EMPEROR 2371

Chapter 2371 Sinister Technique

"Dark Yin Devouring Spear."

Haijin Minn shouted out loud that it resounded in Davis's eardrums, but there was no spear other than the young man's 'spear', much less a woman to devour yin.

Instead, all he saw was a silver-haired young man who had his head on the pillow and winced his butt above as his body bent, seemingly holding his crotch with both hands before rolling around the huge bed in pain as his face contorted.

"..."

Davis was initially confused, but it didn't take him long to find out that Haijin Minn was suffering the backlash of activating the technique because there was no yin to be found.

Haijin Minn's eyes further became bloodshot, and blood seemed to be pouring out of his lips, but like a little toad, his eyes were wide while he sucked them all inside into his throat, drinking his blood that had gone bad from being injured.

Only after some time did he regain his wits, seemingly becoming normal.

Instantly, he turned around and waved his hand. A handful of silvery ash fell on the bed, causing him to heave a sigh of relief.

However, Davis had his eyes narrowed.

'That's... those ashes have the aura of that blue-haired woman...'

Creak!~

The door to the master room opened, and the silver-haired immortal woman called Chloe entered. She went straight to Haijin Minn's location and stood beside the bed, bowing her head as her eyes roamed the bed as her gaze fell on the stained sheets and the silver ashes before she opened her mouth.

"Young master, what shall I report to the old master?"

"Tell father that I failed to break through again. This technique and the women those trash bandits bring are both useless."

Haijin Minn's voice was cold, causing the immortal woman to shiver.

"Young master, can you bestow this slave the chance to comfort you?"

"Scram. Tell everyone not to disturb my cultivation with more poor-quality cauldrons! I'm sick of it!"

"Yes...! At once~"

Chloe instantly left the master room in a hurry while Haijin Minn, who was in a lotus-style cultivation pose, opened his eyes, turning his head to look at the closed door with a sorrowful gaze.

"Chloe..."

He sighed, seemingly shaking his head before turning around but what he saw left him stunned for a moment.

"Wh-!"

Just as he reacted, he lost consciousness as his head fell flat, hanging above his neck.

Over his forehead was Davis's finger that was pulled back slowly.

'What high defenses...'

However, Davis was astonished by this immortal child. His soul sea was like a fortified fort built around the sun, managing to quell his death energy a bit, resulting in the delay of Haijin Minn almost screaming out.

But still, as expected of a Greater Law. Yang Laws were not underestimated, and since Death Laws were mostly yin in nature as far as he has seen, Yang Laws seem to be capable of withstanding Death Laws somewhat, but only a little as he hadn't seen much evidence.

Nonetheless, surveying the scene, Davis couldn't help but feel nauseous that he held his breath.

Not only was the odor of dual cultivation remains, but there was also the vile aura of the Dark Yin Devouring Spear lingering on the bed.

What kind of sinister technique was this Dark Yin Devouring Spear to make the woman that it was preying upon turn into ashes and not into a withered state like he would have initially guessed for a technique of that nature?

'Perhaps, Drake would know more about it...'

Davis was interested in how to counter such a technique so that his women and children, especially Eterna and Celestia, come to know of them for their own safety.

He unceremoniously swiped the Life Ring off of Haijin Minn and his soul sense penetrated through, just like entering a spatial ring but instead of being welcomed into a dark space with objects that you know would exist, he encountered a vast plain a few hundred kilometers below him.

Looking around with his sense, he saw that the world was lit by artificial sunlight, perhaps a formation imbued inside the Life Ring. Still, as he saw the palaces floating above the surface, he was dumbfounded,

'One, two, three... seventy-six... eight-three?'

Davis counted, not the floating palaces. There were just five such floating palaces, but he spotted eightythree women, most of them appearing to have gathered at the platform of a crimson palace, around a certain blue-haired woman who had just disappeared from the real world.

Five of those women were currently crouched around a blue-haired woman whose figure was covered by a sheet. They all had their hands extended, releasing light energy as they appeared to be healing that blue-haired woman's severed arm.

'Is that where the ashes are from?'

Davis wondered if the blue-haired woman's severed arm was what turned into silvery ash on the bed. It was her burned remains.

He gave a quick glance around the other women and saw that these people were relatively calm but also noticed that they were all holding their left arm in unison as though they had all experienced this once before.

Taking his gaze off the Life Ring, Davis raised his head and looked at Haijin Minn while invoking the colorless thread in his soul sea.

At the same time, a flame of bright red aura erupted over Haijin Minn, extending to the ceiling as it almost collided.

'Twenty-eight-meter tall second tier karmic sin...'

Davis's eyes narrowed further.

Lowering his head, Davis checked Haijin Minn's face once again. When he took a closer look at this sixteen-year-old, he saw that the baby fat still hadn't left this young man and yet, managed to violate eighty-three women in four years.

With the pieces of evidence he gathered so far, Davis managed to come to the speculation that not only was this child abuse committed by the Minn Family, this was basically self-sabotage enacted by Haijin Minn.

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Haijin Minn didn't seem to have devoured his victims using the Dark Yin Devouring Spear but let them live inside a Life Ring somehow, and in turn, his cultivation remained stuck, unable to enter the Immortal Stage despite being a born-immortal who entered the age of sixteen.

'An incomplete Pure Yang Body Physique, huh...'

Davis knew that physiques were a great boost, but they were also a lock, leaving people unable to exceed beyond a certain point unless they increased the grade of that particular physique. It was like a bloodline limitation for humans.

Drake Blackburn also regularly encountered this before he increased the level of his physique grade by grade.

That's why Haijin Minn was unable to enter the Immortal Stage despite being born an immortal.

Still, Davis's expression couldn't help but possess a heavy frown.

All he asked was some wicked people to kill, even going as far as choosing targets that only fit a minor bracket of people, and yet, he had to meet with someone whose karmic sin was forced upon him by circumstances and not earned, like Nightveil.

'Fuck...!'

Davis's expression contorted as he raised his hand and shaped them into a dragon claw. Without hesitation, his hand sliced through the air in an arc.

However, there was no shower of blood or a severed head lobbing in an arc but just the twenty-eightmeter-tall bright red karmic sin having entered his soul sea, assimilating into Fallen Heaven's concealed body.

Chapter 2372 Another Perspective

Having absorbed karmic sin from Haijin Minn, Davis checked the amount of karmic sin he possessed.

He could not see past the ceiling, but he could sense that it had reached thirty-two meters tall, which he considered being almost a tier's limit.

After all, he had seen karmic sin and karmic virtue stop growing after becoming thirty-three meters tall. After that, they would undergo some kind of qualitative change to reach the next tier. However, it was unknown how much he needed to absorb in order to allow the second-tier karmic sin to reach the third tier.

'Hopefully, the bandit triplets and the other target, Klein Zyrus, have enough for me to obtain third-tier karmic sin.'

Davis wished, closing his eyes for a moment as he dropped his hand and relaxed, calming himself down. His eyes then opened, his gaze falling on the still unconscious Haijin Minn.

To kill or not to kill?

It was a question that haunted his conscience.

He had just witnessed Haijin Minn's act of saving these women instead of devouring them as eightythree women were living in his Life Ring. Although Haijin Minn was wrong and sinful for violating them, he was also just a young man, akin to a teenager who didn't have any say in his life or cultivation path.

Perhaps, he was forced to do this.

Davis didn't know what to do at times like these, as both killing and not killing Haijin Minn seemed like viable options.

'However... I don't understand. Why does this brat need to dual cultivate with karmically virtuous women to gain karmic sin? What use is that when he could just cultivate with women with yin physiques to mend or complete his yang physique? Isn't that more viable?'

Davis's eyes flashed as he closely considered the possibility that Haijin Minn was planning to use these women he had saved for a final feast. That was even more wicked than the thought of those women getting devoured while being drugged, as the pain would be the least of their concerns as it would be almost non-existent.

Feeling suspicious, his senses dived into the Life Ring once again.

Looking at the situation inside, he saw that the women had somewhat calmed.

The blue-haired woman who was just sent inside seemed to have half her severed arm restored. Considering that there were five immortals healing her, Davis didn't find it surprising that they were able to heal her this fast. Nonetheless, he was determined to get to the bottom of this matter since he figured that he still had some time.

"What's this? There are so many women who were kidnapped and placed here?"

Abruptly, an enraged voice boomed into the Life Ring, causing every woman to stiffen, causing them to be rooted to the spot except the unconscious blue-haired woman. They quivered, raising their heads to look at the skies, but they didn't find what they were looking for, causing their eyes to tremble.

"The scent of dual cultivation and the wicked aura remains strong here outside. To think that this brat who still has baby fat on his cheeks took advantage of all of you. Such a person should not be allowed to live any longer."

"Nooo!!!"

Outside, Davis's steps faltered while he was still standing. The level of 'no' he heard was resounding enough to shake the common sense out of him. Shaking his head, his voice once again penetrated into the Life Ring.

"What? You women wish to protect this evil young man from his wrongdoings?"

"Senior... wait. Please listen to us!"

A white-robed woman flew to the skies and stopped, spreading her arms as she gestured for him to not do anything to Haijin Minn.

Davis saw that she was a Level Two Immortal from her active undulations. She wasn't trying to suppress it while the Life Ring seemed to be capable of restricting their undulations within the Life Ring, not letting it pour out.

He felt that it was useful, like his Nine-Treasured Immortal Ordeal Palace.

Nevertheless, he figured that this woman was the one the third triplet, Sregor, who bragged about it. Her beauty was on par with his Sophie and a few others, although her voluptuous breasts caused her to stand on top of them in his perspective. Still, she was also the most beautiful out of all the women here.

However, Davis was unmoved. As for the others, most of them wore white robes, while Davis also figured that they used Light Laws that concentrated on healing since those were the types that tend to gather the most karmic virtue as they used it to save people. Perhaps, there were Water Law and Wood Law cultivators as well.

"Speak."

Davis responded after briefly surveying all of them.

"Senior~" That Level Two Immortal woman spoke, "Please believe me. Haijin Minn doesn't want to harm us. In fact, he has been planning to leave his family as soon as he could enter the Immortal Stage and finally let us out. He doesn't wish to harm us nor cage us."

"You believed such a lie from him?"

Davis's voice was full of disdain, but that immortal woman shed tears as she clasped her hands.

"Senior, what I'm saying is the truth... please don't kill him..."

Her voice sounded helpless and, perhaps, even tired.

Davis gazed at the others and also saw that they had anxious expressions, many of them even bowing like the Level Two Immortal woman did.

"..."

Their reactions only made him think of Stockholm Syndrome, but it wasn't his business to involve himself in complicated romantic relationships. What he wanted was to find out the truth.

"You may be a Level Two Immortal, but you seem to have been hypnotized and are subconsciously controlled to make the others afraid to speak out. Let the others speak..."

Davis's grumpy, old voice boomed.

"Senior, please believe her. She's telling the truth."

"That's right. Haijin Minn has been good to us. I've been here for three years and have known that youngster. No matter what may have happened, I've decided to accept him as my man, so please don't kill him."

"Yes! I love him! I am not brainwashed!"

"Don't you dare kill our man, you old fart!"

"What!?"

Davis didn't expect there was a bad-mouthed woman inside of them to rain curses upon him. Instantly, the others grabbed that bad-mouthed woman and tackled her to the ground, sending her soul transmissions to not be offensive.

"Ah!~ Senior, that was nothing. She meant old yet farsighted, righteous man." A glib-tongued woman further smoothed that out.

"..."

Davis was speechless.

Judging by how these women behaved, it didn't seem like they were oppressed but seemed to be having the time of their life here?

He also saw many medicinal herbs growing here.

Was this how Haijin Minn was able to play off his Life Ring as something he used to grow medicinal herbs? Was he perhaps an alchemist?

"What's going on? Didn't this man named Haijin Minn have you all kidnapped and violated? Even if it was his family, he is still to blame by virtue of birth. The next generation will naturally inherit all the good things and bad things. If that's the case, then Haijin Minn is punishable by death."

Davis's gloomy voice once again resounded as though he wouldn't take no for an answer.

The next moment, a green-robed woman flew higher, appearing by that white-robed immortal woman.

This green-robed woman was conspicuous because Davis noticed that she was one of the very few women who maintained a distance from the others. He had been watching her facial reactions to the chaotic swirl of emotions these women exhibited, and quite frankly, he could say that she was detached from the others.

Just as he was wondering what she was going to say, she opened her mouth.

"Senior, I'm not sure of what's going on as I just recently had my chastity taken and brought here, but with so many women vouching for Haijin Minn's character, I don't know what to think. I've also had the chance to talk to him as he communicates with us through the Life Ring sometimes when he is alone. From what I've seen and heard, Haijin Minn is similar to a gentle soul... but his family resorts to kidnapping women like us to further his cultivation."

"Why?"

"I'm not sure. But even if he should receive punishment in the case of virtue of birth, then so be it. You can end our lives as well since we all share a common destiny as no one in our close family is probably alive. We're fated to live a cruel life anyway."

"..."

Davis didn't know what to say to that heavy tone, but he recognized that this green-robed woman was nihilistic at the moment as the other women did but also didn't seem to share her sentiments. They had hope in their eyes as though Haijin Minn would truly save them one day.

"The Minn Family dared to kill all your families?" However, Davis's brows frowned.

Chapter 2373 Broken Physique

"No." The green-robed woman shook her head, "We didn't even know such a family existed as most of us are from cities, not even needing to leave the confines of it."

"Our families were at war with other powers. Our powers were on the losing end, but we could still hold out. However, what we failed to watch out for was the snakes hidden behind the bushes. They strike where we are vulnerable and cause us to fall, managing to kidnap us."

'The Dark Sky Triad, huh...'

Davis imagined that these snakes were those bandit triplets.

"I know the identity of those snakes."

Abruptly, a crimson-robed woman stepped out and hovered in the skies.

"You are?" Davis saw that she had some presence, and many seemed respectful to her.

Her beauty was also not bad, but it didn't match the Level Two Immortal white-robed woman.

"My name is not important. All senior needs to know is that I'm the fourth woman Haijin Minn loved. As for the first three women, they were; unfortunately, all devoured by him."

"What!?"

This time, it was the other women who were shocked.

"There was no choice." The crimson-robed woman shook her head in a dejected manner, "Haijin Minn was in deep sorrow after what he did. It wasn't like he didn't try to save them, but he didn't know what to do for a while. Only after he had experienced the consequences of his vile technique could he make a move to protect his future victims. He got a Life Ring for us under the pretext of growing a medicinal herb garden. That's why eighty-three, no, eighty-four of us are still living instead of being devoured as cultivation resources for him."

"Furthermore, he even made a scene multiple times, offending many people to get rid of his father's immortal soul protecting him. He also attempted to foil his family's plans for him discreetly using an assassination contract to kill the real perpetrators, but as a result, a few people came to know of the vile deeds the Minn Family was committing. His plan ended in a failure, costing him even more resources and lives, including those of many women who could've entered here."

"We were helpless."

The crimson-robed woman's fists couldn't help but tremble.

"Senior, I may have been robbed of my chastity by him four years ago, but he has yet to touch me again or treat me wrongly. The same goes for other women. Whatever we asked, he did his best to provide secretly, doing his best to give us hope and not lose heart."

"Yeah, the first wife is right!"

"We will not lose heart!"

"Haijin Minn is a good man. Please don't kill him."

That crimson-robed woman seemed to blush on hearing the chorus that erupted below her.

"Yes, I'm the first woman whom Haijin Minn guarded in this Life Ring, whom he also trusts. That's why I also know the names of the people who kidnapped us since he had shared certain secrets with me and known only a few through my mouth."

"They are three brothers called Gregor, Fregor, and Sregor from the Dark Sky Triad, a bandit power. They are also triplets. Senior, I request upon your righteous soul to end their vile lives if you had the chance. However, Haijin Minn, my... husband, is not the evildoer. Please don't punish him."

Tears began pouring out of her eyes as she bowed her head.

"If senior insists otherwise, then please kill me. If you let me go, then I will commit suicide."

"Such foolishness!"

"Whatever one might say, my life, my future is with that man."

The crimson-robed woman appeared to be adamant, while Davis may have sounded angered but was still looking at it from a calm perspective. He understood that a majority of these women had fallen in love with Haijin Minn, their conqueror.

He didn't know what kind of mass Stockholm Syndrome spread was this, but with each woman learning a version of the truth after they had woken up here and with Haijin Minn interacting with them through the Life Ring, giving them hope, he saw that it was possible for most of them to be indeed attracted to their aggressor but also, savior.

Nonetheless, he was alarmed to know that there could've been a chance for an immortal soul to be protecting Haijin Minn.

Was it still there? He didn't know, but if it was as this crimson-robed woman said, then Haijin Minn shouldn't have his father's immortal soul.

"Ridiculous." Still, Davis didn't give up getting to the bottom of this matter, "If you all say that Haijin Minn is innocent, then tell me why the Minn Family kidnapped women like you instead of kidnapping women with yin-attributed physiques? I at least know that this brat possesses an incomplete Pure Yang Body, so don't try to fool me."

"That's because Haijin Minn's incomplete Pure Yang Body is a variant."

'A variant?'

Instantly, Davis remembered one of Drake's wives, Jade Sua.

Even now, her Exquisite Nine Yin Body's nature was undetermined. It was considered a variant, disallowing her to develop it as much as she wanted to. Even now, he recalled that she was unable to break through in her Essence Gathering Cultivation and only had Body Tempering Cultivation and Soul Forging Cultivation to improve upon.

"Senior, this involves my husband's secrets, so I won't go into detail." The crimson-robed woman continued, "However, the vile technique he uses, the Dark Yin Devouring Spear, is required for him to activate his physique according to someone knowledgeable, but I don't know who, and neither does my husband. However, it is said that the more karmic sin he has, the better the chances for his physique to become powerful."

"From what I heard, his family is trying to make his Immortal Grade Physique powerful, causing an Earth Immortal Vessel to manifest so that he would be able to step into the Immortal King Stage in the future without encountering any problem."

"I see."

The grumpy old voice resounded as it faded away, leaving the women waiting for his next words. However, a few seconds later, they realized that this unknown senior had left.

Their faces couldn't help but change. They had no way to contact the outside to know what was going on, their expressions turning worried.

Outside, Davis's senses penetrated the unconscious Haijin Minn's middle dantian.

Instantly, Davis saw a scene that shrunk his pupils.

The middle dantian was filled with runes as it should be. However, not only were these runes yang in nature, but some parts of them also radiated a dark aura.

'A dark-attributed variant Pure Yang Body Physique... how wicked yet extremely rare...'

Davis was in wonder over the fact of yang co-existing with darkness. In his mind, this kind of possibility was almost as impossible as learning Death Laws. Moreover, even if the darkness could co-exist with yang, the two opposite extremes would only serve to lower each other's prowess, not multiply it.

It was no wonder the neutral Minn Family did everything possible in order for Haijin Minn to awaken this physique, even tainting themselves in sin.

'Perhaps, the only reason that they hadn't suspected Haijin Minn of self-sabotaging and harboring these women's lives in the Life Ring was that even they were not sure if doing all this would awaken this variant immortal physique.'

Davis's eyes brightened. If that was the case, then everything made sense. A teenager could not possibly bypass the family's information network to interfere with the family's movements.

But at this moment, a palm shot towards his abdomen silently.

Davis blinked lazily as his hand swayed like a snake, grabbing a wrist. The palm was stopped in its tracks, causing its owner to become shocked.

Davis saw that his actions had caused Haijin Minn to become awake, but it was too bad for the other party because Davis recognized the disturbance in his soul undulations. Nonetheless, he gave no time for the other party to understand the situation, using his other hand to grab Haijin Minn's head as the aura of Enigmatic Heart Intent swelled inside.

"What plans do you have for those women you harbor in your Life Ring?

Haijin Minn was shocked to find himself stuck like he was bound by many chains that weighed like mountains, causing him to be unable to move for some reason, but at the same time, a powerful intent tried to override his will, causing him to open his mouth.

Chapter 2374 Haijin Minn

"I... I want to allow them to walk outside freely. That can only be done if I manage to leave the family..."

Davis raised his brows in response to Haijin Minn's words.

It seemed like this brat really did want to save the women he slept with while even going against the wishes of his family and his own cultivation path. He thought that there would be another layer of wickedness, but there seemed to be none, causing him to chuckle inwardly, thinking that he had looked into it too much.

Nonetheless, Haijin Minn came out of his reverie, his expression appearing shook. Just now, he had spoken without even realizing it. It was like the person in front of him took the words out of his mouth, causing him to be horrified.

Wasn't this power called Mandate Laws?

Just who was this masked person before him!? The wide smile and triangular eyes creeped him out. This strange encounter shook him.

He wanted to struggle, but the masked person still held his head. He was afraid that his head would be blown to smithereens. Even now, he could feel the dragon-like grip crushing him, making him hallucinate that his head and soul were going to be crushed.

"Listen closely. If I ask you, you answer. If I don't ask you anything, you will remain quiet. Let's try it out." Davis's old, sullen voice echoed out.

"What's your name?"

"Hai-Haijin Minn." The silver-haired young man answered truthfully, knowing that he wouldn't be able to lie in front of this person.

"You want your dick cut off?"

"Hmmm!~"

Haijin Minn let out a low scream as he had his lips pursed, his eyes shuddering in fear. He was caught naked, leaving him feeling more vulnerable. He was seated in a lotus position, so he still believed that he could somewhat protect his treasure, but if the other party really wanted to cut off his treasure, would he be capable of defending it?

That very thought caused him to forget about all the internal struggles going on in his mind.

"Good. At least you're not completely sacrificial. Otherwise, I would find your actions to be no longer self-sabotage but suicide. Any questions?"

Davis took his hand back, causing Haijin Minn to become somewhat relaxed. But still, he was tense, using his hands to hide his crotch as he opened his mouth.

"So you know everything? Did you interrogate everyone in my Life Ring?"

"Not everything but yes." Davis didn't hide, "Are you not curious about my identity?"

"No. I don't dare." Haijin Minn's voice was sullen, "Senior, I know you're not from my Minn Family or the Dark Sky Triad. Otherwise, you wouldn't be talking to me here."

"You're correct. I can see that you're using your brain even as a child, but it's not enough." Davis's voice became a few notches colder.

"Do you realize that each time you sabotaged your cultivation, not only did you harm your physique and health, but you also caused many more women to be sacrificed to you?"

Haijin Minn's expression changed, his countenance becoming unsightly.

"What can I do? It was either kill the women I violated, never to see their faces again, or cause more to come to me until my family stops this madness! I can only choose the latter!"

He waved his arm, appearing like he was enraged, "Besides, even if they were not brought to me, they would still be sold to someone else. I'm only trying to protect them to the best of my ability...!"

His voice was low, but each word was emphasized enough to resound in Davis's head.

"Do you want to destroy the Dark Sky Triad?"

"Yes. Father promised to destroy it once I activated my physique. However, it ended in failure even though I tried as many methods as much as I could secretly. I thought I could forcefully enter the Immortal Stage once I was sixteen, but my nascent Immortal Vessel refuses to develop into completion."

"All I can do is... leave my family... If it weren't for me... I know that they wouldn't have resorted to this kind of wicked action... To that end, they only targeted women from families on the brink of destruction..."

"It's my fault... All because of my damned physique... I forced my father to stain his hands in the blood of so many people..."

Haijin Minn shed tears as his shoulders trembled. There was a severe ripple of sorrow howling from his soul, causing Davis to narrow his eyes as he felt unpleasant.

He also knew a woman who cursed her physique that granted her eternal life, causing her to be unable to die. But that wasn't the point as it didn't let her live as she pleased either, torturing her soul beyond compare.

"Then..." Davis opened his mouth, "If you're going to leave your family, where would you go? Do you think the world is naive enough to let you live, much less the women you wish to protect?"

"I..." Haijin Minn wiped his tears with one of his wrists, "I'll go...! I'll go to the Aurora Cloud Gate!"

"Surely, they would have some way to activate my physique..." His youthful voice was hopeful.

Davis had his brows raised behind his ominous mask, not expecting such an answer.

However, with Haijin Minn answering this way, why didn't his family just send him there in the first place?

"That's because there's a rule in the Aurora Cloud Gate stating that whichever disciple of theirs who possesses an immortal physique will belong to them completely in the case where those disciples unlocked their physiques using the sect's knowledge. In other words, my connection to the Minn Family will be legally quelled by the Aurora Cloud Gate if I were to unlock my physique there."

Davis asked Haijin Minn that question, and that answer delivered in a dejected tone caused Davis to become astonished.

There was such a rule?

He became increasingly interested in this power known as the Aurora Cloud Gate. Not only did they seem powerful, but they seemed to understand how to retain their powerful members with immense knowledge. He wanted to learn more about the Aurora Cloud Gate but knew this wasn't the time, feeling that that servant woman called Chloe could enter any time again.

Chapter 2375 Getting Ahead

"Then who's the person who sold you or your family the information that your variant physique can be unlocked by devouring virgin women with karmic virtue with that vile technique?"

"That... I don't know. Only father knows... I promise... but please don't harm him..."

Haijin Minn pleaded as he kept bowing his head while being seated in a lotus position. He didn't know what kind of person this masked man was or which group he belonged to, but to be able to enter this location where his father was keeping watch, he knew that the other party wasn't ordinary.

On the other hand, Davis wanted to know who exactly was capable of possessing such knowledge. After all, to be capable of knowing a method to unlock a particular variant of Pure Yang Body Physique, that person should be quite the erudite person or a scam artist.

Nonetheless, he wasn't particularly bothered by it.

"Originally, I came to kill you on the behest of someone else I don't even know, but since you're in the gray zone and seemed to be aware of your wrongs better than an adult would, I'll let you go. You show some promise..."

"Senior, you are an understanding and magnani-"

"Not so fast."

Haijin Minn bowed again when Davis interrupted.

"You think I will let you go without you paying a steep price?"

"Senior...?" Haijin Minn almost faltered.

"As I said, the world isn't going to cuddle you, Haijin Minn." Davis spoke in a solemn, unforgiving voice, "Pay up fifty million immortal crystals within seven days. You're the heir of a prominent Early Immortal King Grade power, so I know you can. Otherwise, you and your women's lives are no longer yours."

Once he dropped these words, Davis disappeared, causing Haijin Minn's scalp to turn numb.

Haijin Minn thought that his senior could be a prominent bounty hunter, but looking at him disappear at such a close range, he began thinking what the chances that this mysterious, money-grubbing senior could be an assassin were.

Still, to gather fifty million immortal crystals within seven days, who should he go beg?

Haijin Minn didn't know whether to laugh or cry as that was an amount equivalent to the birth of nine or ten trash Level Nine Immortals. Even his power would have to cut a chunk of their assets to be able to retrieve that many immortal crystals, and yet, it just so happens that his power already spent millions to get him many women as cultivation cauldrons.

How could he go beg his father for more? Would he even receive it?

Haijin Minn's expression became dull as his future looked rather bleak for him.

Just as his thoughts descended into depression, Chloe entered, causing his eyes to somewhat brighten.

On the other hand, Davis was already outside, seeing that the talks had already come to an end. Furthermore, they were exchanging something. "Although this endeavor was a failure, there are thirty million immortal crystals in this Immortal Grade Spatial Ring as promised. Adding to the advance payment, our secretive deal that costs our Minn Family sixty million immortal crystals is hereby closed."

"Haha! The Dark Sky Triad looks forward to working with the Minn Family once again in the future."

"Sure."

Gregor laughed while Haijin Minn's father remained cold. Their words indicated friendliness, but the atmosphere was anything but friendly.

Nonetheless, Davis's eyes were sparkling underneath the moonlit night as he locked on to that spatial ring.

He left, looking to set up a suitable place to set up an ambush, while the Dark Sky Triad and Minn Family people also dispersed after getting Haijin Minn and Chloe. As for the evidence that would be in the mansion, everything was erased, making it look abandoned.

Davis didn't know of these matters, but he waited for the triplets to appear at a specific street near an inn. It was different than the inn that the little brothers used.

Although the triplets were just at Peak-Level Ninth Stage in all three of their cultivations, he knew that they were protected by a Level Nine Immortal, making it intensely challenging for him to kill them. However, if he had any chance, it would be now where their Level Nine Immortal protector would be busy watching the movements of the Minn Family.

Or...

'The moment they're undergoing their immortal tribulation...'

Davis felt a bit of excitement throbbing in his heart. Logically speaking, there was no way he could kill them unless he used Nadia to kill or impede the Level Nine Immortal protector, but he was also here to do the impossible and gain experience from it.

Moreover, it was possible that one of these three brothers or all three of them could possess an immortal soul protecting them.

In that case, Davis felt that it would be better for him to wait until they undergo their heavenly tribulation as there was no way an immortal soul would dare to appear even if the one being protected was in danger, but Davis couldn't wait that long, now knowing when these triplets would try to breakthrough.

Falling into a dilemma, he carefully and patiently waited.

As for Haijin Minn, Davis wasn't worried that he would spill the beans. After all, the life of the women he tried to protect by sabotaging himself was at stake. Davis knew that Haijin Minn wouldn't do anything stupid as he seemed to be a smart kid.

Even if Haijin Minn did spill the beans, Davis had no qualms about it since he was planning to let that brat go anyway. He had decided to abandon the mission to assassinate Haijin Minn, willing to pay the fine.

After all, he got what he needed, and if he managed to obtain fifty million immortal crystals in compensation later, then that was a bonus for him.

Right now, he was hunting the bandit triplets where each of their heads had a twenty million immortal crystal reward on them. Forgetting the reward, just the spatial ring that the Minn Family gave them possessed thirty million immortal crystals and perhaps more, considering what those wicked brothers owned in their own spatial rings, he would only stand to gain more.

Davis couldn't wait to plunder them. But in his excitement, time quickly passed.

In the end, dawn broke out.

The bandit triplets didn't leave at midnight. Instead, they left at dawn, causing Davis to have no choice but to follow them.

However, he had expected this scenario and exited before them, dispelling his soul body that was watching over their inn while Nadia did the same, dispelling her doppelganger that was with his soul body. This way, no one would be suspicious of the character Mo Tian he had created.

Everyone will just think Mo Tian left after being unable to become a disciple under the Late Alchemist Immortal Shaiya Minn, which was perfectly in line with how rich young masters went around, wanting instant benefits yet putting in no hard work.

Nonetheless, Davis summoned another soul body, and Nadia summoned another doppelganger using one of her species techniques and had them tail the Dark Sky Triad's flying boats in real-time while they went ahead, projecting the bandit entourage's most likely path, which seemed to be south, to the Starsky Flame City to be exact, causing them to begin setting up an ambush for the triplets in a valley that seemed to be the only way to pass to the other side.

Chapter 2376 Ambushing

Three flying boats flew in a triangular formation at a similar altitude.

Towards the distance was the presence of giant mountains composed of immortal grade ores, their surface sometimes covered with thorny shrubs and red trees. A valley seemed to pierce through those mountains, leading to the other end. However, the pathway was definitely not short.

The flying boats gradually entered this space.

The valley seemed to be surrounded by the mist of the dawn. It was thick and dense, almost looking like foam.

While flying through the valley, the cloud mist lifted, gradually revealing the dull patches of red glowing far beyond the cliffs, indicating them to be volcanic ashes that seemed relatively fresh. This valley was indeed surrounded by volcanoes, one that seemed active and could also be home to many lifeforms of fire attribute but with the nature of the mist being revealed, the danger of traversing this region became known.

But despite the danger of volcanic eruption, the flying boats continued to move.

'They really entered, not knowing that their demise is just a few kilometers away...'

Following them in the air was a black-robed man. His smirk only grew profound as his targets seemed to be near the point of ambush that he had set up.

The flying boats slowed down under the advent of the misty atmosphere, taking a few more minutes for them to arrive at the point of ambush.

"Third brother, do you really want the Minn Family's Young Mistress? She had recently married, you know..."

"But I also heard that she had a misunderstanding with her husband on the wedding day and still hasn't consummated their marriage. I can still steal and make her mine, hehe~"

"That's my brother! Ahaaha~" The second brother, Fregor, patted Sregor's shoulders as he roared with laughter.

Meanwhile, the first brother, Gregor, shook his head, seemingly unamused of their appetite for women. But at this moment, his brows couldn't help but furrow.

"Don't worry. We'll have our Dark Sky Triad move tomorrow to bring you your favored bride on a silver platter. If the Minn Family people find out about our actions, then we'll threaten them with the things they've asked us to do. Since they don't know our true identities and lack evidence, they wouldn't be able to do anything against us-."

"Silence..."

Fregor had just been explaining to Sregor his thoughts with a wide smirk when Gregor hushed them, causing them to become confused, their heads turning to look at a brown-colored flying boat in the distance that was approaching them with a swift speed.

"Fuck! Who would be so stupid enough to travel this fast in this foggy atmosphere!" Fregor cursed.

However, the first brother, Gregor, was calm as he steered the flying boat to the side. Their triangular formation collapsed, causing the wind resistance and spatial pressure to increase, requiring more fuel to traverse.

Nonetheless, it would be nothing if it were just for a short time.

As the distance closed, they saw that the flying boat was amber-brown in color.

"First brother, let's shoot them down!" Sregor's expression was fuming with anger over this sudden interruption.

"Enough!"

However, Gregor also fumed, "Pay attention! Right now, we're leaving as the people of the Ember Skyworld Mercenaries having just finished escorting a figurehead from a Mid Immortal Grade Power."

"Uh, yes..."

Sregor dropped his head in instant defeat while Fregor consoled him.

But at this moment, everyone's eyes widened as they saw the amber-brown colored flying boat swivel towards them.

"Fuck! They're trying to ram into us!" The second brother, who had just calmed down, shouted again.

Realizing the sudden change in the situation, Gregor knew that something was wrong. If that flying boat rammed into their flying boat, he didn't know what kind of destruction it would cause as he couldn't tell the grade of the ship properly in this foggy atmosphere. Quickly, he turned to look towards the Level Nine Immortal protector, who still appeared calm.

"Gunnar, sink that boat if it doesn't stop."

Gunnar nodded without hesitation while Gregor returned his gaze, looking through the protective barrier of their flying boat that activated.

"Fellow cultivator, if you continue to fly in our altitude, especially towards us, then you leave us with no choice."

However, his warning already came too late.

The flying boat was already near, about the crash into the barrier.

But abruptly, a part of the flying boat receded as a black-robed immortal flew out. His undulations buzzed, surging into an extreme wave of flames as it flew towards the flying boat, engulfing it.

Sssz!~

The flying boat's outer armor quickly melted while it appeared to lose altitude.

Looking at the flying boat incinerating, Gunnar narrowed his brows. This flying boat itself only seemed to be at top quality Early Immortal Grade, matching the durability of a Level Three Immortal in prowess, so the flying boat not posing a threat to them made sense. However, his senses could feel no life within it.

Could it be that they were incinerated by his Level Nine Immortal Stage prowess before they could even scream out?

Just as he was wondering, he sensed a faint undulation behind him, causing him to turn to look back.

On the other hand, Gregor, who witnessed this scene from inside his flying boat, possessed the same doubt as Gunnar, wondering who exactly would do this.

'The Minn Family...?' He thought, thinking if it was some kind of warning.

"...!"

However, his scalp couldn't help but turn numb when he turned looked around, spotting something glowing in an inconspicuous corner of the deck as he sensed its undulations becoming berserk.

"Watch out!"

Before his scream could enter the ears of the others, a blinding light filled their vision.

Booom!!!~

The flying boat was blown into smithereens and, with it, caused a lot of destruction as the flames engulfed the flying boat towards its right. As for the flying boat on the left, it had turned right to ram into the unknown flying boat so that they could aid the main flying boat.

But now, it was blasted into the distance, lodging itself into a mountain. Its barrier had burst, unable to withstand the explosion. However, a surge of lava erupted from the hole, engulfing the flying boat in a swirl while its passengers, who consisted of mortals and a few Early Stage Immortals, ended up being burned into ashes.

Since they were injured and dizzy from the crash, they were unable to do anything.

On the other hand, Gunnar became shocked. His immortal energy surged as he waved his hand, quickly suppressing the explosion. Since the explosion's might was just at Level Five Immortal Stage, he was successfully able to quell it.

But by then, it was already too late.

His expression turned unsightly as all three flying boats of Mid Immortal Grade were destroyed, the scenery appearing like there were no survivors left.

The only thing he could see was the surge of a terrifying energy blaze in front of him.

There were three silhouettes encased in a barrier. Above them was a brown-robed old man standing with a slightly hunched back. His black eyes flashed with a peering light as he swiveled his head around, seemingly looking at the status of the aftermath.

"Old master!"

Before him, Gunnar fell to his knees and kowtowed, his body quivering in fear.

He had failed to protect Gregor, Fregor, and Sregor, although they were still alive, so it was unknown what kind of punishment he would receive.

Unbeknown to them, an assassin lurked in the distance, hiding behind a red tree as he kept watch over what was happening.

'As expected, they have an immortal soul protecting them... but to think that they had the soul of an Immortal King protecting them... Looks like their grandpa really cares about them a lot, especially the first brother Gregor...'

Davis looked at that immortal soul appearing tied to Gregor as it extended out of his body through the back of his head.

'It seems like they are still connected. I wonder what kind of technique is this...?'

Davis wondered, but his lips couldn't help but curve into a victorious smile.

Founder Alstreim Windstorm not only gifted him immortal crystals, but he also gave life-saving talismans, one of which he had just used to blow up the array of flying boats flying in a formation. It was a Mid Immortal Grade Life-Saving Talisman called the Incinerating Flame Crushing Wave Talisman.

While the flying boat he used as Mo Tian ended up being used as a distraction, he had armed the Incinerating Flame Crushing Wave Talisman with his soul body and entered the opening that had been created in the bandit's flying boat and closed in towards the triplets as much as possible before blowing up while Nadia's doppelganger had already retreated by that time.

Basically, he used his soul body as a suicide bomber as he wanted to eliminate everyone in an instant. As for karmic sin, he could gather it while still being concealed, deceiving the eyes of that Level Nine Immortal who was the only plain threat Davis had in his mind.

But luck would have it that there was a damned ancestor protecting his targets in the nick of time while everyone else except that Level Nine Immortal servant called Gunnar turned into ashes.

Although there was a bit of pain left in his soul as he lost a percentage of his soul essence, it felt like a prick from a needle, not at all worrying him.

Nonetheless, as far as Davis considered, he won the battle with him, eliciting a response from the protective immortal soul, so the only thing left for him to do was to wait for the immortal soul to disappear so that he could eliminate the bandit triplets.

Bzzz!~

"Die!"

However, the oppressive might of an Immortal King abruptly surged as the browned-robed old man unleashed a palm towards a direction, causing Davis's eyes to narrow.

Chapter 2377 Two Minutes

Booom!~

A part of the mountain shattered and caused lava to surge out like a fountain. It was strangely shaped like a palm as it flowed out, almost causing Davis to let out a breath of awe over this wonderful artwork.

Nonetheless, he also saw a brief moment where a person was crushed to death, their body imploding into a fountain of blood before the lava engulfed it.

'A Level Three Immortal... It seems the assassins are hard at work...'

Davis couldn't tell what power that assassin belonged to, but he already knew that the assassins of the Ghost Tear Hall, Soulsteal Pearl Temple, and Oracular Reaver Abode were following the flying boat to assassinate them, waiting for an opportune moment, unlike him who created one.

After all, it was not a mission that only he had accepted. There were bound to be other assassins while he was on a mission.

However, the level of these assassins was so low that they were quickly found out by Nadia when they were following the flying boat. Even he only needed a few moments later than her to discover them.

Still, little did he know that this was the first assassination attempt that the triplets faced that it caught them off-guard, causing their expressions to become aghast.

It didn't take them much to realize that they were inches away from their death. If it wasn't for the Immortal King Leader from the Ember Skyworld Mercenaries, their grandpa, they would've surely died here as they were slow to react.

Sharing the same sentiment, the brown-robed old man's expression scrunched into a heavy frown, appearing to be incensed that he sent another palm flying.

Bang!~

Another assassin exploded in mid-air.

It seemed that the assassin tried to escape but was caught, causing him to turn into a fountain of blood.

The Immortal King didn't stop. His wrath fully condensed in the form of terrifying and invisible palms that struck the life out of many more assassins who were hiding, wanting to take advantage of the chaos Davis had created.

Three... four... six... eight assassins were taken out in half a minute. There were no corpses left, much less spatial rings that seemed to have been destroyed along with their bodies. However, when Davis expected the things they possessed to enter into the void upon implosion, no, they just fell out or exploded, unable to withstand the impact.

Still, some assassins also used their life-saving talismans to retreat, barely leaving with their lives.

However, there was one assassin who was caught.

The brown-robed old man clenched the air with his fist, but the assassin floated towards him, his collar seemingly lifted up by an unknown force.

"Speak. Depending on the information you provide, I'll let you go, assassin. Who sent you all to kill my descendants?"

"My Soulsteal Pearl Temple doesn't negotiate with the targets, fool!"

The black-robed assassin simply laughed and bit his tongue. There was a rune imprinted on his tongue that abruptly lit up, causing his head to be blown off in an instant.

"Tch, a fanatic..."

Looking at the blood fountain splashing from the neck, the brown-robed old man uttered in disdain. He simply clenched his fist once more, causing the assassin's headless body to turn into meat past that the blood displayed the form of a fist in mid-air, clenching where the body was supposed to have been.

"Old master, please forgive this slave. Please forgive my inability to protect them. I will accept any punishment after we return."

Gunnar was still kneeling and begging despite all that had happened. He seemed to have aged a lot as his face was lethargic, as though he had lost a lot of blood.

The Immortal King looked at him but then was attracted by another voice.

"Grandfather, I think it could be the Minn Family who hired these assassins, but the timing is too good to be them. After all, if they wanted to target us, they wouldn't have let us go first. Even if they wanted to cite a lame reason that our deaths didn't happen in their territory after we were assassinated, they wouldn't have performed this ambush right at the doorstep of their province."

"Right..."

The Immortal King nodded to Gregor, seemingly in agreement with his grandson, who was calm. On the other hand, he glanced at the other two brothers, who still seemed shaken by what they had experienced.

"Sigh, it seems that I truly did spoil your two little brothers, Gregor. Fregor and Sregor, learn from your elder brother and at least try to imitate his calmness when dealing with this type of situation."

"Yes!"

The two little brothers stood straight, their spines becoming unbending.

"It seems some person has marked on your heads and sent them to assassin powers. Although you could escape them, the Ghost Tear Hall is silent and deadly, the Soulsteal Pearl Temple is fanatical and crazy, while the Oracular Reaver Abode is more mysterious and exploitative than the other two. Most likely, the Oracular Reaver Abode were the ones who set up this ambush since they could trace your path beforehand with their mysterious arts."

"However, don't think you can all kill them if they were in front of you. You wouldn't even know how you died if their core disciples showed up, and neither would you three be able to escape them if it went on like this, so return at once."

"Gunnar, aid them to our camp."

"Yes!!!"

"As for your punishment, it depends on how safely you bring them back."

"Ha! Leave it to this slave, old master!"

Gunnar bowed all the way to his waist. However, a reply didn't come.

Instead, the brown-robed old man was like a candle flame that had been snuffed out, disappearing like the fog.

'One minute exactly...'

Davis counted as he saw the Immortal King Soul disappear.

Still hiding in the same spot, he was unharmed.

Now, he didn't know if the immortal soul was used up or it had become dormant as there were many kinds of protective soul techniques. What he saw was precisely a Spirit Formation type of soul technique that could only be imbued on one's descendants. Otherwise, the soul would take damage because of the incompatibility between souls as it would become a relation between the predator and the prey or the parasite and the host.

Rumor has it that this technique could also be used to spy on descendants. Over the years, there were truly many types of inventions to this Spirit Formation, making it so that it caused some people to be in awe while a few others caused people to be outraged.

Nonetheless, even if the immortal soul had become dormant, there must be a cooldown period, and it definitely wouldn't be small.

Davis stepped out of the red tree's shadow and walked towards the cliff. He jumped and plunged towards the three figures who were silent, seemingly in their own thoughts, when the third brother raised his head.

"First brother. Second brother. I think I know who the owner of that flying boat is as I-"

Ripp!~

Davis's concealed figure appeared between the three brothers as a pitch-black scythe danced in his grasp as its curved blade sliced through flesh.

The third brother's body split vertically, his life being reaped in an instant, while the second brother's body was severed diagonally from the left ribcage to the head, targeting both the heart and the soul.

As for the first brother, the curved blade of the scythe struck a defensive barrier that was triggered by his attack.

It was an Early Immortal Grade Defensive Artifact, causing Davis to be not surprised because he expected this and killed the other two first who possessed lesser quality artifacts that didn't even detect his killing strike. They didn't seem as important as the ones still alive before him.

Nevertheless... everything turned crazy in the next moment.

Nadia massive claw slapped the Level Nine Immortal while Gregor's eyes turned bloodshot at the sight of his brothers' deaths. His arm flailed as his fist surged with an immense force, reaching four levels higher in prowess as it shot towards Davis.

"Die!"

Bang!~

Gregor's mighty fist struck the assassin as the barrier came down in reaction, but he was shocked to see that a palm caught his attack.

"You-"

Just as he erupted in shock, trying to decisively cut off his arm using the other hand as he brought out a sword, a curved-bladed sliced through his forehead, killing him in an instant.

At the same time, a frosty aura appeared in the area as a mote of light surged out of the severed head, the light displaying the face of the brown-robed old man's calm face. However, his eyes were exploding with killing intent.

"Who are you!?"

Davis couldn't help but smirk as he raised his scythe once again, "Dead End, the one where your life unexpectedly ends as you come across a ghost in your friendly neighborhood."

"Ghost Tear Hall!!! I won't forgive you!"

Rip!~

The Immortal King's furious scream resounded in the area before a curved blade sliced through his image.

Davis cleanly cut through the remnant strand of Immortal King's soul essence. Perhaps, because of the cooldown, it was utterly powerless, allowing him to manslaughter it with his mortal scythe.

The Immortal King's soul was truly dead.

Nonetheless, he instantly collected the karmic sin with his right hand while also storing the bodies and spatial rings, intending to escape first as there was still the Level Nine Immortal who posed a mortal threat to his life.

However, Nadia sent him a soul transmission.

"Master, he unexpectedly died..."

"..." Davis almost had his step falter in mid-air.

So Nadia was as strong as a Level Nine Immortal?

He only told her to disturb that Level Nine Immortal, intending to escape since he only wanted to borrow Nadia's concealment and weight since he was practically her tamer.

It was within his right to use her as his power, but he didn't want to go far with it, forbidding her to use her Sunset Mountain Wolf species technique that would strengthen her body and even told her to remain concealed, making it so that her physical prowess would be as less as possible but to think that she would end that immortal's life in one hit.

Perhaps, that was a trash Level Nine Immortal?

Davis shook his head, not willing to waste time thinking here like his targets did, as he left the area as fast as possible.

Chapter 2378 Lucrative

From the start of the ambush till Davis's departure, only two minutes had passed.

But within another five minutes, numerous entities arrived within that mountain valley and surveyed the aftermath, their expression turning into an array of complex looks, some intrigued while some others shocked.

One of them even performed a divination technique using the remnant aura of the blood staining the foggy surface of the valley. However, the result ended up astonishing them.

"What a clean kill... To think that assassin even severed the binds of karma with their attack to a level that I can't sense anymore. Just who was it that is capable of this kind of feat?"

"Whoever it is, it seems that they have comprehended a higher form of Darkness Laws. The quality between their concealment and mine is like an abyss since I can't even find where that assassin had initially concealed himself. I, Wolfhowl of the Ghost Tear Hall, admit defeat."

"Ahaha~ I don't care who accomplished this feat or about you admitting defeat. I'm more interested in how they were able to kill a Level Nine Immortal. Look at that crushed body. Obviously, it seemed to have been flattened by a giant hammer of some kind."

"It seems fanatics can't even consider the possibility of that assassin using their own backing to kill the target's bodyguards or servants. Although this is a thin line that an assassin shouldn't walk in order to hone their own skills to the fullest, I don't care as long as they don't use their backing to kill the target. In fact, that assassin seemed to have quite the concealment skills since an Oracular Reaver Abode assassin claims to be unable to follow their trace."

"Tch, if it weren't for that Immortal King, I would've been able to slice the targets' necks head-on!"

It was unknown who was who as everyone's figure was clad in darkness even as the rays of dawn shined on them. However, their discussions only lasted for a brief moment before silence returned to the world.

The nameless assassins had left, including the one who named himself. They seemed to all have their own pace to follow.

In truth, these assassins would meet occasionally and would fight over every head they could chance upon in their mission. Such was their life, but it was unknown if it was pitiful or exciting.

However, there was an assassin who was moving in a similar direction as Davis did. Abruptly, three more figures appeared around that assassin, their cultivations seeming to be one level above him at Level Three Immortal Stage.

However, they all adopted a submissive posture, bending their torso lightly and keeping their chin down as they followed him.

"Senior brother Wolfhowl, it seems like the rookies we recruited in the Thirty-Second Fire Phoenix City's branch have been killed."

"Hmm? Who?"

"Some male rookie assassin called Dead End..."

Wolfhowl narrowed his eyes, seemingly descending into contemplation before he shook his head.

"We'll ambush Dead End in the city. Once you get wind of him entering the branch, immediately alert me. Fortunately, I'll be near this time."

"Yes. Junior brother wishes success in your next mission."

The assassin behind spoke using wishing words, but his grave tone sounded like he had just woken up from a grave.

Wolfhowl didn't respond. Their silhouette flying through the clear skies was shady, almost imperceivable even to the average Level One Immortal eyes, perhaps even further.

Their techniques were honed and illustrious, most likely at Immortal Grade.

However, without even knowing that the assassin they were trying to ambush was hiding in a cave a few tens of kilometers away from them in another mountain range, they rushed past the other side, making their way to the Thirty-Second Fire Phoenix City.

On that mountain cave...

"I'm rich...!"

Immortal crystals swirled in the air as the aura of immortal heaven and earth energy erupted.

However, they were all interlocked by an unseen hand, disallowing their overwhelming aura to spread from the cave.

At the same time, a sweet, little, dark-winged wolf jumped and bit down on those fist-sized crystal spheres, eating them in chunks as though it was drinking water. Those immortal energy crystal spheres were gone as soon as they entered its mouth, quickly being absorbed by its body in an instant.

"Haha... wait, Nadia. I'll let you absorb as much as you want after I fully go through what we gained."

Davis grabbed Nadia, feeling her soft and fluffy fur brush against his face as her three tails lashed out at him.

"Aiya, you're learning to get playful, aren't you?"

Nadia was displaying a happy wolf expression as she nodded her head, "This form is way convenient for me to move, master. Then, master cuddles me. Evelynn and the other sisters also nestle me... it feels wonderful~"

She whimpered, dancing upon his arm as she struck his chest with her little paws.

Davis couldn't help but smile, "Are you sure you won't accidentally strike some of them since they don't have the Emperor-Tier Aura?"

"That's fine, master. I know how to control myself." Nadia kept hopping as she kept moving her forelegs.

Davis's lips widened before he raised his hand and patted Nadia.

It seemed like Nadia didn't need to show restraint while being in this little form.

Was this also a way for the Emperor-Tier Immortal Beasts to release some stress or a way to hide? After all, there was no way even immortal beasts could become this small, causing Davis to feel that genetics or bloodline was truly a mysterious thing.

Nonetheless, he got onto checking the spatial rings, having some excitement as well as some expectation as he already glimpsed what was inside.

After all, the first thing he checked was for any kind of traps, thereafter devices or tiny-contrived formations that could be tracked to the spatial coordinate of the spatial ring, throwing them all out into another spatial ring as he used a soul body to do the trash work.

Even if he did get followed, it would not be his main body that gets the flak.

However, not everyone could be like him, severing a percentage of his soul essence to power the soul body as a soul body would require more than ten percent at higher stages. Davis could do it again and again but not the others. Even if an expert soul cultivator did it, they would become retarded.

After all, they didn't possess life energy to heal instantly.

If they used up their soul essence, even bit by bit, it was likely they would fall into a coma.

Sometime later, Davis emptied out the immortal crystals from the loot consisting of four spatial rings. As for the other loot that was on the ground or destroyed, he paid them no heed.

'Well, that's about thirty million immortal crystals as expected, but the unexpected thing is these triplets had so much wealth other than the one they had just received...'

Davis was truly shocked to find a total of sixty-three million immortal crystals in three of their main spatial rings. As for the Level Nine Immortal, he only had a measly change of a few hundred thousand immortal crystals when compared to them.

But together, the amount came to ninety-three million immortal crystals!

Chapter 2379 Rooted Elements

Ninety-three million immortal crystals...

This number had Nadia jumping in joy when she heard it, as she would be able to make more advancements to her cultivation, finally allowing her to battle Immortal Kings!

But on the other hand, Davis dived into deliberation.

It was just like he believed. Plundering was genuinely lucrative.

After all, these bandits targeted so many families while their clients wouldn't just be the Minn Family. As evidence, he found so many Blood Soul Contracts in their spatial rings connected to many families.

But for a moment, he became disillusioned by the number of people willing to have connections with these bandits as a cold look emerged on his face.

The only difference between him and these people was he plundered those who deserved to be plundered, for they have no conscience towards other lives. Nonetheless, the wealth he obtained from hunting these wicked people came from these innocent people.

It wasn't like he was going to return the plundered wealth to the victims, so he was aware that he wasn't anyone good either, but he knew for a fact that he still had the moral high ground, having the right to look down on the unscrupulous thugs like the triplets, even worse, completely looking down on people who work with them for utterly selfish and wicked reasons.

At least Haijin Minn vouched for his family that they did that for him, not that it would absolve their crimes, but it at least made sense for them to secure their young master's future at the cost of other lives, but for most people to just be in partnership with robbers just for the benefit of it, that was pure depravity and immorality in his eyes, akin to pure evil.

The Minn Family sent these bandits off with a hostile gaze in their eyes but looking at the Blood Soul Contracts in the latter's spatial rings, Davis found so many recurring contracts from other powers, including families, sects, and other kinds of powers. One cut off the bad side, so he could at least leave them be and not be bothered by circumstances, but for the latter, killing intent couldn't help but unequivocally appear in his eyes.

If the Minn Family had just plundered one single woman from every falling or fallen power, then other powers bought a lot of them.

Held in his hand was a Blood Soul Contract between a higher-up of the Zyrus Family and the Dark Sky Triad. The Zyrus Family's Klein Zyrus was supposed to be his next target, and just like he expected after discovering the relation between Minn Family and the Dark Sky Triad, it seems that the most wicked path powers do rely on bandits like the Dark Sky Triad to get what they wanted and in this case, requisition for cauldrons and blood essence.

After all, it was banned by the covenant. Most wouldn't dare to go against it openly without enough power, lest they be banded against together by every other power, even chameleons of the same trade.

'No wonder these findings made the triplet's karmic sin made sense... just kidnapping and selling those virtuous women wouldn't lead to that kind of karmic sin painting them...'

Davis's eyes flashed as he raised his head, checking the amount of karmic sin on him right now.

However, he found nothing.

Lowering his head, he looked beneath his waist, his fake black eyes squinting to see a foggy aura that was not even a meter in height. Moreover, it didn't appear bright red but somewhat tainted by purple, seemingly dreadful and ominous.

'Third-tier karmic sin...'

Davis's lips couldn't help but unwittingly curve in joy despite the lives that had been taken or the suffering caused for this kind of karmic sin to be formed before being plundered by him.

Even without assassinating and plundering his last target, Klein Zyrus, Davis had reached the level of third-tier karmic sin. It was all thanks to the three brothers, especially the third brother, Sregor, who possessed a whooping thirty-meter-tall karmic sin, while the two other brothers possessed around twenty-meter tall karmic sin, all three of their karmic sins hovering at second-tier.

It was because he knew they had the capacity to hide this kind of karmic sin that he initially became aware, invoking karmic prowess and cutting off the thread connecting to him after killing them while doing the same for Nadia.

He was all the warier after seeing the presence of the assassins, especially the Oracular Reaver Abode, as their name itself didn't suit well with them.

He hated diviners for their ability to track out of seemingly nothing, but now, there was a combination of Mystic Diviners and Assassins?

Davis didn't even want to go near them despite the Ghost Tear Hall fellows claiming them to be weak and trash. Therefore, he eliminated all kinds of evidence he could recognize before leaving.

Nonetheless, Davis saw that the third-tier purplish-red karmic sin was too little for it to be helpful to him. If it wasn't at least a meter tall, he wouldn't be able to rest assured as he knew that karmic nature that was less than a meter tall was only slightly better than the previous level or nothing much to be worried about at all if it was a first-tier karmic sin.

He felt that it would be better if he gathered some more. Besides, he also had a few other plans for testing karmic nature as a form of resource for improvement.

'Alright, Klein Zyrus. It seems like a dead end has neared you, but... it's still a few stops away...'

Davis thought to himself, knowing that he should first return as Ancestor Cornelia had probably already become an immortal. Besides, he also knew that Wolfhowl or his lackeys would be waiting for him at the Ghost Tear Hall's branch because he had provoked them by killing their people.

He wasn't in the mood to go, afraid that he might even accidentally include the entire Ghost Tear Hall branch in his kill list, eventually causing him to be chased by the entire sect.

Checking the other contents and making sure that he wasn't being tracked or followed, he left the area, returning to the Thirty-Fourth Fire Phoenix City.

There, he didn't instantly return but took on the persona of Feng Chu and entered the Azure Radiance Slave Traders.

"Ahaha. Patron, welcome back." Yufor greeted without putting a single frown on his face, taking Feng Chu to the slave they had talked about before.

Davis knew that he was already late, but it seemed that minute differences weren't accounted for. Or, perhaps, since he was paying in the millions, he had a privileged patron status or something of that kind to be treated with perks.

He didn't stand on ceremony and instantly handed over one and a half million immortal crystals, causing Yufor's eyes to light up in joy.

"A few moments if you will please, patron."

Davis waited in the exchange room before he got the gift he had been looking for.

However, Davis didn't bother exchanging words with his slave before he unceremoniously took him out for a walk, heading in circles around the city in a carriage as though sightseeing while he had Nadia look for pursuers before he finally deemed that it was safe to return.

By the time he had returned, it was already midnight.

He saw the signs of a banquet that was already over.

'So secretive...'

Davis couldn't help but smile lightly. Even his people hadn't informed him of what was going on, perhaps on a certain order from Shirley or Lea.

However, looking at the lantern that was still burning on the first floor of Klade's mansion, he pulled on the slave chains and appeared at that location, looking at an array of people waiting for him with wide smiles on their faces as the room lit up.

Topp!~ *Topp!~* *Topp!~*

Fireworks exploded in the large hall as Shirley and Lea invited him with a gesture near the hall gate.

"Welcome back, husband~"

Chapter 2380 Lowlife

As Shirley and Lea's wonderful voices put Davis in a good mood, he saw that most of his people had assembled behind them in the room where the lanterns had been lit while here; it was just fireworks lighting the hall up for him in invitation.

He was appreciative of their efforts to make him feel special when the event was already over.

Shirley and Lea appeared joyous over Davis's return as the former rushed towards him.

However, Lea stopped her by grabbing her shoulder, but Shirley also seemed to realize something. Their brows couldn't help but suddenly frown as they saw another man behind Davis slowly appear from the hallway.

Clank~

He wore a white robe but was clad in chains, and they couldn't sense his cultivation, causing them to become cautious. However, the chains made them guess if it was because his cultivation was sealed and not because he was hiding it.

But upon closer look, their eyes couldn't help but widen in shock.

"Walk, you imbecile."

Davis's smile left as he turned to look at the slave he had bought, his face cold.

The crimson-haired man stared at Davis with a bit of hostility that couldn't be hidden. Still, he quickly lowered his head and followed.

Davis inwardly sneered at his actions.

There was no way he could have a Level Seven Immortal listen to him unless that immortal's life was in his hand or he showed him Nadia's terrifying death energy, but obviously, he chose to do the former, simply having the slave's life in his hands as Yufor had suggested before.

Davis neared Shirley and Lea as his expression changed, becoming warmer.

"I apologize for making you all wait, especially when one day is like ten days for you all."

Shirley quickly shook her hand in response, "That's fine. You won't believe how fast time passes in our perception when we're in seclusion. The environment and resources are extremely suitable for us, and our senses feel like we're in paradise, so you don't need to apologize to me or my sisters."

"This is...?" She then pointed at the chained crimson-haired man and asked, "A Burning Phoenix?"

"Is he from the Rein Family?" Lea also added in a question, causing Davis to smile wryly.

"Correct."

His answer instantly caused their expressions to turn cold, killing intent seeping out of their eyes.

After all, Shirley and Lea were once forcefully pursued by the Rein Family's people, so how could they not remember their facial features even if it was different than the norm?

The Rein Family was a human family, but they also shared the blood of many Burning Phoenixes that were originally a part of the Rein or the Weiss Family.

Even Ancestor Cornelia would be named Cornelia Rein if there wasn't a group of Burning Phoenixes renouncing their family names because it was causing deep-rooted problems in the sect. She came from such a line, including Klade. Hence, they didn't possess family names.

However, there were still some Burning Phoenixes who hadn't renounced their affiliations to families more than a hundred thousand years ago.

Therefore, even if Shirley didn't know the history, Lea still knew of this man's origins.

Moreover, even while being chained, the slave Davis had brought still looked handsome, like a lady killer. In fact, the helplessness only made him look more handsome, but in the eyes of Shirley and Lea, he was someone who should not be near them, or else, even they didn't know if one of them would accidentally kill him.

Davis pulled on the chains and walked past them, heading into the room where the others were.

Two figures were about to ambush him, but they also stopped once they saw the chain in his hand leading to another man's neck before it wrapped around that man's entire body, shackling him.

Davis glanced at Mingzhi and Fiora, possessing a dagger in their hands. Were they imitating an assassin since they knew he went to kill people?

He couldn't help but inwardly laugh as his gaze fell at the beautiful Ancestor Cornelia and her old yet vile-looking husband sitting side by side as Ancestor Cornelia hugged his arm. Their current appearances didn't match one bit as Ancestor Cornelia was like a heavenly swan even while veiled, yet Davis was sure they were an extraordinary and matching couple of their time and era.

"Ancestor, congratulations. I brought a gift that you might like..."

Davis gave a cultivator's greeting and a bow towards Ancestor Cornelia, who emitted immortal undulations before he raised his head, looking at their shocked gazes.

"lvo..."

"Yes," Davis smiled as he gestured, "As you can see, this is my gift to you, Ivo Rein..."

"Ivo Rein, the last Burning Phoenix to have ever ascended from the Fifty-Two Territories. How are you doing?"

Klade's eyes were shining, his hands pushing away Ancestor Cornelia's grasp as he stood up.

"Klade... is that you...?" Ivo Rein was first shocked before his expression turned joyous, "Klade! I get it... You're saving me, aren't you?"

"Yes... I'm saving you."

"Then who's this... this brat? How dare he treats me like this? Teach him a lesson! Carve his skin and make him suffer!"

"Aiya!" Davis exclaimed as he chuckled, "It seems like this imbecile forgot that his life is still in my hands."

"Fu- wait! We can talk about this...!"

Davis pursed his lips, so much wanting to pass off a comment that this slave was a bird-brain, but Ancestor Cornelia and Klade were also birds, causing him to keep his mouth shut. On the other hand, Ivo Rein truly seemed out of his wits as he raised his hands in surrender, afraid that his life would be snuffed out in an instant.

He couldn't even utilize his physical prowess because even the slightest hint of strengthening his body would lead to weakening instead.

The Azure Radiance Slave Traders' methods were truly terrifying but also depressing, as these methods wouldn't let him get a wink of sleep until his master said so. There were all kinds of restrictions placed on his body for an additional cost, but because the master was privileged, he seemed to have also gotten it for free, perhaps because that attendant believed that there would be more sales in the future, a gesture of goodwill.

However, that gesture of goodwill became a stroke of misfortune for him, leaving his grand immortal life in the hands of a mortal.

He was unwilling.

"Klade... help me out here. You seem to know this person as he called you Ancestor. Is he someone who married into your family?"

"Yes, you can say that..."

Klade revealed a light smile and nodded, but that caused Ivo Rein's expression to twitch as he took a step back.

'Woah... this imbecile couldn't even hide his disgust...' Honestly, Davis was surprised over the stupidity of this fellow. However, that idiotic fellow quickly raised his hand and spoke.

"Klade, hear me out..."

He began talking about how he ended up as a slave, but Davis saw that he gave a different account than what Yufor told him. There were times when Davis was about to burst out, not able to hear the bullshit coming out of Ivo Rein's mouth as he painted himself as a victim, but still, Davis tried his best to stay his hand.

"- as we were once part of the same sect and even shared drinks, you must save them as though they are your own descendants."

Finally, Ivo Rein concluded, actually having the brains to ask, no, guilt trip Klade into saving his descendants who were still held as slaves in the Azure Radiance Slave Trader Palace.

Klade seemed to be in contemplation as he had his head lowered.

He wasn't thinking about Ivo Rein's family but Ivo Rein himself.

Sold as a slave for merely a million and half immortal crystals?

Klade knew that Ivo Rein was worth far more than that. Heck, he knew Ivo Rein had more wealth than that, amounting to twenty million in assets when considering his entire family, and yet, he was reduced to this state by this city's City Lord.

Honestly, Klade couldn't help but find this ironic.

He thought that only he would've been the only one to experience calamity, but the one who fooled him was ever worse off, inwardly making him thank the heavens.

"You're right." Klade raised his head, "The heavens have eyes. I must do the right thing, or else I wouldn't be able to face our ancestors, especially not with this face of mine."

He rubbed his pockmarked face with his hand, causing Ivo Rein to inevitably shiver.

"Uh? Ah, yes." Ivo Rein stuttered before his expression became righteous, "I mean, we should help each other when in times of peril. Don't worry. I, Ivo Rein, give you my word that I will help you and your family rise in the First Haven World. Although the City Lord wrongfully punished me, I still have some connections that would be extremely useful to you."

A smile finally crept up on Ivo Rein's expression, and Davis saw that his stiff muscles even relaxed as he stopped his slight trembling. The latter couldn't help but shake his head, realizing that this was the confidence of a trickster when they were about to deceive someone.