

Emperor 1881

[Chapter 1881: Tamedragon Childs Threat](#)

Li Qiye wasn't too receptive of Tamedragon's conversation. Tamedragon didn't care either and was still as enthusiastic and happy as before: "Brother Li, your item is of the finest grade, I have customers looking for an ancient item like this, are you interested in a trade?"

"None." Li Qiye frankly rejected.

"Wait, wait, wait." Tamedragon hurriedly said: "Brother Li, don't be so eager to refuse and think about it carefully instead. Just agree and we can easily negotiate the price or whatever treasure you want. Chaos stones or supreme merit laws are possible too. Keep in mind that there are emperors among our customers, they will surely name an impressive price."

"Not interested, you can leave now." Li Qiye waved his sleeve and said.

"Brother Li, no need to be so hasty, really think about it." Tamedragon wore a smile the entire time: "Plus, this thing might not be suitable for you. After all, so many people are aware that you have an ancient treasure, I'm afraid many will come to your door. If you trade it, it'll be less headache in the future."

How could Li Qiye not understand the subtlety in this comment? Thus, he glared at Tamedragon and said insipidly: "Are you threatening me?"

"No way, I do not dare to do so." Tamedragon quickly responded: "You're overly worrying, I consider myself to be somewhat of a business-man but I do obey the creed of staying honest even in business. That's why I don't have any intention of causing trouble even if you don't trade."

He paused for a bit before continuing: "But that might not be the case for others. I personally know that a few customers are very intrigued by the item. If they really want it, I don't think anything can stop them."

"Is that so? If they want it, let them come. The more, the merrier." Li Qiye smirked in response.

"Shh! Shh!" Tamedragon jumped in horror and quickly shushed Li Qiye: "Brother Li, quiet down a bit since the sky has ears. Some customers are incredible characters, High God is only the starting point, there's no lack of emperors either."

"Really now?" Li Qiye chuckled.

"Yes." Tamedragon lowered his voice: "Your possession of this treasure had made quite a stir and attracted the attention of a few High Gods and emperors. If they were ordinary emperors and gods, I could put in a few good words for you using my master's reputation. However, a few of them truly want your treasure and I might not be able to do anything about it. These emperors are untouchable since they are from Heavenly Authority!"

The guy paused for a bit and continued on with a mysterious tone: "Have you heard of Heavenly Authority?"

"Heavenly Authority? Yes, that organization made up of emperors." Li Qiye smiled freely.

Tamedragon continued on: "No one can afford to provoke Heavenly Authority in this world. If they want a treasure, everyone should obediently hand it over. Moreover, I'll be frank too, Brother Li. I got winds of a secret information, people from the Purewood Alliance is also here. They want this treasure as well."

"Purewood Alliance?" Li Qiye had a thick smile after hearing this.

"Yes, Purewood Alliance, another legendary organization that is invincible. When it took action, not to mention ants like us, even emperors will tremble and the ghosts will cry."

Rumor has it that this was a mysterious team started by Purewood Divine Emperor; some referred to it as the Divine Alliance. There were no trustworthy records about it; no one knew which emperors were part of this group. Its existence itself remained a mystery.

"Looks like you know quite a lot." Li Qiye was quite amused.

"No, it's not me but my master and uncles have many friends. Our Tamedragon Cavalry knows everyone in the world, including many emperors so I ride on my master's coattails, having more information channels than others.

He became quite prideful after bringing up his master. This was understandable - his master, Tamedragon High God, had eleven totems. His cavalry was a dreadful existence in Pure.

It had nine members but all were High Gods. This was why the cavalry was so terrifying but there was something even worse. They were actually a group of bandits. Tamedragon High God was once a lowly bandit while the rest of the members had questionable origins as well. All nine had done their fill of heinous deeds, leaving nothing left in their path.

That's why many people secretly called them the Bandit Cavalry, not Tamedragon.

Despite their villainous past, many lineages in Pure couldn't do anything to them out of fear. This was the reason why Tamedragon Child dared to talk back to Feng Yi. His backers were also very powerful.

His intention in bringing up his master and the cavalry was clear. Anyone who knew a bit about them would be quite frightened right now. However, Li Qiye was still as leisure as ever: "Heavenly Authority or Purewood Alliance, let them come. I'm in the mood to taste the blood of the emperors right now! Surely these imperial blood will have an exquisite taste! If you are so well connected, tell those who are interested in my treasure to come in packs. One or two emperors and High Gods aren't enough as an appetizer. Maybe ten emperors or a legion, cavalry, whatever, that's more fun. It's too much trouble for me to take care of them one by one."

With that, Li Qiye ignored Tamedragon Child and left.

Tamedragon Child was completely stunned after hearing this and couldn't process the statement too well.

Behind his smile was a cruel heart. Don't mistake his friendliness and amicable speech; this was a ruthless man.

Earlier, he was only playing an old trick, wishing to scheme the treasure Li Qiye got from Hope.

The whole spiel about emperors wanting to buy the treasure was only an attempt to scare Li Qiye.

In fact, he had done this many times before since it has been quite effective with a high rate of success.

As long as it was something he wanted, he would continue to intimidate the person into giving up. Due to the notoriety of the Tamedragon Cavalry, many experts and even lineages would either obediently hand their treasures over or sell them at a low price.

No one wanted to invite the wrath of bandits like this cavalry because the result might be sect destruction, quite a pitiful end.

Because of his massive success in the past, Tamedragon Child wanted to do it again to Li Qiye. However, Li Qiye didn't bite and left him in a shocked state.

"Hehehe, want to do it the hard way instead? Don't blame this Young Noble for being ruthless then. When our cavalry comes, we'll take the treasure and let you experience a fate worse than death!" Tamedragon Child regained his wits with a cold glint in his eyes.

The thing people were afraid of the most about this cavalry was their lack of morality. Even though many imperial lineages were arrogant, they considered themselves to be righteous, at least in appearance. They wouldn't destroy a sect just to steal a treasure since they had their reputation to worry about. On the other hand, the High Gods in Tamedragon Cavalry didn't give a damn at all.

[Chapter 1882: Captain of Eternal](#)

After ignoring Tamedragon Child, Li Qiye returned to his peak. There was an old man waiting quietly outside before he could enter his room.

This was the captain of Eternal; he looked like an ordinary old man, like a next-door neighbor.

But one would be sorely mistaken to judge him only by his appearance. What was Eternal? The greatest ship in Exploration Grounds. All sorts of things happened in this place. Many ships have been robbed before by bandits but nothing had ever happened to Eternal. In fact, no one ever dared to even think about robbing it.

Thus, how could the captain of this monstrous ship be an ordinary person?"

After seeing Li Qiye, the captain bowed deeply and said with reverence: "I hope this tiny and wretched ship is okay for you, Sir. Please excuse any inconveniences."

There were more than ten thousand passengers here. The captain wouldn't even personally greet imperial successor. The best example was Jilin Princess who never got a greeting from the captain. But now, he was here in person.

"Got a problem?" Li Qiye glanced at the captain and said flatly.

"No, no, it's nothing." The captain quickly smiled and said: "Only asking if you would like this lowly one's service, sir. If these bandits want to bother you, I can offer my assistance."

Few things happening on eternal could hide from his eyes.

“The altar matter alone can’t attract your attention. The emperors behind you are experienced enough, this treasure might be valuable but not enough for them to send you here to check.” Li Qiye commented.

The captain was afraid of Li Qiye’s leisure tone. He quickly replied: “Sir, this is a misunderstanding. This lowly one doesn’t have an ulterior motive.”

To be frank, this captain wouldn’t give a damn even if High Gods were to visit him. The fact that he was around Exploration Grounds for so long should be indicative of his power. Moreover, the ship had more than just one emperor as their backers!

But now, he was uncontrollably frightened of having offended Li Qiye because his emperors have warned him.

“Fart if you must, don’t waste my time.” Li Qiye coldly stared at him and said.

The captain smiled and rubbed his palms together to ease the tension. He pondered for a bit to find the right words before respectfully speaking: “This lowly one, this lowly one only has one question. Is, is that skeletal sword an Epoch Paragon Artifact?”

“You’re the one asking or the emperors behind you?” Li Qiye nonchalantly said.

The captain was in a tough position. He smiled wryly, not daring to reply.

“Go back and tell your master - indeed, it is a Paragon Artifact, albeit, only an imitation. I had the urge to mess around.” Li Qiye revealed.

This certainly horrified the captain. Just messing around was enough to startle the emperors behind him.

“Oh, so that’s the case. I see.” The captain said: “Sir, you are peerless with a dao reaching the heaven, such a supreme technique is only child’s play for you.”

Li Qiye was straightforward this time: “Okay, no need to flatter me. Leave if there is nothing else.”

“Of course, of course, this lowly one will stop bothering you, sir.” The captain respectfully bowed, not daring to show any slight before Li Qiye.

Even though he didn’t know of Li Qiye’s identity or which monster he was, more than just one emperor had warned him.

“There is something ominous on your ship.” Li Qiye spoke as the captain was on his way.

The captain stopped and smiled wryly: “Sir, you’re joking. Our Eternal is very clean after being protected by the emperors. Nothing impure or evil could get on.”

“Is that so?” Li Qiye gave him the side-eye and said flatly: “The ship is certainly clean but your passengers might not be. You certainly know what you are transporting.”

The captain’s expression became frozen for a bit before a cough: “Sir, the passengers buy the tickets and this lowly one can’t exactly go through their luggage. As long as they do not cause trouble on the ship, we welcome everyone.”

"I see." Li Qiye asked: "Then where are these aberrations going?"

"Sir, I'll be honest. They're going to Remote Wildland." The captain had no choice. As the captain, he shouldn't be revealing passengers' information but he didn't dare to hide it from this particular being standing before him.

Li Qiye's eyes turned cold: "I see. Looks like all the forces in the thirteen continents haven't given up on Remote Wildland."

"Ah, this lowly one doesn't know much about this matter, I'm only the driver." The captain didn't wish to be involved in this issue.

"What about your emperors? Are they going too?" Li Qiye inquired again.

"Well..." The captain hesitated for a moment before answering: "That isn't something this lowly one is eligible to know. But I have heard that something is stirring in Remote Wildland and some emperors are indeed going there."

"No one ever stops wandering about that place. A few things there are truly tempting." Li Qiye said leisurely: "However, go tell your emperors that it is best for them to stay the hell away from me! If they want to be cannon-fodders, I'll be happy to drink their imperial blood!"

"This, this lowly one will send the message." The captain trembled inside.

Normally, only emperors would threaten others, not the other way around, especially in a blatant manner like this. Li Qiye knew the existences behind Eternal yet he was still threatening them all the same. Right now, the captain could only think of one possibility - that the guy was supreme overlord!

Outside of these supreme overlords, no one else would dare to threaten the emperors behind Eternal.

"Good." Li Qiye said: "Top emperors of their position should know the right choice to make. If they want to act like lower emperors and bring their wills here, I'll still be happy all the same."

The emperors behind Eternal were indeed very powerful. That's why they were able to notice the imitation of True Bones.

In the end, the horrified captain didn't dare to say anything else and bowed deeply again before leaving.

Afterward, Li Qiye stared at the horizon with a smile: "Very well, if emperors want to get involved at Remote Wildland, then let the storm rage, it'll be much more lively." With that, he entered the room.

Eternal's speed increased after leaving Hope. Even though it stopped at several other points, there was no delay and left at the exact time. The ship also knew the way very well because it had been here countless times. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that it had traveled through all the known paths.

Nothing happened during this portion of the trip so far, something Eternal has always been proud of - their smooth passage.

Li Qiye didn't leave the ships during the different resting areas. He continued to cultivate and think about the profundities of the grand dao.

In these last several days, Wu Fengying didn't come to bother him. Who knows if it was due to the princess' advise or she had finally learned her lesson after the previous defeat?

[Chapter 1883: Imperial Change City](#)

Finally, Eternal reached a very important stop-point, Imperial Change City.

"We have arrived at Imperial Change City." After stopping at the harbor in space, the captain announced: "Eternal will stop here for half a month to get supply. Passengers to Remote Wildland may leave the ship to relax. Just return before departure."

"I'm going!" After anchorage, many people became excited and jumped off the ship.

"We're finally here!" Even those who have been here before were still ecstatic all the same.

Imperial Change City was built by the shore of Buddhist Plain. It was also the only city in Exploration Grounds. Even though there were emperors and powerful gods hiding all around inside their heavenly grottos, only one true city existed here. It was under the control of many emperors.

From Eternal, one could see a world hovering above the vast darkness. It was spewing out a majestic light that had a Buddhist affinity.

There were many continents and countless dangerous areas in Exploration Grounds. However, all were abandoned or broken worlds, similar to Hope.

However, this was not the same for this floating world. It was still shining among the dark expanse, albeit with dimness as if a gust of wind could extinguish it like a candle.

This world was Buddhist Plain, a colorful world that had disappeared along the river of time.

At the front of this world was a port city. It wasn't crazy in size compared to the ones spanning for thousands of miles in Pure.

It wasn't majestic either in appearance. It was built from some unknown rocks piling on each other. Nevertheless, it still had an immovable presence to spectators.

There was no frightening imperial aura or peerless divine lights. It looked quite simple and seemed to have experienced the long years. This unremarkable city presided there as if nothing could ever successfully assault it down.

Imperial Change City! Those who came to Exploration Grounds would inevitably hear of its name. Rumor has it that it was built by the emperors from Pure.

Exploration Grounds was not a place for cultivation because it contained the remnant chaos energies of previous epochs. This, in turn, led to being more susceptible to qi deviation.

This wasn't the case in Imperial Change. Some said that cultivation was possible inside but outsiders weren't privy of the truth.

In short, the emperors from Pure worked together to create a new world here, changing this ferocious land into a habitable and unconquerable city.

It remained unknown how many emperors were staying in the city. Many emperors in Exploration Grounds had their own grottos but some chose to occasionally stay in this city as well.

Several emperors would be present at any time in Imperial Change before switching shift. These groups would temporarily make all decisions for the city. If something major were to happen, then a bigger council of eligible emperors would convene and deliberate. The exact identity of the eligible emperors was also a mystery.

Imperial Change wasn't an organization or a sect. The emperors here came from all races and worlds. They were equal in this place and didn't place any emphasis on racial and inter-sect wars. They didn't care about mundane feuds and hatred. Otherwise, they would not be allowed to stay at Imperial Change and be involved in the policy-making process.

No one knew why this city was erected but there was one legend spreading through Pure. It stated that this was a final base in the case of a calamity. Even if the worlds were to be destroyed, Imperial Change would stand strong for it was the strongest fortress in existence. It has been blessed and empowered by countless emperors. Their blood and effort have seeped into the foundation of this place. Even twelve-will emperors have helped as well!

Thus, its toughness gradually became a legendary tale. Of course, when the days of end actually came, only god knows about the people with the ticket to enter.

Li Qiye was standing on a mountain while gazing at Imperial Change's closed gates with a faint smile.

The gates to this great city have always been closed. Outside of emperors, outsiders would find it exceedingly hard to enter without permission or recommendation. Of course, who wanted to force their way in would find the endeavor suicidal.

"Young Noble, you want to enter?" The princess quietly asked.

In her eyes, Li Qiye was definitely someone who could enter without any resistance. Meanwhile, a junior like her wasn't qualified to do so.

"No, there's nothing to see there, only a turtle shell." Li Qiye smiled freely.

The princess smiled wryly after hearing this. So many people wanted to enter but couldn't yet Li Qiye made it sound so trivial.

What would the emperors feel if they were to find out that their citadel was called a turtle shell?

"I wonder which emperors are in charge right now in this generation." Li Qiye commented.

"I heard it is the emperors from the War-Monarch Clan and Divine Dragon Mountain. I don't know it's true or not, just repeating what I've heard from the ancestors." The princess replied.

The Jilin's monarchs also had a spot at Imperial Change; they were relatively early members from the hundred races at Pure.

"If the calamity really comes one day, hide here if you have the chance. There will be hope of surviving it." Li Qiye smiled and said.

“I might not have the opportunity to do so in the future.” The princess forced a smile.

Even though her two monarchs had a spot here, she wasn’t qualified to enter for now. She needed their recommendation first.

Li Qiye said: “It’s still possible. If your Nightfall Immortal Monarch was still around, your clan could have even more recommendations at the city. But just become more powerful and everything will be easy.”

Nightfall had great authority in Imperial Change but after she embarked on the ultimate expedition, her clan’s status in the city did considerably weaken.

The princess nodded and kept his words in mind.

“Let’s go have a look at Buddhist Plain. We have some free time right now.” Li Qiye told the princess.

“The Buddhist Plain?” She couldn’t help looking at the faint world behind Imperial Change. It was broken but people still had hope in it.

“Follow me and I shall grant you a fortune. I can’t guarantee the same in Remote Wildland. That place requires your own fortune but in order to boost the chance, we’ll have you witness this magical place first.” Li Qiye said flatly.

The princess quickly bowed to show her gratitude.

As the successor of the Jilin Clan, she didn’t lack weapons, treasures, and merit laws. In fact, she had access to all the top merit laws from her clan.

However, such words had a different significance coming from Li Qiye. After all, a few fortunes in this world couldn’t be gauged in a physical sense. Moreover, cultivators required these adventures in order to sharpen themselves and gain knowledge.

The two of them got off Eternal and instantly came outside of Imperial Change. Because Imperial Change was at the outskirts of Buddhist Plain, many people would need to pass across the city first.

In fact, even those who didn’t want to enter the plain would come to take a look at Imperial Change anyway. This was still a worthwhile experience even if they couldn’t get in.

[Chapter 1884: Jin Ges Arrival](#)

It was very lively, rowdy even, outside of Imperial Change. People came and went; shops were set up by merchants shouting advertisements.

“A unique Buddhist bone excavated from the plain, capable of expelling evil and protect the body, very cheap!” One merchant quietly advertised.

Despite the numerous merchants, no one dared to shout in this place or they tried to minimize their shouting to the limit. They were afraid of disturbing the peace of the emperors inside. Once provoked, the emperors might turn everyone here to ashes.

Some came purposely to visit Buddhist Plain while others were only here to sightseeing. Their trip could eventually become a nice conversational topic, completely worth their time in Exploration Grounds.

There were a few buildings and pavilions quite far away from Imperial Change. They were built by some real masters. Among them were High Gods who wanted to copy the emperors by establishing a home here. Alas, they still haven't found success because it wasn't that easy to refine the land in this place. The city was made from many emperors working together. Even High Gods had this type of power, even when there were several of them.

Because of this, these buildings eventually became ruins or a temporary resting place for cultivators.

"Thump! Thump! Thump!" At this time, there was someone loudly slamming their head on the ground. An old man was doing so in a respectful ceremonial manner.

He wore a dragon robe and solemnly shouted: "Ancestor, please guide our sect back to glory."

He kept on kowtowing while shouting at the city.

"What is he doing?" The newcomers didn't know what he was doing.

"That's the Ye Clan Master." An old man sighed and revealed: "He wants guidance from his Immortal Monarch. The Ye had fallen recently, given the cold shoulder by several races on top of having their territory invaded and annexed. When their monarch was around, no one dared to do anything to them but not anymore. That's why he wants guidance right now."

"He has been kowtowing for three months but his ancestor on duty here wouldn't meet him." A young merchant nearby added.

Jilin Princess became slightly emotional after seeing this. This was, in fact, a rather common occurrence. After a decline, many sects would come asking for their ancestors to come out and prop up the clan once more.

"It's not easy being an emperor. Some risked the threat of the Heavenly Execution and still came into being in order to help their descendants navigate the storm." She murmured.

"The majority of descendants are useless." Li Qiye said calmly: "Of course, it's not easy for emperors to sever their blood ties either."

He was familiar with this type of scene as well. Some emperors eventually gave up and let their clan and descendants fend for themselves.

"Return from whence you came." Finally, a voice resounded from within. It had an unquestionable divinity and supreme power.

The rowdiness outside the city immediately ceased. Everyone stopped what they're doing; the merchant halted their quiet peddling. All eyes were on the city.

No one could see what was going on within but the voice of an Immortal Monarch made many shudder.

Even though the monarch didn't exert his aura, people still felt a sense of reverence all the same.

The clan master went stiff with a gray complexion. His eyes were filled with despair. This was too big of a blow for him. Their clan needed the help of their ancestor but he didn't care about their fate!

After a long time, he regained his wits and didn't dare to oppose an order of a monarch. He left quietly afterward.

People felt sympathy after seeing this. Many great powers have fallen before; they wanted to ask for help but being abandoned by their ancestors was truly devastating.

"Looks like the Ye Clan won't rise again." Someone said sentimentally while looking at the pitiful departing figure.

The refusal meant that the Ye Clan no longer had an Immortal Monarch for their backing. It would be prohibitively difficult for them in the future.

Of course, others should act with prudence before deciding to annihilate the Ye Clan. Even though this Immortal Monarch ignored the clan's prosperity, it didn't mean that others could massacre them if they wanted to. It wasn't certain that this monarch would be idle in the worst case scenario.

Next, a carriage slowly came forward. It was simple with only five old men accompanying it.

They all wore a gray outfit with a hat pushed down low to hide their face. They hid their aura so it was hard to see through their real power.

It stopped in front of the city gates. In the beginning, no one cared about it.

When a man and woman got off, all eyes were attracted and shocked.

The woman was peerlessly noble just like a phoenix descending from the sky. She had a wondrous nobility with beautiful features that would attract all gazes. Others couldn't help but stare in admiration.

The man had a yellow robe without much decoration; it was a simple and low-key style. Nevertheless, the robe was still delicately made and well-suited, seemingly by the best of tailors. It could accentuate his perfect physique. Though he had no bulging muscle nor was he overly tall and stalwart, he was the embodiment of steadiness. A boundless power seemed to be contained beneath this outfit; a True Dragon soaring in the horizon he was.

He wasn't overly dashing but there was an inexplicable charm to his cold demeanor. He gave others a metallic impression as if a knock would produce a tinkling sound.

He stood proudly with the sharpness of a spear. Though he had converged his vitality and dispersed his divinity, he still had an unbeatable aura engulfing the myriad realms.

"Jin Ge and Heavenly Phoenix Princess!" People took a deep breath after seeing the two.

"Jin Ge!" Both the young and old were moved after hearing this name. He was the hottest topic in Pure right now.

He was the most hopeful candidate to become a Grand Emperor; a talent deemed worthy of obtaining twelve wills. Alas, an ambush had robbed him of his first collection attempt. Many big shots from the Heaven Race were full of regrets. The overall situation would change if he could have become a top emperor.

“Is he here to see his ancestors?” The older characters shuddered, knowing that something big was going to happen.

“Li Qiye is here as well.” A keen-eyed cultivator also saw Li Qiye and Jilin Princess.

In a short time, eyes darted between the two groups of duo. Everyone held their breath with anticipation.

Jilin Princess also glanced at Li Qiye then over at the two in the distance. She smiled wryly at the upcoming storm.

Everyone has heard about Fiercest, especially about his involvement in the death of Heavenly Phoenix Crown-Prince and royal lord. This news had early spread across Pure. They thought that both the princess and Jin Ge wouldn't be able to swallow this anger.

So now, Jin Ge and Fiercest were meeting at Imperial Change. They thought a good show was about to happen.

“The road is narrow for enemies. They must be eager to fight now.” One cultivator murmured.

Jin Ge and Heavenly Phoenix Princess also heard someone called out Li Qiye's name. Both of their gazes became fixated on him as well.

The scene became silent since everyone started focusing on spectating. One could hear the drop of a needle right now.

[Chapter 1885: Narrow Road For Enemies](#)

At this time, rather than silence, everyone was anticipating a great battle. Jin Ge had threatened the world while Fiercest was a new talent with an unstoppable momentum and bizarre techniques. This was going to be a battle between a dragon and tiger so the crowd was quite excited to see Jin Ge's attempt at retribution.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye was completely unaffected with his leisure stroll in spite of his enemies ahead and the imposing city. The princess, on the other hand, wasn't as leisure. A great battle was surely coming from this, even emperors might get involved.

In this split second, Jin Ge slightly changed his gaze. There was no blatant aura nor supreme divinity, it was only a slight bat of the eyes. However, a jade-like hand tightly gripped his brutish one. The princess gently shook her head, gesturing her husband to stop.

Jin Ge took a deep breath after seeing her expression and withdrew his gaze. He calmed his thoughts and turned to face the city. Next was tidying his attire before coming in front of the gates.

Everyone was surprised to see this and couldn't react. In their mind, Jin Ge wouldn't forgive Li Qiye. After all, the feud of killing one's father-in-law was irreconcilable!

But Jin Ge was able to subdue his anger to the astonishment of the crowd.

He held an ancient writ with both hands while the princess accompanied him. He respectfully kneeled and said: “Your unfilial descendant, Jin Ge, is here today to visit you, ancestor.”

“Creak...” After three bows, the heavy gates slowly opened. There was so much chaos energy inside as if it had turned into its own world.

The duo bowed again before standing up. They took a deep breath and walked into the city, hand in hand.

As they disappeared into the chaos energy, the gates closed once more.

During this event, Li Qiye had already entered Buddhist Plain. The meeting between him and Jin Ge was just a glance.

The battle was over just like that, leaving behind only one thought - if it wasn't for the princess, Jin Ge might have attacked.

The crowd then turned towards Li Qiye's direction but he was nowhere in sight either.

“A dragon meeting a tiger yet no fight.” A few cultivators who live for the chaos lamented.

“Yes. It really is unexpected, no, it's a miracle to be able to restrain this level of anger. Plus, Jin Ge had never been afraid of anyone in the thirteen continents. He still directly fought against Ren Sheng during the competition for the Heaven's Will. Despite the successful ambush, his group still got Ren Sheng back for it later on.” One youth stated. His peers felt the same way.

“I heard the Grand Emperors from the War-Monarch Clan have the shift right now at Imperial Change. Look, his emperors are right here, even a stronger enemy would only be an ant. Why didn't he attack?” Another youth couldn't understand Jin Ge.

Jin Ge himself was powerful enough to take down a High God easily as well, let alone Fiercest. But under such an advantageous circumstance, Jin Ge chose inaction and perplexed the crowd.

Of course, no one would dare to mock him for cowardice. They didn't think he feared Fiercest either since he had experienced countless battles and bathed with the blood of his enemies.

“It's because he married a virtuous and intelligent wife. Nothing is more important than becoming an emperor right now.” A big shot noticed the small gesture by the princess and understood the situation.

He continued on: “The princess isn't blinded by hatred. After the last ambush, she realized how to keep a low-profile and maintain her forces. Only the Heaven's Will would make them go all out. Personal feuds are trivial before the business of the throne.”

These older characters were quite impressed. Any woman would lose their rationality after having their brother and father killed. Vengeance would be on their mind, especially when she had military power.

But she chose against it and didn't even want her husband to be distracted. She wanted his full focus on obtaining the Heaven's Wills.

Meanwhile, Jilin Princess who was with Li Qiye commented: “Heavenly Phoenix Princess is very rational despite coming from an imperial lineage. She's indeed worthy of becoming the imperial queen.”

Li Qiye replied: “It's understandable. She's an outsider yet the War-Monarch Clan still gave her great authority. Even if the ancestors of that clan have grown senile, their experienced Grand Emperors

certainly aren't. The decision to entrust her wasn't something an ordinary person in the clan could decide, they needed permission from someone like War-Monarch Heaven Emperor. And for this high-level character, they wouldn't pick an ordinary girl to be their daughter-in-law."

Li Qiye was only casually commenting on what he had heard about Heavenly Phoenix Princess. Nevertheless, he got all the essential facts straight right away.

The princess felt that this was correct since she was from an imperial lineage as well. It wasn't easy for someone outside the clan to be in power. It showed the trust the clan had placed in Heavenly Phoenix Princess.

But this was also the reason for her family's demise. Her brother and father thought they had an unbelievably strong backing so they treated others with contempt, resulting in their death.

The two were in Buddhist Plain right now, an endless plain was in sight. Strange enough, it was hard for Exploration Grounds to have any vegetation. Not to mention a tree, not even a grass could be seen.

This was not the case for Buddhist Plain. There were yellow grasses growing everywhere on this plain. They fluttered in the wind like beautiful ladies.

However, these grasses had a yellow dryness upon inception and looked a bit burnt. They gave the feeling of being near-death, as if they carried a fatal disease right away and could wither at any moment.

Nevertheless, these young grasses persevered and populated the plain.

"How can grasses grow in this place?" Jilin Princess had heard curious stories about the plain.

Despite their sorry state, they still had life unlike other places in Exploration Ground.

"Exploration Grounds consisted of broken temporal planes like a shattered river of time. Each of these epochs had been destroyed. Thus, life cannot grow here, unless there is something extremely heaven-defying going on. The phenomenon you see here is quite mystical."

"How so?" The princess yearned for more knowledge.

"A safeguarding power." Li Qiye said: "In fact, the existences of these broken continents alone are impressive enough. They contained the power of an entire world or they wouldn't have survived when the river of time broke. However, this place is different from the rest."

The princess listened without interrupting.

"One day, when the world is on the verge of collapsing, what is your course of action?" Li Qiye looked at her and asked.

"Self-preservation." The princess didn't need to think. Her answer was simply common sense, an instinct in all creatures!

[Chapter 1886: Buddhist Ridge](#)

One shouldn't be criticized for choosing survival over all else during perilous times.

"Yes, self-preservation." Li Qiye gently nodded: "It is rational; many people would do so as well."

Li Qiye became quiet with a slightly disappointed expression after saying this.

The princess became a bit uneasy after seeing his attitude: “Young Noble, did I say something wrong?”

Li Qiye looked up and gently shook his head: “No, you’re right. Self-preservation is instinctive; any living being would do so. However, it is easier said than done on that day. One must pay a great price.”

He turned back towards the horizon with a pensive stare. The princess didn’t quite understand the vague comment.

After a while, Li Qiye continued: “Even a so-called ‘savior’ would fence for themselves. It’s already commendable that they do not sacrifice the heaven and earth and all existences. This type of masters should be praised.”

“Sacrifice everything!” The princess murmured in rumination and thought about the tales he told before. She thought of a terrorizing possibility, causing her mind to tremble!

In just a wink, she realized why Li Qiye kept on repeating, “don’t wait for a world savior!”

“Alright, no need to talk about this any longer.” Li Qiye withdrew his gaze and chuckled: “The reason why grasses can grow here is because many supreme overlords have blessed this place with their protection; trillions of existences shared an indomitable belief. This protective power and faith allowed this place to have life. However, the annihilative force was unimaginable and impossible to stop. Even the strongest of protection and endless faith couldn’t protect this world. These grasses are barely surviving. Unlike the grasses outside, they are born weak from the tribulation.” Li Qiye sighed and didn’t add anything else.

The princess became immersed in the might of this epoch and its amazing existences. Alas, they still became broken in the end.

“Come, to Buddhist Ridge we go.” He continued forward.

The ridge wasn’t too far from Imperial Change, only one hundred thousand miles. However, it was only the beginning of the plain. Only by crossing this path would one finally step into the plain and truly bask in its magicalness.

This was a majestic mountain range spanning for thousands of miles. But the shocking part wasn’t the geography, the buildings on top were much more magnificent.

Countless broken walls and ruins laid on top as far as the eyes can see. These ancient Buddhist temples were wonderful once. There was one, in particular, spanning for ten thousand meters. Just one pillar from it could reach the sky. Alas, they were mere ruins now. Only broken tiles were left behind in this tattered world.

Nevertheless, one could still imagine how lofty the place used to be. Perhaps this was a Buddhist kingdom with numerous holy monks cultivating and meditating. Unfortunately, all ceased to be here.

On this mountain was a stony path full of steps, starting at the base all the way to the pinnacle.

The two were right below in front of the path. While staring at it, one got the sensation that this was the path towards the grand dao. Though they no longer had the colorful lights associated with power,

people would suddenly have a vision of many beings kneeling and worshipping in this place; one bow for each step.

"I, I just saw something." The princess said with uncertainty. At her level, she wouldn't see illusions easily due to her firm dao heart.

"That's normal." Li Qiye said: "If you were born in that era, when you stand here, not to mention your current cultivation, even as a low-level high God, you would already be on your knees, more than happy to kowtow once each step. Alas, too much time had passed and the destruction here was too much. It had destroyed the enlightenment here. Otherwise, you would be a Buddhist right now."

"Such swift conversion? What kind of demonic art is that?" The princess felt a bit of dread after hearing this.

"Demonic art?" Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: "It's the most righteous and orthodox path. If we were to compare it to an imperial art, then it would be at the apex in terms of profundity. It could convert someone after a split second due to the immense faith of the beings here. There is no forceful conversion here from one being to another, only the accumulation of faith in an entire epoch. Trillions of existences worshipping from one generation to another, full of sympathy, light, benevolence, and peace. After enough time, the will of one is only a bubble in the ocean, completely insignificant and so are you before it, a drop of rain in the sea, just going along with the flow."

"Faith can become a dao?" The princess got a clue from this statement.

"Yes." Li Qiye said: "Believe in my dao and I shall grant you protection. But this isn't to say that I'm your savior, it is only a type of co-existence."

"That's why the Buddhist Plain has a protective power, one of faith." The princess realized why this place was special.

"Go up, we'll light an incense." Li Qiye commanded.

The princess trod onward but there was one thing perplexing her. She opened her mouth but no words came out.

"Little lass, go ahead." Li Qiye was amused by her demeanor.

"Young Noble, you would also offer someone your respect?" She finally let it out.

In her mind, he was a supreme overlord standing at the top of this world. Who would be worthy of him performing such a respectful gesture?

"It is showing respect for the sages of old." Li Qiye took his time answering: "Despite a lack of a true savior, there were brave soldiers never violating their heart even at the darkest time of destruction. They are worthy of respect."

"Never violating their heart." The princess murmured.

"What do you think is a cultivator's primal wish?" Li Qiye asked while she carefully took everything in.

She pondered in silence. For many cultivators, their first intent was to become an emperor.

“What about after becoming an emperor?” Li Qiye could read her thoughts.

She had no answer because she wasn't one.

“A battle to the end.” Li Qiye said: “After stepping on this path, it means you will feel weak and want to grow even stronger. In the beginning, you want to become stronger than others. Next, you want to surpass your own limits and finally, to fight against the heaven and escape from the shackles of this world! That's why you need to fight to the end. However, some have chosen to compromise on this path. Not everyone can continue forever. There had been majestic existences that eventually let go of their primal wish. But some decided to fight to the end, resulting in their death. The latter is worthy of respect.”

He gently sighed and continued: “This is why the dao heart is so important. Only a firm one would allow you to fight to the end. Without one, one day, you will only become an existence that you once hated.”

“The people that compromised, are they still lurking in the darkness?” The princess couldn't help and ask with a shuddering voice. The answer could be frightening; something others didn't want to face.

“We'll go offer our respect. First, to greet the wise sages. Second, to see if we'll get the blessing of the spirit butterfly.” Li Qiye didn't answer her and continued forward instead.

[Chapter 1887: Spirit Butterfly](#)

Walking on these steps was similar to rising straight to the cloudy sky.

“Rumor has it that earning the favor of the spirit butterfly at Buddhist Ridge could bring about better luck. This butterfly will even protect the person, allowing them to obtain the treasury at the plain. Is this true?” Jilin Princess asked during the climb.

She had heard many legends about Exploration Grounds from her ancestors, this spirit butterfly included.

Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: “No such thing as luck in this world. It is another type of power. Before understanding this, you will feel that it is very mysterious, a type of fortune or pre-determination.”

The princess didn't quite grasp what he was saying so she walked quietly with him.

After a long while, the two finally reached the highest point of the ridge.

She was instantly moved while standing at the pinnacle. It was a large field created by many paved boulders. Despite the years of rain and wind, this coarse field was still around.

However, the more shocking part was a gargantuan statue of a Buddha on this field. It looked just like a giant amidst the clouds.

It was sitting in the meditative pose with one hand forming a mudra while the other was situated before the stomach. Its head was looking down, seemingly pondering the dao.

One had no choice but to look up at this statue. It was incomplete with many cracks as if it had been wounded. The right ear was gone and the facial features unrecognizable. It was as if its face has been destroyed, not allowing anyone else to look at it

The astonishing part about the statue wasn't its mere size alone. There was an indescribable temperament to it, one of sole invincibility.

Even the high heaven seemed so distant and the earth was lying beneath its feet. The heaven above couldn't make it put down its hands. Even the earth couldn't stop its movement.

Because of this, anyone would have the urge to bow before this Buddha, wanting to kiss its feet to show their utmost reverence.

The princess had a powerful cultivation and a firm dao heart but she also felt the urge to prostrate before this Buddha.

"The heaven does not allow one to see the face of this Buddha. Damn its wretchedness." Li Qiye coldly said.

The princess was startled. This was her first time hearing someone curse out the high heaven like this. She looked up and opened her heavenly gaze. Alas, she couldn't see the statue's face as if it had been sealed.

"No need to look. The heaven had forbidden it." Li Qiye told her.

"But why?" She asked.

Li Qiye stared at the statue and said: "This is an old sage, the starter of an epoch. As the river of time continued to flow, it shouldered the faith of countless existences. Do you know how insignificant the world and the myriad dao are compared to this faith? It can replace everything, turning all into a world of light! But after its destruction, the heaven forbid anyone from seeing this Buddha's face again."

The princess was in awe. She was trying to imagine the amazing epoch of light after hearing him.

There were more than just them present before this Buddha. There were many cultivators standing in a line, slowly inching forward without uttering a word.

Before Li Qiye was a divine carriage with the shade of the evening red clouds. It seemed to be running amidst the clouds.

Inside was a woman around thirty of age. She was titillating with her mature appearance like a ripe grape. Others couldn't help wanting to take a bite. Her alluring eyes could steal the soul with its boundless charm.

"Sunset Glow Valley Lord." The princess didn't expect to see a familiar face here.

"Young Sis Ji, long time no see." The woman greeted back.

Her name was Yin Huali, the lord of Sunset Glow. This was a lineage of the devil race with two emperors in Pure. It had considerable power.

Even though there was racial tension, imperial lineages like Sunset Glow and the Ji Clan still had some ties.

While chatting with the princess, Huali couldn't help analyzing Li Qiye. She had heard of his stories before and didn't want to provoke this mysterious man.

The experts continued forward. It didn't matter their initial attitude before coming here. While standing in front of this statue, they lit an incense and kneeled to offer their respect straight from the heart.

After placing the incense, some experts couldn't help but stare at the shoulder of the Buddha.

It was quite large like a mountain range. There were many inconspicuous spirit butterflies lying on its shoulder that required careful observation to spot. One would find that these butterflies were made of a faint light.

They were very famous because earning their favor would mean a safe journey in Buddhist Plain. They could even bring you to the hidden treasures of the plain.

Rumor has it that three people have obtained the favor of these butterflies - World Emperor, Holy Emperor, and Mortal Reversion Ancient God. Some later on even thought that because of this event, the three of them found an amazing fortune, resulting in their achievements later.

Despite a lack of evidence, cultivators would always respectfully come here to worship. Of course, nothing could be better than also gaining the favor of the butterflies.

Alas, these butterflies were lying on the shoulder with no intention of befriending anyone.

After a long time, it was finally Li Qiye and the princess' turn. He lit an incense and bowed while articulating: "The path of men is full of ups and downs. Oh the wise sages of past, watch as I sweep through everything in the future."

His words made everyone glance at each other. They were aware of his title, Fiercest. They felt that this guy was indeed fierce enough, always spouting crazy words wherever he went.

The princess was much more respectful in comparison. After lighting the incense, she bowed three times towards this Buddha.

When the two were about to leave, there was suddenly a poof. The butterflies lying on the shoulder of the statue suddenly started flying.

"The spirit butterflies are moving." Someone shouted.

The butterflies flew down and circled Li Qiye from top to bottom as if they were happy fairies.

"What, this can't be right?" An old expert shouted: "I've been here more than ten times but I haven't seen one butterfly moving, let alone all of them!"

"How unbelievable. Back when World Emperor got here, only one butterfly circled around him but Fiercest got all of them right now." Another knowledgeable ancestor became shocked.

"How can he be so lucky? Is this what you call the heaven's favorite?" One cultivator became jealous and said.

Even Jilin Princess' mouth became agape at this astonishing scene.

"Return, just one is enough." Li Qiye said before blowing a puff of air. He blew all the butterflies away with the exception of one lingering on his shoulder.

"Let's go." He glanced at this butterfly before telling the princess.

The crowd was stunned to see this scene. It was better to have more butterflies but Li Qiye actually only left one behind. There was actually someone afraid of having too many butterflies?

[Chapter 1888: Tamedragon Squadron](#)

"Rumble!" As Li Qiye and Jilin Princess were about to leave, a series of orderly steps resounded.

In the blink of an eye, a group with thirty-six people climbed to the peak. The atmosphere became tense right away.

All members had an aggressive aura with a cruel glint in their eyes. They wore a black-pink colored armor but it wasn't because of dye. This was the color of dried blood, causing spectators to faintly hear a sanguine stench.

"Tamedragon Squadron!" A spectator blurted out in horror.

Li Qiye knew the leader of this squadron. It was Tamedragon Child.

This was a brutal squadron led by the First Disciple of Tamedragon High God, Shangguan Yunjian.

He had inherited the arts of the High God and became one himself with two totems! Thus, his school had two High Gods, something worthy of pride. After all, this was extraordinary due to his humbled origin.

Because Tamedragon and eight more High Gods started the Tamedragon Cavalry, Yunjian also started his own group with thirty-six people and used squadron instead.

Like master, like disciple; Tamedragon used to be a bandit so this squadron was also a group of robbers.

They enjoyed breaking-and-entering on top of finding cultivators outside or ambushing some small adventuring groups. Of course, they pushed it a step further by also silencing their victims with death.

Many people knew that the culprits were this squadron but since all the victims were killed, there was no evidence to condemn them.

This was the reason why some feared them. It didn't matter whether one was strong or weak, being preyed upon by the squadron usually ended in death.

After Yunjian became a High God, he rarely commanded the squadron himself and left it to Tamedragon Child. Because of this, Tamedragon Child didn't only resort to threats. If the threats were ineffective, he would take command of the squadron for a more direct approach.

"Brother Li, we meet again." Tamedragon Child smiled and cupped his fist towards Li Qiye.

Li Qiye only gave him a quick yet dismissive glance.

This didn't diminish his enthusiasm: "These are my brothers, the Tamedragon Squadron. They are courageous men who appreciate other heroes the most. Your tales of fearlessness have traveled far and wide. We brothers respect you, if you need anything in the future, just say the word and we'll jump into the boiling fire. Don't be reserved because we'll be brothers too!" With that, Tamedragon Child beat his chest with great fanfare.

The crowd took a deep breath after seeing how familiar Tamedragon Child was acting towards Li Qiye. This group of bandits alone was frightening enough. If they were to add someone as devilish as Fiercest, it would become a terrifying combination spelling doom for many smaller sects.

Li Qiye nonchalantly responded: "Not just anyone is qualified to call me brother, at the very least, not you." With that, he continued descending with the princess.

This carefree response left everyone shocked. They didn't expect him to answer in such a haughty manner without giving a damn about face.

It was a straight slap towards Tamedragon Child and the squadron. It was merciless enough in the eyes of the spectators.

Though few would want to befriend someone like Tamedragon Child, they would begrudgingly accept if he kept on requesting it while calling them "brother".

Even if one was strong enough to not give a damn about the squadron or even Tamedragon High God, it would be socially improper to slap a smiling face. At the very least, this person would need to be cordial for a bit in order to keep up with propriety.

But Li Qiye was completely different. He publicly denounced the guy in front of everyone without holding back.

As Li Qiye was walking away, Tamedragon Child's expression became extremely unsightly but he actually managed to restrain this anger.

After the duo left Buddhist Ridge, the princess smiled and said: "Young Noble, that guy probably won't forget the slap just now."

"Just a little phony, no need to give someone like that any face. If he's smart enough to stay away from me, I'll spare him from a death without a burial." Li Qiye smiled freely.

The princess smiled back. If Tamedragon Child wanted to conspire against Li Qiye, it would indeed be suicidal on his part.

Buddhist Plain was vast but it had far more than just grasses and fields. There were many dangers hidden in this seemingly serene place.

They could see a large mountain faraway, shrouded in clouds and fogs. One couldn't see the end of it. It was as if it was the world itself, all the other ranges started from here.

"Clank." Suddenly, a bell resounded as they were crossing the mountain.

It wasn't overly loud but the princess lost control of her legs and felt as if her soul was leaving the body. She nearly dropped to the ground but Li Qiye quickly helped her from being paralyzed on the ground.

“What is that thing?” She asked in a pale stupor.

Her confusion was understandable. A bell forcing someone of her power level to directly drop down? This was quite a monstrous force.

Li Qiye placed his palm on her forehead and slowly said: “I will protect your mind to stop you from turning to ashes. Open your heavenly gaze and look.”

She felt a warm current coursing through her soul after his touch. She finally calmed down and took a deep breath before opening her heavenly gaze.

Her vision penetrated the fogs shrouding the mountain. Behold, it was a sight of ruins with the divine mountain being completely split horizontally.

This majestic mountain pierced through the sky. It should be surrounded with stars and galaxies but some unknown power had slashed it in half. The stars nearby were destroyed as well, only broken pieces were left.

At the very top of this broken world was a floating bell. It was gigantic and made of pure gold, still shining. The sound earlier came from this bell.

“This bell is the thing that destroyed this divine mountain?” She asked.

“No, the bell wishes to protect this area. Unfortunately, struggling is meaningless before the destruction.” Li Qiye said flatly.

“Isn’t this a supreme treasure, completely unstoppable?” The princess murmured.

“That’s right, supreme it is. It might not be an Epoch Paragon Artifact but it is still an incredible Buddhist treasure.” Li Qiye nodded.

“Why does no one come and take it?” She became surprised.

“No one has been able to reach it. Look closer, don’t you see people hiding up there?” Li Qiye smiled.

She focused more and after a long time, she found that there was an old man in a royal robe in one of the penetrated stars. He was hiding in the hole with layers of defense around him, powered by divine metals. Intuition told her that this was a High God.

The more she looked, the more people she found hiding among the debris in space. They were powerful and had defensive barriers ready, seemingly vigilant of a certain thing.

At the same time, they were staring at the bell as if wanting to find a weakness.

“Now!” A person roared and rushed out with three totems. He turned into a gigantic dragon with eight wings lunging for the bell. Next, his palm came for the bell, wishing to suppress and take it away.

“Winged High God, a veteran with three totems!” The knowledgeable princess became startled.

“Clank!” Another bell sound came out right before the palm was about to make contact.

The sound wave attacked causing blood to go everywhere. His hands exploded first before the rest of his body.

[Chapter 1889: Buddhist Plains Spectacles](#)

“Ah!” Winged High God turned into a rain of blood with a flash within.

He was still a High God. In this perilous moment, he used his totems to protect his true fate and made it out of this space.

Nevertheless, his true fate was dimmed now. Despite surviving, he would need, perhaps, several ten thousands of years to recover back to his peak state.

The moment the bell sounded, the ones hiding nearby used their defensive barriers.

The sound wave came and shattered these barriers one by one. Some even vomited blood from the impact. Of course, it was a much better outcome than what happened to Winged High God.

All of them were High Gods that have been hiding here for a long time to study the bell. This was why they came prepared with defensive barriers before each ring. Alas, this was still not enough to completely stop the bell’s power.

The princess took a deep breath. Even an old High God with three totems were instantly destroyed. If it was her, she would have been rendered to ashes in a split second with no chance to run.

“That bell is quite terrifying.” The princess felt fear. Their clan might not be able to muster up a treasure of the same level to oppose it.

“Yes.” Li Qiye said flatly: “With this bell, one can contest against a Heaven Punishment Weapon. It is strong enough to stop the power of destruction.”

The princess shuddered after hearing this. A Heaven Punishment Weapon? These were legendary artifacts created by emperors for the final battle with unimaginable might. Moreover, they were exceedingly rare but now, Li Qiye said that this bell was on the same level as one. This was too much to take in.

Even though the Benevolent Spear belonging to Star Stomper was also a Heaven Punishment Weapon, it was only an unfinished one. Immortal Emperor Min Ren felt that it couldn’t surpass his True Immortal Armament so he stopped refining it and gave it to Star Stomper.

“If this bell is amazing like this, how come top-level emperors don’t come to try and take it?” The princess asked.

“The bell is too strong. Ordinary emperors might not be able to take it but the ones strong enough don’t want to either.” Li Qiye said: “This is a bell of will, created by the offering of many supreme Buddhas. They sacrificed their body and refined their Buddhist dao to finally create this great bell. They wanted to use their everything in order to protect. Moreover, countless believers offered their flesh and respect towards the Buddhist doctrine in order to create its life. They had hopes of stopping the power of destruction. Unfortunately, back to ashes was the final result.” Li Qiye gently sighed.

The princess shuddered. Such devoutness was quite unbelievable, ending in an amazing artifact.

“Take a careful look, this bell is full of karma. A truly mighty emperor does not want to be involved in this type of karma because it had the wills of the buddhists. This was an immense amount of karma

during the second of destruction. One would need a lot of time and effort in order to erase this level of karma. They are better off refine a Heaven Punishment Weapon that is more suitable.” He pointed out the difference.

The princess got the point instantly. This treasure might be amazing but it wasn’t suitable. Only High Gods would come here; the high-level emperors refrained from doing so.

“Let’s go.” Li Qiye withdrew his palm and told her.

She looked away and followed after him, not daring to linger for long. This bell was too terrifying, just one ring alone was enough to suppress her.

Along the way, she broadened her horizon quite a bit after seeing many incredible spectacles.

On Buddhist Plain, the princess saw a gigantic Buddha that had shattered on the ground. It looked full of hatred for the heaven while holding an evil-subduing staff and pointing it at the sky. All it could do was maintain this pose because some unknown power had penetrated its forehead, leaving a great hole behind.

It had lost all Buddhist divinity but after the long, testing years, its body was still there - seemingly made out of unbreakable steel. Some experts have even tried to move this Buddha but none could successfully do so despite mustering all of their strength!

She had also seen a great temple that was in relatively good form despite some broken locations. This was the place of worship for many sacred monks and numerous devout worshippers.

Only their dried corpses were left. Nevertheless, they still emitted a faint and holy light.

While looking at the sky, one would find that these monks and ten thousand worshippers were creating a large diagram. They seemed to be praying for something.

The princess didn’t quite understand this so Li Qiye explained: “When the destruction came, these people here were kind and merciful enough, wanting to pray for the existences in this world. This was only wishful thinking. The heaven spares no one, both good and bad; all are ants.”

How lowly and desperate was this? Begging at the end of their world yet whatever it was still didn’t spare them.

“Why does the destruction come?” She asked.

Li Qiye smiled and said: “Would you be here right now without the previous destruction? And our epoch? It isn’t that easy to jump out of the river of time, even for an emperor with twelve wills.”

The princess pondered in silence for a bit before softly speaking: “Where are we going now?”

“Ganges River.” Li Qiye said and continued forward.

“The Ganges? We’re heading to the ferry there?” She hurried to catch up and asked.

“Yes.” Li Qiye said.

Everyone who came to this place knew about the ferry of the Ganges. But both the river and the ferry weren't the most famous locations there. It was the Golden Shrine.

How well known was it? In Pure, many haven't heard of the Buddhist Plain or the Ganges River, but they have heard of the Golden Shrine.

There were legends stating that it was full of treasures such as metals and artifacts...

In fact, once arrived, if one could bend down, they would be able to pick up a lot of gold. If they could enter the inner rooms, there were many treasures and weapons waiting.

In the beginning, the princess thought that it was only a legend. Thus, seeing it in person left her slack-jawed and wide-eyed.

The shrine was built by the ferry of the Ganges. In fact, one could already see all kind of colors shooting into the air before even arriving. They were from the treasures.

It wasn't that large, only consisting of several shrines forming a half-circle. Who knows what material these shrines were built of but they were still shimmering with brilliance after many years. Just these buildings alone were extraordinary treasures.

Each building had several rooms with the windows opened. Looking inside, one would find that there were many amazing items inside.

Due to the sheer amount, they piled up in each room. Some even slipped out of the doors.

Thus, there were gold ingots everywhere scattering into large piles across the shrine. There was no room to walk.

In fact, these ingots weren't made of mortal gold. They were cast from rare metals just like this epoch's chaos stones and could be used as a form of currency.

This was the reason why the princess became so shocked after seeing the shrine. She thought people were exaggerating after hearing about it in the past. Now, she had changed her mind.

[Chapter 1890: Golden Shrine](#)

The Golden Shrine has always been full of tales and temptation. Numerous people came to Buddhist Plain just to visit the shrine, hoping that they could take away all the treasures here.

Jilin Princess' eyes were instantly fixated on the treasures piling in the shrine. She couldn't be blamed for doing so because everyone would feel the same way. There was a hexa-chromatic Buddhist Cup, an Evil-slaying Buddhist Sword with a murderous glow, an Eight-jeweled Divine Lotus filled with the worshipping wills of many beings from the myriad realms.

Each treasure was quite tempting. Just taking one out was enough for a lifetime of benefits, rising in status in just one night.

The princess struggled to avert her gaze from the treasures. When she looked again, she became less affected by the treasures.

Now, she noticed a supreme Buddha sitting in front of each shrine. They closed their eyes in meditation with a wooden fish in front of them. One hand held a hitting stick while the other formed a mudra. These Buddhas were tapping the fish while chanting mantras. However, they were all dead with their body taking the form of statues.

Outside of the shrine were many experts. They sat on the ground with both hands situated before their stomach in mudra form with their eyes closed.

Upon careful inspection, people would find that these experts were already dead. Moreover, some were even from this generation.

“What’s going on?” The princess wondered after seeing the pious death pose of these experts.

“Greed.” Li Qiye answered: “This shrine isn’t that simple. It is a place for conversion. If you come with greed, don’t think about leaving.”

With that, he raised his finger and shot a ray onto an expert meditating in front of the shrine. This expert had died long ago; it was a peaceful death.

“Bang!” The cultivator instantly turned to a golden powder, scattering into the sky.

It wasn’t Li Qiye destroying him. His physical form was already gone despite maintaining the posture. The princess was stunned to see this the scattering remains.

“Someone else wants to die.” Li Qiye chuckled after seeing more visitors before the shrine.

There were already many people waiting before they got here, even some High Gods in the crowd.

Everyone came for the treasures here but a successful attempt has never been recorded before.

“I don’t believe that it’s impossible!” A cultivator dressed in a purple devil robe shouted. This was an expert from the Heaven Race. He had the unique mark of that race on his forehead with a glittering glow. It meant that he was quite powerful.

He couldn’t stay calm after seeing the countless treasures and stepped into the shrine.

“Buzz.” His robe emitted waves of evil lights around him just like protecting rings.

This was an incredible treasure so he felt quite safe with it on. Nothing happened to him after entering the shrine.

“That’s all? Nothing can touch me when I have this devil robe on.” The expert gloated at the inactivity.

“Fool.” The big shots who have been here before sneered.

“All of these treasures are mine!” The expert became ecstatic and rushed for one of the rooms.

In this blink of an eye, his body froze up with his actions seemingly slowing down, as if isolated from this physical realm.

“No!” The expert screamed, one with indignation and despair. His body trembled next.

With a buzzing noise, clear and blinding rays of light oozed out of his body. They looked like the essences of all things.

“He’s done for.” An experienced master commented: “His karma has been taken away, no different from death.”

The clear rays were instantly absorbed by the shrine and appeasing it. This expert suddenly became very calm and respectful. He sat down on the ground and formed a mudra before closing his eyes. This was a silent death.

“That’s really scary.” The first-timers were shuddering. There was no competition or destruction; an expert had gone down without a fight as if an invisible hand had reaped him of his life.

“What happened?” The princess didn’t see it clearly either.

“This was an epoch that cares about karmic ties and cycles. Greed is a personal choice, the cause, while death via a form of Buddhist conversion is the effect. Look at that river ahead.” Li Qiye said while pointing at the river.

It was flowing quietly as if crossing through an eternity itself from an old epoch till now in a never-changing manner.

There was no visible shore on the other side. It was a faint image of a Buddhist kingdom, a holy ground of eternal life.

“Crossing the Ganges leads to eternal life, escaping from the reincarnation cycle.” She thought about a popular adage.

“That is a phrase from the old epoch, no longer applied in our own.” Li Qiye chuckled: “In that old epoch, if one wanted to convert themselves, they would need to throw all karmas and everything else away. Cross this river towards salvation, leaving behind pain for perpetual happiness and become a Buddha with everlasting life.”

He then glanced back at the shrine: “That’s why the shrine exists. In order to become saved, people needed to let go of their previous karma and connections; treasures and wealth must be thrown away here. Only by letting go of materialism would one be able to reach the other shore.”

The princess finally understood why there were piles of treasures at the shrine. So those who wanted to cross the river threw them away back then.

“This was abandoning extreme karmic ties; so if anyone wants to obtain the rare treasures here, they need to be strong enough to sever the existing ties.” Li Qiye said.

She realized why the ones who came in for the treasures would die now.

Li Qiye got closer to the ferry to stare at the other shore.

Everyone was focused on the shrine because of the treasures. Only a few were judging the river itself.

For many, reaching salvation was unrealistic while the treasures over yonder were real and tangible.

The princess stared at the quiet current then the other shore but she couldn't see through it despite using her heavenly gaze.

"Is this river really that magical? Rumor says it can even grant rebirth." The princess asked.

"That's another distant thing not belonging to our epoch." Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: "The river wasn't like this back in its own epoch. According to the ancient text, this used to be a temporal-crossing river, not a physical one with water. All the faith of an epoch gathered here so it continued to flow within its epoch. If you were born in that era, then bathing in this water can wash away your fatigue and wounds while satisfying you of all physical appetites. Of course, this is predicated on having a devout dao heart."

He paused and sighed: "It is a river grasping a holy power. Alas, it still couldn't protect this world. However, the fact that the Buddhist Plain is still around from this old epoch, to a large extent, is because of this river."