Emperor 2231

Chapter 2231: Cold Goddess

"Oh my, I haven't introduced the two of you but the flirting has already begun." A voice suddenly interrupted the two.

Fan Miaozhen came out of nowhere and teased the two, acting as if they were hiding something from the rest.

Qin Shaoyao wasn't as bold as the crafty Miaozhen so her face blushed like the red river and pouted: "Senior Sister, you're picking on me again."

Miaozhen laughed and told Li Qiye: "Shaoyao is our Hundred-flowers' youngest sister, loved by people and flowers alike. Don't bully her, First Brother, we simply won't allow it."

Li Qiye couldn't do much against this eccentric girl and only shook his head.

"But Shaoyao's alchemy skill is peerless in Longevity Valley, you need to spend more time with her, First Brother." Miaozhen looked at the two of them with a strange expression.

Shaoyao was the youngest in Hundred-flowers, but she displayed amazing talents for alchemy. She was in charge of plant cultivation and medicinal formulas at the valley right now.

"You're doing it again, Senior Sister. Who doesn't know that you're actually the most talented here with your pill-making skills." The young girl turned red and quietly said.

This was the truth as well. Because of her strange act, some forgot about her incredible talents.

"I'm feeling quite good to hear such praises. We, the Three Ladies, are incredible geniuses in Myriad Lineage, maybe our master really knows how to teach." Miaozhen cheerfully joked and was received quite well by the other two.

"I'm talking about me and Little Sister Shaoyao, so you have met two of the Three Ladies. I can introduce you to the last one if you are interested." She continued on.

So it turned out that Longevity Sage had three direct disciples. Miaozhen was the oldest and Shaoyao was the youngest. The second one was named Mu Yalan.

"Why not?" He smiled.

"Then let's go." Miaozhen smiled: "I want your opinion on which of us three is the prettiest."

"I need to take care of the plant, the two of you can go ahead, Senior Brother and Senior Sister." Shaoyao said, a bit afraid of her First Sister's constant teasing. This was the case for everyone in Hundred-flowers.

"Alright, I'll let you off this time." Miaozhen smiled and started pulling Li Qiye away.

She had no qualm about touching a male before marriage, just like a little girl. The two of them ran out of Hundred-flowers.

When serious, she was a graceful lady. When acting crazy, she could cause a lot of headaches.

There were plenty of buildings and houses outside of the valley, some temporary tents as well.

This was a branch of the sect - Medicinal Hall. It took in all patients from around the world.

The moment they got here, the scent of medicine was quite strong. This place was lively with cultivators and mortals needing help. Longevity Valley was unique in this sense. Normally, mortals were no different from ants. Cultivators wouldn't give a damn about them.

Medicinal Hall didn't see it that way. They welcomed both cultivators and mortals. Plus, the price was very fair or even free for mortals. This added to the sect's good reputation.

Moreover, some mortals chose to stay here to learn medicine as well. Doctors from this branch eventually spread out all over the places.

Plenty of patients were waiting - wounded cultivators and mortals on the verge of death.

Luckily, the place had enough doctors from both the valley itself and the students.

She pulled him into a courtyard all the way inside to find a woman sitting down and reading a patient's case history.

The woman wore a plain dress with her hair tied up high. Her brows were lightly drawn like the smoke over yonder the mountain. Her eyes were bright and animated. When she focused, they emitted a frightening glow and an imposing aura.

She wasn't old but her demeanor was the opposite of this. She was a lotus at first sight - noble and unreachable. However, upon closer inspection, a winter apricot flower was the more apt description, cold and keeping everyone away.

This was one of the Three Ladies of Longevity Valley - the Second Sister, Mu Yalan.

All three were experts at different things. The oldest was good at pill making; the youngest good at alchemy; the one in the middle was good at medicine, capable of bringing people back from the brink of death.

"Yalan, Yalan, let me introduce you to a handsome fella." Miaozhen dragged Li Qiye inside while shouting, not giving a damn about her image.

Yalan helplessly looked up and frowned: "Is there something, Senior Sister?"

She resembled the First Sister more than Miaozhen. Miaozhen tapped Li Qiye's shoulder and said: "What do you think about him, Yalan? A good match for you?"

With that, she elbowed Li Qiye as if she just did him a favor, that they were the closest friends. Li Qiye didn't know whether to laugh or to cry after seeing this.

Yalan gave him a quick glance and said: "Sister, I have many patients waiting."

She then went back to reading her chart.

"Just messing with you." Miaozhen coughed and said seriously: "This is our First Brother, a direct disciple under Master. I'm taking him here for an introduction, don't be arrogant now." When she wanted to be serious, she was imposing enough, worthy of her seniority.

Yalan looked at him again and nodded for a greeting: "First Brother, your fame precedes you."

Of course, this was only a polite speech. She had no idea who the hell he was beforehand. After the greeting, she went back to reading. She remained cold and distant to him as well.

"First Brother is good at alchemy and pill-making, oh, medicine too, a master at everything and had inherited Master's legacies." Miaozhen began boasting: "You should be asking him to learn more about the mysteries of medicines."

"I will surely ask First Brother for help when I have time." Yalan casually answered without looking up.

Her response was actually out of respect for Miaozhen. A First Brother appearing out of nowhere wasn't worthy of respect.

"Well, why not today?" Miaozhen elbowed him again and blinked, seemingly wanting to play the role of a matchmaker.

Li Qiye smiled and felt that the cold girl wasn't as interesting to him as Miaozhen.

"Sister, I actually have a lot of patients recently. Would another day be alright?" There was no doubt that Yalan wanted the guests to leave and had no intention of talking to Li Qiye.

At this time, a disciple came in and reported: "Hall Master, the Poison King is here."

Having heard that, Yalan stood up right away: "Invite him in right away, I'll be right out."

She then told Miaozhen: "Sister, I have a patient requiring the help of Poison King. I need to go see him, please excuse me."

She also nodded at Li Qiye, a polite goodbye of sorts, before leaving.

Chapter 2232: Poison King

After Yalan left, Miaozhen elbowed him for the third time: "First Brother, time for you to shine?"

"Shine what?" He gave her the side-eye.

She smiled back: "Of course to capture our Junior Sister. Don't you see, that Poison King is here, he's in love with her for a long time now and was courting her for who knows how long? This is a good chance for him because she needs help."

"What does that have to do with me?" Li Qiye shook his head, not caring about the matter.

She circled around him while blabbering: "You can't put it like that. As the adage goes - keep the goodies within the family. Second Sister is so pretty and talented on top of being kind, where else are you going to find a girl like her? How can we let that jerk from Everlasting win her?"

Li Qiye looked at her and said: "Are you trying to protect your sister or just want to antagonize Everlasting?"

"Both." Miaozhen wasn't embarrassed after being figured out and said: "A girl like Second Sister should marry a genius in Longevity Valley, such as yourself, First Brother. As for Everlasting? Hmph, I'm annoyed by those pretenders long ago. It's my responsibility to take them down a notch."

She didn't try to hide it at all. Of course, this wasn't a personal feud of hers. Everlasting considered themselves the strongest lineage in the system and had wanted to take over Longevity Valley for a long time now. The ambition was there, the only thing stopping them was fear of the unknown.

As the First Sister and in spite of her playful demeanor, she had insight beyond her peers. That's why she was very cautious about this sect.

"That still has nothing to do with me." Li Qiye shook his head again.

"Who says? You're the First Disciple of the Valley, so you bear the responsibility of protecting it, am I wrong here?" She glared at him and angrily said.

Li Qiye rubbed his chin: "That might be true, but I don't think flirting is part of the description. Of course, if you want to take Everlasting down a notch, you need to give me something good. As the adage goes, money can buy anything."

"Hmm, it's probably not that hard. Let me destroy that Poison King's morale, then if necessary, you'll win Second Sister over. Our jewel can't be given to an outsider." She said.

"Win her over?" He smirked: "I normally don't do something like this, unless it's a buy one get one. If I take your Second Sister, do I get the First Sister too?"

"In your dream." She blushed. A bold girl was still bashful when this type of topic came up.

She scowled: "You're quite greedy for wanting a harem, how lowly! Hmph, if you want both of us sisters, you need to contribute first. If you destroy Everlasting, not to mention just me, you can marry all three of us!" [1]

This might be a joke but she certainly considered Everlasting to be a threat, hoping that her First Brother would be able to do something.

"My heart is beating so fast now, hugging all three beauties together? Such romantic luck." He smiled.

"Hmph, you can daydream once you take down Everlasting. But before that, it'll only be a grand dream." She felt her face becoming hot and retorted. [2]

"Looks like you think quite highly of me, confident that I can destroy Everlasting. I didn't know I was so capable, I'm so overwhelmed from earning the love of a beauty." Li Qiye joked back.

Of course, he didn't look overwhelmed at all.

"No need to talk so much." She said: "Not just anyone can be the First Disciple of Longevity. Master's wisdom is impossible to fathom."

She declared it without any hesitation, showing her absolute confidence in her master.

"I feel like I'm walking on air now after all the praise." He smiled: "However, if I'm truly so amazing, then I can't marry just anyone. Even princesses and goddesses can only be my feet-washing maids."

"No time to waste, the enemy is knocking on our doors already, go and break him already." She ignored whether he agrees or not before dragging him out again.

Meanwhile, Mu Yalan was personally greeting the Poison King from Everlasting, Huang Quanwei. [3]

"Senior Brother Huang, thank you for taking the long journey." Yalan cupped her fist. Her attitude was polite yet distant.

She always acted like this regardless of the situation, maintaining a distance with everyone else.

"It's perfectly fine, even if I was farther away, I would fly after hearing your invitation, Junior Sister Mu. All the troubles are nothing." He excitedly said with a pair of eyes filled with love and greed. He could stare at her forever without getting bored.

Despite his grand title, he was still very young, looking quite dashing with his white robe just like a scholar. However, because he surrounded himself with poisonous creatures all year long, he had a sinister aura that makes others shudder uncontrollably.

He was a disciple from Everlasting and the Junior Brother of Miracle. Nevertheless, their two paths were different.

His research was on medicine but this derailed into poisonous grasses and insects.

His crush on Yalan was no secret. Moreover, he thought quite highly of himself and believed that he was a good match for her. Plus, his background from Everlasting meant that he was a proper groom for Longevity Valley.

The seniors from Everlasting approved as well. If he could marry a genius from Longevity, it was all pros and no cons for their kingdom.

"I have a patient from a side-branch of the sect. He accidentally got poisoned while finding some medicines in a ravine. This poison is quite fierce and I can't remove it completely. You are the best in this aspect, so please help." She said slowly.

She was in charge of the hall and normally didn't participate in curing regular illnesses. However, this was an elder of a side-branch. She tried several times and failed, only able to stabilize the wound and stop further spreading.

She had no choice but to ask Huang Quanwei for help.

"Everlasting and Longevity are family, so I will help you with everything I got, even if it means jumping into a boiling cauldron." He said while his eyes couldn't avert from her beautiful face.

"I hope you will be able to cure the elder." She gently nodded.

At this time, the duo of mischief made it in. Miaozhen smiled and said: "We'll also see the elder and see how he is doing."

Quanwei didn't dare to show any slight and cupped his fist after seeing her: "Ah, Senior Sister Fan, long time no see. I'm sure your pill-making skills have improved by leaps and bounds."

Miaozhen rarely left the valley but she enjoyed a great status in the system.

"No way comparable to your poison skill, Junior Brother Huang." Miaozhen was acting respectable and elegant right now: "Nothing can be better than your presence. Looks like the elder will be just fine, we were worrying for nothing."

He quickly responded: "You're too kind. As long as the elder is indeed poisoned, and I don't mean to brag, I will have an antidote."

He arched his chest proudly after finishing the sentence. Of course, this was well-deserved. No one in the young generation was on the same level as him, hence the reason why he was the Poison King.

"Good." Miaozhen nodded: "I planned to ask First Brother on checking it out, looks like there is no need to trouble him now."

Yalan stared at Li Qiye for a bit. She didn't know whose idea it was. Perhaps Miaozhen was dragging him into this mess. After all, she was aware of Miaozhen's cautious attitude towards Everlasting.

"This gentleman is...?" Quanwei finally noticed Li Qiye.

Chapter 2233: Hot-blooded

A while ago, Huang Quanwei didn't pay any attention to Li Qiye because no matter how one looked at it, he was too ordinary, just a regular disciple at best.

"This is the First Disciple of our sect, also our First Brother." Fan Miaozhen introduced Li Qiye.

"First Brother?" Quanwei was surprised because he has never heard about this person before. He was under the impression that Miaozhen was in charge of the young generation.

"Oh, I see, your fame precedes you, First Brother." Quanwei didn't dispute this and cupped his fist.

Longevity Valley was the orthodox branch so in theory, the First Disciple of this sect was going to inherit Longevity Sage's role, a very prestigious position.

However, Quanwei didn't care too much. Li Qiye wasn't famous at all, let alone compared to the Three Ladies.

Inferior to his own Junior Sisters, one could see that this First Brother was in name only, most likely average in skills at best just like his appearance.

He probably got lucky from joining the sect early for that generation and becoming the First Disciple before everyone else. Thus, Quanwei felt superior to him still.

Li Qiye only smiled back at the greeting.

This annoyed Quanwei, feeling that Li Qiye was putting up an act. He asked: "So you also understand poison, First Brother?"

He was one of the three most talented in Everlasting, well-respected by many others. So now, this "First Disciple" dared to treat him like this?

"Our First Brother knows everything - pills, medicines, alchemy, poison, you name it." Miaozhen jumped in.

"Ah, I see, excuse me then. I would definitely like to learn from you, First Brother." Quanwei didn't believe this at all.

In his mind, Miaozhen was only defending the valley's honor. If Li Qiye was actually this gifted, he wouldn't be an unknown character and would have been much more famous than their group of three in Everlasting. After all, she couldn't let others make fun of their First Disciple.

"We can't wait any longer since the elder's wound is quite serious. Brother Huang, please show us your skill." Yalan slightly frowned before suggesting.

She could tell that her Senior Sister was trying to use Li Qiye to take Quanwei down. Of course, she wasn't protecting Quanwei either and only interrupted out of worries for the elder's wound. The poison needed to be cure with haste.

She also didn't know anything about this First Disciple. Her nature was much simpler than Miaozhen, only focusing on medicine and not about the changes in the world or other struggles. Thus, she didn't think about this person as much as Miaozhen as well as the implications.

It wasn't that she didn't believe Miaozhen's claim about Li Qiye, she just didn't wish to risk the life of a patient. Picking the renowned Poison King for this task was certainly the right choice over a guy she had only met for the first time just now.

"Sure thing." Quanwei smiled: "Let me see the elder's poisonous wound, then I'll ask First Disciple for help if I don't understand something."

Another humble yet empty comment from Quanwei; he didn't even bother looking at Li Qiye as he spoke. As long as the wound was actually a poisonous one, he wouldn't need any help, not from a nobody.

This was his chance to perform in front of the beauty. Perhaps his supreme poison mastery could win her favor.

"Then what are we waiting for, let's go see the elder." Miaozhen pulled Li Qiye inside.

The other scene was a striking contrast. Quanwei bowed towards Yalan and gestured: "Junior Sister, you first."

This was no contest. In his eyes, a dashing genius like him was a thousand times better than someone like Li Qiye.

"Brother Huang, please." She politely nodded and entered with him.

On the wooden bed was an old man of a stout stature and a fierce pair of eyes, almost eagle-like. His appearance was certainly imposing unlike his current state. He seemed to be in pain, tortured by the poison resulting in considerable weight loss.

After seeing Li Qiye and Miaozhen, he barely sat up and said: "Miss Fan, please forgive me for not being able to stand up to greet you."

His last name was Yang, an elder from a side branch of Longevity. Even Yalan failed to cure the poison, only able to stop it from spreading.

"No need for such formality, Elder Yang, we're family." She spoke with the bearing of a First Sister.

Yalan and Quanwei came as well. The elder quickly asked: "Miss Mu, is there a way?"

This has been a test of his sanity, writhing in pain the entire time. He would have died if it wasn't for her so now, he placed all of his hope on her since she still hasn't given up.

"Don't worry, Elder, we will find a cure for your poison." She said before introducing: "I have invited a famous doctor for you, this is Poison King Huang, I'm confident he can do it."

"Ah, Virtuous Nephew Huang, my pleasure." The elder became excited and quickly cupped his fist: "Your mastery of poison is matchless, looks like this old man is lucky enough to meet a true master."

"You're too kind, Elder." Quanwei remained humble but was feeling pretty good inside. He was winning a lot of face in front of his goddess, and soon, he'll be able to show off his skills.

"I'll leave it to you then." The elder heaved a sigh of relief.

The title of Poison King was quite famous and his skills left no room for doubt. He would certainly have a way to cure this poison.

Meanwhile, Miaozhen had been watching Li Qiye only. She smiled and said: "Elder Yang, our First Brother is also a poison master."

Li Qiye smiled after seeing the sudden recommendation.

"First Brother?" The elder didn't know who she was talking about.

"This is the First Disciple of Longevity Valley, also our master's highest seniority disciple." Miaozhen pushed Li Qiye forward.

"Since when did the sage appoint one?" The elder was surprised because this position has been left unfilled. He has never heard about this matter before.

"You will need to ask my master." Miaozhen smiled: "Our First Brother is good at everything, alchemy, medicine, poison, whatever. He's the pride of our Longevity Valley."

She sounded like an aunt at a market praising her own merchandises. Li Qiye couldn't help but become amused.

"Good at everything?" The elder became surprised again and was still skeptical.

He was still an elder, albeit from a side branch, and should have heard of such a gifted disciple.

"If you don't mind, our First Brother can give it a shot too." Miaozhen suggested.

Yalan was feeling a bit helpless at her Senior Sister. Their relationship was quite good, but Miaozhen was frankly an eccentric little devil, a source of headache for everyone.

"Longevity System has many poison research, but how many are actually masters at this art?" Quanwei stepped up while proudly arching his chest.

Chapter 2234: Devilclaw Louse

Huang Quanwei stared sharply at Li Qiye, even to the point of being aggressive. This was clearly a provocation.

He wouldn't miss this chance of showing off in front of his crush, to let Yalan know that he alone is the best master of poison.

He was completely confident that in the entire system, no one could surpass him in this regard. If he couldn't cure it, no one else could. Thus, he had no problem challenging this First Disciple who got lucky enough to become Longevity Sage's student.

"Well..." The elder hesitated.

Though Miaozhen recommended Li Qiye and said that the guy was a master of everything, he had never heard of him, let alone seeing the guy's abilities. This wasn't the case for the Poison King who was world-renowned.

Yalan was the one to speak: "Brother Huang has learned about poison for several decades on top of traveling quite far to get here. I'm sure he can do it."

She had no prejudice against Li Qiye, only thinking that this was the best route. One had evidence of his skill while she had never seen the other before. Risking the elder's life was too much to ask.

"Don't worry, Junior Sister, I will cure Elder Yang, he'll be up and jumping in no time." Quanwei became excited after seeing Yalan picking him.

Her recognition of his skill was the greatest boost of confidence. He believed that it wouldn't be long before he could take the beauty home.

"That sounds amazing." Elder Yang said. He didn't want to risk his life and was very skeptical. Alas, he didn't dare to refuse out of consideration for Miaozhen.

So now, Yalan had done him a huge favor.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye stood there without expressing his attitude. Miaozhen glared and elbowed him. The guy didn't respond to her at all.

"Elder, let me have a look." Quanwei was eager to get started.

The elder opened his robe to reveal the wound on his chest. It was quite serious, the size of a palm with burn marks all around and a sulfuric scent.

He had ointment applied but it was useless. The black marks on the wound were spreading, showing that the poison wanted to move on to the rest of the body. Fortunately, Yalan was talented enough to stop it for now.

"So strong." Quanwei was surprised to see this wound.

"This is..." Even Li Qiye took another glance.

"Senior Brother, you got a clue?" Quanwei noticed his interest and asked with an arrogant expression.

"It's not just poison." Li Qiye chuckled.

"Do you have an antidote?" Miaozhen smiled and asked.

Quanwei sneered and said: "I'm afraid you are misdiagnosing it. This is indeed poison, and a strong one at that, able to spread all over the body in the blink of an eye."

"Yes, yes." Elder Yang added: "I was picking some medicine that day but something ambushed me, piercing me right on the chest. I turned black but I sealed all of my veins and meridians. Later on, Miss Mu forced the poison back to the chest and saved my life." [1]

"Did you get a good look at the creature? Is it the size of a fist with sharp fangs, plated head, and a stinger?" Quanwei inquired.

"You're completely right, when I took it off my chest, my energy had killed it but its appearance is just as you described, you know what it is?" The elder was excited.

"Senior Brother, do you know what it is?" Quanwei didn't answer the elder but asked Li Qiye instead.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn't care for the provocation.

"Looks like you don't know much about it." Quanwei assumed that he didn't know anything and continued on: "It's a Devilclaw Louse, born in places with high temperature and humidity. I bet you were at the mouth of a volcano, or near one."

"Yes, completely right!" Elder Yang knew that he had met a master.

"These lice hide in the dark, very good ambushers with lightning speed. Just one sting is usually fatal due to the fast-spreading poison." Quanwei elaborated.

"No wonder why you're the current Poison King, I'm definitely saved." The elder became ecstatic.

Quanwei looked over at Li Qiye to show his superiority. This was his time to show off before Yalan. As for this so-called First Brother? He was only a stepping stone.

He carefully looked at the wound before concluding: "It's a louse indeed, but the strange part is that the poison seems to be sealing you. Maybe when you sealed off your veins, the poison also sealed you off, or maybe too much time had passed and the poison had spread all over, or both."

Yalan added: "Makes sense. When the elder called for help, despite sealing off his veins, the poison had already spread all over. Later on, I forced it back to his chest but probably not in entirety. This poison is sealing his true fate, resulting in this painful state."

The elder smiled wryly and said: "If it wasn't for the seal, I would have abandoned this flesh already. Please utilize your masterful ways and remove the poison."

For cultivators, being poisoned was a difficult task, especially ancestors who were strong enough. They were virtually impervious to poisons. However, in the rare case of affliction, they could instantly abandon their flesh and destroy the body, running away with their true fate.

As long as the true fate was around, they could rebuild their body. It would only be a great loss but no real threat to their lives.

This wasn't the case for the elder. His true fate was sealed inside his own body by the poison, so a physical abandonment was out of the question. His true fate was bound to his body right now.

"Don't worry, this louse is fierce but it can't trouble me. I just need half a day to take care of this." Quanwei was completely confident.

"Virtuous Nephew, you're my savior." The elder was in a great mood.

"It's too early for a conclusion." Li Qiye gently shook his head and reminded Quanwei.

"You have a different perspective? I'm listening, Senior Brother." Quanwei said impolitely.

"This poison is very strange, you need to rethink then rethink it again before making a decision." Li Qiye repeated.

"That's probably the case for you, but I am the Poison King. A Devilclaw Louse is nothing, no need to waste time thinking." Quanwei said.

"I'm confident in your abilities, please act fast to avoid further complications." Elder Yang agreed.

"Junior Sister, what do you think about his opinion? Do you think we need more time thinking?" Quanwei wanted to show off and asked Yalan, ready to listen to whatever she says.

Chapter 2235: Who's The Charlatan Here?

Mu Yalan looked over at Li Qiye before nodding at Huang Quanwei: "Please go ahead, Brother Huang."

She ultimately decided against taking any risk based on the given information.

"Very well, I'll start." Quanwei sneered at Li Qiye again, quite pleased with himself.

He took out a pouch of various poisons: "Elder, it might be painful, I will need you to bear it."

"Don't worry, Virtuous Nephew. This old bones of mine can handle it." The elder said.

Quanwei chose a bottle of ointment and began applying on the wound. The elder felt a cool sensation, all the pain have disappeared.

"Virtuous Nephew, this is an amazing ointment, removing the pain torturing me for several days now." The elder became astonished.

"This is Black Jade, an antidote personally created by me. Any other poison would be cured right away." Quanwei said.

"Brother Huang, you can actually make it?" Yalan was surprised as well.

The formula for Black Jade had been lost long ago; even their valley only had an incomplete scroll. Plus, the disciples here didn't focus on poison too much, not caring to research it any further.

"Yes, I looked through so many texts before finding a way to make up for the missing pieces. This Black Jade of mine can cure anything." Quanwei's ego was being fed in full right now after seeing her surprised expression.

"Your poison mastery is indeed peerless." She praised.

"No way, it is inferior compared to your medicinal abilities." Quanwei responded. His mood couldn't be better right now.

Nevertheless, he didn't stop and took out several needles and inserted into the elders' important meridians.

"Now!" He shouted and his needles lit up. Under his empowerment, black lines appeared around the elder's body - the remnant poison.

The old man started to twitch, clearly feeling the pain from this process. Alas, he didn't groan even once.

These black lines were forced into the chest area. Quanwei was fast and added more needles into the chest cavity, sealing the poison there.

At the same time, his Black Jade ointment was doing work as well. The wound gradually turned white with smoke coming out.

The elder was drenched in sweat but he felt much better than before as if the poison was being removed.

"I'm so impressed right now, you expelled this poison so easily!" He excitedly said.

"Not yet, this is only removing the hidden poison from your system. In order to cure it completely, we need other medicines." He humbly said but his slightly smug expression told the tale.

"Of course, I was saved the moment you got here." The elder was all-smiles, happy at the thought of being free from this terrible poison.

"Elder, hold on a while longer, the next step will be very painful." Quanwei took out a bottle.

"Your bottle will end his life." Li Qiye warned before Quanwei could use it.

This got the attention of both Quanwei and Yalan.

"Hmph, do you know what you're saying? This is an antidote, why would it take his life? Don't be ridiculous now." Quanwei's eyes turned cold as he spewed out aggression.

"Virtuous Nephew is indeed saving my life, not the opposite, don't speak nonsense now." Elder Yang was unhappy and would have shouted at Li Qiye if he wasn't the First Disciple.

"Just a charlatan." Li Qiye calmly said.

"What do you mean?" Yalan looked at him and said.

"The right medicine for the right illness, anything else is risking people's lives." He smiled in response.

"The right medicine?" Quanwei raised his voice: "The poison is from a Devilclaw Louse, a creature near a volcano containing true fire in its poison, rendering the veins. This bottle is a mix of Centurial Icelotus and Deepwater Glacier, perfect ingredients versus this poison. If this isn't right, then what is?!"

"Brother Huang's explanation is logical, do you have something else in mind, Senior Brother?" Yalan nodded in agreement and asked.

"Virtuous Nephew, I believe in your skill, no need to listen to someone else's nonsense, please start." The elder unhappily said.

"If the elder wishes for it, then please go ahead." Yalan then told Li Qiye: "Senior Brother, please don't disturb him during the process."

Yalan had nothing against Li Qiye but she didn't wish for any interruption.

Li Qiye simply smiled and didn't bother explaining. Miaozhen did the same, waiting to watch the fun.

"Elder, I'm starting." Quanwei said with a serious expression.

"Go for it, Virtuous Nephew." Elder Yang was mentally prepared. [1]

Quanwei opened the bottle and scattered the medicine on his chest. Sizzle and smoke came out as if something was burning.

The elder had a twisted expression from the pain with sweat all over. There was no doubt that this process was excruciating. He tried his best while biting down in order to not scream.

As more medicine was poured on top, the black wound became gradually fainter before disappearing altogether. The poison has been cured.

Blood finally came out of the wound and Quanwei put away the bottle while heaving a sigh of relief: "Alright, you'll be able to get up soon."

At this moment, the elder was struggling for breath. It took a while before he regained his wits and felt comfortable like never before.

"You're a miracle doctor, I will forever remember this debt." The elder got up and cupped his fist.

"I have learned from your poison mastery today, Brother Huang." Yalan praised as well: "This is a huge weight off my back now that the elder is fine."

"It is my honor to help you, Junior Sister." Quanwei said right away.

Yalan nodded. This whole ordeal has been quite stressful since she couldn't come up with an antidote.

"Senior Brother, do you still have any pointer?" The successful attempt left Quanwei complacent, no giving a damn about this First Disciple.

Li Qiye still had a faint smile on his face.

"Poison mastery is a complex art, not just anyone can learn it." Quanwei thought the lack of response meant fear: "In the present day, no one is my match when it comes to this art. Trying to do so would only be ignorantly displaying one's slight skill before an expert."

Quanwei was one-step short of pointing his finger at Li Qiye and scolding the guy. Strangely enough, Li Qiye was rather docile and only stood there.

"Ah!" Elder Yang suddenly dropped on the bed and began twitching again.

Earlier, he didn't scream a single time like a real man during the healing process. But now, he constantly bellowed in pain. One could only imagine what he was going through.

"Elder!" The group was shocked to see this.

His face became whiter with a mist appearing around him and exuding a chilling aura to everyone nearby.

"What's going on?" Quanwei was caught off guard.

Yalan sealed the elder's meridians again with lightning speed. She fed him an emergency pill in order to protect his veins and true fate.

"Help, help me..." The elder could finally speak again but he seemed to be at his last gasp, unable to say anything afterward. The twitching intensified along with the cold aura.

Chapter 2236: Monstrous Cold Poison

It was as if the elder had just gotten out of an ice pit. Even experts like the ones in the room could feel the cold biting into their bones.

This frigid air intensified as the elder trembled with his teeth clanking together. Next, the mist was slowly turning into a layer of frost.

"What is going on?" Yalan still couldn't stop the cold energy coursing through the elder like a flood breaking the dam, on the verge of turning him into an ice sculpture.

Yalan had never seen such a monstrous cold energy before. Her medicinal skill wasn't enough to stop it.

She stood there in a daze, thinking that it wouldn't be long before his death if they couldn't stop it.

Poison King Huang Quanwei was even more stunned. He didn't know what was going on because in theory, that should have gone just fine. Alas, the elder's condition had deteriorated.

"The cold poison is invading him." Li Qiye flatly stated.

Yalan quickly composed herself. She was experienced enough to keep calm and remembered what Li Qiye had said earlier. She stared gently at him and asked: "Senior Brother, please save Elder Yang."

The unemotional girl was anxious, not wanting to see a life slip away before her very eyes.

He glanced at her and said: "Move, my turn."

Yalan immediately stood to the side to make way for him. He came forward and checked the elder's pulse. The guy's hand was frighteningly cold; the sheer force of this affinity could instantly freeze someone.

"Quite strong." Li Qiye stated before taking out the Myriad Cauldron.

"Poof!" Its flame surged out and turned into long strings of fire flowing just like water.

He began with lightning speed, channeling these strings into the elder. They penetrated each of the meridians and veins, acting as a substitute.

He wouldn't stop shooting more and more strings like a rain of needles. They continued to flow all over the elder, too many to count.

The elder looked as if he was made from fiery threads due to the sheer number wrapping around him. He was red just like a boiled shrimp. Flames continued to move inside his body. Each string seemed to have its own life as they made their way across.

Any spectator would be blinded from the radiance. Moreover, Li Qiye's technique was unique. Yalan herself couldn't truly understand them.

This was a magical and precise process with extreme speed. She knew that she couldn't replicate this task.

Each person had countless veins. To be able to channel these strings through all of them in such a short time? It required immense finesse and power, causing Yalan to gasp in astonishment.

Miaozhen was watching Li Qiye intensely with her big and round eyes. Remember, these strings were made from the cauldron flame. It meant that his fire controlling technique was at the apex. A fire controller of this level would also mean that his pill-making techniques and alchemy were incredible.

"Sizz." The fiery strings flowed and burned away the cold poison, even the hiding ones, not allowing them to resurface again.

He was displaying his abilities in full force, truly impressing the two girls. From this curing process alone, it was clear that he was versed in all aspects - medical, alchemy, and flame controlling...

This great versatility and mastery far exceeded the two of them.

Eventually, the flames gathered. Despite their power, they didn't harm the elder at all. It showed that Li Qiye had reached a level where he could do whatever he wished just like a fire god.

Miaozhen became more and more impressed and shocked. Longevity Valley was an alchemy lineage with plenty of masters, but they might not be able to find a second like him.

"Sizzle." The flame resembled flowing water now with a nonstop current washing everything inside his body several times before leaving his body.

It floated in the air. Everyone could hear shrill screeching noises. Despite the low volume, they were unpleasant like needles pricking the ears - quite an unbearable sensation.

The group finally noticed that the flame was surrounding something, a tiny poisonous creature only the size of a hair. It was entirely clear like crystals with two sharp fangs and a scary face.

It ran left and right in order to escape but this was a futile effort.

"Poof!" The cauldron sent out a second wave of flame, increasing its power by several hundred times over, capable of boiling an entire ocean.

The creature wiggled and screeched. In the end, it couldn't withstand the heat and became scattered ashes.

Everyone was drawn in by this scene. It didn't last that long since the start but Li Qiye's techniques were perfect and smooth, worthy of gasps and awe.

More shockingly, they didn't expect for this insect to be hiding in the elder's body. The old man was dead for sure if it wasn't for Li Qiye.

He recalled the cauldron and glanced over at the unconscious patient: "He'll be fine."

"Senior Brother, that was a type of ice poison?" Yalan asked right away with a pair of eyes brimming with a love for learning. This was her first time seeing this so she wanted to figure it out.

"An Ice Ghost." Li Qiye said.

"Ice Ghost, from the legends? Rumor has it that it can kill people without being detected." She shuddered.

She has only read about this legendary poisonous insect in the books, never seeing it in person before.

Chapter 2237: Beloved First Brother

"That's a made-up creature, it doesn't exist." Quanwei wasn't ready to lose the spotlight to Li Qiye.

"Don't blame the books for being wrong out of your own ignorance." Li Qiye glanced at him and retorted: "Just because you haven't seen it before doesn't mean it doesn't exist. The thing that doesn't exist is your knowledge."

"You!" Quanwei turned red with an ugly expression. He was complacent earlier but no more. The gap between the high and low vexed him.

"So what actually happened?" Miaozhen curiously asked.

"An Ice Ghost is similar to a specter in the sense that it is elusive, formless, and can kill without being detected. But the truth is that it isn't formless, just another type of parasite on a poisonous creature." He explained: "More often than not, the murderer is wrongfully blamed. Everyone would think that its host was the killer. The Devilclaw Louse that attacked Elder Yang was the host. Of course, its poison was very formidable and continued to fight against the Ice Ghost even after its death. What I mean is that the Ice Ghost was being restrained by the poison of the louse inside the elder's body. Removing this poison resulted in the Ice Ghost going all out and invading the elder with its cold energy."

He looked over at Quanwei after revealing the last part.

Quanwei's complexion kept on changing color. Earlier, he was so confident in curing the elder but he ended up almost killing the guy.

He was the famous Poison King but he had lost to a nobody today. This was a great blow on his ego.

"It's my fault for not being careful enough, ignoring your opinion. A great mistake." Yalan sighed and said.

Li Qiye did warn them but she chose to trust Quanwei due to his reputation.

"Ah..." The elder woke up at this time. He got up in fear and cried out with a pale complexion: "Am I okay?!"

"Elder, you are no longer in danger." Yalan consoled: "My Senior Brother had removed the cold poison in your body and killed the Ice Ghost. Everything in your system is gone so you'll recover soon."

The elder finally calmed down, vaguely recalling Li Qiye helping him before he blacked out.

"Thank you, Virtuous Nephew, for bringing me back from hell." He said: "This old man has eyes but couldn't see Mount Tai. How embarrassing."

He chose to believe Quanwei and even reprimanded Li Qiye, his savior. Recalling this left him embarrassed.

"Just a trivial art, can't reach the apex." Li Qiye casually replied.

This response was a cruel slap on Quanwei's face. Poison mastery represented everything to him. He was proud of being peerless in this art, allowing him to roam the world with a smug on his face.

But now, this art was considered trivial by Li Qiye? His face became even more unsightly from the verbal slap.

"Rest now." Li Qiye told the elder before leaving.

"Wait for me, First Brother!" Miaozhen gave chase with a cheerful expression.

Quanwei wanted to show off before Yalan in order to earn her favor, not expecting to lose face because of Li Qiye. He didn't wish to stay and immediately said goodbye then left Longevity Valley.

As the duo was leaving, Miaozhen happily held on to Li Qiye's arm, looking quite intimate.

"You were amazing, definitely gave him a good beat down, we'll see if he dares to come back here again." She was looking quite cute: "Hehe, that guy gave up for sure, maybe you will be able to win our heart soon too."

"Done with your test?" He directly asked.

Miaozhen was indeed crafty. Her other purpose was to test Li Qiye's abilities, to see if her master chose the right person.

"I had complete confidence in you, Senior Brother. I knew you would stop Everlasting from being so arrogant and boost our morale, that's all, no other intention." She rolled her eyes, looking pitiful and wrongfully blamed.

Li Qiye was unmoved: "Don't think I won't strip you and throw you out of Hundred-flowers."

"Senior Brother, alright, I was wrong, I shouldn't have tried to test your abilities." She hugged his arm tighter and admitted her mistake: "But you're a benevolent and magnanimous person and will forgive me this time, right? I won't dare to do it again. I'll make it up to you by bringing you some tea and a meal."

This girl was very adaptable and wily, someone that was both cute and frustrating to be around.

"Better brace yourself before trying again later." He nonchalantly looked at her and stated.

"There will be no next time, I swear to the heaven." She raised her hand and swore, taking it to heart.

Li Qiye only gave her a glance without responding.

"Hihi, I know you're nice enough, I won't do it again." After seeing that he was fine, she grabbed his arm again and happily skipped forward.

Li Qiye enjoyed his time at Hundred-flowers. It was peaceful and quiet in the last two or three days. The little girl, Miaozhen, had run off somewhere and didn't come to bother him.

On the other hand, Qin Shaoyao visited several times to ask for help with alchemy and plants. She was much more pleasant to be around due to her gentle nature, unlike the other scheming demoness.

He answered all of her questions so she left happily each time.

Alas, his peace was broken this morning. A group of girls surrounded his courtyard completely.

"Good morning, First Brother." They greeted after seeing him.

"First Brother, Senior Sisters said that you are gifted in everything and will teach us in place of Master. I'm here today to respectfully ask for your guidance in pill-making." One of them cheerfully requested.

Another one excitedly said: "First Sister said that your knowledge of plant is peerless, the three of us want to grow a rare one, please help us."

"Before Master left, she was teaching us meditation laws. First Sister said that you know all of our merit laws, I'm not very good at cultivation, please correct..."

These girls outside of his door were chirping nonstop. Being wanted by so many beauties was a blessing but also a source of headache.

Li Qiye grimaced, realizing the culprit right away.

Suddenly, a cough interrupted the pretty voices. The girls looked back and saw a cold expression, as distant as an apricot in the middle of a snowfield. No one would dare to come close.

"Second Sister." The girls quieted down right away.

This was naturally one of the Three Ladies, Mu Yalan. The disciples in Hundred-flowers were rather scared of her. They weren't close to her like they were with Miaozhen.

"If you all want to ask Senior Brother for help, don't do it like a bunch of bees. You need to organize a time with him first so that you don't interrupt his cultivation." She told the group.

"We'll come back tomorrow then." One of them smiled cutely.

Many set up an appointment with him before leaving. There was no doubt that Miaozhen got them to come.

Chapter 2238: Trouble Approaches

The girls hurriedly left with a smile on their face, looking quite cute and charming.

Only Li Qiye and Mu Yalan were left. He gave her a look and said: "Come inside."

After they entered the room, she cupped her fist: "I have eyes but couldn't see Mount Tai, almost committing a grave mistake back then, please forgive me, Senior Brother."

She has been thinking of him recently but due to the high number of patients, she couldn't leave until today.

He waved his hand: "It's no big deal, everyone will misjudge eventually."

In fact, she was an excellent and responsible doctor. She wasn't completely at fault during the mishap while curing Elder Yang.

"Senior Brother, your medicinal understanding is matchless, I have many things I wish to ask you." She stared with a pair of eyes eager to learn despite her still-cold demeanor.

Her abilities in this aspect were worthy of her title as a "miracle doctor". Even in Longevity Valley, her skills were on the same level as teachers from the last generation.

However, after seeing Li Qiye at work, she realized the considerable gap between them. Moreover, First Sister also said that he was skilled in other aspects as well, a master of everything.

Not to mention Myriad Lineage, a true master like that was a rare sight in all three worlds. Because of this, she humbly asked him for guidance.

"Go on." He didn't refuse her request.

Yalan was happy that he didn't wish to hide his knowledge and quickly asked the questions that have been troubling her.

The issues brought up were quite profound. Even a true master of medicine might not be able to show her the way. She definitely found the right person. This was someone who had studied for eras across different realms. He not only could answer but also did it in an incredible manner.

She was immersed in this lesson. The snow around the apricot was melting away with excitement and her eyes lighting up. When it came to the good parts, she couldn't help quietly gasping in awe.

In terms of talents among the Three Ladies, Fan Miaozhen was most likely the best. She wasn't the First Sister for becoming a disciple the earliest under Longevity Sage. Her talents were indeed the best.

However, she was much more focused on cultivation compared to the other two. Mu Yalan was interested in medicine while Qin Shaoyao was all about plants and alchemy. The two of them were hellbent on their respective field, thus they were so accomplished at such a young age.

Miaozhen's pill-making was not bad either. However, she carried a heavier burden as the First Sister and needed to work on the sect, unable to only focus on personal developments. This gave her a deeper understanding of the world compared to the other two.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye didn't hide anything and did his best because he found the girls to be pure and willing to be the best at their domain. It was relaxing and rewarding to teach them, so he was more than happy to partake in this task.

"Clang, clang, clang..." Their time was interrupted by an urgent-sounding gong.

Yalan was shocked to hear it: "Something has happened to Master!"

She ignored everything else and left the room while the panicking noise continued.

Next, people saw the bloodied Longevity Sage being carried into the valley. Her wounds shocked the entire place because her cultivation was unfathomable. No one knew how strong she was exactly.

Thus, one could imagine the formidable strength of the culprit. Moreover, this person must have strong backing too. The sage was in charge of the system. Attacking her was the same as challenging the entire valley.

The disciples assumed their post and became ready to fight. There were guards and sentries every five paces. A tense atmosphere pervaded the place.

The ancestors entered the hidden cave to help the wounded sage. The rest of the disciples didn't know what was going on or who the enemy was.

"Boom!" A green light gushed out with increasing intensity, eventually ending as a vast expanse above.

"Clank." A massive image of a cauldron appeared in this expanse. It flew towards the cave right away.

"The ancestral cauldron..." The elders worried even more at this sight.

"They need this cauldron..." All members didn't expect the situation to be so dire.

This was the cauldron left behind by their progenitor, crafted from different materials all over the three worlds and capable of bringing someone back from death. Even under the most gruesome circumstances, the person only needed one strand of their soul in their body and this cauldron could save them.

Of course, the valley didn't use it carelessly since it required a massive amount of materials and energy. The severity of the situation became obvious when so many ancestors and even the cauldron were assembled.

The enemy certainly wanted the sage dead. So many disciples gritted their teeth in anger at this thought and wanted revenge, especially if something were to happen to their sect master.

Besides the ancestors out of the sects or in crucial meditation, the other ones came to pour their power into the cauldron.

The situation was tense because the rest of the disciples wanted to prevent a potential ambush. They protected the cave and felt the heavy responsibility.

Nevertheless, there was a true sense of solidarity going on. All were ready to die protecting their sect master.

Fan Miaozhen was even more determined and became quite busy with the administration. She even patrolled herself, truly showing off her abilities.

With a full armor and weapon at the ready, she didn't show any sign of immaturity at all. Her commands were on point and meticulously thought out. This was the style of a capable general.

Anyone who saw her right now would see a battle-hardened general, unable to see the resemblance between this and her demoness style.

On the contrary, the First Disciple was quite leisure. No one came to bother him at his little courtyard.

The dreadful atmosphere went on for a bit but fortunately enough, the enemy has yet to appear. This was a blessing of sorts because the valley was at its weakest. An assault might fail but would still leave severe damage right now.

It looked like the foe was wary of the valley's power, not pursuing the sage to the very end. Of course, mounting a full-frontal assault against Longevity Valley required deliberation. It was still in charge of the system with unfathomable hidden powers. Taking it down wouldn't be easy at all regardless of how strong one might be.

Chapter 2239: Marriage Proposal From Everlasting

The silence in the valley was as unbearable as the mind of its disciples, jumping at the slightest noise. Their weapons were unsheathed as they waited for days to pass by.

They were ready to fight, unlike a certain someone who never left his room, simply focusing on cultivation.

Li Qiye meditated and was as still as a wooden statue.

"Buzz." After a long time, green leaves suddenly came out first before the old tree fully manifested from the ground. Li Qiye had chosen to name this tree Longevity.

Its leaves were rustling, seemingly very excited.

Li Qiye chuckled and patted it with a profound glare: "Longevity Valley is indeed interesting with powerful ace cards. Quite unexpected."

He naturally wasn't here to be a First Disciple. His goal was something else and he simply played along with the others.

He recalled the old tree before returning to meditation. This peace was broke several days later with a visit from Miaozhen.

She wore a tight dress meant for battle; her mood completely different from before and was rather fierce. Nevertheless, she was still as charming and pretty as ever, causing eyes to bulge.

"A monarch from Everlasting is here." She got straight to the point after seeing him.

Due to the sage's injuries, the ancestors were preoccupied so many tasks in the valley fell to the young generation. This was a true test for them.

Miaozhen had a bigger role due to her status and personally presided over many matters. The current defensive plan was hers as well.

She lived up to the expectation and became a great commander despite her young age. There was no doubt that she had prepared for this day.

"And?" Li Qiye chuckled.

Her eyes narrowed, resulting in a serious expression: "He came bearing gifts for a marriage proposal."

"Which one? Let me guess, Poison King Huang Quanwei and our doctor?" He guessed.

"Yes." She nodded: "The monarch wishes to see Master and talk about the proposal."

Li Qiye smiled, this perfect timing was quite a coincidence.

"You just need to tell the ancestors." He said.

"The ancestors are either in isolated cultivation or empowering the ancestral cauldron to heal Master. The rest are on guard at the cave." She revealed.

She made it quite clear that it was up to them to decide.

"You're the First Sister. Go talk to Yalan and the others and decide for yourselves." He answered.

"Yalan refused." Miaozhen continued: "Plus, I might be the First Sister but you're the First Brother. As the main disciple under the master, you should be in charge of this matter."

This marriage proposal was no coincidence so how could they agree? Plus, Yalan had no feelings for the Poison King. This proposal had no chance of success.

"You're already doing a great job. I trust that you can handle this matter." He smiled.

"Nice try!" She glared at him: "Don't think about running before the fight, it is time for you to bear the mantle. Fine, we can make the decision but you will need to be the one telling their monarch."

"You want me to be the bad guy?" Li Qiye laughed: "That could result in war. They are certainly not friendly so once a fight starts, I'll be in the very front."

"So, are you afraid?" She tried to egg him on.

"Mindgame doesn't work on me, little girl." He shook his head and said.

"Don't forget, you haven't done anything yet as the First Disciple, don't sit in the outhouse without taking a shit. Not telling you to join the battle is already treating you too nicely." She angrily complained.

"Watch your image now, you're the representative of our sect, how can you say such crude words? You're ruining your image as a nice girl." He teased.

"Stop blabbering, are you coming or not?" She revealed her true nature after a few sentences.

It looked as if she would give him a good beating if he were to refuse.

"Of course I am. I don't dare to disobey the First Sister, the consequence of that would be so bad." He smiled sarcastically.

She was furious and pinched his waist hard enough for him to open his mouth in pain.

"I'll tell you something." She said during their walk.

"The Alchemy Conference is happening soon, it's a day where the system worships the ancestors. Our valley has always been in charge of it." She carefully said.

Li Qiye smirked: "Such good timing for someone to hurt the master just before this date. And now a marriage proposal too?"

"That's why you know what needs to be done." She looked at him and said.

"What if I go firm? Keep in mind that I do not concede, the enemy must either lick my shoes or be the bones beneath them. Little girl, you need to be ready for the aftermath for dragging me out here." He said flatly: "Do you want to delay this or declare war? The former is better in my absence since I always go all out once I decide to do something."

Miaozhen contemplated quietly before looking straight into his eyes, wishing to see into his soul while allowing him to do the same.

"I trust you." She finally nodded: "Though I don't know why Master picked you to be the First Disciple, I still trust you all the same. Since Master isn't here, I will let you do as you please. Our three sisters have your back."

"Little girl, you might just be handing Longevity Valley to a devil." He laughed and touched her forehead before moving on.

The monarch of Everlasting was waiting in a palace chamber. This was a stalwart old man with sharp brows and cold eyes. He had the most influence and authority in Everlasting right now among the monarchs after many successful conquests.

Their emperor asked him to be in charge of this marriage proposal. He came quite prepared for this task.

However, he has been waiting for a long time. Not to mention an ancestor, not even an elder got here to see him. Nevertheless, he remained calm and sat there in silence.

He didn't mind the deliberate slight because the valley wouldn't be arrogant for long. Not long from now, the system would belong to Everlasting.

Why? Because their kingdom was the strongest right now, far exceeding Longevity Valley in terms of military prowess. Whether it be an ordinary disciple or the nobles in that kingdom, they all thought that Longevity Valley had declined, way inferior in comparison to them.

Furthermore, they have been in charge for long enough. It was time for someone else to take the reins.

Chapter 2240: Here's A Gift, Now Scram

Everlasting Monarch sat on the main chair with a cold expression. His disciples stood to his sides with their hands resting on their swords' hilt and had a vicious glare, resembling a butcher sharpening their blade.

Remember, this was Longevity Valley, the orthodox branch of the system. Disciples from any other powers would be docile in its territory to the point of being overly cautious about their appearance and manner.

This wasn't the case for these disciples, acting as if this was their own backyard. It was as if they were ready to fight at the first sign of discord, not giving a damn about Longevity Valley.

Time continued to pass and the valley still hasn't sent any big shot to greet the monarch. This was certainly intentional at this point.

The monarch smirked. Not long from now, war and cries of anguish would engulf this place while he stood over all of them!

"The First Disciple of Longevity Valley has arrived." Someone shouted.

Li Qiye and Fan Miaozhen came inside with a few other disciples.

He looked over at the monarch and said: "Why are you here?"

Such an imperious attitude angered the disciples on the other side. Their master has swept through the realms, a true big shot in the system and a minor True God.

The monarch's eyes turned cold but he didn't burst out in anger: "Who are you?"

"Monarch, he is our First Disciple and also my First Brother." Miaozhen said.

"Miss Fan, I am here to see Longevity Sage." The monarch coldly responded. [1]

"The sage isn't someone you can see whenever you want. Spill it if you got something to say, don't waste my time. "Li Qiye waved his sleeve and said.

"You!" The monarch's eyes became severe: "The matters I want to talk about can't be decided by a nobody like you!"

"Monarch, our First Disciple is in charge right now for all matters pertaining to the valley." Miaozhen said.

Li Qiye looked like a junior in everyone's eyes but Miaozhen's words carried some weight in the valley.

"Fart if you must already, it's your honor to be in my presence." Li Qiye urged again.

"How impudent!" A disciple standing behind the monarch on the other side immediately shouted.

"Slap them." Li Qiye ordered without bothering to look.

"Pop! Pop!" Miaozhen personally slapped the guy without holding back, causing blood to spill from the corner of his mouth.

This guy wasn't bad but he was inferior to someone like Miaozhen.

He became furious but the monarch held him back.

"The valley is the leader of the system, even your emperor can't be arrogant here." Miaozhen's eyes flashed with murderous intent.

She wasn't as nice as Yalan and Shaoyao, possessing enough decisiveness when it came to big matters.

"Very well, it is my fault for not educating him well enough." The monarch glared at Li Qiye before speaking.

They weren't in a rush before figuring out the valley's true strength. He continued on: "It's good that you can take charge. I came bearing good news, Everlasting and Longevity have been like family, no need for this aggression."

With that, he clapped. The disciples outside carried chests to the hall and opened it.

"One chest of Clearflame Jade-eye; one pair of Lark Jewel; one hundred pounds of Redsteel Ore; one bottle of Exquisite Spirit Springwater; one Soultree Pin; one box of Dendrobium Orchid..."

The disciples called out the content before concluding: "A total of eighteen chests of treasures!"

The monarch stood up and smiled: "As I said before, I am here with joyous news. Longevity Valley's Doctor Mu is amazing and beautiful, at the right age for marriage. My nephew Huang is a pillar of Everlasting, a rare genius. He and Doctor Mu are in love..."

"Monarch, watch your words." Miaozhen interrupted him and straightforwardly denied: "My Junior Sister is a pure girl."

She didn't give any face to the monarch after hearing him spouting nonsense.

"Ahem." The monarch cleared his throat and continued: "All in all, the two are a good match created by the heaven and earth. Because of this, I am here under the order of His Majesty to propose while bearing some humble gifts..."

This was before the exchange of the eight words and ignoring whether the valley's acceptance. The monarch brought gifts already, almost forcing a marriage. [2]

"Humble gifts indeed. Eighteen chests of treasures? More like eighteen chests of scrap metals. Take them away, return from whence you came." Li Qiye interrupted the monarch.

"Clank." Li Qiye also threw out something - a coin rolling on the ground. It exuded an imperial aura and true energy, suffocating the entire crowd.

"An imperial coin!" Even Miaozhen was astounded by this extravagant display.

Everyone stood there in a daze at the sight of this imperial coin. It was unbelievably precious. Other true stones of this level were extremely tiny. As for a coin cast from imperial metal? Not many individuals or even sects were qualified to create them.

But now, Li Qiye had just thrown one out, clearly an authentic piece too. Even in Longevity Valley, only the high-level ancestors could use them. Ultimately, it was a precious type of resource for a dao system.

Throwing it away like trash was insane. Of course, Li Qiye had the personal treasury of Insane Ancestor. One imperial coin was nothing since he had an outrageous amount.

Though the eighteen chests of treasures were worth quite a bit, they were still regular items, far inferior to a single coin.

Everlasting Monarch didn't know what to do since he didn't expect such a development. Longevity Valley didn't need to break all friendly pretenses even if they were going to refuse this proposal. However, Li Qiye was trying to break them down with money.

"A bunch of poor wretches wanting to marry my Junior Sister? Simply frogs wanting to eat swan meat." Li Qiye waved his sleeve dismissively and said: "Here, have this imperial coin, go back and buy some food."

Miaozhen had a strange grin on her face. Using an imperial coin to buy meat? That could be an entire mountain of meat.

The monarch and his group were at a loss; some started thinking about whether they were really poor wretches or not?

After all, their treasures didn't look like much anymore. The monarch took a deep breath and said slowly: "We come with sincerity but most importantly, the two are a great match; their social position and economic status are in harmony as well..."

"Poor wretches like you dare to utter that phrase?" Li Qiye insulted again: "My Junior Sister is far above your standing. Know your place."

Miaozhen didn't know whether to laugh or to cry. Their sect naturally wouldn't accept this marriage proposal. However, this refusal method was too aggressive like stomping on someone's face or a backhanded slap.

She thought that she was fierce enough but after seeing him in action, she realized she was a bandit watching the bandit king.

"You need to watch your words, do not insult our kingdom." The monarch's expression sank.

Regardless of the proposal, Li Qiye's attitude was too rude. All in all, the valley was the first to drop the friendly act and not giving their kingdom any face.