why your ancestral ground is untouched. However, if you say you don't know why the suppression has begun for the rest of the continent, it would be too much of a lie."

"Young Noble Li, I really don't know." The gate master quickly defended himself: "As the gate master, I also want for my disciples to not be suppressed by Godhalt and for them to cultivate faster. Unfortunately, I am powerless."

"Not knowing and being powerless are two different things." Li Qiye chuckled: "You are powerless, but that doesn't mean you don't know."

"Ah..." The gate master awkwardly replied: "I am also eager to know, but this matter completely eludes me."

"Since there are no outsiders here, I'll comment on it for a bit." Li Qiye glanced at the mountain ranges in the sky and smiled.

The gate master respectfully said: "Please enlighten us, Young Noble. This lowly one is ready to learn."

"There is a very simple reason why your ancestral ground is untouched — the topography. This place is extraordinary because it is the beginning of the Divine Tree Ridge." He withdrew his gaze and continued: "How is it special? Your progenitor has understood some mysteries of the ridge and made some transactions before establishing a grand plan with a supreme imperial foundation. This is why this ancestral ground is unaffected and why the Undying Gate has yet to be destroyed. Even if the other sects took over this area, their cultivation would slow down because they're not the descendants of the Undying Gate!"

He glanced at the gate master at this point and laughed: "As for why the disciples are now suppressed in the other locations of Godhalt? There is only one reason for this. Moreover, you know this reason very well. There is a special worldly energy in this place, or at least there was in the past. Your emperor had gone inside and changed the Earth Vein in the inner world. He used a heaven-defying method to imprint

his own lineage into this Earth Vein. This allowed for the disciples to gain access to a different worldly energy than everyone else. This is why the members of your sect aren't suppressed in Godhalt."

The gate master was aghast after listening until this point.

"Unfortunately, a few things happened to your sect so this extraordinary energy became increasingly thin, hence the slower cultivation speed as well as being suppressed in the other locations. It's a pity that your descendants don't have the same heaven-defying means as your emperor and can't change it again."

The gate master turned pale and immediately took several steps backward upon this revelation.

"Gate master, am I right?" Li Qiye grinned while staring at him.

The old man was scared speechless and remained shocked for a long time. He could feel chills and sweat running down his back.

"This secret has never been recorded in your sect and is something only passed down by word of mouth." Li Qiye smiled leisurely: "In each successive generation, at least one person from your sect would know this secret!"

The gate master was completely shaken. Li Qiye was right, this secret was passed down for generations, and he was the only one who knew it in the present. However, an outsider like Li Qiye actually knew this heaven-shattering secret.

He swore that this secret couldn't be leaked, at least not by the previous generation, so how could Li Qiye be privy to this information?

Li Qiye continued in a contemplative manner: "Who could predict the rise and fall of a lineage? Although Immortal Emperor Bu Si had created a supreme imperial foundation, later on, your sect still tried to send disciples to build up more bases on the edges of the world. Alas, your sect is on the verge of death today."

This conversation had satiated Xiaoxiao's inquisitive mind. In fact, Yujian also listened with relish.

Xiaoxiao found this quite intriguing and asked: "If one won't be suppressed after establishing a lineage here, how come the previous emperors, sea gods, and treefathers don't do so?"

Li Qiye replied with a smile: "There are many things in life that happen because of the word 'fate'. This is the interesting part about Immortal Emperor Bu Si. Any other emperor wouldn't have this fate with the area. As for sea gods and treefathers, there is even less of a chance. Not to mention that they can't build a lineage in this place, very few sea gods and treefathers — without factoring in the Trident and ancestral weapons — could actually stand as equals with emperors. Without heaven-defying abilities, trying to change the Divine Tree Ridge is virtually impossible!" Li Qiye shook his head at this point.

"Hmph, not necessarily. Treefathers and sea gods have stood shoulder to shoulder with emperors throughout the generations. Moreover, treefathers return to the earth after death. Even emperors can't do anything to them, so how can you say that they are inferior?!" Xiaoxiao was very unhappy with Li Qiye's statement.

She was a treant and her Golden Isle had produced two treefathers, so she naturally found his words irritating.

Li Qiye couldn't help but chuckle after seeing her dissatisfied look: "Little girl, there's no need to be angry, I am simply stating the truth. Emperors have the Heaven's Will — this isn't something sea gods and treefathers can compare to. Even with the Trident and ancestral weapons, they can only keep the same pace as an emperor and do not have the ability to defeat them!"

She defiantly claimed: "Hmph, our treefathers aren't weaker even without ancestral weapons."

Each treefather had their own ancestral weapon. However, after their death, these ancestral weapons would crumble and return to the earth. Rumor has it that these weapons could borrow the supreme strength of the forefathers, allowing their master to become extremely powerful and capable of suppressing myriad realms.

Li Qiye shook his head: "You can't argue against the truth. Without the Trident, there aren't many sea gods that are at an emperor's level. The Prime Sea God can be considered one of them. He was truly unfathomable. During his era, his fame even exceeded Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo's."

Prime was the progenitor of the Seven Martial Pavilion. By the virtue of the seven styles, he fought all over the world without equals. After becoming a sea god, he deterred all the nine worlds.

For the sea demons, Prime was the strongest sea god of their race and was praised as a supreme overlord!

As for Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo, future generations knew very little about him. Despite being an emperor, his tales were too mysterious and difficult to research. Some even said that the emperor had never performed any earth-shattering deeds his whole life!

The reason why he was often mentioned was because of Immortal Emperor Yan Shi since the latter was the descendant of Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo. The empress had Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo's bloodline coursing through her veins.

Ye Xiaoxiao found it difficult to refute because Li Qiye had been stating facts. Without a doubt, treefathers and sea gods wouldn't be able to contend without their respective weapons.

However, there was no way of passing on these artifacts to future generations, hence a common belief that these artifacts didn't belong to them!

"Okay, we'll go to the Crane Beak Peak now." Li Qiye chuckled while looking at the dazed gate master.

The shaken gate master calmed down and quickly said: "This lowly one will lead the way for Young Noble Li and Princess Ye."

The Crane Beak Peak was a strange peak, but there were too many of them in the Undying Gate, so it didn't seem out of place.

True to its name, it was long like a crane's beak and arched into the clouds. There was a pavilion built near a cliff with a bottomless abyss. While inside, one could see the beautiful sceneries of this place.

It had been abandoned long ago by the Undying Gate. Even though the building was still here, there were weeds and grasses overgrowing everywhere. However, the gate master didn't dare to be careless when Li Qiye was staying here, so he had ordered for disciples to clean it up.

When the group finally arrived, the peak was changed beyond recognition. The pavilion was cleaned completely and had proper arrangements.

After settling the two guests in, the gate master respectfully told Li Qiye: "Young Noble Li, we have disciples stationed at the base of the peak. If you have any needs, just let them know."

"No need, let them leave." Li Qiye gently waved his hand.

The gate master obeyed without daring to say anything. In fact, he was all-too curious about why Li Qiye picked this particular peak. He didn't believe that Li Qiye was only here to look at the sceneries.