Emperor 1531

Chapter 1531: Invincible Tree

"Boom!" A green light illuminated all of Heaven Spirit. The entire world was drowned in a blink.

At this time, the withered tree was nowhere to be found. Only a verdant version emerged before the world and covered everything.

Just one leaf alone was monstrous in size. The new tree couldn't be measured by any conventional means since it was several times larger than the dead version. Moreover, the branches were much more numerous with countless leaves growing from them. Each leaf was already unimaginably large, the size of a mountain or a plain.

At this time, this boundless vitality pervaded Heaven Spirit and bathed its inhabitants. Everyone felt relaxed as if they were several thousand years younger.

"Is it obtaining immortality?" Everyone became emotional while immersed in this life force.

This was the tree returning to its peak form with the Death Chapter, not a type of rebirth. It was simply harkening back to its past life.

"Time to end this." Li Qiye's voice echoed across the world.

"Rumble!" Gigantic dragons rushed out from the Spirit Abyss right away and made their appearance clear by howling.

"Boom!" They began to tear the abyss apart and pulled out the deepest location from this sect.

"Bang!" This location filled with darkness was crushed into nothingness. All protection and seals were insignificant before these dragons.

"Those aren't dragons!" Upon a closer inspection, the masters would see that they were thick branches coming out of the earth.

"Whoosh!" A branch came down from the sky towards the primordial weapon floating above the abyss. This was an artifact engulfed in primordial chaos. Nevertheless, it still couldn't escape from the tree's suppression. The branch instantly coiled around this weapon and dragged it away from the abyss.

After it was taken away, a series of explosions happened. The abyss began to crumble into pieces.

"Kill!" Many ancestors and experts saw the artifact being dragged away. They wildly howled and rushed towards the branch in order to take it back for it was everything to their sect.

"Pluff!" Other branches shot down like arrows. The result was obvious. All of these ancestors and disciples were instantly killed including those who didn't participate. They were skewered by the branches together into a string.

In a short period, the dead disciples were still confused. They didn't even last one move before these branches.

"Oh god!" The young and old at the abyss were scared out of their mind while running out of the abyss.

However, Li Qiye didn't bother looking at these defenseless people and didn't try to kill him. He intended on sparing the young and old or they wouldn't have made it outside.

"No!" The abyss was annihilated so quickly. Effort accumulated from many generations turned into ashes in the blink of an eye. This made Stygian scream and rushed out from the terra.

However, it was too late. Another branch descended and nailed him to death in the sky. His blood dripped down one drop at a time to the ocean and slowly disappeared. It was an indignant death.

Their abyss has experienced countless generations using the advantage of Godhalt. Alas, it was all gone now.

All eyes were wide open to see the Stygian Monarch being crucified up above.

"Boom!" More detonations resounded with branches coming down and piercing through the Dream Empyrean.

"Noooo!" The disciples there were massacred in the same manner. The young and old were spared but anyone else who has cultivated was killed!

"Bang! Bang! Bang!" The Dream Empyrean was torn asunder. The branches then dragged the antique item away as well as the sect's treasury.

"Die!" Shen Mengtian inside the Ancestral Terra cried out and soared to the sky to kill these branches. That was the only thing on his mind.

"Boom!" His resistance was futile since he was also nailed to the sky by one of the branches just like Stygian.

"Rustle!" A thick branch coiled towards the direction of the fleeing Roaring Conch and instantly stopped it from moving.

"Do not resist, abandon ship!" Ling Fengyun was horrified as well. He used his top speed to rush towards the conch and yelled sternly.

"But..." A few ancestors hesitated. How could they give up their home so easily?

"Pluff!" Screams came about. All of the ancestors and experts who either hesitated or resisted were skewered.

Even Ling Fengyun couldn't save them. He could only watch these resisting members die.

"We might have an agreement but there is no mercy for those who do not obey." Li Qiye's voice loomed in the sky.

"Leave." Ling Fengyun couldn't change the situation. He swept his sleeve and brought all the lucky survivors out of the Roaring Conch. This was a supreme technique that could instantly send them to safety.

"There's no turning the tide. This isn't something you can resist. Now, be a normal person and find peace for the rest of your lives." Fengyun gently sighed and left the refugees since his fate was up to Li Qiye now.

The branch pulled the Roaring Conch back. This gigantic ship was now in Li Qiye's possession.

In the blink of an eye, three great lineages have been eliminated from history. However, the Roaring Conch had a much better result compared to the Spirit Abyss and the Dream Empyrean. Though Li Qiye spared the weak, all of the other disciples and ancestors were massacred completely. However, only a few experts from the Roaring Conch were killed. More than ninety percent of its disciples managed to stay alive.

This was due to Ling Fengyun's wise decision. If he didn't surrender and chose to fight like his peers, the Conch would have ended in the same way as the other two sects.

Alas, the ship itself was no more so they have lost their ancestral ground and resources. Furthermore, like Fengyun has said, they needed to live a quiet life from now on since they have lost the chance to rise to domination in the future.

This slightly acceptable outcome was given to them by Ling Fenyun. Otherwise, they would have opposed him and that would end with their destruction!

In a short time, all of Heaven Spirit became quiet. Not to mention ordinary ancestors, even Godkings pissed their pants. Their legs grew weak as they stared at the gigantic tree.

"Time to finish this." Li Qiye chuckled while everyone else held their breath. After the destruction of these three sects, it was the Ancestral Terra's turn.

"Ha! I'll take you on!" Dualchild laughed and left the Ancestral Terra. He understood that the three ancestral trees won't be able to protect even themselves so he might as well die an early death instead of prolonging this.

"You shall get one move." Li Qiye answered: "When my tree is at its peak, even your father would have to take the long way around, let alone you."

This verdant tree had an unbelievable power at its highest state. Even emperors would be apprehensive about fighting it.

"One move it is, I won't be begging for mercy." Dualchild crazily roared: "Die!"

He poured the rest of his vitality and longevity blood onto the true treasure.

"Boom!" A Heavenly Annihilation came out. It shattered the sky vault and severed many branches with an unfathomable might.

Alas, this annihilation still couldn't oppose the green tree. It instantly shattered this move and crucified Dualchild as well.

However, unlike Shen Mengtian and Stygian, Dualchild died with his eyes closed.

Chapter 1532: Time To End

This was a quiet world stricken with a palpable pressure due to the corpses of Dualchild, Stygian, and Shen Mengtian nailed to the sky. The suffocated crowd had sweat all over.

Remember that these three represented the top existences for Heaven Spirit.

Even if they weren't Emperor Assailants, there was only a little gap. Powerful characters like them could be count on one's hands in Heaven Spirit.

However, against that green tree, they were mere ants and were instantly slaughtered. Just how terrible was its power? Many people recalled what Li Qiye has said earlier. Even if Dualchild's father was in this world, he would still have to take the long way around this tree.

Remember that his father was an emperor. Just thinking about this terrified everyone. The power of this tree has exceeded their imagination. This prompted the question - what the heck was it?

Even though after withering, it turned into the Divine Tree Ridge. Then what about when it was alive?

At this time, people held their breath while looking at the terra. Their heartbeat became rapid because they knew that this was the end for this sect.

Among the five, Shen Mengtian, Stygian, and Dualchild were killed in battle. Ling Fengyun has surrendered. The only one left was Creek Bamboo.

Furthermore, three great powers have been annihilated. The Ancestral Terra most likely couldn't escape this fate either.

It was very somber inside the sect. An air of despair ravaged this place. Just a while ago, the experts were celebrating and thought that the three ancestral trees could protect them from this disaster. Alas, it was inevitable.

"Let's do this." Li Qiye's voice came from the nine heavens.

"Li Qiye, no, Young Noble Li, I surrender. Our Ancestral Terra will surrender." Creek Bamboo soared to the sky and raised the white flag.

"We will give up everything and surrender. From now on, The Ancestral Terra is yours!" He beseeched.

"It's too late." The faint voice responded: "I have given you an opportunity but you didn't value it. A missed venture does not return."

"Young Noble Li, everyone makes mistakes. We lost today and we will hand over the terra, this is our everything, will you still not spare us?" Creek Bamboo begged loudly.

"You didn't have this thought in the beginning and only changed your mind after facing despair. There is no medicine for regrets in this world." The voice leisurely said.

"Young Noble Li, as the saying goes, killing someone is only making their head fall on the ground..." Creek Bamboo continued begging. [1]

"Alright, no need to talk to me about morality or act all pitiful. The grand dao is merciless, there's no room for mercy. After making the wrong choice, you must face it bravely. The high heaven does not forgive the weak or bully the strong. Though I am not the high heaven, I will not give the enemy a second chance. If I were to lose, I would also face a grotesque end without regrets." Li Qiye was unmoved.

No one said anything during this cry for mercy from Creek Bamboo.

There was nothing else to say since this was the world of cultivation where the law of the jungle reigned. Once they chose to be enemies, it was a fight to the bitter end.

In a war like this, if Li Qiye were to win, he would slaughter his enemies. But if he had lost, Stygian and others would have ripped him to pieces or maybe even tortured him.

War has always been cruel and the enemies would never show mercy. Because of this, there was no need to reciprocate!

Creek Bamboo stood there with a pale complexion. They were willing to give up everything to stay alive but Li Qiye refused!

He was overwhelmed with regrets since he was the one who brought this disaster upon the Ancestral Terra. It wouldn't only end with an invasion; they would be destroyed just like the empyrean and the abyss.

He regretted not picking the same choice as Ling Fengyun. At the very least, he would have been able to protect his descendants. But now, both the terra and its disciples were about to turn into ashes.

He was too confident at the start due to the protection of the ancestral trees. But then again, no one in the world would have expected such an outcome.

Ultimately, he has become the sinner of the terra for causing its demise!

"Are you ready, doom is here." Li Qiye's faint voice descended.

Branches drilled down from the sky straight for the terra. They looked quite weak and fragile but the reality was that nothing could stop them.

"Kill!" Creek Bamboo had no other choice but to die in battle. He roared as his body exploded. His remaining vitality instantly unleashed the last attack. There was only a bloody shadow shooting to the sky containing all of his longevity blood. It was quite destructive in nature.

"Boom!" It still couldn't change anything. The bloody shadow seemed weak against the piercing branches and was instantly killed.

The branches continued onward for the Ancestral Terra. The ancestral marks floating above exuded endless laws that turned into a gigantic shield. It covered all of the sect like the vault of the sky.

"Boom!" The unbelievable happened. This shield actually managed to stop all the branches.

The entire place shook like crazy. The ancestors and experts dropped to the ground from the vibration. The ocean outside had numerous tsunami as if the land here was about to sink.

"Wow!" Many disciples there cheered after seeing the shield. They saw hope that the ancestral trees could stop the verdant tree's offense.

"Too bad, this is only the final death throes." Li Qiye's voice echoed across the world again.

"Rumble!" In the blink of an eye, thick branches landed down around the sea surrounding the terra. The sect itself lost connection with Heaven Spirit.

"Boom!" Everyone could feel the world quake a little bit. It wasn't due to an overwhelming force but rather, the connection between the terra and the earth was severed.

Sure enough, the initially radiant marks lost their light as if the ancestral trees' roots were cut down.

"The ancestral trees can't borrow the power of the world anymore." An invincible character understood what was going on and murmured.

Everyone knew that returning to the earth allowed these trees to be one with the world, allowing them to use the strength of the countless earth veins.

However, the verdant tree has severed this connection so the three ancestral trees couldn't use these earth veins anymore.

"Bang!" The branches pierced through the shield without hesitation. After breaching the area, they coiled around the three ancestral trees like spirit snakes.

"Shit, run away!" The experts here lost all courage. In a short time, it was a scene of chaos. Even some ancestors turned and ran.

"No! Let the young and old escape, we shall stay!" A high ranking ancestor took charge and howled loudly to stop the fleeing party.

In the next second, several ancestors brought a huge ship here and boarded all the young and old before sending them away.

They understood that Li Qiye definitely wouldn't spare them even if they made it to the far horizons. However, he wouldn't pursue the truly helpless so they sent this group away.

In their eyes, even if their terra was about to be destroyed, at the very least, some of their bloodlines could still continue.

Chapter 1533: Destroying The Ancestral Terra

Right when the terra's ancestors were taking the young and old away, the fight between Li Qiye and the three ancestral trees was nearing the end.

"Buzz!" Blinding immortal light oozed out of the trees' marks. They were going all out in one last hurrah.

"I'll show you treants what is called an immortal weapon." Li Qiye answered.

"Whoosh!" The verdant tree blotting out Heaven Spirit had an ancient mark appearing on it. The world was engulfed in its terrible power. This mark was many times stronger than the ancestral trees' marks and made them seem so insignificant.

"What is that?" Even the most powerful treants were shouting after feeling the immortal power of this ancient mark.

"Boom!" The three marks from the ancestral trees immediately disintegrated into thick laws that were instantly siphoned by the verdant tree. It swallowed them and fused them into its own ancient mark.

With a brushing sound, the immortal lights from the three ancestral trees dimmed down instantly after their marks were taken away. They looked like candles in the wind that could be extinguished with a gust of breeze.

"Rumble!" The entire terra was shaking. The branches of the verdant tree coiling around the ancestral began to pull them up from the ground.

"No!" The ancestors and cultivators in the sect screamed pitifully with despair.

In their mind, the ancestral trees represented everything but now, they were being pulled from the roots. It was too much of a blow to their confidence so despair took over.

"Boom!" Finally, all three trees were taken off completely. Their leaves began to wither after leaving the soil.

These trees took root with the earth so once they left, it meant death! One could imagine the consequence of Li Qiye's action.

This scene shocked everyone in Heaven Spirit. They stood agape for a long time. Some jaws even nearly dropped to the ground.

Ancestral trees were supreme existences in the mind of many in Heaven Spirit. Rumor has it that not even Immortal Emperors could uproot them.

However, Li Qiye has done so to three of them at the same time. Such a scene was too much to take in. Regardless of who they might be, they were horrified with shuddering legs. Even Emperor Assailants felt the same way.

"No, no, no!" The experts in the terra cried in anguish. From today on, their Ancestral Terra has been erased from Heaven Spirit.

"Ready for death?" Li Qiye's voice came again after uprooting the trees.

Heaven Spirit was speechless. Everyone understood that facing Li Qiye meant death regardless of who his opponents might be.

The disciples, experts, and even the ancestors were silent. As the ship took the young and old away, Li Qiye didn't bother pursuing them and simply let them escape.

Of course, some disciples tried to escape secretly but the majority of experts and even ancestors stay behind.

After all, this was their home. They didn't want to escape and knew that it wasn't possible either. Once they tried, Li Qiye would start to massacre everyone!

"We'll fight to the death!" One ancestor rallied the troops in a frenzy.

"Yes, fight to the death!" All the experts felt their blood boiling and were ready to die.

There was no other choice for this was their only end.

In an instant, these disciples formed a grand formation. It was immense, consisting of millions. Once it took form, the blood energy gathered into an ocean of blood.

"Kill!" The disciples inside this array shouted.

With a loud blast, all of the vitality from these disciples unleashed one final blow.

The sky was shattered while the stars rustled. The power of this attack ravaged the world.

"Pointless struggle." Li Qiye spoke again. At this moment, the branches wove together into a green spear that was thrown straight down.

The formation couldn't do anything before this spear. It penetrated the arrays instantly and caused a rain of blood and screams.

The branches then pierced through the opponents' chest. Countless bodies were skewered together.

Many people vomited after seeing so many bodies in the sky. This was a ruthless killing.

Next, the branches shuddered and all of the bodies fell down into the ocean. In just a short period, so many bodies floated on the surface. The spectators felt their scalp tingling watching this scene. No one dared to make a sound due to being completely horrified.

"The terra is done for." After a long time, someone finally commented.

A place praised to be impregnable even by emperors had turned to ashes. A legend has ended today. Quite a shocking turn of event!

In just one day, Li Qiye has destroyed the Spirit Abyss, Dream Empyrean, Roaring Conch, and the Ancestral Terra. After this battle, everyone could only kneel before him. No one would dare to lift their head or walk proudly in front of him, regardless of how strong they might be.

"Clang!" The branches nailed themselves to the ground followed by a series of explosions. One could see their treasuries being dragged out. Mountains and springs, as well as fields and treasures, were all taken by Li Qiye.

Generations of accumulation made the terra full of treasures. All of that has become Li Qiye's personal possession.

Everyone watched but no one dared to have a single thought of greed. To be frank, even if a single coin of Li Qiye fell on the ground, no one would dare to pick it up. Everyone knew that opposing him would invite a sect-destroying disaster!

"Xiong Qianbei, heed my call!" He spoke again.

Very few have heard of this name in Heaven Spirit. They were curious about the reason why he called out this name.

In an inconspicuous sea realm in this world, an old man hurriedly flew to the sky and prostrated. He was pale with fright and spoke with trepidation: "Your, your servant is here, please give the order, Your Majesty."

He almost pissed his pants and didn't even have the courage to raise his head.

"Boom!" A huge branch from the sky took down a corner of the terra and threw it towards the sea. Li Qiye said: "Take it, this land is yours now."

"Your Majesty, your servant, servant was blind and didn't know that you are the contemporary Immortal emperor. I was foolish and blinded by greed. An ant like myself wouldn't, wouldn't dare to negotiate with you, Your Majesty." He finally understood who he was making a deal with in the past!

At this particular juncture, he wouldn't dare to talk with Li Qiye about conditions even if he was a hundred times more courageous. If Li Qiye wanted something, he would hand it over without a hesitation!

He was afraid of Li Qiye becoming angry. This was someone who could annihilate his clan and race. At that moment, he would be the sinner of the Xiong Clan!

"Take it, my words are made of gold and shall be carried out." Li Qiye said slowly.

"Thank you, Your Majesty. The Xiong Clan will never forget your kindness." Qianbei didn't dare to refuse an imperial order so he immediately bowed his head more than ten times while being scared out of his wits!

Chapter 1534: All Races Trembled

The verdant tree covered all of Heaven Spirit as if it was the real ruler. All other creatures seemed so tiny beneath its shadow, not worth mentioning at all.

People could only look up to this tree with fear in their mind. Any existence would feel that they couldn't reach the apex, completely helpless.

For example, All-Martial General also shared this same sentiment with a tinge of powerlessness. He wasn't even an ant compared to this verdant tree.

In the past, he didn't understand why his princess supported Li Qiye so much. She even felt that it was natural for him to sit above a sea god.

But now, it was all clear. He felt that her choice was quite insightful and visionary.

He has destroyed the Ancestral Terra even before becoming an Immortal Emperor. Then what about after his ascension...

Just thinking of that made the general shudder. Li Qiye was already frightening enough now. After becoming emperor, the general could only describe Li Qiye with one moniker - Eternal Prime Emperor!

In fact, he wasn't the only one with this thought. Many experts at the pinnacle of Heaven Spirit were trembling as well.

Before shouldering the Heaven's Will, this was his capability. After becoming emperor, they would be insects before him!

"The greatest emperor of all time!" One invincible master gently sighed. This was perhaps inevitable in the future.

All existences were nervous with fear. Some were forced on the ground while shaking in Heaven Spirit.

Three great powers have been destroyed and even the famous impregnable Ancestral Terra couldn't escape this fate.

Just thinking about Li Qiye's ferocious method to uproot the three ancestral trees made everyone shudder. Some even lost control of their bowel movement.

Many people in the future would wake up in the middle of the night due to seeing the nightmarish scene of today!

How could anyone ever forget three ancestral trees being forcibly uprooted? This merciless scene has imprinted itself into everyone's memories for the rest of their lives.

"Anyone else wants to take me on?" His voice echoed again. Though no one could see him, they could feel his gaze sweeping by all of Heaven Spirit to their horror.

Even the strongest masters didn't dare to face him at this moment.

Thus, he turned his gaze towards the Bonesea. His eyes became extremely profound.

"Come out and fight?" A second challenge echoed and terrified the crowd.

Of course, he wasn't challenging the experts of this world since he was aiming for the Bonesea.

However, it was completely silent as if no creature has heard his words. No one answered his challenge.

"Your Majesty, please recall your technique." The frightened people of this world directly called him king now. They prostrated and hoped that he would recall his power.

In fact, all of the cultivators here misunderstood him and thought that he was challenging Heaven Spirit's inhabitants.

Even the invincible masters began to flee without saying goodbye to anyone.

Of course, no one in Heaven Spirit was worthy of fighting him. Only the Bonesea was a challenge at this moment.

But its lack of response made Li Qiye look away. He darted towards Godhalt in a very mysterious location.

It was a gaze capable of crossing through time and everything in this world. At this moment, he was illuminating that location.

"Looks like it is giving up completely, which necessitates finding a completely new method." He slowly spoke while fixating in this place.

There was no response or reaction either. The place was still mysterious and normal looking. No one would give it a second glance outside of Li Qiye!

He eventually retracted his gaze as well.

"I want a fight but unfortunately, they all want to hide with their tail tucked between their legs. What a shame." His words resounded sonorously across the world, robbing its inhabitants of their colors.

"Boss, who would dare to fight you now? Please, recall your power already." Some of the bowing crowd couldn't help but beg.

Emperor Assailants were running away as well while thinking that Li Qiye was asking for more opponents.

At this key juncture, no one dared to oppose him, let alone fighting him. Even assailants would be slaughtered by him since the three ancestral trees failed as well.

This misunderstanding wasn't resolved in the end.

"A pity." In the end, he could only sigh since he couldn't do anything if the Bonesea and the Divine Tree Ridge chose against coming into being.

"Whoosh!" As the crowd was trembling in fear, the verdant tree blotting out the world suddenly disappeared with a loud noise. A boundless green radiance fell upon Heaven Spirit. These green wisps fluttered downward, creating a beautiful and dreamy spectacle.

With this tree gone, many experts stare back towards the Divine Tree Ridge. They found that it was finally back to its original position of stretching through Godhalt. It was still one of the twelve burial grounds as if nothing has happened.

People rubbed their eyes and felt that this was only a dream. One expert even told the person next to him: "Hey, pinch my thigh."

The pain told him that it wasn't a dream! Of course, this was obvious looking at the destroyed great powers as well. The ultimate massacre just now was indeed reality.

Though it was over, a somber serenity overwhelmed Heaven Spirit for a long while. Experts and lineages didn't dare to voice their opinion. To embellish the atmosphere a little, one could even say that no one dared to breathe loudly.

The cultivators in this world chose to hide in their home instead of showing their face. The battle today has shattered their courage. A few masters who just got out of their coffins immediately crawled back in.

"Be smart and tuck your tail in this generation, do not cause trouble!" Some Emperor Assailants even warned their descendants before running back to their lairs.

Li Qiye returned to his Tetra-war Bronze Chariot and casually threw the ancient jade from the Dream Empyrean and the primordial weapon of the abyss at Su Yonghuang.

"Try your best researching these two items. It will be very beneficial." He said lightly.

"For me? I have treasures already." She found this surprising.

Though she didn't know why these two treasures were amazing, they were definitely extraordinary since they were the defining artifacts of the abyss and empyrean.

"Your main treasure belongs to the Su Clan so place it back into the old temple. These two treasures, on the other hand, shall go on conquest with you." He knew what she was referring to.

When he gave the old treasure to the Su Clan back then, it was to protect them. Thus, after Su Yonghuang found it again, he still hoped that it could stay in their old temple so continue protecting them. He owed them this much.

Yonghuang quietly puts away the two treasures. Li Qiye had so many treasures so he must have his reasons for giving these two to her, she felt.

Chapter 1535: See You Again, Young Master

This was an unprecedented aftermath in Heaven Spirit. In the past, regardless of the victor after a great battle, it would become the topic of the streets and teahouses.

However, the abnormal part was the unwillingness to discuss this battle. The majority of the sects fell into silence with their members all in hiding. Moreover, these sects were under strict vigilance, not allowing anyone to cause trouble or leave the gate.

It can be said that this quiet period was the most peaceful time in Heaven Spirit's history. In the past, even during the most prosperous and tranquil generation, there would always be conflicts and skirmishes between powers due to the sheer size of Heaven Spirit.

However, in just virtually one night, everyone started playing nice like obedient children. Of course, docility wasn't the reason. It was because they were frightened out of their mind from yesterday.

Some found themselves trembling with fear yesterday and nightmare disturbed their sleep. Trepidation and prudence became the norm.

Such deathly stillness made the reclusive old man residing about the clouds laughed: "There hasn't been a massacre like this in a while now. Only when that damned crow does something like this would those uppity juniors know how to act and realize what kind of primordial monster they're facing!"

The old man wasn't surprised at all about this massacre. He has predicted that Li Qiye would do something big after coming back. This was the reason why he didn't allow for the kids from his Giant Dragon Kingdom to come out. Once they offended a character like the Dark Crow, even if Li Qiye were to give him some face, he would still peel their skin. A capital punishment could be forgiven but he wouldn't let them live too easily!

On True Martial Island, the wind gently fluttered by creating a scenic charm.

At this moment, Li Qiye and Tantai Ruonan were standing on a cliff to look at the open sea with their hands clasped together. The two didn't say anything and only enjoyed the beautiful incoming waves.

He eventually sighed softly and broke the silence.

"This might be your last time watching the tides with me, young master." She said.

Li Qiye had a slightly sad expression without responding. In fact, he didn't know when they will be able to meet again. Perhaps this would be their final meeting. This wasn't his first separation since people came and went in his millions of years. Some were resting underground; some chose to never come out again; others were eternally separated by distance...

His stoic manner and emotionless heart were the results of these separations. It wasn't because of personality or cruelty; this stemmed from a helplessness of eternal life.

He would continue to live on while those next to him left one by one. Moreover, his path was still long with many goals. There was no resting, halting, or looking back!

He replied softly: "I am an irresponsible master. You have always accompanied as a friend but I can't stay behind for you."

She immediately embraced him tightly by the waist. He returned the passionate gesture.

"No." She said: "Young master, it isn't your fault. No one in this world is worth for you to break your eternal path, not me either. You will keep going until the final battle at the end of the world. This is your pursuit and dream. That's my young master, only someone like that is worthy of my old effort and company in the past. Plus, your resilience and persistence gave me courage and determination. Even when you are gone, you will always live in my heart."

They hugged each other even tighter. They knew that another meeting in the future might be a fool's hope. It seemed as if they were one and could hear each other's heartbeat. Outside of this sound, there was nothing else in the world.

"See you, young master." She whispered in his ear after a long while.

"See you, Ruonan." He responded melancholically with a quiet mumble. Even an emotionless being like him fell into a daze.

Finally, he let go and left quickly without looking back at her. As he made his departure, he didn't realize that her eyes have become moist.

She watched him leave until he disappeared into the horizon before closing her eyes and the tears finally flowed down from the corners.

"Young master, live on. I know you will win, you will..." She murmured to herself.

She couldn't possibly know the result of the final battle in the future. However, she was certain of his victory because her young master would always stand back up. Even if he were to fall into a bottomless abyss, he would climb back out again to sweep across the world.

This was her young master, her man; one who would never give up regardless of the outcome!

The island finally disappeared into the vast ocean. No one would see it again as it waited for the right time to make an entrance!

Li Qiye didn't return to the Mortal Emperor World right away after leaving the island. He brought Su Yonghuang to the Seven Martial Pavilion instead.

In the past, he has made a deal with them. He would replenish the Hallowed Ancestor's life while they would take him to see the Prime Sea God.

They traveled through the domains to reach the pavilion.

This was the strongest lineage of the sea demon race, their beacon of light. It has produced three sea gods.

All along, it had many geniuses and experts. People in Heaven Spirit didn't only love talking about the sea gods but also their wondrous technique, the seven grand styles.

Of course, their knowledge was limited to the legends. In fact, few have actually see the styles themselves, including the disciples from the sect.

This wasn't strange at all. For millions of years, the ones who have actually learned all seven were very rare. Hallowed was one of them.

The pavilion's territory was immense and prosperous. The architectures here were numerous and immersed in a faint mist.

People would think that they have arrived at a reclusive paradise after seeing the visual phenomena found in this place, not one of the strongest powers of the sea demon race.

The most distinguished member of the pavilion, the Hallowed Ancestor, personally greeted Li Qiye. His status wasn't only prestigious in the pavilion but throughout all of Heaven Spirit.

However, this gray-haired man immediately kneeled after seeing Li Qiye and said respectfully: "Your Excellency, please forgive me for not being able to greet you earlier."

Li Qiye smiled after seeing this scene: "Hallowed, you live up to your name, different from ordinary men. If you refer to me by this title, then you know of my identity."

"Your Excellency." Even the supreme ancestor didn't dare to stand up at this moment. It wasn't because of his early destruction of those other lineages, more so because of his true identity.

Others weren't aware but he has found out at this moment. Thus, how could he dare to show any slight at this moment?

Chapter 1536: Seven Martial Pavilion

Li Qiye gently waved his sleeve while looking at the prostrating ancestor: "Rise, I'm here to complete the transaction with you."

Hallowed was halfway up but after hearing the full sentence, his legs turned weak so he kneeled again and hurriedly said: "Your Excellency, this lowly one was blind before like a frog under the well. I didn't know that you have personally arrived in Heaven Spirit. Trying to make a deal with you was a momentary lapse of propriety. Please forgive this ignorant one. I don't dare to trouble you with this life replenishment matter." Since he didn't know about Li Qiye's identity before, he tried to negotiate with the guy. But now, with this knowledge in mind, who would dare to negotiate with the eternal dark hand? Even emperors would have to take the long way around, others weren't qualified to do so. He was no exception either.

"I've always been a man of my words." Li Qiye waved his sleeve again: "If I have agreed to replenish your life, I shall do so."

"Your Excellency, I won't ever forget your grace." The frightened ancestor finally heaved a sigh of relief and bowed again.

"I'll lead the way for you." He said with reverence after standing up.

Li Qiye nodded: "Very well, I haven't visited your pavilion in a while, it's a good time to see its pretty sceneries."

The Hallowed Ancestor quickly told the Seven Martial Goddess standing next to him: "Pavilion Lord, Miss Su isn't familiar with our home so why don't you show her around?"

Though he lacked a clear understanding of Li Qiye, he has heard of some legends before. Because of this, he didn't wish for a third party during their conversation.

The goddess took Su Yonghuang away to fulfill her role as a good host.

"Your Excellency, please come in." The ancestor became Li Qiye's guide.

He entered the pavilion and took his time appreciating the beautiful sceneries with the ancestor. It was quite vast and magnificent all around with ethereal mists and clouds. The mountains and rivers were flourishing just like a land of immortals. Anyone would forget their way home from loving it so much. There was no rush to meet the Prime Sea God at all.

Today, the entire sect was very quiet with virtually no ordinary disciples around. Even the experts were nowhere to be found, only the ancestors showed themselves.

This was because the Hallowed Ancestor ordered specifically for the disciples to cultivate in isolation since Li Qiye was coming. He was afraid that some disciples might not know the immensity of the heaven and earth. If they were to annoy Li Qiye, then the pavilion would face a great disaster. Even the Ancestral Terra was annihilated and their sect wasn't that much stronger than the terra. An angry Li Qiye might mean an unavoidable doom.

Moreover, he has heard that the eternal dark hand didn't like others talking about him, especially about his past. Because of this, he was afraid of the disciples being too curious and think about a few things. That would lead to more trouble.

The entire pavilion was open for him including the forbidden and secret locations. The ancestor understood that if Li Qiye wanted to go somewhere, no one would be able to stop him anyway. Since he could come and go as he please, it would look better for them to open the entire sect to him.

Hallowed took him to many places unavailable to the protectors and elders as his guide without holding back. Eventually, the two of them reached the highest peak overlooking all of the magnificent sceneries of the sect.

Li Qiye took in the scene and eventually said: "The Seven Martial Pavilion is a treasure ground. Prime was very insightful indeed and has expended painstaking effort to create the sect here."

"Our descendants are blessed today due to the protection of the progenitor and the wise sages." Hallowed hurriedly answered: "Everything here was left behind for us already. Alas, we of the future generations are incompetent and can't make it even stronger."

Li Qiye glanced at him and said: "Don't worry, I don't have any desire towards your pavilion but I do know that your sect has accumulated more than enough power with no lack of treasuries and resources."

Being revealed by Li Qiye left Hallowed with a red complexion. He smiled wryly in response: "It's all due to our progenitor, including the current shielding situation. We are simply reaping the benefits of having a golden spoon."

"While it's true that he has performed the overarching shielding plan for the sect, the current accumulation and power of the sect aren't all due to him. This takes many generations and part of it is because of your contribution." Li Qiye said flatly.

"This lowly one didn't do much at all, can't reach the apex and can't get into your sight, Your Excellency." Hallowed humbly responded with haste.

"No need to be humble. The hidden resources are quite incredible at this moment but I don't care for this particular inheritance, don't worry." Li Qiye reiterated nonchalantly.

"Ah, just a bit of resource, not enough to impress you at all, Your Excellency." Hallowed smiled hollowly.

Despite being very famous in Heaven Spirit, the pavilion maintained a low-key presence. This wasn't to say that they didn't bother with worldly affairs or chose a reclusive way of life. It was because they rarely took in guests.

Any other powerful sea god's lineage would be quite eventful and crowded. There would be great fanfare after the birth of a sea god since they would accept the tributes from sea demons everywhere.

Alas, the pavilion didn't do so. Only extremely important people could visit this sect as a guest. They also rarely took in tributes or meeting requests from other sea demons. Most people in Heaven Spirit, especially the sea demons, found this quite peculiar.

Ordinary people couldn't see it but not Li Qiye. The pavilion's ancestral ground was completely hidden by an extremely heaven-defying method.

On the surface, the pavilion wasn't different from the other sea god's lineages. However, it was hiding many things that couldn't be seen from the outside. One had to enter before discovering these hidden matters. Of course, only someone of Li Qiye's level would be able to see through the true mysteries once inside.

Such concealment had no effect on Li Qiye even if Hallowed tried to.

"There's a reason why your progenitor has the title, Prime." Li Qiye uttered slowly: "Even though he started later compared to the Roaring Conch's progenitor, his outstanding vision wasn't something the Roaring Conch's progenitor could compare to. Even before becoming a sea god, he already had plans.

Despite failing to make a choice like the others, he still left behind a backup plan for your pavilion or even the entire sea demon race."

He continued: "But as for that Roaring Conch Sea God? His choice might have added some advantages but it came from a self-serving intent."

"Well..." Hallowed became frightened and whispered: "Your Excellency, is this the right place to discuss this?" With that, he secretly pointed up above.

Li Qiye smiled in response: "Don't worry, spying is possible in the past but now, I actually want to see it happen. If they dare to come out, I shall fight but if they continue hiding, there's nothing I can do even if I want to initiate a war."

Hallowed was scared out of his mind after hearing this secretive topic. He couldn't help but steal glances at the sky and was a bit afraid of a pair of eyes suddenly opening above.

After all, his sect has been hiding many things. In fact, this has been the case for three generations of sea gods.

Nevertheless, he understood that the eternal dark hand had no fear of anything. If someone actually dared to meet the challenge, a war will ensue to the bitter end.

Hallowed wouldn't dare to conjecture on the final victor but Li Qiye as the dark hand had absolute confidence. Of course, this would mean that the disaster would come early.

Chapter 1537: Current Situation

After Li Qiye's comment, Hallowed became quiet. He has personally trained two sea gods before so he knew more compared to others. Alas, he preferred to not talk about certain topics. However, it was different for a character of Li Qiye's level.

After a long time, he said quietly: "Your Excellency, there's no dodging this disaster?"

"No." Li Qiye chuckled: "You know full well that it is inevitable and is coming even faster than your imagination."

The ancestor's heart sank after hearing this. He was only holding onto a sliver of hope that the disaster might not come. But Li Qiye was the speaker now and destroyed his last hope. He knew that relying on this minuscule chance was simply daydreaming, not realistic at all.

The confirmation coming from anyone else, even a sea god, could be wrong. But this time, it came from the eternal dark hand. Thus, it was absolute with no room for error.

Li Qiye gazed far away and said slowly: "The chance is very low in this generation but it shall come in the next with an unprecedented swiftness!"

"Next generation?" Hallowed shuddered. In fact, he has not prepared well enough. Neither did his sect.

"As you can see, when I controlled the Divine Tree Ridge, there was no reaction from Heaven Spirit. The Bonesea and the ridge itself didn't retaliate. Reviving the tree back to its peak form was a direct provocation towards them but they didn't do anything." He explained. Hallowed was aghast after realizing something: "They're accumulating more power, biding for the right time."

"That's right." Li Qiye replied: "As the saying goes, one must endure the trivial things in order to carry out the grand scheme. They chose to keep quiet against my challenge because they are waiting instead of ruining their eternal plan from a momentary lapse of judgment."

Hallowed began to panic. This disaster was coming too fast while his pavilion wasn't completely ready. How could the eggs be safe when the nest is broken? When that day comes, their pavilion won't be able to escape the same fate either!

Hallowed pondered for a bit before asking: "Your Excellency, if you participate, how will the war go?"

"What do you mean? Fighting against the Bone Sea?" He chuckled and said leisurely.

"Well... yes." The old man smiled wryly and stared surreptitiously at the sky again.

"With my state two days ago when I control the Divine Tree Ridge at its highest power and with all of my methods, so what if the Bonesea wants to fight? As long as the ridge itself doesn't interfere, I'll show the Bonesea what a real heavy price is!"

He grinned and continued: "If I truly want to go to war, as long as I have enough time and not caring about the cost, I'll make the two of them submit right there!" His gaze turned cold after this declaration.

"But you sea demons, treants, and even the charming spirits, are you worth my paying an immeasurable price?" He glanced over at the ancestor: "If this was me in the past, I wouldn't look twice even if you sea demons are slaughtered and would give no shit to the death of the charming spirit race!"

Hallowed understood his intention. After all, the guy was a human. Moreover, even if humans were to stand in his way, the eternal dark hand would slay them mercilessly anyway. A human like him wouldn't care about the well-being of the sea demons. Moreover, this was a race who has opposed him repeatedly. To be frank, it would be a kind gesture from him to not applaud and cheer during their destruction.

"The Bonesea and the Divine Tree Ridge are indeed capable of causing the nine heavens and ten earths to tremble. Even emperors can't do anything to them. But they have been very smart all of this time to never provoke me!" Li Qiye smiled faintly.

"They aren't your enemies, Your Excellency. According to the rumors, you have a grand goal at the end of the world..." The old man hesitated before finally revealing what was on his mind.

"Deep Blue Sea God must have told you. If I'm not mistaken, he has asked emperors about the matters above the nine heavens." Li Qiye replied amusingly.

"Yes." Hallowed nodded his head.

Li Qiye paused for a bit before accepting: "That's right, the end of the world awaits me since I shall wage my war there!"

Of course, he has left behind hidden plans. He didn't wish to use them because they are meant for the final war. Even when the Black Dragon King suggested that he used them on the Immortal Demon Grotto, he still refused.

In his eyes, the grotto wasn't his goal, at least not the ultimate one. There were many methods to deal with the grotto as long as he wanted to. However, there was only one way to take care of what lies at the end of the world - fighting to the very end!

Once the war started, there was no turning back and he would only have one chance as well.

Hallowed didn't blame Li Qiye. After all, the three races' fate, as well as Heaven Spirit, had nothing to do with him.

"However, all of you still have a chance." Li Qiye smiled: "Look, I am here to talk to your Prime Sea God. I shall make an exception this time and give the charming spirit a treasure."

"The charming spirit?" Hallowed was surprised.

Li Qiye looked at him and said: "Who if not the charming spirit, you sea demons? What do you think carries a higher worth, the Maelstrom or the Bonesea?"

"The Maelstrom!" He inadvertently blurted. Despite being a sea demon, he knew more after listening to the sea gods.

"If I was a betting man, I would bet on the charming spirit as well." Hallowed smiled wryly after his wits returned.

"The rest is up to the Divine Tree Ridge. If it is willing to break the balance and be on the same side as the Maelstrom, then the disaster will end early. But if not, then there is still a sixty to seventy percent chance of Heaven Spirit surviving. This is all I can do for this world." He smiled faintly.

He then stared over towards Godhalt. After making such a big commotion and even controlling the tree itself, there was no reaction from the ridge itself. This made his plan fail since he simply wanted to talk with it!

After hearing him, Hallowed became jolted and quickly prostrated again and bowed his head fiercely: "Your Excellency, you are the savior of our world, of our sea demon race, of all existences. If we could help you in any way with our little power, we are willing to jump into the fire..."

The ancestor was ecstatic and grateful! The world might not know that their destiny could possibly be changed with a single thought from Li Qiye.

He knew that this could save the entire world, allowing them to survive this disaster. It wasn't an exaggeration to call him a world savior. However, Li Qiye who has brought dawn to Heaven Spirit never called himself a savior. His action wasn't predicated on seeking a repayment from the inhabitants of this world. This action was quite benevolent and altruistic in the ancestor's opinion.

"Rise. I am no savior. I am only lending a hand this time not for the races or Heaven Spirit itself, only because of a few people." Li Qiye answer emotionlessly.

Though he didn't take the credit and acted indifferently, the ancestor still had infinite gratitude and continued to bow his head. He knew that an eternal existence like Li Qiye didn't need the world to repay him.

"Take me to the shadow council." Li Qiye spoke after the ancestor stood up: "It is time for me to speak to Prime's group."

Chapter 1538: Shadow Council

There was an extremely hidden area of the pavilion with many sealing laws and empowerments. This made it impregnable like a fortress. Moreover, all of these spells came from sea gods and not just three or five of them.

Few disciples knew about this place. For example, ordinary ancestors weren't qualified to be aware of this place. Furthermore, because it was classified as a top secret location, only Hallowed was allowed to enter. Even the Seven Martial Goddess who knew the seven styles didn't have this privilege.

Only by becoming a sea god would she be granted entry and be privy to the true secrets in this place.

This practice wasn't because Hallowed was selfish but it was due to the grave importance of this matter relating to the life-and-death of the pavilion or even all of the sea demons. Once someone else caught wind of it, the consequence would be unimaginable so Hallowed was very cautious about it.

After taking Li Qiye here, he stood outside and told the guy: "Your Excellency, I can only bring you here and have no say in the actual negotiation itself."

Even though he was the only person who knew about this secret in the present era, he wasn't qualified to interfere. Only sea gods and above could talk and discuss it!

"I know, I'll be fine alone." Li Qiye chuckled and leisurely strolled into the area.

With the first step, a buzz came about with a flashing light. He disappeared in the next moment without a trace. This type of disappearance didn't look like a teleportation at all.

In the next second, he appeared in an exceedingly mysterious area. No one could spy or enter without permission. Its coordinates were cryptic as well, unbeknownst to outsiders.

One would find a river of twinkling stars in the sky. It looked quite beautiful as if jewels were embedded up above. There were also strange gravels everywhere to make up the river on top of astral vortexes.

A platform floated in this space with a roundtable. There were shades sitting there with their aura converged. However, their style and posture alone showed that when these shades were still in the world, they were supreme existences capable of sweeping through the land!

Li Qiye chuckled and said casually: "The shadow council, quite secretive indeed. Looks like many sea gods have joined now."

The shades turned to look at him. Despite not being the true body of sea gods, their glare was still quite frightening. A Nine World's Godking would find their legs becoming soft being the center of so many eyes.

However, Li Qiye was still as nonchalant as ever. He dragged a chair over and sat down coolly.

"Your Excellency, I have been a fan of you long ago." Eventually, one of the shades spoke. His voice was imposing despite the low volume. Nevertheless, it also soothed the soul and gave a safe feeling.

"Yes, it's me." Li Qiye looked at the shade and smiled: "It looks like there was a meeting here as well before wanting to meet me, Prime."

The speaker was the Prime Sea God. Of course, his true body was no longer in this world. This was the case for all the sea gods.

Nevertheless, many sea gods still participated at this shadow council all along. It was considered the highest secret of the sea demon race. Because of its importance, its formation and goals were carefully guarded. Not all new sea gods were eligible to learn of this secret!

"We had to be cautious before knowing that it was you, Your Excellency Dark Crow. After being reported by Hallowed, we had a deliberation and True Martial confirmed it. That's how we figured out your identity." Prime slowly explained.

In fact, Hallowed couldn't decide a meeting with Prime and the council. However, he reported the stories to them so the council decided to meet with Li Qiye.

"Your Excellency, long time no see. Our real bodies aren't in the world anymore so we can't greet you in full." Another heavyweight at the table slightly bowed towards Li Qiye and spoke: "I didn't think you would be interested in our council. In the past, you have never intervened."

Of course, this speaker was True Martial Sea God.

Li Qiye glanced at him and smiled while shaking his head: "No, I'm not interested in your council at all. I'm simply here to make a deal."

"May I ask what kind of deal you want to make, Your Excellency?" Another shade asked. This shade resembled a bottomless ocean. He was the second sea god of the pavilion, Deep Blue!

"Before talking about the deal, let us speak about the purpose of the council. If our goals don't align, then we can't come to an agreement." Li Qiye smiled and said.

The atmosphere became serious. The sea gods present held their breath and didn't say anything.

"There's no need to hide." Li Qiye continued carefreely: "Then I'll talk. The purpose of the shadow council is to deal with the Bonesea!"

All eyes slightly moved after hearing this. Despite not being their real bodies, just a shift of their glare alone contained a mighty power.

"We are seeking out all the possibilities so that the sea demon race can survive during the advent of the disaster." Prime solemnly said.

"If you can't give me a clear answer, then we have nothing to talk about." Li Qiye shook his head; "If you really wish for your race to survive, then you should be beseeching me, not the other way around."

The sea gods around the table exchanged glances. They were very cautious.

"I can vouch for His Excellency." In the end, True Martial broke the silence in a dignified manner.

Prime took a deep breath and began: "Your Excellency, you are the eternal overlord so I'm sure we can't hide it from you either. Yes, I created the shadow council with such a thought in mind. However, the original intention was only to maintain some initiatives in the ordeal."

"I understand, despite being sea gods and making a compromise once with the Bonesea, all of you don't necessarily trust it. Because of this, you made some preparation before dying." Li Qiye said with a smile.

With that, he peered around at each sea god and continued: "I'm not looking down on everyone here. If you were all alive and your real bodies were preserved until now, then yes, with everyone here, there is a chance that you might be able to oppose the Bonesea. But the current you won't do. With your current state, how much strength can you actually exert when the time comes?"

The sea gods here had no response. They naturally understood this full well.

He continued on: "That's why there are still some methods left. I can also guess what they are, so we'll talk about that."

"What is your wish, Your Excellency?" True Martial spoke again.

"I don't want anything." Li Qiye shook his head: "On the contrary, I came here bearing good news and hope, a light of dawn for everyone!"

"You mean?" The group was startled after hearing this.

"Yes, I came with good news. But first, I'll reveal something. The disaster will come much earlier than your expectation, within one generation!"

"So early?!" Even True Martial was caught off guard.

The sea gods looked around at each other. They have experienced countless storms and danger but they still shuddered after hearing this. Everyone had a serious expression now.

Chapter 1539: An Ambitious Strategy

Prime's group knew more information and understood what the disaster would entailed.

"Your Excellency, what do you mean? Are you talking about the Bonesea, the Maelstrom, or the Divine Tree Ridge?" One of the sea gods spoke.

"Do you still not see clearly? In your eyes, the Bonesea is what you worry about. Moreover, the three have always maintained a state of balance so when the disaster comes, what will happen should be clear." Li Qiye couldn't help but smile.

The sea gods here didn't respond but they agreed with his comment.

"Then what good news do you bring us, Your Excellency?" Prime took a deep breath and asked.

"Congratulation, everyone should be happy that I finally want to interfere with this matter with my bet on the charming spirit race, like I have said earlier." Li Qiye said with a smile. The expression of the sea gods became much better. They knew just how significant the moment someone of Li Qiye's level wanted to get involved! This was an eternal overlord, capable of slaughtering the Ancient Ming!

"Your Excellency, you are the savior and guardian of the nine worlds..." True Martial hurriedly said with excitement.

"Stop." Li Qiye interrupted him: "True Martial, don't flatter me so fast. First, I'm not a savior or a guardian. If the world wants to give me a moniker, I feel that 'Butcher of the Nine Worlds' fits me more. Of course, I personally like the title of 'Dark Hand behind the Curtain'."

True Martial could only smile wryly at the humorous response.

"Will you declare war, Your Excellency?" It was Deep Blue's turn to ask.

"No." Li Qiye shook his head and said: "Two days ago, I actually tried to provoke them so that Heaven Spirit would be warmed up before the disaster. Unfortunately, both the Bonesea and the ridge ignored me. But of course, don't think that I'll be staying here to fight."

"You mean...?" Prime asked for clarification.

Li Qiye chuckled and said: "Heaven Spirit doesn't have much to do with me so frankly, I won't be staying here and fight for its sake. However, I have made some preparations, not because I'm merciful. It is only that there are a few people and matters worthy of me doing something."

"Could you be more specific in your future assistance?" Deep Blue asked.

"Not me." Li Qiye shook his head: "Like I said earlier, I won't be here when the disaster comes. However, I made some plans at the Bonesea and the Maelstrom themselves."

"The Maelstrom might not necessarily stand with the charming spirits." True Martial stated his concern.

"Don't worry, the darkness at the bottom of the Maelstrom won't be able to do anything. Plus, I'm not betting on the ants down there anyway." Li Qiye continued: "If you want assurance from me, so be it. I can guarantee that when you all fight against the Bonesea, someone who can actually withstand it in a direct confrontation will step up to the battlefield!"

"A direct confrontation?" The sea gods were shocked. They understood the meaning behind such a feat and just how powerful such an existence would be.

"Of course, I left behind far more than just that." He said flatly: "Thus, if you wish to win the war and for Heaven Spirit to exist afterward with your sea demon descendants alive, you must pay a great price!"

They exchanged glances at this moment before making up their mind. Prime was the negotiator: "What is your condition, Your Excellency?"

"I don't want anything but a promise from all of you. At the start of the war, you must be on our side. Moreover, that is the time for you to sacrifice yourselves."

Having said that, he became serious: "This long-lasting shadow council must have been the place for many discussions about methods of resistance. At that time, I'm sure you will know what to do!"

True Martial was next to speak: "To be perfectly candid, Your Majesty, we have indeed discussed a few methods. However, it is limited and only in theory, we have never actually carried it out. We don't know which methods are possible."

"Blood detonation." Li Qiye slowly said: "All I can suggest is this method. This is the most direct and effective solution."

Blue Sea pondered for a moment before asking: "Hmm, is that possible?"

"Heaven Spirit, no, all of nine worlds, wouldn't have something like this." Li Qiye replied: "it's just like the immortal beasts, do they really exist in the nine worlds? Of course not. But this doesn't mean they don't exist so I can guarantee that this method is the best choice."

"Has it been done before?" The group was slightly tempted now.

Li Qiye looked at them and explained: "The crucial question now is whether you are willing to pay the price for your race and Heaven Spirit. I know that you have made a deal with the Bonesea before. But now, do you wish to work with me or the Bonesea? Whether it is for your own sake, your descendants, or the sea demon race, it is your choice now."

After some wordless deliberation and exchanged glances, all the sea gods solemnly nodded.

Prime spoke: "Your Excellency, we can sacrifice ourselves. The truth is that I wouldn't have started the shadow council and they wouldn't have joined if it wasn't for our descendants and the sea demon race. As long as our race can survive in this disaster, we can end our transaction with the Bonesea. However, we can't underestimate the Bonesea at all. Even if we could carry out your proposal, I'm afraid it will still be very difficult. You know it well enough. Once it reaches that point, it will have total control." He gently sighed with the last statement.

"Don't worry, since I offered a method, I will also have a way to make your blood detonation a success. Don't forget, this method of mine didn't come out of thin air. It's not in theory only." He assured them with a smile.

The group became spirited after hearing this right away. Prime nodded again: "We are relieved to hear your assurance and shall promise you to work together during the decisive battle!"

Finally, the sea gods and Li Qiye have reached an agreement. Just like Li Qiye has said, this choice of theirs meant personal sacrifices!

Prime pondered for a bit and said: "Your Excellency, I wonder if I should ask you this question or not?"

"Speak." Li Qiye chuckled while looking at him.

"I heard that you are always confident of victory because you have in your possession a few ultimate artifacts. Even emperors do not have items of this level." He spoke with uncertainty.

The sea gods here stared at him with anticipation. They rarely made contact with him so they knew nothing about him. Of course, True Martial was the exception.

However, the legends about the dark hand behind the curtain scared even emperors, let alone them. This made them quite curious about his ultimate means.

Li Qiye smiled and said: "Certain ultimate artifacts, right? If I'm not mistaken, True Martial must have told you."

True Martial coughed and said: "Yes, I blurted it out when discussing different resisting methods. I heard Immortal Emperor Min Ren talked about it before. He said that you still have a few extremely terrifying items, some that could destroy everything. He even went as far as to say that if they existed, only you would have them."

He felt a bit awkward about it. After all, not everyone was qualified to know these secrets. The consequence would be unimaginable if this rubbed Li Qiye the wrong way.

Chapter 1540: A World Savior Has Never Existed

Li Qiye smiled and said after hearing True Martial: "Min Ren really has a big mouth but he's right."

Prime and the others were shaken as they glanced at each other.

Li Qiye took note of their expression and said: "That's right, I do have a few terrorizing items and enough resources to slay gods and emperors. This is my power, thus, those who want to oppose me must weight their own worth first and see if they are ready to be annihilated by me!"

He uttered such words so casually but when the rest of the group heard the words "slay gods and emperors", they became quite tense. As sea gods, they knew that the dark hand behind the curtain wasn't all talk. Moreover, he has done it before!

"I'm sure no wise soul would oppose you, Your Excellency." True Martial spoke.

Li Qiye continued on: "For me, the disaster isn't much. If I am willing, I can destroy the Bonesea and the Divine Tree Ridge due to my ample resources. The Trident is amazing, right? I can easily take out three or five treasures at the same level!"

He paused for a moment before continuing: "And yes, Immortal Emperor Min Ren is right about something else. There is one ultimate artifact in the world capable of annihilating all things. Its power is far beyond your imagination. I don't mind letting you guys know that I do have it in my possession right now!"

The rest was shaken again. Deep Blue had to ask: "How powerful is it, exactly?"

"I can tell you that using it to massacre an Immortal Emperor is too wasteful. In my eyes, even using it to kill the emperors and gods above the nine heavens is still squandering it away." Li Qiye took his time making this statement.

Few people knew that he was saving these resources for the final battle! Even emperors weren't worthy of touching this particular arsenal!

The sea gods felt something they haven't felt a long time before, a shuddering chill emanating through their mind. They understood that he was telling the truth. There was no reason for the ruler of the universe and the master of the nine worlds to lie at all.

"So now, you all should know the wise path to take." Li Qiye said flatly: "In your mind, an existence like the Bonesea is your final destination, your ultimate target."

"But for me, the Bonesea and Divine Tree Ridge, as well as the rest of the burial grounds, are only part of my journey; mountains along the way. If I'm willing to pay a great price, they'll be crushed beneath my feet! What are they compared to the end of the world?"

The sea gods were silent. They have only heard stories about the end of the world from a few emperors. Alas, they didn't have a chance to actually see it.

Even one of the greatest sea gods, True Martial, didn't have this opportunity but he did hear Immortal Emperor Min Ren talk about it.

"Your Excellency, you can really destroy the Bonesea?" Prime became serious.

"It's possible but I won't do it. Not unless it declared war against me first." Li Qiye smiled.

"What if you destroy it? Though our true bodies are no longer in this world, we can let the sea demons serve you and give you all of our race's resources!" Prime suggested.

"Prime, your idea isn't bad." Li Qiye shook his head: "But it isn't worth it for me. The deal is no good. The thing I need can't be given to me by you or the sea demon race. Plus, I don't need your allegiance."

"I was already the ruler of the nine worlds. If I wanted the nine worlds to serve me, I wouldn't need to wait till now. My resources are not meant for the Bonesea, only for the final battle. Plus, I'm not a benevolent person. I won't try to save this world. The life-and-death of the sea demons and the charming spirits have nothing to do with me."

The group naturally got the point. In order to get to their current position, they understood that relying on benevolence and the high heaven couldn't amount anything. Ultimately, one must talk with their fist.

If one could walk this path with kindness, there would be no sea gods and Immortal Emperors in this world. Which of them didn't tread on countless bones? If they didn't do so, they would be the bones paving the route.

"In the end, this world requires all of you to save it. There is no savior in this world, never has. At the very least, I'm not one of them. Only a butcher." Li Qiye slowly said.

"But you have done so before." True Martial blurted: "During the darkest hours of the nine worlds, you guarded it. Otherwise, it would be forever fell into the hands of the Ancient Ming. This is your benevolence, granting salvation to the nine worlds!"

Li Qiye mused for a bit before replying: "Yes, I have guarded this world before. However, it was because the Ancient Mings were invaders in my eyes. They didn't belong to this world and they shouldn't have brought the darkness along with them! But worst of all, they shouldn't have opposed me, that's why I annihilated them."

With that, he spoke to the entire table: "But, all of you know what the Bonesea, Maelstrom and Divine Tree Ridge are. These are your three races' business so you must be the one taking care of them!"

He spoke coldly: "Just like the Ancient Ming and their darkness, that's why our nine worlds took care of them. During their reign, did immortals above the high heaven come to save the nine worlds? Did the emperors and gods above come? Did the high heaven itself save the nine worlds?"

"No!" Li Qiye's eyes became deep as he continued on: "To the high heaven and what lies above the nine heavens, we are nothing, only a bunch of ants. They gave no shit about the well-being of the nine worlds! Because of this, we had to be the one protecting and saving the nine worlds."

"That's how simple it is. No savior and no guardian. The weak and insignificant existences of the nine worlds must work for their own destiny. They must be the one fighting instead of praying for a savior! If they don't try to save themselves, why should anyone else save them? Kindness and sympathy can only go so far in saving the world; the rest is done by soldiers giving up their lives, wise sages exchanging with their blood!" His words became resoundingly powerful during the speech.

To which the sea gods didn't respond at all for a long time.

Li Qiye ended with a faint smile: "No savior in this world but all of you are the brave soldiers and wise sages of the sea demon race! If your race were to be prosperous in the future, you must pay with your blood and life, not just a simple deal, whether it be with me or the Bonesea. That's only the beginning. There's no getting out of a bigger sacrifice! It's as simple as that."

"Your Excellency's words have shown us the way." Prime solemnly nodded: "We shall use our blood and lives in exchange for our race's future and end this disaster!"

"I know that you will be ready. However, the world won't remember the brave soldiers and the wise sages. They will only know about an emperor, a random sea god, or even an Emperor Assailant. No one will remember the characters in the background." He smiled at this point.

"Let them be then. We don't need them to remember and worship us." True Martial laughed freely.

"Behind every brilliant daughter is a great father." Li Qiye couldn't help but praise.

True Martial only laughed back. In the end, Li Qiye stood up since he has achieved his goal. It was time to leave.

"Your Excellency." As he was leaving, True Martial suddenly called for him. He pondered for a bit before asking: "How is Ruonan doing?"

Despite no longer being in this world, a father still worried about his daughter all the same.