

Emperor 1861

[Chapter 1861: Absorbing Lightning](#)

The cultivators who were seeing Li Qiye for the first time were shocked with disbelief: “How can he only be a Dao Serpent when he’s so fierce? Is he hiding his true power?”

“Who knows? If he dares to call himself Fiercest, it’s easy to imagine how tough he is. It’s not easy being the number one in any category. But anyway, he’s an aberration who isn’t afraid of anyone, no, isn’t afraid of killing anyone. No one knows his identity either.” Someone else said: “A storm will brew across the thirteen continents because of this guy.”

Meanwhile, Li Qiye was strolling through the lightning field. Each step was another world so he quickly caught up to Feng Yi.

Feng Yi was unconvinced and exerted his vitality to the limit. In the blink of an eye, an immortal light erupted around his body. The rays shot to the sky and the space around him suddenly trembled. His speed crazily increased just like a meteor. A sizable gap was created between the two.

Li Qiye simply smiled and continued walking across this perilous region.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” Countless lightning bolts frantically tried to interrupt his stroll. Even the word “torrential” wasn’t enough to describe it. They seemed to have an unspeakable hatred towards him, unceasing until his death.

But despite their crazy onslaught, his palace managed to stop everything. His position became the gathering place for lightning, much more than Feng Yi.

He was entering a more concentrated area where the bolts coiled around him like vines, wishing to drown him.

“Something’s not right, no, his palace isn’t stopping the palace, it’s actually devouring the power in this field, turning it into his own!” A big shot from the last generation was startled.

The other knowledgeable big shots began to get some clues. From the beginning, they thought that the palace acted as a shield but this didn’t seem to be the case any longer.

“I see, so the lightning field has lost control; he’s devouring everything.” Another expert murmured in a daze.

“Looks like fewer bolts are hitting us.” Others began to notice the strange phenomenon as well. Eternal was still flying but the waves clearly had fewer bolts than before. The majority was being taken by Li Qiye.

“Damn, this brat is bizarre, to actively steal the bolts in Exploration Grounds. The ones here are so much more terrorizing than the lightning outside.” One cultivator took a deep breath.

In a short time, many people became scared. The flesh couldn’t handle these bolts. But now, Li Qiye was actually absorbing them to the crowd’s horror.

Of course, they didn't know that Li Qiye had a supreme item inside the four images of his palace, the Ancient Void Rune!

It could even withstand a heavenly tribulation and absorb it, let alone these trivial lightning bolts. It was an easy meal.

He didn't require energy since he was able to manipulate space. This wasn't the case for Feng Yi. After utilizing his movement technique to the extreme to rush forward, he was burning vitality and chaos energy at a rapid rate. Despite increasing the distance between him and Li Qiye, this wouldn't last much longer.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!" The bolts around Li Qiye only increased. He had become a lightning rod, taking everything in nearby.

"Oh god, is he insane?" The experts on Eternal were amazed.

Looking from afar, Li Qiye was completely engulfed in bolts as if he was made out of them. Lightning was coursing and flashing through his body.

Jilin Princess shook her head and smiled wryly. This was only child's play for an overlord like Li Qiye. This whole competition was a whimsical desire. Someone of Feng Yi's level couldn't get into his sight.

"Boom!" The bolts hitting him started to change. Now they carried a purple glow; they didn't look as blinding as before. In fact, this looked much more beautiful.

"Not good, the field is angry because he's stealing from its source, this will be a lightning tribulation now." A big shot from the last generation changed his expression.

At this moment, the strolling Li Qiye had caught up to Feng Yi and was walking side-by-side with him. He looked at the youth drenched in sweat and chuckled: "A tribulation is coming, it's not too late to give up and escape or you'll lose the chance to later."

Feng Yi was shocked to see Li Qiye still strolling leisurely. He felt that the guy was too unreal, capable of doing this with a meager amount of chaos energy. It looked just like black magic!

"I won't give up so easily without reaching the end!" Despite his depleting vitality, Feng Yi still wouldn't yield.

"If you choose to be stubborn, I can't help you then. Run now, as fast as possible. The tribulation is coming, whether you make it out alive is up to your own fortune." Li Qiye smiled and said.

"Let's go!" Feng Yi roared as his vitality and chaos energy crazily rolled out like a broken dam. Despite knowing that he had lost, he didn't want to surrender. He would rather go all out in reckless abandon so he released all of his energy.

This was a potentially fatal move. Even if he could reach the end of the field, it would leave behind lasting damages. It wasn't just about depleting chaos energy any longer.

"Boom!" The new surge in speed created a new separation between the two.

“Bang!” In this exact moment, all the lightning bolts exploded with rumbling blasts. An immense wave of bolts rose from the ocean, full of a purple shade.

This torrential force could destroy everything in this world without slowing down.

“Not good.” Everyone on Eternal was scared out of their mind.

The new flood of purple lightning rushed for Li Qiye with an unstoppable momentum.

“Damn!” Feng Yi was aghast and took out multiple treasures.

Even though there was a sizable distance between him and Li Qiye, all of the lightning below the field was forced out so even his area wasn’t safe. There was no dodging for him since he was within the radius.

“Activate!” All of his treasures became resplendent in order to build the strongest defense.

“Rumble!” This was a disastrous flood of power, resulting in deafening detonations.

Feng Yi’s layers of defense were useless; they broke down like dried branches.

He utilized his imperial arts instead but they were not enough either. The lightning flood shattered his laws instantly.

The bolts made contact with his body, causing smoke to come out. He could be rendered to ashes at any moment.

“No!” Feng Yi panicked since there was nothing else he could do but watch the flood come for him. He was certain of his demise; it would be a death without a body left behind.

“It’s over.” The experts on Eternal were sure that he was done for as well.

[Chapter 1862: Qin Baili](#)

“Activate!” A roar shocked the myriad realm with the might of a god and an impetus that could break the firmaments.

While Feng Yi was waiting for death, a roaring figure with a purple shade appeared next to him and spread out his palm.

“Boom!” It created three thousand worlds and stopped the attacking flood.

“Come!” In this split second, the purple figure carried Feng Yi and crossed through space to escape the cataclysmic radius.

“Boom!” The flood broke through the three thousand worlds and crazily rushed for Li Qiye.

“Rumble!” At this moment, all channels gathered into one, the most terrorizing flood of lightning in the world. It looked like an all-destroying calamity was descending down on Li Qiye.

The entire lightning field trembled before the coming of the flood and was on the verge of destruction.

Even Eternal stopped, not daring to come forward in order to avoid the lightning. It didn’t matter how strong its defensive barrier was, the consequence was unimaginable once caught in the flood.

“Come.” Li Qiye was unperturbed and smiled.

“Buzz.” His palace was ready to face the incoming disaster.

“Rumble.” Loud explosions echoed in the sky. The flood was devoured by the palace and forced inside.

The Ancient Void Rune on the pillar of life had started working. It had turned into a boundless world to receive and refine the bolts.

As time passed, there were less lightning bolts in the ocean. Eventually, only tiny strands were left in the lightning field.

In the end, all the bolts were devoured. One couldn't find a trace of lightning in this so-called lightning field. There were only the occasional flashes of thunder left.

The devouring process happened in a short period. The torrential lightning field turned into a frightening serenity like a dead zone.

Everyone was aghast at this sight. He made lightning bolts into a meal. Surely, some people thought that he was actually a lightning-eater. [1]

“That's...” When people regained their sanity, they found Feng Yi had been brought back to Eternal by someone.

His savior was a man that wasn't that much older than Feng Yi. He wore a purple robe and had a haze around him.

He was ancient in appearance. Ancient was a strange word to describe someone but there was no other way to envision him outside of this word.

It was as if he came from an ancient era, carrying its timeworn atmosphere. The surrounding haze made him look like an old immortal.

He was as majestic as a mountain. Being beaten by the long years didn't bend his proud stature. Nothing could wear down his appearance.

“Qin Baili!” Someone recognized him and shouted in astonishment.

Even those who didn't recognize him knew of his name and gasped in response.

“It's Sect Master Qin.” Members of the crowd quietly reminded.

Qin Baili was a resounding name in Pure. He was even more famous than Jin Ge in the past.

He was once the ultimate genius of this generation. He came from Heaven Searching and rose to prominence with an unprecedented speed. People thought that he was the most likely to become an emperor from the hundred races.

Unfortunately, Jin Ge was even more exceptional. A fight between the two was inevitable and Qin Baili lost despite debuting earlier.

In just one night, Jin Ge became famous and took Qin Baili's spotlight. Baili rarely appeared from then on. Some believed that he was mentally shaken by the loss; others said that he was cultivating in seclusion.

Nevertheless, his prestige was still strong despite losing. After all, he had experienced many battles and his power was recognized by people.

"Is he a god now?" Even top experts with 80,000,000 chaos units couldn't see through Qin Baili. He was unfathomable like an abyss as if he had jumped out of the Dao Celestial realm.

He didn't shoulder a Heaven's Will to become an emperor so godhood was the only explanation.

In the present, he was extremely strong and acting as the sect master of Heaven Searching with full authority. If the elders gave him full authority at his age, it meant that they valued and trusted him. The guy was capable enough to take on this responsibility.

Keep in mind that Heaven Searching had four emperors. This place was full of hidden dragons and crouching tigers yet he was still the chosen one. The ancestors surely had great confidence in him.

"Qin Baili has come into being again, does he want to challenge Jin Ge?" Someone murmured.

He rarely showed up after the defeat so it made minds wander.

"Master. I was useless and have harmed your reputation." Feng Yi bowed in shame after seeing his master.

Qin Baili frowned and shouted: "Your reckless action has harmed the prestige of the sect. My reputation is trivial in comparison."

"I understand." Feng Yi didn't dare to retort.

Feng Yi was a big shot in Pure but he looked like a child before Qin Baili.

"My disciple was thoughtless and acted without permission. Please forgive us for bothering you, Your Highness." Baili apologized to Jilin Princess.

"Dao Brother, you are too polite. It is only a trivial problem, no need to worry." The princess slightly shook her head.

Baili continued: "My lousing teaching is quite embarrassing. Please don't laugh."

At this time, Li Qiye had returned. Baili cupped his fist and said: "Fellow Daoist, you must be the famous Li Qiye."

"Indeed." Li Qiye looked at him and nodded.

Baili gently sighed and turned towards Feng Yi: "You took unauthorized action, I shall take away ten years of your cultivation. Apologize to Fellow Daoist Li as well in order to regain our sect's prestige."

Having said that, he pointed at the youth and took away ten years worth of training.

"I wholeheartedly accept." Feng Yi accepted the punishment without resisting.

“My disciple’s arrogance conduct had offended you. I have punished him as an apology to you and Her Highness.” Bai Li cupped his fist again at the other two and lamented.

People shuddered after seeing this. He was both severe and just, quite a convincing fella.

If it was any other imperial sect master, they would have chosen the side of their disciples with no regards for right-or-wrong. Even if the troublemakers were their disciples, they would try to win face back first. Justice didn’t exactly matter.

“Dao Brother, you are being too serious.” The princess sighed but didn’t interfere.

Li Qiye smiled and looked at Feng Yi: “This person has a promising future. You can be considered lucky to have a disciple like him.”

“Thank you, Fellow Daoist.” Baili maintained his cordial tone: “Goodbye for now, I will certainly discuss the grand dao with you over a nice tea in the future.”

Many became disappointed after Baili left with his disciple. When he appeared, everyone thought that he would stand up for his disciple and fight Li Qiye.

Who would have thought that the guy was so magnanimous and took away Feng Yi’s cultivation as an apology? This was quite admirable.

After Baili’s appearance, the stalwart Tamedragon Child was nowhere to be found. Earlier, he was gallant with a stately temperament while looking down on imperial lineages. Of course, the guy ran so fast after Baili came along.

“Actually decent in cultivation.” Li Qiye smiled and commented after Baili left.

Qin Baili had an extraordinary attitude as well. Other imperial lineages wouldn’t be able to accept such embarrassment. In their eyes, apologizing to an unknown junior was impossible, even more unbearable than chopping their head off. They would rather fight to the death than acknowledging their mistake.

After all, they have never been afraid of anyone. Those who dared to oppose them would have miserable ends. They were always the last ones smiling.

Feng Yi was Qin Baili’s favorite disciple but Baili didn’t try to even the score. He even took away ten years of cultivation from Baili. This wasn’t easy to do at all.

[Chapter 1863: Wu Fengying](#)

Jilin Princess agreed with Li Qiye: “Dao Brother Qin was indeed the best genius in Pure. Despite losing to Jin Ge, he had been quietly training so his cultivation soared. Rumor has it he had taken the path of the gods.”

“His dao heart is firm.” Li Qiye evaluated: “As long as he keeps trying, his future will not necessarily be weaker than ordinary emperors as a god.”

“Yes. He lost to Jin Ge when his fame was at the apex but he didn’t wallow in misery and give up. He continued to take one step at a time in cultivating. Even if he stops competing with Jin Ge for the Heaven’s Will, he’ll still become an amazing High God.” The princess said.

Heaven Searching and the Jilin Clan were both sects of the hundred races so they had a good relationship. The princess was knowledgeable about the sect.

“Defeat is commonplace for cultivators. Losing once doesn’t mean losing for a lifetime. Few were unbeaten but the trick is getting up after losing. This applies to the emperors as well. Of course, some couldn’t rise again. In this case, even geniuses would turn into useless men.” Li Qiye calmly said.

The princess quietly nodded while carefully taking it in. The dao heart was truly important for cultivators. Some geniuses were done for after one defeat and disappeared in the river of time due to their unstable dao heart.

Like Qin Baili, he was peerlessly famous with great potential in Pure. However, people considered his defeat to Jin Ge to be the lowest point of his life. Others would most likely hate themselves after losing. But Baili continued to train just like before. His dao heart was even better now. It meant that even if he wasn’t going to be an emperor, his future was still bright.

“Let’s go back.” Li Qiye glanced outside and smiled.

Eternal was continuing forward with full speed because all the lightning bolts had been absorbed by Li Qiye.

When Li Qiye and the princess wanted to return, a woman stopped them. She had an aura to her. It wasn’t overly aggressive, just stately like a True Dragon. She wore a draconic armor with a flashing golden glow. The armors had dragon runes with immense power. It didn’t look like it was cast from divine metal but rather the scales of a True Dragon.

Because of this, people could faintly hear the roar of a dragon soaring to the nine firmament. The armor couldn’t hide her curvaceous lines and plump peaks. Her long and thin legs accentuated her overall figure, tempting people at first sight.

Nevertheless, people would only steal a glance at her, never a full look. This was because of her oppressive and noble temperament, resembling both a dragon and a king.

Her phoenix eyes were bright and sharp just like a snow-white saber. It could instantly illuminate someone’s mind. Just a glance from her could instill a shuddering chill.

When people saw her, they would instantly think of this: ‘It’s a shame that she’s not a man or she would become a king with such a lofty temperament.’

“Wu Fengying!” Someone shouted in astonishment.

“Shh, call her Dragon Citadel Lord, don’t say her name or she’ll beat you up.” A friend reminded him.

People shuddered after hearing her name. Many people glanced at her but no one dared to utter a single word.

This was due to her notorious foul temper. She would resort to violence after a minor disagreement. Many have been beaten by her till they cried for their parents.

“Lord Wu, long time no see. Six years flashed by after our last meeting at the citadel.” The princess was secretly lamenting this meeting. A fight might be coming.

“Young Sis, long time no see, we’ll talk later on but I have business with him right now.”

The princess smiled wryly after hearing this. A fight was coming indeed.

Wu Fengyin was the current lord of Dragon Citadel, in charge of its future direction. This was a lineage with four emperors so it was above the Jilin Clan in Pure.

It was started by Immortal Emperor Can Long of the nine worlds. He took in cultivators from all over the worlds without limitation. Even the members of the three races could join. Because of this, outside of him and the third Immortal Monarch, the other two were Grand Emperors.

This was a unique sect in Pure since the races lived together in harmony. It was one of the few imperial lineages that had this aspect.

Amazing talents, powerful cultivation, beauty, and authority weren’t the reason why Fengying was so famous. Her fame was due to her brutish and fiery nature.

Many in Pure knew that she had a penchant for fighting. It didn’t matter whether they were an ancestor or an imperial successor. She would mercilessly beat them until they are unrecognizable.

An imperial lineage of the citadel’s level should have a staid and magnanimous lord. One was that was prudent and wouldn’t threaten violence at the first slight.

Alas, Wu Fengying was the opposite of that. Even after becoming the citadel lord, her temperament and fierce nature remained the same.

Just imagine, a beautiful lord beating people down to the ground with a ferocious demeanor. At that point, her features and charming figure wouldn’t matter as much.

That’s why some said that it would have been better for her to be a man since her god-given good looks were wasted like this.

Jilin Princess knew that trouble was brewing the moment Wu Lingfeng got here.

“Hey, what’s inside your palace?” Lingfeng blocked in front of Li Qiye and asked. Could you imagine a supreme beauty blocking another man in such a rough manner?

Li Qiye only smiled and ignored her.

“Hey, you listening? I’m talking to you!” Fengying immediately glared her pretty eyes at him.

He finally gave her the time of day and leisurely said: “First of all, my name is not ‘hey’, it’s Li Qiye. Secondly, if you have a question for me, you need to be gentler and polite. You may call me Young Noble, or Sacred Teacher, if you truly want to know.”

She maintained her glare and said: “You’re a healthy man, why do you speak so slowly like an old woman?”

He didn’t become angry and calmly retorted: “You’re a healthy woman, why do you speak in such a brutish manner like an erroneous reincarnation?” [1]

“Bullshit!” She postured aggressively with both hands on her waist and shouted: “Who says a woman can’t be brutish?!”

Li Qiye smiled and said: “You’re right. Who says a man can’t be calm with his words?”

“You...” She couldn’t come up with a fast response. Arguing wasn’t her forte. Her tongue was clearly not as sharp as Li Qiye.

“You think I won’t beat the crap out of you?” She instantly punched at his face.

“Boom!” It didn’t make contact; something blocked it.

“Bang!” Before she could reach, an invisible hand slammed her down on the deck.

People were startled after seeing the take-down. This guy was too devilish but more shockingly, he was so domineering - to go as far as fighting against Wu Fengying.

“That’s more like it! If you’re so capable, release me and we’ll fight for real!” She was unconvinced of the submission.

Li Qiye glanced at her and insipidly said: “Since you do not bear ill-will, I won’t trouble you. Think before you act next time, or I’ll kill you and strip you naked before throwing you down the ocean.”

Having said that, he recalled his thought and turned to leave.

She shouted back in fury: “We won’t know who’ll be doing the stripping just yet?! Stay and fight if you dare! I’ll strip you clean!”

Everyone became silly after hearing this. A girl, no matter how bold she might be, would never utter such words. Alas, Fengying wasn’t reserved at all.

[Chapter 1864: She-man](#)

Jilin Princess didn’t know whether to laugh or cry after hearing Fengying. This wasn’t her first time seeing Fengying’s aggressiveness.

Li Qiye ignored her and continued leaving. However, Fengying was not ready to end this and shouted: “Smelly brat, tell me already, what the hell is that item in your palace?!”

She followed right behind him while others steered clear of these two. They couldn’t afford to provoke either one.

Fengying was walking shoulder-to-shoulder with him now and asked: “You better tell me about the item or I’ll really beat you up.”

Her brutish manner was really letting down her kingdom-toppling face.

“Citadel Lord Wu, try your best to ask the Young Noble calmly, don’t be rash. I’m sure if you humble your tone, there will be a better result.” The princess reminded Fengying.

Though Fengying was very powerful and famous in Pure, the princess knew that she was not worth mentioning in front of Li Qiye.

“Just hurry and tell me about the thing in your palace already.” Fengying didn’t give up.

“A bit keen but why should I tell you? A girl needs to be gentle, watch it or no one will want to marry a rough girl like you.”

Fengying turned red from anger and glared at him: “Smelly brat, don’t think so highly of yourself! There’s nothing special about ugly men! I’m surely stronger than all of you!”

“There’s nothing special about men, but where did women come from without men? Did you come out of a rock? That’s why there’s no need for you to put us down since you will still need a man in the future.” [1]

“You...” Fengying was caught off guard again.

As for the princess, she wanted to laugh from the banter but it would be appropriate so she tried hard to hold it back.

“You’re really asking for it!” Fengying resorted to violence again after words failed her.

“You’re not my match. I can annihilate you with the tip of my finger.” Li Qiye said leisurely.

She nearly vomited blood from anger and retorted: “Don’t be complacent, it’s just that I had no hostility earlier so I didn’t use merit laws or you wouldn’t have been able to suppress me!”

“That’s why I spared you but even if you were prepared with an imperial armament, I would only need one hand to crush you.” Li Qiye asserted.

“You!” She surprisingly managed to stay calm this time: “I’ll let this go if you tell me what’s in your palace!”

“Looks like you are very interested.” Li Qiye smiled and said.

“There must be something in there, I saw your pillar of life. A regular pillar of life can’t withstand that much lightning, unless it belongs to emperor.” She stared intensely, as if wanting to strip him naked.

Others couldn’t see what was going on but she found some clues. Alas, she couldn’t figure it out entirely which was why she became so curious.

“Why should I tell you? What’s in it for me?” Li Qiye said leisurely.

She raised her voice: “What do you want? Just name the price and keep it reasonable, I’ll say yes.”

Li Qiye looked her up and down a bit and she responded by saying: “Wait, that perverted look, don’t tell me you lusting after my beautiful self?”

He responded with a calm stare: “Beautiful indeed but too brutish like a tigress, no, a she-man would be more appropriate in this situation. Such vulgarity isn’t to my liking.”

“You! Take a look in the mirror first, I don’t like you either!” She angrily glared.

“That’s a relief. Being liked by you is really a type of disaster. If we were to say that it is a blessing to be liked by Mengying, then it is so much bad luck to be liked by you. I’m sure no man would wish that for themselves.”

“You want to die?!” A fierce glint flashed in her eyes as she clenched her fists. One could hear them cracking and imagine the power within.

Li Qiye continued walking leisurely and ignored her ferocious pose.

“Fine, I won’t argue with you anymore.” She suddenly revealed a smile that proved her kingdom-toppling beauty. Anyone would be swayed by her current charm.

“I’ve made my decision. I’m formally announcing my intention of marrying you!” She boldly declared.

“Uhh...” Jilin Princess was stunned. Though she had seen women chasing after men, this was her first time seeing such a blatant method.

If she wasn’t aware of Fengying’s personality beforehand, her jaws would have dropped to the ground already.

“Marrying me?” Li Qiye couldn’t help but laugh: “You can’t marry me just because you’re from the citadel. Plus, I’m not interested either.”

Fengying didn’t mind at all and copied Li Qiye’s leisure manner and speech: “No problem. I’m persistent enough. Since you called me a tigress, no, a she-man, then I want to keep you down under my shadow forever.”

The princess was very amused at Fengying copying Li Qiye’s demeanor. She was wondering how this woman became the citadel lord. Did she just beat everyone who was unconvinced to take the position? Otherwise, it was really a miracle for someone like her to take charge in that sect.

“Don’t dream about marrying me. You would need to learn how to be gentle and feminine first.” Li Qiye said.

At this time, they have returned to their place. Li Qiye entered the room and closed the door behind him.

“What’s the point? I’ll just force you... wait a minute, you still haven’t told me about the thing in your palace!” After he closed the door, she finally remembered the main focus.

But there was no response. Li Qiye inside the room ignored her.

“Open the door now or I’ll break your house.” She said aggressively with an oppressive aura.

“Citadel Lord, please calm down. Let’s have a talk if you have any displeasure.” The princess hurriedly consoled her. She was worried for Fengying, not Li Qiye.

It took a lot of effort for her to appease Fengying. The woman was too curious about the thing inside Li Qiye’s palace because it was able to absorb lightning. She simply wanted to figure it out.

Of course, the princess couldn’t answer this problem either. In her mind, this wasn’t a big deal for someone of Li Qiye’s level.

Despite her impatient nature, Fengying was very patient when it comes to satisfying her curiosity. Thus, she wanted to stay at Li Qiye’s place. However, the princess was afraid of her death if she were to anger Li Qiye. This was why she tried her best to get Fengying to leave.

Eternal continued forward. Li Qiye had no interest so he rarely showed his face and spent the majority of the time cultivating.

The princess didn't leave either and kept him company.

"Who are the passengers this time?" After finishing his daily meditation, Li Qiye came out with a slight grimace and asked.

"I'm not sure, there are more than ten thousand passengers right now from all over the places. Minor characters and big shots alike." The princess said.

"There's something ominous on the ship." Earlier during his meditation, his powerful awareness suddenly felt something. It was mighty enough that nothing happening on the ship could hide from his sense.

"Ominous? What kind?" The princess became startled.

For something to be considered ominous by Li Qiye meant that it was extraordinary and horrifying.

"It's very strong. Someone is hiding its presence beneath the deck." Li Qiye said.

[Chapter 1865: Hope Corner](#)

It was truly horrifying thinking that there was something so powerful hiding inside the ship. The princess quietly asked: "Should we secretly take a look?"

"Just let it be." Li Qiye said flatly: "I don't care if it's evil or not as long as it doesn't mess with me. If it's foolish enough, I'll end it."

The princess heaved a sigh of relief after hearing this. Staying by Li Qiye's side was safer than anything else. As long as he was around, even a more terrorizing event wasn't worth mentioning.

"We're about to reach Hope Corner, would you like to leave the ship for a look, Young Noble?" She asked.

"Hope has been excavated completely long ago. Anything good there is gone now, the ones left must be ominous stuff that even emperors don't want to deal with in order to avoid a disaster." Li Qiye chuckled and shook his head.

The princess quietly nodded and didn't say anything else.

On the second day, Eternal anchored far outside of Hope. From the distance, Hope looked like a vast continent filled with chaos energy.

Alas, this place engulfed in energy didn't have a sliver of life. It was devoid of any tree, not even a blade of wild grass could be found.

There were mountains everywhere that looked like sleeping dragons. Thus, the terrain was certainly impressive enough outside of not having any vegetation. It was a land of black, fertile yet lifeless.

Hope Corner was the first stop of Exploration Grounds, the place found first in this area.

No one knows if this was the truth, but the majority of cultivators did indeed start in this place. Emperors weren't included in this group.

There was a very simple reason for its popularity, safety. It had been excavated in while so there was no danger to speak of. It was considered the safest location of Exploration Grounds.

At the same time, there were naturally places left pristine despite the effort of the mass. Occasionally, someone would find a treasure or dig out something interesting.

This also added to its popularity at the entry location for Exploration Grounds. Moreover, those who only came to sightseeing found this place the best. It was cheap and safe. This could become a nice conversational topic in the future, not to mention finding some items if they were lucky enough.

"Esteemed passengers, we have arrived at Hope Corner. Please exit the ship if you wish. We will be stopping here for five days. Those who are going to other areas, remember to come back on time. We will definitely leave in five days without delay." The captain announced.

People rapidly left after hearing the announcement. Even for those whose final destination wasn't here, they still wanted to take a look, especially the first-timers at Exploration Grounds.

In a short time, half of the passengers left the ship, causing it to be quieter.

They quickly excavated the place and left holes on the ground. Others opened mountains while some chose to go deeper into the abysses.

"There's no adventure here." One first-timer became disappointed at Hope Corner.

"Even if there are dangerous places here, they're not meant for juniors like us." His senior replied: "This is the entry area, many experts including High Gods and Emperors have been here. Anything usable had been found already."

"Were there treasures in this place?" A different disciple instantly asked.

"Once, many many treasures. In fact, a few High Gods became rich because of this place. Rumor has it that a Grand Emperor from the War-Monarch Clan found the remains of an immortal in this place. This eventually became their defining treasure."

"The remains of an immortal? Really now?" The disciple's eyes widened in astonishment.

The senior gently shook his head: "Not too sure since no outsiders have seen it. Rumor has it that some emperors had taken a look after the clan got it. But the exact details remained a well-kept secret by the clan."

"Then let's start digging, maybe we can find the same thing." This disciple became eager after hearing the old tale.

"Less daydreaming now." The senior slapped the disciple's back of the head and scolded: "This place has really been squeezed dry already. It wouldn't be your turn to find the remains of an immortal. Just go look around, leave it up to fate."

The scolding didn't diminish the disciple's excitement. He continued to dig everywhere - to no avail, of course.

"Treasurehunt Guidebook, three thousand chaos stones for one, personally compiled by World Emperor. Come, come, do not miss it, this Treasurehunt Guidebook is worth it!" The newcomers found that there were cultivators selling in this place.

Even though Excavation Grounds wasn't suitable for cultivation, many cultivators still came here for business. It was very convenient; they just needed to set up a shop and start shouting.

There were many stores including treasure guides, shovels, and regional specialties.

"Hope's unique Laying Stone, only one in every three hundred years. This is the most special souvenir in Hope. Gift it to your senior, junior, or lover... The best choice on your journey."

There was all kind of shops here. Many merchants came early just to start advertising.

In fact, Eternal wasn't the only ship here. There were many others docking in this place. Of course, it was still the largest.

Even though Hope wasn't suitable for habitation, it was still exciting enough. More than ten thousand people visited each day, creating quite a crowded environment.

This was the closest place to Outer Realm City. For many cultivators that didn't have the means to go farther, visiting Hope was good enough - cheap, safe, and didn't require too much time.

Li Qiye didn't care for any of this. In the next two days, who knows if the princess' advice was successful or that Wu Fengying had gone to Hope but she didn't come to bother Li Qiye.

Four days flew by during this stay but something unexpected happened on the fifth.

"Buzz." A virtually inaudible noise came about, prompting Li Qiye to open his eyes and stopped meditating. He got up and left the room.

"Young Noble, did something happen?" This surprised the princess.

"There's a problem." Li Qiye gazed towards Hope with a serious expression.

"A problem?" She took a deep breath and followed his gaze.

A "problem" coming from Li Qiye meant that the situation was quite serious because of his level. Ordinary things weren't alert him at all.

At this moment, Hope was still as lively as before.

"Not good, not good, run!" In this split second, several people fled with amazing speed. It was apparent that they were top Dao Celestials.

"What's going on?" The cultivators nearby were startled because of the fleeing experts.

Only one kind expert shouted: "Run for your life! A disaster is coming!" Having said that, he got on his ship and escaped with urgency.

This reaction stunned the crowd; they didn't take the warning seriously. Only a few experienced and careful cultivators immediately left.

"Be alert, activate the barrier." The veteran captain of Eternal told his crew: "Summon the passengers back, something strange is happening."

"Clank, clank, clank!" The bell of Eternal echoed across the sky. After hearing it, the passengers from Eternal immediately left. Others lingered around out of curiosity.

[Chapter 1866: Disaster Approaches](#)

"Rumble!" Hope Corner suddenly trembled with a loud blast. An immense tsunami came from the depth.

It was as red as blood and towered at an unbelievable height. This dazzling color rushed to the sky like a wailing devil.

"Run!" In the depth of Hope, experts were soaring to the sky in order to escape this tsunami.

However, it seemed to have a terrorizing sucking force. The blood from the fleeing experts actually shot out from their body and was absorbed by the wave.

In the blink of an eye, an expert had his vitality completely drained with tiny holes all around his body. Only a dried up body was left behind on the ground.

"Rumble!" The tsunami suddenly detonated and became even larger than before.

"Ah!" Screams emanated as one cultivator after another was drained completely, leaving behind only skin and bones.

This tsunami was like the tongue of a terrible monster. Being licked by it would rob any existence of their life force and vitality.

"Run!" All the cultivators were scared out of their mind and started to run while the tsunami rushed closer behind them. They ran for their lives and wished that they could have more legs in order to escape Hope even faster.

"Ah!" More screams resounded. The majority of them couldn't escape this disaster. They were fast but the tsunami was even faster. The only thing left behind after their scream was their withered corpse.

"Clank!" The alarm from Eternal became more urgent. Those with quick reaction finally boarded the ship.

"Let's go!" Many ships nearby realized the unfavorable situation and immediately fled. They didn't care whether their passengers were still stuck behind or not.

Only a few like Eternal were holding strong and waited for their passengers.

"Rumble!" The ship used an unbelievable speed to cross through Hope and aimed for the airspace above.

"Buzz." The entire ship became brilliant with a large imperial formation slowly rising.

The tsunami attacked with a world-ending momentum and drowned out Eternal.

“Ah!” Meanwhile, many ships couldn’t escape far enough from the destructive tsunami. Many shattered instantly and the passengers became victims.

An imperial power swept by from Eternal towards Tsunami. Six supreme figures emerged around the ship. With their emergence, imperial auras suppressed the firmaments and calmed the universe.

Many passengers immediately dropped to their knees. These were the wills of emperors, completely impossible to resist!

“Rumble!” The overwhelming light of emperors could tear the world apart. Nothing could destroy this light.

“Boom!” The ship simply trembled a bit since the tsunami failed to destroy it after the engulfing.

The passengers became worried in this particular state. However, they looked up and saw the six majestic figures. This calmed them down since nothing was safer than the protection of emperors.

The tsunami came and left quickly. It eventually receded back into the depth of Hope. The place became calm again as if nothing has happened.

The experts eventually calmed down and looked around. There weren’t that many intact ships left in this place. The majority were annihilated by the tsunami.

Without any protection, the experts on these ships suffered a terrible death.

People from Eternal heaved a sigh of relief and realized that the emperors have protected them. However, the figures were concealing their appearance so no one could tell who they are.

The crowd praised their fortune for picking Eternal. Any other ship and that would have been the end of them.

In the beginning, they felt that this ship was expensive relative to the others. This certainly wasn’t the case anymore. This was money worth spending for the safest ship in Exploration Grounds.

Corpses were everywhere now to the horror of the spectators. The tsunami only took the vitality and left the flesh behind. Not too many actually managed to escape. Ninety percent of those who were on Hope were killed. Eternal was the ship with the most survivors.

Their palms became drenched with cold sweat while imaging their fate if it wasn’t for Eternal.

“Just what was that thing, a wave of blood?” An expert murmured, still as scared as before.

People glanced at each other in confusion. The thing came and left too quickly so no one got a good look.

“Isn’t Hope the safest area? Why did such a disaster occur?” A cultivator found this unbelievable: “I’ve been here more than ten times, something like this had never happened before.”

“Someone dug out an item deep under and this blood wave suddenly came out.” A successful escapee revealed.

“An item? What kind?” Everyone was startled after hearing this.

“I don’t know.” This escapee was very powerful but he was twitching on the deck and shook his head: “I only heard someone said they found something before the blood wave came out. I immediately fled without looking back.”

The guy was completely pale and stricken with fear but no one would dare to laugh at him. This was an understandable reaction.

“A treasure? In Exploration Grounds, disasters and treasures come hand in hand.” Discussions became heated right away.

“What is it?” Li Qiye saw what had transpired while standing on his peak. The princess curiously asked him.

“A legend without any written records but it was actually excavated just now. This is a stroke of fortune.” He answered.

“But isn’t this place fully explored by emperors? The conventional belief states that there is nothing worthwhile left here.” She said.

Li Qiye smiled and said: “That’s also correct. However, don’t forget that these broken areas in Exploration Grounds are leftovers from older epochs. These are spatial areas that still exist even after the most terrifying destruction during the end of an epoch. If they can survive such a disaster, can you imagine how powerful and precious these spatial areas are?”

[Chapter 1867: Entering Hope Again](#)

“For this particular thing, even emperors can’t take it away?” The princess inquired.

Li Qiye looked at Hope and smiled: “It requires luck and nothing good will come if an emperor were to force the issue since it will incite karma. Plus, this is Exploration Grounds. Even emperors aren’t capable of truly defeating everything here. Like I said, this is the remnant of an epoch, a broken piece from the river of time. Just imagine, the end of the world couldn’t destroy it. That’s why emperors can’t forcefully seize it or that they don’t want to be stained by the associated karma.”

He looked back at the princess and continued: “The Heavenly Execution is always looming above their head. The more powerful the emperor, the greater the risk, only inches away even. Being involved with more karma only exacerbate the situation.”

“The execution...” The princess shuddered after hearing about the unavoidable disaster. Even High Gods suffered this fate as well. A grave topic indeed.

Li Qiye slowly went on: “That’s why when the emperors have more wills and power, they have even more reservation. It’s too difficult dodging the execution once it has arrived. Even a twelve-will emperor would turn to ashes. That’s why the weaker emperors appear more since they aren’t at big of a risk compared to the reclusive top emperors.”

The princess agreed with this statement. World Emperor, Profound Emperor, or Immortal Monarch Yi Ye; they normally never showed up. Not to mention their descendants or regular experts, even ordinary emperors would have a hard time meeting these top beings.

“The execution is not all bad.” Li Qiye chuckled: “At the very least, emperors can hide in Exploration Grounds and live even longer. Traveling in the mundane world and basking in its karma would make it even harder for them to make it through the long years.”

“I heard some emperors occasionally search around this place too.” The princess asked.

“Not just occasionally, in fact, the emperors never rest about this. Exploration Grounds is boundless with many pristine locations, untouched by men. It’s because normal people don’t see the emperors looking around. Of course, at their level, they would only look for high-level and tempting items.”

“Are there really existences in this place that can kill emperors... even the ones with ten wills and up?” She pondered a bit before asking.

In fact, she had heard of this legend before but was never certain of it. Emperors were known to be invincible, especially the ones with ten wills and up. Nevertheless, there were still rumors of them being killed.

She was very skeptical about these rumors and couldn’t imagine this type of godslaying existences.

“Yes, not few in number either.” Li Qiye revealed: “This is why emperors, later on, are so selective with excavation. You might want someone else’s treasure, but you’re the treasure in someone else’s eyes. Disturb someone’s long slumber and a great price must be paid. What is more nutritious in this world than emperors?”

She felt a chill after seeing his gaze. Emperors were essentially food to someone else? This was a terrorizing thought. Just how frightening must an existence be to hunt emperors?

“Come, let’s take a look. It’s calm now.” Li Qiye said before flying towards Hope.

She took a deep breath and followed right behind him. She softly said: “Will an emperor come after this big commotion?”

It was different at Exploration Grounds since the threat of Heavenly Execution was much lesser. A few emperors were walking in this place.

“So what?” Li Qiye leisurely commented: “If it something I want, it’s already in my pocket. Death to those who want to interfere.”

This leisure comment instilled chills into listeners. Anyone else would think that Li Qiye was arrogant and ignorant, not the princess.

If Li Qiye was so confident in slaying an emperor, then just what was his real identity? What kind of overlord was he? Judging by their progenitor’s imperial decree, Li Qiye’s real identity must be far above him.

Keep in mind that Immortal Monarch Jilin had ten palaces and eight wills. This was an above average emperor even if he was not a match for someone like Nightfall. Nevertheless, he commanded enough respect among his peers. Thus, his reverence showed just how terrifying Li Qiye’s background was.

It made the princess think that he was an emperor with twelve wills! However, this level of existence could be counted with one's fingers. There were only four left alive right now and she couldn't connect him to one of them. This only further increased her curiosity about him.

As the two of them traveled around Hope, they saw more cultivators around now. The majority were the lucky survivors on Eternal. Others came after hearing the news.

Even though it was a terrible disaster just now, many experts couldn't help entering again. The reason was very simple - treasures were always tempting.

The experienced people here always knew that a supreme item would come out after a disaster. This was an amazing opportunity that could grant a lifetime of benefits!

Because of this, despite knowing the danger looming in Hope, adventurers wanting to get rich still entered the place.

"It must be an immortal item or something or such a terrible disaster wouldn't have happened." The story about the excavation from the fleeing survivor on Eternal had gotten out.

"It was really a big one, especially at a place like Hope. From the records, only one other disaster was on this level. That time, the War-Monarch Clan got their immortal remains. The item this time can't be inferior to that." A living fossil from the last generation revealed.

"That's a treasure capable of protecting a clan forever." People started to palpitate with excitement.

War-Monarch was a sect with five emperors. The immortal remains indeed became their defining treasure. Just imagine, they had every possible treasure but still considered this to be one of their best.

It made all the lucky survivors have hopeful thoughts. If they were to get an immortal item of this level, it would be such an amazing fortune.

Because of this temptation, people entered Hope for the second time. Prior to the disaster, the place was still lively with thousands of cultivators coming to sightseeing, trading, and treasure hunting.

It was desolate now with a layer of dried corpses on the ground. There were only bones with skin left; the blood and energy have been drained.

This truly scared the crowd and made them think that they have entered an ocean of corpse. Of course, this didn't deter them either. One could see figures crossing through the sky towards the depth of Hope.

Jilin Princess took a deep breath after seeing the corpses. There were numerous, tiny holes on them; their vitality was sucked out from these holes by a powerful force.

"Just what is this thing? Capable of draining people dry like this. Is it a blood-sucking existence?" The princess felt a chill.

[Chapter 1868: Sacrificial Offering](#)

Li Qiye glanced at the scattered corpses and shook his head: "It's not a living being, just an ancient ceremony that had been excavated again. When an old ceremony like this appeared, it required a sacrifice."

“A sacrifice?” The princess had an ominous feeling. This wasn’t a good word at all: “A life offering?”

“Nothing to be surprised about.” Li Qiye smiled: “Not to mention the untraceable epochs, even in our own, so many sacrifices have happened among the long years. For certain powerful people, others were mere ants. A million or ten millions are only a number, virtually the same thing.”

Li Qiye’s nonchalant words made her feel even more anxious. She had also heard of these legends when she was younger but it had a different significance when it came from Li Qiye. It meant that certain old tales actually happened.

“A sacrifice on such an immense scale?” She murmured.

“These evil events never stopped. It happened in the past and will again in the future. Perhaps you live in a generation for one too.” Li Qiye leisurely said.

“No one can stop it?” Her heart sank and had to ask.

Everyone knew that after reaching a particular level, a fight between cultivators was devastating. However, these fights normally took place in the sky.

Plus, a sacrificial offering was different from a battle. Sacrificing so many living beings was such a cruel deed.

“For a few things, once it reaches a certain threshold, they are inevitable. When one finds it hard to stay alive themselves, there’s no time to worry about others’ business, let alone worrying about ants. For example, if you were to burn a forest, do you actually care about killing one or ten million ants?” Li Qiye said emotionlessly.

This made the princess think in silence and had a moment of self-reflection.

“But the ones being sacrificed are humans, just like us. I would definitely take it seriously.” She eventually said after a long lull.

“Because you are not standing at the apex. If you are an ant, you will care for the welfare of ants, not wanting to burn them to death. If you are a human right now, you won’t care about these ants.”

“Right.” The princess had to admit this logic.

Even though these words were cruel, one still had to accept it. If she were to burn a forest, she wouldn’t care about these tiny creatures. She would care about humans because she was also one.

At the very top, these supreme existences only saw other cultivators as ants. They wouldn’t give a damn about the number of death.

“Sacrificing millions is only child’s play. At the end of an epoch, lives are not worth a single coin. Mortals, cultivators, and even emperors... under the grand momentum, all are insignificant. At that time, even a trillion is not a big deal.” He stared straight at her and continued: “For their own survival, someone could sacrifice the heaven and earth along with all the existences inside. Both the nine worlds and the thirteen continents are only nutrients for them to live longer; it is only another method for them to employ.”

"That... can't be..." The princess shuddered mentally before softly asking: "How could someone even accomplish such a task? That's impossible."

Li Qiye chuckled: "Nothing is impossible. Look at the cruelties of Exploration Grounds. They are the broken pieces of epochs. What I described earlier had happened in these past epochs, and not just once. Existences have sacrificed the entire world before."

She was overwhelmed by this revelation. Sacrificing an entire world and all living beings?

"That is too cruel." This was all she could muster.

As a cultivator, especially an imperial successor, she naturally understood the merciless nature of the dao. Death was an ordinary occurrence.

Sect destruction happened on a daily basis in the thirteen continents. However, this was the law of the jungle between cultivators. She didn't dare to think about treating the world as a sacrifice.

"The dao is merciless, only the heart has emotions." Li Qiye slowly said: "Remember, there is no savior in this world, don't count on one. In order to jump out of this world, you need to make yourself stronger!"

The princess contemplated before looking at him with a great earnest: "Young Noble, what will you do if this epoch is about to collapse?"

Her earnest expression made him smile: "You can be more direct than that. Your question is, whether I will sacrifice the world if the epoch is nearing an end?"

Such frankness made it difficult for the princess. Nevertheless, her stare remained strong.

"Don't worry, I won't sacrifice this world. The only thing I will do is to fight on. Death is not scary to me since it is also a kind of release. I don't need to live on like a coward, no need to sacrifice the world." Li Qiye answered.

The princess found solace in this answer because perhaps the guy was possible of this task. This was someone even her progenitor respected.

But it also worried her. What did this supreme existence experience to consider death as relief? She felt a tough weight in her mind.

"No need to be excited." Li Qiye amusingly said: "Even if I don't do it, someone else will."

She blurted out: "I don't think anyone in the world can do such a thing. Plus, World Emperor and the others will protect their own races."

She had her reasons. If anyone in the world was capable of this task, it should be someone among the apex emperors. World Emperor, Profound Emperor, and Immortal Monarch Yi Ye could probably do this by working together.

But she found this impossible for this wasn't in their nature. These emperors have started wars before, only for the survival and prosperity of their race.

In other words, these emperors fought and protected their kind; how could they sacrifice their people?

“You’re not at the level to see the ever-looming darkness. Even ordinary emperors can’t.” Li Qiye shook his head: “Certain things are beyond the control of Geezer Qian as well even if he wants to protect his race.”

“Why?” She wasn’t quite a frog under the well but she couldn’t possibly imagine something troubling World Emperor outside of the Heavenly Execution.

“You might not be eligible to know even after winning the throne. Once you reach a particular level or join the Heavenly Authority, you will understand a little more. Of course, even the emperors from your clan couldn’t join it.” Li Qiye said.

“Heavenly Authority!” The princess gasped. This was the strongest organization in the thirteen continents.

It was rumored to be the oldest organization of the heavens. The form it took remained unknown. The ancestors in the clan told her that even ordinary Grand Emperors from the heaven race couldn’t join this organization. Only Grand Emperors with ten wills and up were eligible.

This organization was the symbol of the heaven race. All of their members would want to join after reaching a certain power level.

This was also the highest symbol of authority in the thirteen continents, the strongest group available. It was more terrifying than any existing imperial lineage.

[Chapter 1869: Giant Monument](#)

Heavenly Authority was powerful beyond imagination despite its few members. Even its date of inception was completely unknown. Rumor has it that it was much older than any imperial lineage.

The world didn’t know which emperor was part of it, but one thing was certain - the person currently in charge was the renowned World Emperor!

“Heavenly Authority, unstoppable across the myriad ages!” The princess regained her wits and said softly.

This title commanded immense respect. Ordinary emperors would change their expression upon hearing it while young cultivators became full of reverence.

“No such thing. If the heavens have their Heavenly Authority, then our hundred races have Heaven’s Ender!”

“Heaven’s Ender of the hundred races!” The princess was moved by this name with a flashing glimmer in her eyes: “All the Immortal Emperors there are seven-ranked and up.”

“Legends aren’t always accurate.” Li Qiye gently shook his head: “But, if the Immortal Emperors from this group come out, Heavenly Authority must tread carefully as well.”

There was a phrase in the thirteen continents - heavens’ authority versus the hundred enders. Many people in future generations believed that these were the two strongest opposing organizations around. Of course, there was no way to verify this claim.

According to the tales, Heaven's Ender was started by Immortal Emperor Ba Zhen. After many generations, other supreme emperors rumored to be seventh-ranked and up from the nine worlds joined in. [ref] This

Contrary to Heavenly Authority, Heaven's Ender kept a low-profile. People believed that Immortal Emperor Hao Hai was the current leader.

"Young Noble, how strong is Heaven's Ender? Which organization is stronger?" The princess was filled with curiosity.

Even though her progenitor, Immortal Monarch Jilin, had eight wills, he still didn't join Heaven's Ender. It looked as if this organization only took in emperors from the nine worlds. A junior like her wasn't privy to the exact details.

"Hard to say." Li Qiye's eyes became profound: "Heavenly Authority had been established long ago and its true significance is not something you understand. Of course, Heaven's Ender daring to have this name shows that it is no slouch either. Immortal Emperor Ba Zhen is the first emperor of the demons. The fact that he even dared to create an organization with this name should make its true power obvious."

Immortal Emperor Ba Zhen used to be an Eight-Truths Bamboo that eventually found the dao. He was the progenitor of Mysterious Bamboo Mountain back in the nine worlds. After reaching the tenth, he spent a long time cultivating before establishing Heaven's Ender.

The princess could see that. Heavenly Authority was well respected and feared. If Immortal Emperor Ba Zhen's group didn't have sufficient power, they wouldn't dare to take that name. It was clearly directed at Heavenly Authority.

If it wasn't strong enough, it would have been destroyed long ago across the long years. Its existence was the best proof of its strength.

"I also heard about the Purewood Alliance." The princess had one more question.

"Let's go." Li Qiye smiled and didn't address her question: "If you keep on asking, others are going to take the treasure."

The princess finally realized that their speed had slowed down. The experts in the back have passed them now.

Li Qiye quickened his pace so the princess had no choice but to hurry up and forget about the Purewood Alliance for now.

The two of them reached the depth of Hope in a short time. Many cultivators were already waiting in this place.

However, they didn't dare to get close and simply watched from the distance. Some hovered in the sky; other chose the peaks nearby; more preferred their vessels.

The princess stood on top of a mound with Li Qiye and took a deep breath after seeing the scene ahead.

It was a sea of bones as far as the eyes can see, a white expanse due to the number of skeletons.

This was once a place full of towering mountains, deep valleys, and surging rivers... However, all were buried under bones now.

Just how many skeletons were here? Some were as large as a mountain while others were as little as a baby.

Moreover, there weren't only humanoids. There was a corpse of a serpent spanning for a hundred miles, an ape skeleton as big as a peak, and a reptile remains the size of a fist...

Anyone would shudder before this endless sight of white. Among this vastness was a massive monument that pierced the clouds, seemingly capable of penetrating the sky.

It was completely black and seemed to be formed naturally just like an onyx jade. There were runes carved all over the monument. They were ancient and impossible to understand, not even by knowledgeable cultivators.

But upon careful inspection, these runes also appeared to be a natural creation from the grand dao and the heaven and earth.

They were dark gold in shade with the occasional flashes that could instill fear into the heart of masters.

This monument was built on top of an ancient altar made from an unknown gray material. It was quite coarse with many gaps as if it was created in a hurry.

The experts here were in awe of this scene as well.

"This isn't my first time here but these skeletons were definitely not around back then!" An old cultivator gasped with astonishment.

"I think they came out of the earth." One passenger from Eternal said: "I heard someone dug out an item and this place came out. He must have touched something forbidden."

In a short time, the crowd exchanged glances. Though people didn't know what the monument was, they could tell that it was ominous due to the sea of bones.

"Citadel Lord Wu's group is also here." The princess quietly said after seeing some familiar faces.

Both Wu Fengying and Qin Baili were coming. They each occupied a peak and stared intensely at this monument. As members of imperial lineages, they were insightful enough to know how priceless it is and wanted to seize it.

"Incredible." Li Qiye was fixated on it as well and perused the runes on the monument: "The tablet from Icy Feather Palace is nothing compared to this one."

The palace from the Mortal Emperor World also had an amazing tablet, found by Immortal Emperor Bing Yu. She named it Heaven Cutting Tablet. Li Qiye had naturally seen it before so he could tell the big gap between the two items.

"What is it?" The princess asked.

"An extremely ancient altar." Li Qiye couldn't avert his gaze at all from the altar above. This altar was even more interesting compared to the monument to him.

The majority of the crowd was drawn in by the monument due to its size, material, and more importantly, the grand dao runes containing profound truths.

However, Li Qiye only cared about the unadorned altar as if there was a marvelous secret within.

“Altar?” The princess shuddered: “The type for a sacrificial ceremony?”

Li Qiye gently shook his head: “Not quite. This thing already had this form upon inception. As for what people use it for, that’s not up to it. Like a sword, if one uses it for rampant murder, then it is an ominous weapon. If it is used to save lives, then it is a divine artifact. This item is neutral, only the user determine its nature.”

He paused for a bit before concluding: “It can be used for sacrifice or for praying.”

[Chapter 1870: Devouring Blood](#)

The princess agreed with Li Qiye’s statement and stared solemnly at the gigantic monument.

This place was covered with skeletons clearly from an ancient age. However, there were still some recently deceased corpses here - the ones with only skin left.

While everyone was fixated on the amazing monument, a powerful old man commented: “This is an amazing altar, one could refine gods and devils with it.”

This was an influential character; many cultivators nearby nodded and agreed with this perspective.

“Should we do it? If we can bring this altar back, it might become our sect’s defining treasure.” A young expert couldn’t help wanting to try and push forward.

“No rush, wait and see.” His senior stopped this hot-blooded youth and shook his head: “This monument is sinister. Earlier, River Dragon King wanted to try; that’s his withered corpse right there.” He pointed at a pile of bones. There were dried-up remains there wearing a dragon robe, clearly a king when he was alive.

“Even the River Dragon King died?” The youth took a deep breath because he had heard about the king’s legends growing up.

In fact, many experts tried to obtain this monument for themselves and faced the same miserable consequence.

Just like that, the second wave had to be prudent in order to avoid having their vitality drained.

“I doubt anything will happen now.” One expert lost his patience. This was a white-haired old man with a purple dragon robe. The embroidered dragon had five raised claws, looking quite majestic. The old man’s eyes were brimming with radiance with violet pupils.

“Violetcloud King wants to take action now.” Someone murmured, recognizing the old man’s identity.

“He’s a master from the devil race with incredible imperial arts. Looks like he’s here with imperial weapons too.” Another person commented after seeing the bold man.

This particular king was relatively famous in Pure. He came from an imperial lineage of the devil race and was quite powerful himself. The change of color in his pupils was an identifying factor.

Members of the devil race had a unique characteristic. Normally, their pupils had a dark blue color. After reaching a certain power level, they would turn violet. The darker the shade, the more powerful. There was another rumor that people with the Bestowment bloodline would have golden pupils.

This king took a deep breath and slowly walked forwards the altar. He had released his vitality, resulting in a deafening explosion. This vitality turned into a violet energy before transforming again into a roaring dragon. It coiled around his body and protected him.

The crowd watched with bated breath, wondering if he could actually be successful.

“Buzz...” A series of quiet buzzing came about. As he inched closer, his vitality started to lose control. Strings of blood flew out of his body as if a powerful force was sucking him dry.

“Stabilize!” The king roared and became resplendent with an imperial aura. He had activated the art of a Grand Emperor, creating continuous dragon cries. Boundless imperial symbols of many layers appeared on the dragon coiling around him.

“Boom!” It was trying to stabilizing the situation and stopped his vitality from being drained.

Sure enough, the sucking process actually stopped. It seemed that his peerless imperial art was effective.

The crowd praised him after seeing this and thought to themselves, ‘that’s an imperial art for you, possessing magnificent power.’

“Buzz.” While the king himself heaved a sigh of relief, his vitality suddenly erupted like a storm with strings of blood shooting out. Earlier, it was a slow process like a silkworm weaving its silk. Now, it resembled a blood-sucking force.

In just a second, his body dried up with wrinkles everywhere. He became several decades older in appearance after losing half of his vitality.

“Activate!” The once-confident old man was finally scared. He roared and used more imperial arts in order to escape but he found that it was useless. There was a matchless sucking force pulling him forward.

“Again!” The aghast old man took out an imperial item of the prenatal Violet Force level.

“Boom!” It turned into an armor, intending on stabilizing his vitality.

Blood still shot out of the armor just like before. This Grand Emperor’s armor was useless like a net trying to stop water from flowing through.

“No!” The king became horrified but it was too late.

“Ah!” All of his blood was drained at a rate much quicker than before. This suction force was terrorizing and took all of his blood as if his body was a sieve. One would think that something had pierced countless holes in his body. Only skin and bones were left of the king.

All of his blood started flowing from the altar down the gaps to the monument. With a buzz, all the blood suddenly disappeared without a trace as if it had been devoured by the monument.

Even an imperial artifact couldn't protect him to the horror of the crowd. The mass began to weigh themselves, thinking whether they were stronger than River Dragon King. Even if they were stronger, they didn't have an imperial weapon anyway.

The princess composed herself after watching this scene: "It's too strong, he couldn't even fight back with an imperial weapon."

"It has nothing to do with strength." Li Qiye shook his head: "It's due to a disparity in power between him and the imperial artifact; this nullified its effectiveness. If he were to use his own dao weapon, it would have been better. Before this altar, one needs a delicate balance between the defensive artifact and their own power in order to protect the vitality using the true fate."

"What kind of logic is that?" She asked.

"You need to ask the person who created it and what they wanted to do." Li Qiye chuckled in response.

The mass became silent after seeing the death of River Dragon King. It was suicidal to attempt anything after this clear example.

"How amusing." Someone suddenly broke the silence. His voice wasn't loud but each word struck a mental chord like a heavy piece of metal.

An old man wearing a gray robe was standing on a peak. When he opened his eyes, everyone felt time passing by faster. He looked imposing enough to suppress an entire domain.

"High God Shangguan." Someone shouted with reverence.

Another cultivator from the same generation became envious and said: "Shangguan Tu has finally crossed through that boundary after waiting for one generation to become a High God."

He was from the previous generation with decent talents. It took him this long period but he still managed to overcome the Dao Celestial realm to become a High God with one totem.

"The High God is about to try." Someone cried out.

In the eyes of the spectators, Shangguan Tu was still a High God despite having only one totem. He was still much stronger than someone at the Dao Celestial realm. They wanted to see whether he could do something to this stone monument.

Shangguan Tu's eyes lit up to become as bright and scorching as a sun. There was no doubt that he was very interested in this monument.