

Emperor 1761

[Chapter 1761: Sheng Laoliu](#)

The young merchant walked up and stared at Li Qiye and his companions while still beaming with smiles. He looked like a believer of amiability makes one rich, not a fan of violence at all.

“My brother told me that he had met a master. I, Sheng Laoliu, wish to meet this master.” The fat youth smiled and said. [1]

“What do you want?!” Shi Sou knew that it was trouble but he didn’t dare to show a weak side.

“Nothing, nothing.” The youth said: “We from the Hooligan Gang, earn our meals here at Jilin City. We’re at the bottom of society so it isn’t easy for us. Sometimes, we even have to pry the bones away from dogs.”

Shi Sou’s group was confused since who would want to call themselves hooligans? This didn’t make sense at all.

However, he remained vigilant. Even though the group was wearing shoddy clothing, they were definitely cultivators.

“So what?” The hot-headed He Chen immediately asked.

“It wasn’t easy for us to build up a solid and trustworthy reputation at Jilin. It took a lot of work, you know? But your group accused my brother of selling fake goods and besmirched our reputation, even almost hurt our brotherly relationship in the process. That’s why I can’t just sit and watch.”

“What do you want then?” Shi Sou became serious.

“Nothing, nothing.” Sheng Laoliu’s eyes squinted from smiling too hard: “We’re here to do business to get rich, fighting and killing aren’t our styles. I’m a fair person, since you have stained our reputation and made me question my brother, you must make reparation now.”

He cleared his throat and continued: “Ahem, like this, just buy my brother’s item for 8,000 Dao Noble Chaos Stones. This new number is for us to go have some tea on top of compensation for his emotional distress.”

The group immediately understood and angrily glared at Laoliu.

“This is extortion!” He Chen shouted.

Prior to this, that item was only selling for 500 Dao Master Chaos Stones. But now, it was 8,000 Dao Noble Chaos Stones. The price jumped countless times in just half a day.

“How can you call this extortion? A merchant’s reputation is priceless but we are also reasonable, this is already a cheap price.”

“And if we refuse?” He Chen couldn’t restrain his youthful vigor and uttered coldly.

“It’s one thing to play nice but if some people want to besmirch our brand, that’s a different story.” Despite Laoliu’s perpetual smile, he was getting ready for a fight.

The dozens surrounding group were warming up too, ready to get started at any moment.

The group became anxious and quickly took out their weapons.

“Sir, what do you think?” Shi Sou had to look at Li Qiye and was ready to follow his orders. Even though he didn’t wish to cause trouble in Jilin, 8,000 Dao Noble Chaos Stones was not a small number for them.

Li Qiye glanced at Laoliu and smiled: “You don’t think I won’t flay you and use your skin as a foot towel. You’re fat so I can’t make leather boots out of you, but a towel will do.”

“Haha, your tone is ferocious enough.” Laoliu was still smiling on the outside. Even though he was talking to Shi Sou’s group earlier, he had been spending more time gauging Li Qiye.

He continued on: “The truth is that my old skin is very rough. People have always wanted to do so but failed. If you try to do it, I’m afraid you will hurt your fair hands.”

“Not old at all.” Li Qiye chuckled: “Your skin won’t take long at all, now, the old skin inside the old cave is a different story. That one is indeed old.”

Laoliu didn’t expect this response and uncontrollably took one step back. In a flash, his eyes were deathly fixated on Li Qiye.

Li Qiye was still all-smiles in face of this gaze.

“I don’t know what you’re talking about.” Laoliu struggled to maintain his smile and said: “You must have a great background, I still haven’t asked for your name.”

“Li Qiye.” Li Qiye answered with a playful tone.

Laoliu searched every corner of his memories but couldn’t remember this name. It meant that he had never heard it before. Nevertheless, he was unwilling to give up because information and espionage were his best skills.

“It’s a shame that I’m too ill-informed and haven’t heard of your name before.” Laoliu replied.

“It’s not your fault since you aren’t qualified to know. Go ask Qi Gong, he will tell you.” Li Qiye chuckled in response.

“Thump! Thump! Thump!” Laoliu instantly took several steps back with a pale complexion. He stared at Li Qiye as if this guy was even uglier than a monster.

He established the Hooligan Gang and they enjoyed tricking cultivators and even masters the most. When these victims brought reinforcement, Laoliu would always step up to face them.

However, his identity has always been a secret. Even the members of the Hooligan Gang didn’t know where he came from. Nevertheless, despite his lack of tenure in Jilin, his abilities were more than enough to win over the crowd.

In fact, ever since he left his home, he had never brought this topic up to anyone. However, Li Qiye was able to recognize him and even mentioned a dreadful name known by very few people. Such words struck him like thunder.

“This lowly one has eyes but can’t see Mount Tai. Please forgive me.” In the end, the pale Laoliu was no longer smiling. He cupped his fist towards Li Qiye before telling his gang: “Brothers, let’s go.”

With that, he turned and left, not daring to linger for half a second longer. His disciples were perplexed as well but they didn’t dare to ask anything and quickly dashed off as well.

The sudden development left the three slack-jawed since they didn’t know what was going on.

“Hmph, cowards, scared so easily.” He Chen snorted after seeing this.

Shi Sou remained quiet and stared at Li Qiye. He naturally knew that Laoliu was no coward. Those who dared to extort people at Jilin City were not so easily frightened.

Though he didn’t understand what Li Qiye meant, it must have been some earth-shattering things since it managed to scare off Laoliu. Just think about it, just talking about them alone was enough to send someone running. This was enough to scare him again.

This mortal ahead was too terrifying and made others shudder uncontrollably.

“Old Shi, where do you think you’re going?!” Right when the group was about to leave, another bunch descended from the sky and immediately blocked their path.

The group was surrounded again, this time by a matching, uniformed unit. They were robust with an austere appearance. The leader was a youth wearing a four-clawed dragon robe. He was full of chaos energy and had an oppressive noble aura. His high status was quite obvious.

“Wang Xiaotian!” Shi Sou blurted out after seeing the youth.

“Old Shi, looks like your sect is a lot more courageous now, not only daring to wound the duke but also call me by my given name!” The youth was as cold as ice.

Shi Sou was startled by the youth’s cold glare. Shen Xiaoshan and He Chen were alarmed as well because this youth was the crown prince of West Bank!

The crown prince was quite capable and ruthless. His position was earned with blood and merits and he was almost as powerful as the ancestors from West Bank now. He alone could destroy all of Sago Palm. That’s why Shi Sou was so scared at this moment!

Liang Yiheng came to Jilin together with Wang Xiaotian. After Yiheng’s face was smashed, the disciples brought him to their crown prince.

[Chapter 1762: Laoliu Bootlicking](#)

Wang Xiaotian was not a sight for sore eyes, at least for the three from Sago Palm, since he was much more powerful than Liang Yiheng.

So now, Shi Sou was uncertain after being surrounded by Xiaotian and his men. He glanced at Li Qiye again and saw that the guy still stood there calmly as if nothing was happening.

This was a calming panacea and made Shi Sou braced himself to say: “Your Highness, this, this is all a misunderstanding.”

Of course, he knew that a misunderstanding was no excuse for smashing Yiheng's face. However, this was all he could say. They were already riding the tiger and couldn't get down. Plus, the other option was to distance themselves from Li Qiye and this might not be a wise choice.

"Misunderstanding, this is your answer?" A murderous glint flashed in Xiaotian's eyes but he showed no sign of anger and replied with coldness: "If your sect wants to keep on going, then follow me right now. We'll get to the bottom of this!" He stared at the group and Li Qiye.

He had received some news about Sago Palm as well as Tieshu Weng's recent attempts at joining the Jilin Clan's examination in order to move up. That's why he was paying so much attention to Li Qiye.

"Well..." Shi Sou shuddered before smiling wryly: "Your Highness, I am on important business, I'm afraid it's a bit inconvenient."

He knew that if he were to leave with Xiaotian, he should stop thinking about coming back alive. This was only a ruse to get them to leave Jilin. The moment they were out, Xiaotian would instantly kill them, or even worse, the most heinous of torture before making them disappear completely.

Yiheng was Xiaotian's confidant so the guy was not going to take this lying down.

"Old Shi, you need to know that conspiring against a duke is a serious crime. Can your sect shoulder it?" Xiaotian became quite imposing.

He didn't only want to kill this group but also all of Sago Palm in order to make an example out of them! However, he was willing to let the three survive for now since they were going to become his evidence and justification for destroying Sago Palm.

An elder from Sago Palm harming a duke from his country? This was enough reason for them to destroy Sago Palm with justice on their side.

Of course, he had his apprehension as well. This was Jilin, not West Bank. He didn't wish to be so arrogant in this place. If he were to catch or kill the group in Jilin, the clan would definitely hear of it. This was not giving enough face to the Jilin. If the Jilin were to be unhappy, they could also mobilize their force to easily annihilate West Bank. Thus, he was trying to get Shi Sou's group to leave with him.

Shi Sou was aware of Xiaotian's plan so he couldn't leave with the guy no matter what. The only way to oppose West Bank was praying for his Senior Brother's success in negotiation.

Alas, the danger was right before him but he was helpless since he was not a match for Xiaotian. He could only rely on Li Qiye and hope that the guy would be able to avert this crisis.

However, Li Qiye was only standing there with a slight smile.

While Shi Sou's group was at an impasse, the rolling sound of a cart suddenly came into the alleyway, pushed by eight people dressed like servants and merchants.

The cart was loaded with a pile of merchandise so it was quite heavy, resulting in a zigzagging pattern while moving.

"Move it, move it, we can't stop!" One of the pushers shouted. The cart moved faster and faster straight for Li Qiye's group.

“Hmph!” An expert next to Wang Xiaotian snorted before reaching out to stop the cart.

It was too easy for a cultivator like him to stop something like this.

“Whoosh!” Right when the cart was stopped, the eight men lunged forward at Xiaotian’s group like fierce beasts.

“Rumble!” His experts were pinned to the ground by these men.

“Who the hell are you?!” Xiaotian panicked and instantly wanted to run.

“Boom!” He was pushed down on the ground as well by another newcomer who sat on his body.

“Who are you?!” Xiaotian couldn’t move at all and cried out again.

“Your father.” The person pinning him down laughed and said.

“Bang!” Xiaotian was knocked unconscious along with all of his accompanying experts. In a short time, they were lying flat on the ground.

This development stunned Shi Sou’s group. This guy who came out of nowhere to take down Xiaotian had fled earlier. It was naturally Sheng Laoliu. The other eight men were part of the Hooligan Sect as well.

Shi Sou’s group was naturally astounded. Remember that Wang Xiaotian was very powerful. He alone could easily destroy their sect but Laoliu knocked him unconscious so quickly. One could easily imagine this guy’s strength.

Earlier, He Chen was even mocking them for being cowards who ran away after a few words exchanged. Now, he was getting cold chills after seeing this display of might.

“Drag them out, they’re dirtying the scenery.” Laoliu told the eight men.

These eight men quickly dragged Xiaotian and his people away to a remote corner before stripping them of all their treasures and money, even their clothes.

This made Shen Xiaoshan blush as she instantly turned her gaze away.

“Haha, sir, these clowns are nothing before you. I’m more than happy to swat the flies away in your stead.” Laoliu grew bolder after seeing a lack of reaction from Li Qiye.

He bowed his head and cupped his fist towards Li Qiye. He was even willing to prostrate, if necessary. Though he was unaware of the guy’s background, he was certain that he had met a master, someone that was much higher than the common ancestors.

This was someone who could blot out the thirteen continents with his palm. Countless existences could only look up at this overlord. This was the reason why Laoliu ran for his life earlier.

However, after carefully thinking about it, if an overlord wanted to kill him, even one hundred lives wouldn’t be enough. The fact that he was still alive meant that the guy had no intention of killing him.

Now, Laoliu was a crafty and intelligent person. Even after the initial offense, the overlord still didn’t kill him. This meant that this overlord didn’t just know his ancestor, they might even be old friends.

That's why he immediately returned and dealt with Wang Xiaotian in order to curry some favors.

"You are quite smart." Li Qiye smiled while staring at the sycophantic act.

"Ah, this lowly one is foolish and blind. That's why I offended you earlier, sir." Laoliu smiled happily, clearly intending on doing some old-fashioned bootlicking.

Li Qiye gently shook his head: "What a waste of your great constitution, wasting your time fooling around like this instead of cultivating."

Laoliu forced a smile after hearing this. He had amazing talents, an incredible bloodline, and a shocking background but he chose against becoming a famous genius.

He snuck out of his sect and loitered around random people from all over the world to do some shady deeds. Of course, this wasn't to say that he was a bad person. He simply enjoyed the ups and downs of the mundane realm.

"Go, I won't make it difficult for you." Li Qiye waved his sleeve and said flatly: "If I see Qi Gong later, I'll put in a good word for you."

"Thank you, sir." Lao Liu was startled after hearing this and immediately kowtowed. He knew that this was a reward others wouldn't ever receive.

"Just say the words if you need this lowly one in the future to do anything." He said.

"You're a smart one. I'll let you know when I need you." Li Qiye chuckled in response.

[Chapter 1763: The Prosperous Western Market](#)

Sheng Laoliu was certain that Li Qiye was someone of the overlord level that could shake the world. Others wouldn't be lucky enough to meet someone like him so this was the fortune of a lifetime. Being rewarded by him was the accumulation of good deeds from his previous three lives.

That's why he exhibited great propriety and left happily instead of continuing to bother Li Qiye.

In the meantime, Shi Sou quietly contemplated and felt that Laoliu did it so much better than them. At this time, he realized that Li Qiye was even more terrifying than inside his imagination. Laoliu recognized this and immediately latched onto the guy's thigh.

Even though his Senior Brother appreciated talents, he didn't see through everything and only thought that Li Qiye was an amazing scholar. After spending the next several days with Li Qiye, Shi Sou found out that Li Qiye was something much more.

Shi Sou understood that Li Qiye didn't care for Sago Palm. The guy was only doing this because his Senior Brother was respectful. The sect wouldn't get a reward as Laoliu did just now.

Shi Sou sighed and accepted their lives that were destined to be ordinary. If they abandoned their high posture early on, perhaps they would have been able to win Li Qiye's favor. But now, he didn't care for them.

He Chen didn't dare to say anything earlier. His prior arrogance and superiority complex, at least before a mortal, were gone since even someone like Lao Liu kowtowed directly at Li Qiye.

Shen Xiaoshan didn't think as much as she stared at Li Qiye. This man was more amazing than anyone else and she felt proud because of him.

"Okay, let's go to see if we can pick up other good stuff." Li Qiye smiled freely and led the group out of the alleyway.

Western Market was the largest shopping district in Jilin. It was virtually its own city with buildings spanning for a hundred miles. Shops lined up one after another with no end in sight.

All kind of stores were available in this place. There was even a popular adage - if one can't buy something they want at Western, it means that they didn't have enough chaos stones!

It ranged from the cheapest street front items to unbelievably high-priced supreme manuals, as long as one had enough chaos stones.

There were too many treasures in this vast market. Money and resources always poured in on a daily basis, enough to make people red in the eyes.

No one dared to cause trouble around these parts, especially with forced transactions, because Jilin was the main backer of this economic zone. Causing trouble here was the same as disrupting Jilin's financial flow. The consequence would be unimaginable.

Once the group got here, He Chen and Shen Xiaoshan were stunned by the scene. Inexperienced youths like them had never been to Western before on their previous visits. All kind of emotions overwhelmed them.

The dazzling merchandises were an incredible sight to behold. People would need some time to settle down during their first visit.

Those from weaker sects would finally realize how tiny their home was in comparison as well as the lack of resources.

It was no exaggeration to say that a single shop in Western was wealthier than a small sect. Some even had items from Grand Emperors as highlights.

Just imagine, a few countries couldn't even have one imperial possession unlike the shops here. Looking at it from a different angle, one would see just how powerful the Jilin Clan was.

After all, it had three Immortal Monarchs with two still alive. Ordinary great powers were far inferior in comparison.

While walking on these streets with these beautiful treasures and ores, He Chen and Shen Xiaoshan simply couldn't look away even if they wanted to act like regulars.

"What are we doing here? To buy some treasures?" Xiaoshan quietly asked Li Qiye without any confidence.

She was the First Sister in Sago Palm and had more resources compared to her peers. In a tiny sect, she could be considered a rich girl. However, she realized just how insignificant her savings were after coming here and felt as if she was the poorest of the poor.

Plus, the fact that Li Qiye didn't have any money, not even a single chaos stone, made her even timider. She planned on using her life saving to buy whatever he needed but this was far from enough in this place.

"We'll look around to see if there's something worth buying." Li Qiye chuckled in response.

For millions of years now, he had become familiar with finding treasures. It wasn't only due to his discerning vision but also his vast knowledge. A complicated place like this was the best place for a treasure hunt. He felt as if he was a fish returning to the ocean in Western, a very familiar feeling.

Meanwhile, his companions finally looked away from the colorful treasures after a long struggle since they couldn't afford to buy anything.

Eventually, they made it to a pawnshop with an old horizontal inscribed board on top with the words, "Ji Store".

It was no secret that the Western Market was backed by the Jilin Clan. Thus, the name of this store meant that it was either opened by the Jilin Clan or had great ties with them.

The store was large with no end in sight and was much more extravagant compared to the Imperial Cabinet which resembled a dumpster more.

The treasures were laid out nicely on tables. Some were emitting immortal lights and hymns. The fragrance of medicine permeated deep in the air as well...

The workers in the shop darted back and forth in order to serve their customers who were here to find rare treasures or to pawn their beloved items. They consisted of big shots such as sect masters or nobles and enjoyed the greatest treatment.

Of course, a few were temporarily-embarrassed cultivators as well. They were here to pawn off their heirlooms.

Not all the items here had exorbitant prices. There were some ordinary merchandises inside these shops but the weaker cultivators didn't even dare to come in since they were already intimidated.

The group attracted many gazes. After all, everyone could see that Li Qiye was essentially a mortal while his companions were from a weak sect. Of course, their presence in this extravagant shop would make others stare.

Normally, it was very difficult for Shi Sou's group to meet kings and sect masters. Thus, all of the gazes made the group nervously lower their head like brides on their wedding day. They looked very unnaturally following behind Li Qiye and didn't know what to do with their hands. They didn't dare to run around or even speak. This was their first time being to a shop of this level.

On the contrary, Li Qiye was very comfortable and at home as he strolled through the shop.

These customers only took one quick glance before returning to their business. After all, this group was only a bunch of insignificant characters.

Nevertheless, the workers here still treated Li Qiye's group with cordiality despite their seemingly humble background. After all, they were here to do business. Money was their main goal.

[Chapter 1764: Expensive Treasures](#)

Li Qiye was indeed very bizarre as a mortal taking three cultivators on a shopping trip. The three cultivators looked like young brides following behind him. Their inexperience was clearly written on their face.

This mortal was the complete opposite. He strode confidently regardless of the location and perplexed everyone. This might be the fiercest mortal the people here had ever seen.

The workers here were discerning enough to know that Li Qiye was the leader of the group. Of course, this made them feel sad as well. Even though the other three obviously came from a small sect, they were still cultivators. Shi Sou's cultivation wasn't much in the grand scheme of things but he was still someone influential in his own pond.

Normally, even cultivators from smaller sects wouldn't care for mortals; they considered mortals no different from insects. But now, Li Qiye looked like the big shot in the group while the other three resembled servants.

One worker, in particular, didn't think profit was possible but he still enthusiastically came up and greeted: "Sir, what are you looking for?"

"I'm seeing if your store has any treasure worth looking at." Li Qiye chuckled and said.

The worker was stunned at this outrageous mortal. Normally, mortals would already tremble just standing by the door but this guy was different with his tone. Even kings wouldn't dare to say something like this when they came to shop for treasures and ores.

Shen Xiaoshan's group was scared out of their mind to hear Li Qiye. Xiaoshan's palms were drenched in cold sweat because she knew that Li Qiye had nothing in his pocket. This still didn't deter him from speaking in his boastful manner. If people were to find out, they would laugh until the group hid down a hole.

However, this worker had seen all types of people before. He smiled and brought Li Qiye to a counter and carefully introduced him: "What do you think about this treasure? This Lionthorn Flexible Armor is a Dao King level armor. You will be very safe wearing it, especially because it is a defensive artifact, thus it doesn't matter if your chaos energy and vitality are too weak."

The group was instantly drawn in by the armor. Even He Chen was smacking his lips. Their sect only had one weapon at the Dao King level, their strongest. Their master was using it since he was also the strongest member of the sect.

All three really liked it since they were satisfied with just having a Dao King artifact. The actual quality didn't matter.

Of course, after seeing the price, they realized all they could do was look since they couldn't afford it at all. Even their master couldn't.

Li Qiye didn't even bother to look and said: "Forget it, show me the real defining artifacts in this place."

The three were astonished even more because they thought Li Qiye couldn't get any more domineering but he proved them wrong. The worker was stunned too. This was the most unbridled mortal he had ever seen.

Keep in mind that even some kings and sect masters couldn't afford some of the treasure in their shop. But now, this guy wanted to see the real deals? There was no word to describe this mortal.

A few cultivators and experts in the shop heard him as well. They glanced at him several more times and thought that this mortal was too arrogant.

"Is this guy a newly rich? He doesn't know the immensity of the heaven and earth." One cultivator shook his head. [1]

The majority of the experts here ignored Li Qiye afterward while thinking that he was only an ignorant mortal. Meanwhile, Xiaoshan and the other two didn't dare to look at other people because Li Qiye's attitude has frightened them completely.

It took a while before the worker gathered his wits and smiled wryly, not knowing how to respond. At the same time, Li Qiye didn't really care about what people thought of him since this was his normal conduct.

The worker then took Li Qiye's group to a counter in the very center of the shop. No one was in this spot due to a very simple reason. Previous visitors knew that the treasures in this central counter had sky-high pricing. Plus, even if one could afford the price, the shop might not sell it to them. It depended on the buyers' identity as well.

"The ones here are the most expensive in our store." The worker said helplessly.

Despite knowing that Li Qiye wouldn't be able to afford it, the worker still brought him here. This was just part of his job since he couldn't exactly chase customers away. Nevertheless, he was too lazy to introduce the treasures to Li Qiye.

There were several treasures displayed with two in the center. It meant that they commanded the highest price.

Shen Xiaoshan and the other two were right behind Li Qiye. If it wasn't for him, they wouldn't even have the courage to enter the shop, let alone look a look at its defining treasures.

One was an archaic zither; its old age was obvious at first glance to everyone. The other was a palm-sized wooden box with a faint green luster, seemingly carved from a whole trunk of sandalwood. Because it was just one piece, there was no opening it to see what was inside.

No one could tell the origin of these two treasures but the store surely had their reasons for displaying them in the very center.

The group of three couldn't see why they were precious. They looked much more inconspicuous compared to the treasures on the other counters. There was no price listed for the two.

Li Qiye only glanced at the zither before focusing on the box. This item actually managed to attract his attention. The others liked the zither more since it was much more prominent than the box.

He Chen was very curious about the price of these defining treasures. He eventually grew bolder and asked the worker: "Why is there no price for this zither?"

This worker was amicable enough and smiled: "It has a heaven-defying origin, a priceless treasure. Money isn't the issue, it will only be sold to the fated."

"How can you sell it if there is no price?" Shen Xiaoshan asked.

The worker only smiled and didn't answer.

"That Phoenix Call Zither is not simple indeed." Li Qiye commented while still looking at the wooden box.

[Chapter 1765: Phoenix Call Zither](#)

After listening to Li Qiye, He Chen became emboldened and hurriedly asked: "What is the story of this zither?"

For some unknown reasons, the group felt more confident whenever Li Qiye spoke. With him as his backing, they felt that they could get through anything.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye was still looking at the wooden box the whole time as if it was the most beautiful woman in this world.

"Sir, you are quite discerning and knowledgeable to be able to recognize the Phoenix Call Zither." The worker actually became startled.

In the beginning, he thought that Li Qiye was a young master, perhaps an illegitimate child of an expert from a great power. That's why three cultivators were following him.

Nevertheless, the guy was still only a mortal in the eyes of this worker. Even if he didn't look down on Li Qiye, he still didn't take the guy too seriously. This was only another ordinary customer at best.

Thus, he became surprised to see a mortal like Li Qiye easily revealing the name of the zither. Many kings and sect masters didn't even recognize the zither, let alone knowing its name.

Li Qiye seemed to be aloof since his unblinking focus was on the wooden box. The worker didn't know what was so interesting about the box, at least appearance wise.

After a while, Li Qiye withdrew his gaze and finally glanced at the zither: "This particular zither is indeed a good item and it is reasonable to call it a priceless treasure. However, it is essentially useless right now in your possession, might as well use it as firewood."

The three turned pale from fear. Remember that this was one of the two most precious treasures in the store but now, Li Qiye called it useless. It was a blatant insult towards the shop as if he wanted to cause trouble. In a more serious scenario, shop owners would fight to the death to defend their reputation.

The worker was stunned by this response. He turned austere and said coldly: "Sir, one can eat anything but must be careful of the words coming out. Our store's success has always been due to our golden reputation!"

“Your store does indeed have a good reputation.” Li Qiye ignored the worker’s demeanor and said flatly: “Without the phoenix melody, the zither is worthless. Only with its melody would the zither be valuable and peerless. Since you are selling the zither, it clearly shows that you do not have the melody because if you did, you wouldn’t bear to sell it right now. What is this about selling to the fated? It is only a way of finding the one holding the phoenix melody. At that time, you’ll try to make a deal for the melody instead!” He articulated as if it was no secret to him at all.

The worker became stunned and took one step back while staring at Li Qiye because this was a top secret of their shop, outsiders had no way of knowing. Moreover, all the workers here were actually direct disciples that have experienced strict examinations. They would never leak this secret.

“Sir, you are joking.” He coughed wryly in order to skirt around the issue but his astonished eyes said it all.

There was an old man sitting in the back of the store, its manager. It didn’t matter the big shots that came to shop, he would never personally receive them or even look at them.

He was a powerful expert from the Jilin Clan. His presence wasn’t meant for reception but rather protection. If anyone dared to cause trouble here, he would quickly take care of them.

After all, there were many precious treasures and ores here. Such a store required the presence of a true master in order to avoid unwanted problems.

He immediately opened his eyes after hearing Li Qiye talk about the zither and the melody. He glared at the youth for a long while.

Li Qiye didn’t care and looked back at the box: “How much for this wooden box?”

The worker regained his wits and hurriedly said: “Sir, well, we’re displaying this wooden box for a friend. The person wants a defensive scroll of the imperial level. It can be from any race.”

The worker’s attitude became increasingly enthusiastic and respectful, not just because of his profession any longer.

He had no knowledge of this particular wooden box because another clan asked them to sell it. This clan had a great relationship with their shop.

The box was the clan’s inheritance since an ancient era. However, the masters of the clan had no idea about the box’s origin and why it was precious. Nevertheless, they continued passing it down to their descendants.

Rumor has it that this was already a tradition back during the days of their founding patriarch. This patriarch told his children that the box was priceless and is meant for the fated. Only the chosen one would know how to open this box. However, none of his descendants knew how to open it so the clan had no idea of the content inside.

As time went on, the clan fell into decline, especially in this generation. Because of this, they had no choice but to sell this wooden box in exchange for a defensive scroll of the imperial level. They wished to use this type of imperial law to rise again.

When the box reached the store, even the strongest and most knowledgeable ancestors here had no clue why this box was so precious. If it wasn't for the deep ties between the two sides, the shop wouldn't dare to sell this box here. After all, an imperial law was too precious. No one would be stupid enough to make the trade for something unknown. Perhaps a crazy man would do so.

Shen Xiaoshan's group exchanged glances and understood that this was impossible. Even if they had an imperial law, they couldn't trade it for this wooden box.

Li Qiye only smiled after hearing this and looked around at the store. He instantly locked onto another item not far from there. He walked to the front of it for a better observation.

The worker and the three also followed him. This item looked like a jade cup. However, its base was very tall; any taller and it would look more like a stand.

A golden dragon was carved on the cup. This tiny dragon seemed to be swimming and very animated. Perhaps there was really a dragon sealed inside.

A harmonious aura could be felt instantly when people got close. It was very pleasant and fueled everyone's vitality.

"This is..." She Xiaoshan was surprised because she could feel the wonderful properties of this cup-like treasure. Her vitality seemed to be purified; even her blood was becoming purer.

It was hard to describe this feeling but one thing was certain even for a layman like her - this was an incredible treasure.

"This is the Golden Dragon Cup." The worker cheerfully introduced: "It came from a High God of the Divine Race, made from Sacred Recuperation Jade and used the blood of an ancient flood-dragon to create that little golden dragon, all of this came together with the High God's amazing crafting art. It can purify bloodlines and store essences in order to strengthen one's blood, especially those who have some ancestral blood."

The group shuddered after hearing this because ancestral bloods were very precious. Those who had them were dragons among men and destined for greatness.

"Another good item." Li Qiye chuckled and reached for it.

If this was a while back, the worker wouldn't want him to hold it because a mortal wouldn't be able to afford it. But now, he didn't try to stop him at all.

The moment Li Qiye grabbed it, another hand snatched it from him. An aggressive voice sounded: "I want this jade cup, how much?"

The group quickly turned and saw that the rude person was quite young. He wore a royal robe with phoenix embroideries on the sleeves. He had an excellent stature while his eyes flashed with a horrifying glint.

There was a dazzling green jade on his forehead, telling everyone that he came from the golem race!

[Chapter 1766: Heavenly Phoenix Crown Prince](#)

This youth had a woman as his companion and another worker helping them. She was beautiful and commanded an oppressive noble aura; this made it obvious that she came from a great background.

The worker was stuck in a tough position after this youth grabbed the cup out of Li Qiye's hand. He smiled awkwardly and asked Li Qiye: "The prince is very impatient, dear customer, will you look at something else?"

Li Qiye didn't bother looking at the youth and said dismissively: "Tell him to give it back, I want this cup."

The two workers became awkward. According to their store's rules, it was first come, first served.

The second worker rubbed his palms together and smiled at the youth: "My Prince, will you take a look at something different? We have a lot of treasures here, especially a new dagger that will be very suitable for Miss Lin.'

Even though a mortal like Li Qiye wouldn't necessarily be able to afford the jade cup, he was still first in line to buy because of the rule.

"No, I want this cup, it can purify bloodline, perfect for my sister. This will be my gift for her." The youth was very arrogant.

"Ah, sir, we have other treasures too. I'm sure you will be able to find the right one." After seeing the youth's swift refusal, Li Qiye's worker turned towards him and persuaded.

"No. This cup will be mine." Li Qiye flatly refused as well without backing down.

Li Qiye's attitude made the two workers speechless. What kind of mortal dared to vex a cultivator? Moreover, this youth came from a great background.

He was on a shopping spree with this beauty and coincidentally saw this cup then felt that it was very suitable for his older sister. But now, a mortal dared to compete with him? This embarrassed him in front of the lady and everyone else here.

"Brat, can you afford it?" The youth coldly stared at Li Qiye with contempt. In his eyes, even a rich mortal wouldn't be able to buy this level of treasure.

"Attendant, pack it up for me, we'll pay later." Li Qiye told the worker next to him.

This scared the wits out of Shen Xiaoshan because she knew that he didn't even have one chaos stone on him. But now, he dared to tell the worker to pack it up? What if he couldn't afford to pay when the time comes? It would be too embarrassing and awkward.

The youth's eyes turned cold with a murderous glint after seeing the non-cooperating mortal.

If this wasn't the Jilin's territory, he would crush this mortal already. It would be as easy as killing an ant for someone like him.

"Hmph, only a mortal yet you still dare to bluster? Do you know who he is?" The beauty became unhappy with Li Qiye as well and sneered: "He is the Crown Prince of Heavenly Phoenix, the little brother of Heavenly Phoenix Princess."

"Heavenly Phoenix Princess!" Shi Sou's group turned pale after hearing this title.

Heavenly Phoenix Crown Prince wasn't famous but it was a different story for the princess. Many people in Pure would show respect after hearing her title.

This country was an imperial lineage, created by Heavenly Phoenix Immortal Monarch.

However, being an imperial lineage wasn't the proudest thing in the country. Their true pride was their princess.

She had a prestigious bloodline but more importantly, she was Jin Ge's fiancée. He was the successor of the War-Monarch Clan and had taken up the post of clan master before too. He was an emperor candidate and once threatened the thirteen continents. [ref] Not the cultivation title here, just an aspirant which does confuse me, is this really a big deal?[ref]

Shi Sou felt his legs giving in. They were less than insects compared to someone like the princess and her lineage. Xiaoshan slightly pulled on Li Qiye's sleeve in order to remind him from going against the crown prince.

The beauty next to the prince felt complacent and sneered again: "His Highness' prestige isn't something you can compare to, be smart and scam now!"

"Never heard of him. Scam to the side, do not interrupt my shopping." Li Qiye ignored those two and told the worker again: "Pack it up well."

This was not a good trip for Shi Sou's group since they were repeatedly frightened by Li Qiye. They expected him to back off a bit after hearing the prince's identity but it turned out that he didn't give a damn at all.

The two workers were astonished as well. This might be the most aggressive and domineering mortal they have ever met, even going as far as to shout at the Heavenly Phoenix Crown Prince.

The prince's expression turned ugly after being treated with contempt publicly by this mortal. If it wasn't for his rationality holding him back from killing in a Jilin shop, he would have crushed this ant long ago.

"Attendant, this is my card." He took out a VIP card made out of gold and handed to the worker next to him.

The worker next to him was surprised to see this card. The prince's status alone wasn't enough to enjoy this gold VIP card. It must have been his father's.

He accepted the card and apologized sincerely to Li Qiye: "Dear customer, the prince is our esteemed guest and has purchasing priority."

The prince was appeased after hearing this and snorted: "Only a mortal, a gleam of light daring to compete against the radiant moon?!"

The prince normally wouldn't care to compete against a mortal. However, if he didn't release this anger today, he wouldn't be able to save his face as the crown prince of an entire country, no, an imperial lineage. If he couldn't take a mortal down a notch, it would show utter incompetence.

"Is that so?" Li Qiye freely replied with his gaze shifting at the wooden box again.

“Get the hell out now and I shall show mercy by not killing you!” The prince almost vomited blood after seeing that this mortal was still as haughty as ever and shouted.

Shi Sou’s group was truly scared this time by the shouting prince. Remember that just his finger alone could destroy Sago Palm. This was even before talking about his older sister and brother-in-law. Shi Sou almost dropped to the ground in fear.

Xiaoshan tugged on Li Qiye’s sleeve again, signaling him to stop.

Li Qiye ignored this and casually went over to brush his hand across the zither. A noise came about.

Suddenly, a phoenix roar resounded with the zither becoming bright. However, it quickly disappeared as if it was only a coincidence.

The two workers were completely stunned by this event. Meanwhile, the stunned manager immediately got up and walked closer towards Li Qiye. He cupped his fist and said: “Sir, you are a master. Your presence brightens our humble abode.”

“This is our boss.” The worker quietly introduced.

“I see. I’m here to buy some toys at your store.” Li Qiye casually said.

The workers were taken by a storm with his attitude. Keep in mind that even kings and sect masters wouldn’t be received by their manager. They would even bow down when talking to him yet Li Qiye treated it so trivially.

The manager immediately grabbed the jade cup and told the prince: “My Prince, the rule of the store is first come, first served. Please excuse us.”

“Manager, I’m not trying to force the issue but I do have a VIP card.” The prince didn’t accept this.

He didn’t dare to become angry at the manager but he couldn’t swallow it down.

“This gentleman is our venerable guest with all the priorities, please excuse us.” The manager said seriously.

With that, the old manager ordered a worker to take down a dagger and give it to the lady next to him. It was quite pricey so she liked it a lot.

Nevertheless, the prince was still furious at Li Qiye and would surely kill him if this wasn’t a Jilin store.

[Chapter 1767: Smashing](#)

The manager used both hands and raised the jade cup towards Li Qiye and said: “This is a little token of our goodwill, please accept it, sir.”

This course of event astounded Shi Sou’s group even more and robbed them of their words.

Even before mentioning the manager’s respectful attitude, the guy was actually giving this pricey jade cup to Li Qiye. How unbelievable was this?

Even selling all of Sago Palm wasn’t enough to buy this cup but now, the manager was handing it over without any condition. Such an extravagant play was something beyond their imagination.

Li Qiye accepted the cup for a look before loosening his grip. "Bang!" The cup shattered on the ground with pieces scattering everywhere.

Today had too many surprises so everyone was stunned and couldn't regain their wits, especially Shen Xiaoshan's group.

In their eyes, this pricey cup could be their hereditary treasure if they were to ever get it. But now, Li Qiye casually dropped it down. This was simply treating money like trash.

Li Qiye shook his head and told the manager: "It's not a bad cup, just not Old Ku's best work though."

In fact, when Li Qiye was looking at it, he thought about someone who was quite weird with his works. When this person focused during the crafting process, something amazing would happen. If he wasn't, then the result would only be an ordinary piece.

Because of this, Li Qiye smashed the cup since there was nothing special about it so he lost interest.

Heavenly Phoenix Crown Prince became aggravated again and clenched his teeth. He wanted to spend a large amount of money to buy this cup for his older sister. But now, Li Qiye broke it in front of him. This was the same as smashing his face with the cup. How could he endure such a blatant provocation?

Of course, Li Qiye treated the prince as air and didn't bother to look at him.

"Sir, would you like to go to the back?" The manager asked Li Qiye while letting his workers talk to the prince.

Of course, offending this prince didn't matter to him. Even the prince's father, Heavenly Phoenix Royal Lord, was only his junior.

Li Qiye nodded in response: "Fine, for a bit then."

The manager led the way for Li Qiye. This was a reception unavailable to even the kings and sect masters.

Inside the back room, he personally made some tea for Li Qiye with great enthusiasm.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye was pretty nonchalant while sipping his tea. He acted as if this was his house and he could do as he pleases.

The other three were still in a daze. Everything happened so fast and they couldn't digest it all.

"May I have your name, Sir?" The manager respectfully started a conversation.

Even though Li Qiye was a mortal, the manager knew right away that this guy was extraordinary after the previous scene. More importantly, he wanted to ask Li Qiye for a favor.

"Li Qiye, but you don't know anyway." Li Qiye chuckled.

The manager naturally had never heard of this name before but being the experienced fox that he is, he smiled and said: "Sir, you are a true dragon soaring deep in the clouds among the horizon, a hidden master. Of course, ordinary people like us wouldn't know your name. It is due to our ignorance."

Shi Sou and He Chen glanced at each other. They couldn't describe their emotion at this moment. The manager was an unfathomable character in their eyes. If he were to visit Sago Palm, perhaps the entire sect would prostrate to greet him with a grand ceremony.

But now, such a big shot was so humble before Li Qiye and called himself an ordinary person. This was quite a shocking debacle.

Li Qiye sat there comfortably without answering so the manager continued to wait on him.

"I'm actually a bit curious. Why did this zither come out of the Jilin Clan?" Li Qiye asked directly.

The three were quite shaken since they didn't expect this zither to be from the clan itself.

"Sir, the truth is that our ancestors belonged to a branch in the imperial clan. Due to their contribution, the clan bestowed the zither to them." The manager replied.

"You do not have the phoenix melody." Li Qiye smiled and said.

The manager coughed in response and became a bit awkward: "We, the descendants, are useless and couldn't inherit the melody. Same with the imperial clan itself without the actual zither."

"But you believe that someone in this world will know the melody of the phoenix because this zither was brought into the clan in the past. That's why you display the zither here as a bait of sorts." Li Qiye revealed.

"Sir, the zither is useless without the melody. We do hope that this zither can find the fated one for it." The manager hurriedly said.

"I know the melody." Li Qiye chuckled. How could he not? The zither was his before it came to the Jilin Clan!

The group was shocked again. They didn't expect Li Qiye to know the phoenix melody of the Jilin Clan.

"Sir, you are the fated one. Of course, if you really want this zither, we are willing to sell it to you." The manager said.

"No, I do not need this zither. Plus, I don't want to take your heirloom." Li Qiye spoke.

"Sir, you are willing to pass down the melody?" The manager became ecstatic and added: "In that case, you will be our benefactor. Just say the words if you need anything."

"I want that wooden box." Li Qiye responded.

"The wooden box?" The manager was a bit surprised. Of course, he knew which box Li Qiye was talking about.

"That's not our item, a friend is asking us to sell it." He said.

Li Qiye nodded: "I know. I'm trading the phoenix melody for an Immortal Monarch's defensive art, you think this is a bad deal on your end?"

"Well, of course not. But we need to ask the clan because it is an imperial law." The manager replied.

"That's your business. To be frank, you're greatly benefiting from this trade. Must I say more about the power of this zither with its melody? Otherwise, it is as useful as firewood." Li Qiye leisurely added.

"Indeed." The manager didn't try to hide it since there was no point. The guy was knowledgeable enough.

He hesitated for a moment before making up his mind: "Then I shall be bold enough to take charge of this matter and accept your request, Sir."

"Since you're so decisive, I will be too. Bring me something to write on." Li Qiye chuckled.

Of course, he wasn't worried about writing the melody down first. He knew that the manager wouldn't change his mind or tried to trick him. The guy didn't know his identity. A mortal acting so bold before him? This person would either be a madman or completely confident in his skill.

However, Li Qiye was no madman. A mortal not caring about cultivators? This was quite frightening so the manager didn't have any ideas about tricking Li Qiye.

After the manager brought a brush and paper here, Li Qiye wrote down the melody. After he finished, the manager carefully picked up the paper with both hands and carefully read it.

Despite losing the melody long ago, a being of his level could definitely tell if it was fake. After confirming that it was real, he bowed towards Li Qiye and said: "Sir, thank you for bestowing us our inheritance again."

Anyone else was likely to hold on to the melody because the combination of the zither and the melody was quite devastating and precious.

The manager personally went to pick up the wooden box and respectfully handed it over to Li Qiye: "The box is yours now, Sir."

Li Qiye accepted it for a quick glance before putting it away.

"Sir, may I ask you a question?" The manager spoke with a prudent tone.

Li Qiye smiled and said: "Go for it."

"What is in the box?" He was very curious. In fact, when the box was brought here, he personally appraised it but he couldn't tell what was inside. If he didn't know its owner, he wouldn't have agreed.

[Chapter 1768: Secret Of The Wooden Box](#)

In fact, Shen Xiaoshan and the others were curious, just like the manager, about the magical content. There were so many treasures in the store yet Li Qiye was fixated on the box alone.

They gave it a careful look but couldn't see what was special about it.

"I don't know either." Li Qiye shook his head: "But that's why I must find out. Very few things could elude my gaze but here we are now. Isn't this worth finding out?"

The manager was taken aback since he thought Li Qiye knew something and that's why he wanted the box so bad. He didn't wonder whether Li Qiye was telling the truth or not since the box was his now. No point in thinking about it.

"You are so wise already yet you still seek further knowledge, we are ashamed." The manager cupped his fist and said: "I'm sure your future will be boundlessly brilliant once you cultivate."

This was not an empty praise. He was an amazing expert but his knowledge was far inferior compared to a mortal like Li Qiye. That's why he had a very high evaluation of Li Qiye.

"The grand dao is long and arduous, no need to rush." Li Qiye said: "Cultivation is easy but maintaining one's mind isn't. Each step must be careful and polished along the way."

The manager felt a sense of respect after hearing this: "Your words can grant others a flash of insight. If you are willing, sir, I will recommend you to the Jilin Clan. It is not a bad option."

Shi Sou's group was shocked after hearing this. So many people in this region wanted to join the Jilin Clan. For example, if they could join, it would be like a phoenix soaring to the sky or a carp crossing the dragon gate. It was a glorious thing for both their ancestors and Sago Palm.

If Li Qiye could join the Jilin Clan without an examination, the result would be exactly what their master wanted. They could follow him and get connections there as well. Thus, the group jubilated and stared at Li Qiye, waiting for his response.

They all wanted him to say yes to this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, coveted by so many.

"Join the Jilin?" Li Qiye chuckled and shook his head: "Sorry, I'm not planning on having a teacher. The grand dao might be hard but I believe I can find my own path."

His refusal stunned the group to the point where they almost jumped off the ground. It was too unbelievable since joining the clan was so prestigious but Li Qiye had just refused it.

They wanted to persuade him into thinking it over but this was not the time and place for them to interject.

"Sir, your ambition is too great for ordinary people like us to understand." The manager was disappointed but didn't force the issue.

Li Qiye smiled and gently waved his sleeve at the other three. They didn't know what he wanted to talk with the manager about but they still quietly left.

He then looked at the manager and said: "I'm not interested in joining the Jilin Clan. however, I am about the thing that flew into the clan after the sixth expedition."

"You!" The manager's expression changed. He instantly took one step back with a terrible flash in his eyes. It was full of murderous intention now.

However, Li Qiye still sat there calmly and said: "Manager, no need for this. The fact that I am here to talk to you means that I can annihilate you, if it wasn't for your respectful attitude."

The manager glared at Li Qiye for a long time before taking a deep breath and sitting down again.

He bowed and slowly said: "Sir, this is a top secret. How did you find out about it?"

Even though he wasn't a direct disciple of the Jilin Clan, he was still an ancestor-level character with a great position. He only knew very little about this matter.

"Looks like it's the truth then, it really happened." Li Qiye gently sighed with a tinge of sadness after confirming.

"You tricked me just now?" The manager shuddered and said.

Li Qiye shook his head: "No need for that, this is just to confirm my speculation. The clan is trying to recruit people skilled in runes reading, this shows that there is a demand for it. However, these particular runes aren't of this world, only up above." He pointed at the sky.

He didn't say anything else. Nightfall Immortal Monarch had participated in the sixth expedition started by Immortal Emperor Qi Zhen. The result was obvious.

The appearance of these runes wasn't a good news so Li Qiye lamented in his mind.

"Sir, you are like an immortal in this world in terms of knowledge." The manager was shocked at this erudite mortal. People would never be able to catch up and sects would love to have him despite his cultivation.

"The clan has it but can't understand. Nevertheless, they didn't dare to be too blatant either, so they started this kind of examination." Li Qiye said.

"We shouldn't talk about this too much." The manager hesitated: "This is a top secret of the clan and I know very little about it anyway. If you are interested, why not join the clan? Once you are at a higher position, you will surely be able to see it."

"I don't want something that requires waiting." Li Qiye chuckled and said.

He didn't have time to wait. The only reason why he agreed with Tieshou Weng was that he needed to go to the clan anyway on top of the guy's respectful attitude. This was to give a fortune to Sago Palm.

The manager sighed in disappointment. He truly wanted for the clan to recruit this great talent but didn't dare to force the issue.

Even though Li Qiye was a mortal, he couldn't see through him so a certain sense of caution was necessary. Plus, as Li Qiye had said, if the guy dared to act so arrogant in this place, it showed that he wasn't afraid of anyone. Provoking such a person was quite unwise.

The manager personally sent Li Qiye off when he left the shop in a sincere manner. At the same time, he also generously gave three VIP cards to Shen Xiaoshan's group.

The group was speechless as they were holding the cards and felt that this was a dream. It was a different story whether they could afford to buy the treasures here or not. However, little characters like them weren't qualified to possess the cards. Only kings and sect masters had this privilege. For example, even the Heavenly Phoenix Crown Prince couldn't obtain one so he resorted to using his father's.

Of course, they were aware that the manager did it because of Li Qiye.

“Come, we’ll go Stone Workshop now.” Li Qiye interrupted their stupor.

They regained their mind and quickly followed right behind him. Despite not being able to see through Li Qiye, they were certain that if they could rely on him, this great mountain, it would be truly beneficial.

Stone was the biggest shop for dao materials at the Western Market. There were too many types of materials in great abundance in this place, a favorite location for cultivations.

Everyone wanted to find treasures such as the right type of dao material which could result in a supreme dao fetus.

[Chapter 1769: Stone Workshop](#)

When one stepped inside the workshop, they would be dazzled by the mountains of materials. Even the treasuries of many great powers couldn’t compare to this.

Shen Xiaoshan’s group was shaken beyond words by the plethora of materials here. Their sect also saved up some dao materials but it was no match for even a tiny corner of this place.

Shi Sou became emotional after seeing this and thought that the imperial lineages were too lucky. If they had access to these resources, they would have soared towards greatness already.

Dao materials were very important in the thirteen continents. All cultivators needed them since they were required for weapons and treasures.

The artifacts in the tenth world were different from those in the nine. The majority of the ones here were crafted by combining dao fetus and precious metals. Meanwhile, the dao fetus were born in dao materials.

These fetuses were created by nature, normally gestating in a mysterious pebble or the remains of a beast. They had both chaos and primordial energies on top of laws of the grand dao.

Real weapons required these dao fetuses. Only then would they be able to use the power of the grand dao and primordial chaos. Otherwise, they would only be cold steel like mortal weapons. These fetuses actually gave the weapons life, in a sense.

The most common cause of birth for these fetuses was when the heaven and earth flowed together. This was when laws of the grand dao would appear. It could be inside an ore or tree; that’s when a fetus would be created. Normally, the origin of the fetus would play a large part in determining the outcome of the weapons.

Because one couldn’t see inside a dao material regardless of their strength and heavenly gaze, no one would know what kind of fetus would be inside.

That’s why opening these materials became a form of entertainment or gambling in the thirteen continents.

The Stone Workshop didn’t only sell materials and fetuses. Their main source of income was gambling. Visitors could bet among themselves or against the workshop.

The group saw cultivators from all over the world picking dao materials. Some were shouting like addicted gamblers, no longer caring about their own images as nobles and masters.

A worker immediately went up to greet the group and enthusiastically said: "Sir, are you here to pick some materials or to gamble?"

Li Qiye smiled in response: "Your store isn't enough to pay if I were to gamble."

The worker was understandably surprised by the reply. Keep in mind that their shop had the most brilliant appraisers in Jilin or even all of Pure. No one would dare to brag about beating them.

Nevertheless, the worker still said respectfully: "Then please have a look at the dao materials, let me know when you find something you like."

The group strolled around the store with the worker guiding them. Of course, Li Qiye was the only one really looking.

There were too many items here. Some stones were as small as a fist while others were as big as mountains. Moreover, the form varied too; metals were common while a rare one was made up from the spine of a flood-dragon...

Of course, they were separated into different levels with a varying price range. The cheapest was very affordable even for the young cultivators. As for the most expensive, well, even a sect master would be left speechless.

Outside of just materials, there were all types of dao fetuses that have been taken out such as sword fetus, saber fetus, spear fetus...

The group of three was dazed while walking behind Li Qiye. They had never seen so many dao materials before in their life.

After taking a stroll of the store, he stared at the skeleton of a dragon in the central floor and said: "There is indeed a lot of varieties here."

"Sir, please don't laugh but I do think that in terms of the number of dao materials, we're definitely in the top three in Pure, if not first place." The worker proudly said while pointing at the dragon bones in the middle: "Take that Frost Golden Dragon, for example, it might not be a true dragon but it does have a strand of that bloodline. It's an old dragon at grand completion; we found it very deep in the northern frigid sea. The heaven and earth harmonization has occurred on its spine to create a priceless dao fetus. Of course, the bones themselves are precious as well. Usually, money isn't the issue when trying to find one of this level but our shop specializes in collecting dao materials. It doesn't matter what the guests want, we can satisfy their wishes. This is our store's unquestionable ability."

This worker went on and on about his shop. Of course, it wasn't all bragging since the shop was indeed capable of doing so, just that his diction was slightly exaggerated.

Li Qiye only smiled and continued to stare at the spine of the dragon.

One needed to cut the material out first in order to see if it was good or bad. Even one from a true dragon was not necessarily precious, just that the chance for a good one was greater.

“Let us go look at the White Adornments.” Li Qiye withdrew his gaze and told the worker.

“Please, this way.” The worker instantly showed Li Qiye the way and didn’t look down on Li Qiye just because the guy wanted to see White Adornments.

There were levels to dao fetuses. The higher level would create stronger weapons. Thus, those who could afford it would all pick the higher level ones.

Dao fetuses are distinguished in the following order: White Adornment, Violet Force, Golden Inlaid, Orange Martial, and Heaven Bestowment. [1]

Experienced stone appraisers could look at a material’s composition, form, place of origin, and background to determine the dao fetus inside to a certain degree of accuracy. That’s why each sect would have specialized appraisers to pick out the materials. They enjoyed a relatively high position with their ability.

White Adornment was the lowest level and the most common. It came in all shapes and forms so this was the easiest choice for many cultivators.

It was also the cheapest so cultivators from the weaker sects picked it. Of course, certain masters and big shots would do so too.

They were located in an inconspicuous corner and piled up randomly like a mound.

These dao materials were priced according to their size. The larger, the more expensive. Nevertheless, this didn’t mean that the dao fetus inside would be proportional to its material’s size.

They were listed as White Adornment by the shop’s appraisers who were very experienced and discerning. These appraisers rarely made mistake so the materials here were certainly at the White Adornment level.

Alas, even the heaven falls asleep sometimes. These experienced appraisers could also make mistake. Because of this, materials that were determined as White Adornment could reveal fetuses at the Orange Martial or even Heaven Bestowment level!

This was the reason why some keen cultivators would come to this section to pick the White Adornments. If they were fortunate enough, some treasures could be found here.

When Li Qiye got here, many cultivators were already picking their stuff, with the majority being weaker cultivators since this was all they could afford.

Though the shop was usually full of customers, a mortal accompanied by three cultivators was still a rare sight. A few cultivators’ eyes darted at them.

The worker quietly stood to the side and waited for Li Qiye to make a choice. Normally, workers wouldn’t come to this section to help so Li Qiye’s situation was very special.

He stood before the pile and began his observation.

“Pick a small one; they’re all White Adornments anyway. A smaller one will be cheaper.” A cultivator kindly advised.

[Chapter 1770: Another Provocation From The Crown Prince](#)

Li Qiye walked back and forth in his search to no avail at the pile of White Adornments.

“Oh, isn’t that the famous mortal?” A mocking voice resounded.

Heavenly Phoenix Crown Prince and his beauty came by; they sneered after seeing Li Qiye finding items in this section before everyone: “Not enough money? Have to resort to White Adornment materials? If you really don’t have money, just tell me. I’m a charitable person and will give some to a daydreaming mortal like you.”

As an imperious character from an imperial lineage, he normally wouldn’t care for a mortal but he still had grudges from back at the Ji Store. A prince like him was robbed of a treasure by a mortal? How could he endure this anger?

Moreover, the guy also humiliated him in front of everyone. He swore to never let this go but still maintained a sliver of rationality because this was the Jilin’s territory.

“Heavenly Phoenix Crown Prince!” The shoppers quickly made way while staring in awe at him.

Cultivators and even experts coming from tiny sects respected him a lot. His background was already prestigious enough but his brother-in-law was even more frightening, a member of the War-Monarch Clan.

This clan had five emperors! Moreover, Jin Ge himself almost became a Grand Monarch.

That’s why even the other imperial successors had to give the prince some face. The alliance between his country and the War-Monarch Clan was a dreadful matter to others.

The cultivators here found it very strange; what was the feud behind this mortal and the prince? Some felt that this mortal was fearless like a tiger, daring to antagonize the prince.

Li Qiye gave the prince the cold-shoulder and continued looking before finally finding one that he liked.

“This one.” Li Qiye weighed the White Adornment in his hand before smiling.

It was as long and thick as an adult’s arm and looked like a branch taken off a withered tree.

The worker smiled and said: “You are quite discerning, sir. This material was given a white grade by our appraisers but its origin is quite rare, coming from a Yulan Magnolia Stone Tree. After the tree died, it was buried deep under the earth before the harmonization of the heaven and earth to create the dao fetus. Maybe you’ll find something nice here, there’s a chance that it might have a Violet Force fetus.”

This worker was very enthusiastic towards Li Qiye and knew all the merchandises in the store like the back of his hand.

“I hope so.” Li Qiye chuckled. Finding treasures in this place was only a whimsical choice. If he really wanted a supreme treasure, he had many other methods.

“Hah, stop daydreaming. The appraisers here are all elites; a white grade will only be a white grade! There’s no way a mortal like you can find any treasure!” The prince laughed.

He would sooner or later kill this mortal but he also wanted to humiliate the guy beforehand so that others would learn the consequence of provoking him.

Li Qiye ignored the guy while the worker didn't want to antagonize him. He said: "Sir, do you want to take it with you or cut it here?"

"Cut it here." Li Qiye smiled freely.

Being treated like air by Li Qiye further infuriated the prince. His face became hot and his expression cold. He swore to personally make mincemeat out of this mortal after they leave Western Market.

The worker led Li Qiye to the cutting stage, or a casino in the eyes of many cultivators. No place was more moving in the eyes of adventurous gamblers. The slow cutting process was very entertaining and exciting.

Because of this, many would choose to cut their materials here or make bets with other cultivators and even the shop. The amount would naturally depend on their own abilities.

Prior to using the machine, one would need to pay for the dao material first. That's why the worker asked: "Sir, would you like to pay now or later?"

The latter was reserved for esteemed guests. The Stone Workshop has received news from the Ji Store. That's why they treated Li Qiye so well.

"I don't have any chaos stone on me." Li Qiye said.

The crowd was astonished to hear this. A mortal daring to come to the workshop to buy materials without any money? What a strange fella.

"Young Master, I, I have some chaos stones here." Shen Xiaoshan took out a spatial pouch and handed it to Li Qiye in order to save some face for him.

She still had some savings and she didn't hesitate on using all of them for him at all.

The crowd found it puzzling again. Both her beauty and constitution weren't bad. Why was she a servant to this mortal? No one could come up with a reasonable answer.

"Maybe he's a bastard child of a big shot?" This speculation came up a lot in their mind.

"How much?" Li Qiye opened the pouch. There was a decent amount inside, especially for someone like Shen Xiaoshan. She has been saving it for several years in order to buy a decent dao weapon.

"Sir, we priced this dao material at 15 Dao Emissary." The worker replied right away.

He Chen was startled and blurted out: "Even a White Adornment is that expensive?"

Normally, a white-grade material would only sell for ten to several hundred Daoist Chaos Stones.

But now, the price for this particular one was a hundred times higher than places outside.

"Hah, you shouldn't have come here then. Wretched-looking thieves like you don't belong here." The prince sneered.

He Chen lowered his red face after hearing this. He didn't dare to retort because the prince was above his level.

Li Qiye didn't care for the prince but if the guy chose to pick on his people, he couldn't just sit idly by. Even though He Chen wasn't a follower, he was following him right now. Li Qiye wouldn't show mercy to anyone who dares to bully his entourage.

"Who the hell do you think you are? Only an idiot." Li Qiye said lazily without even looking at the prince.

The crowd was stunned to see this since they were aware of the prince's arrogance. It became worse after his country managed to suck up to the War-Monarch Clan. He became even more haughty and untethered.

Many were unhappy with him but they couldn't afford to offend him.

But now, a mortal called him an idiot right to his face? It was essentially a ruthless slap.

"Little animal, I'll end you!" The prince's expression turned ugly as he wanted to rush over and kill Li Qiye.

"Your Highness, please calm down. This isn't the place for blood." The workers nearby immediately stopped him from killing inside their business.

The beauty next to him pulled him back as well and said: "Only a mortal, no need for you to be angry, Crown Prince."

Ruining the laws of the Jilin in their territory because of a mortal wasn't worth it.

The prince was fierce enough but he didn't dare to directly oppose the Jilin Clan. After hearing the exhortations, he glared at Li Qiye and aggressively said: "Mortal, if you want to oppose me, we'll have a bet then! I'll have your hands today!"

In a short time, the crowd quickly stared at Li Qiye. Killing was forbidden in this place but there was another simple method for settling disputes, gambling. The two sides could bet anything, even their lives!