

Emperor 2711

[Chapter 2711: Monstrous Being](#)

The explosion of the holy light propelled Li Qiye into Immortal Lineage and smashed him into the ground.

Debris and blood splattered everywhere.

“Old man, why does fate bring us together again?” Li Qiye smiled wryly, seemingly unconscious.

However, he simply separated his divine intents from his body and moved them into his dao heart - truly going all out.

A holy light remained in his dao heart and illuminated a sacred world. The mountains, rivers, and each inch of land here were made from the light. Darkness shouldn't be able to exist in this world.

“Rumble!” Strangely enough, waves of evil flames ravaged the land, wanting to crush it completely in order to get out.

They smashed into the sky multiple times but were met with increasing intensity of holiness. The holy light had its own tsunami and was continuously reinforced by the land itself. Thick particles of the holy affinity spewed out like springs.

Numerous holy runes were also floating in the air to refine the torrential darkness.

Of course, the other side didn't relent. He was a true lord of darkness and continued to push against the holy light with similar momentum.

The dark affinity was as thick as squid ink and only got denser the deeper in. Light, once captured, wouldn't be able to escape.

In this holy world, the light couldn't make it to the core of the darkness. It needed to go one step and a time and clear out the perimeter first.

If one could open their holy gaze, they would be able to faintly see a monstrosity looming in the core of the darkness. This was a supreme character being trapped by the twelve laws and three vortexes right now.

Nevertheless, this existence still attacked the holy world, wanting to take it down along with Li Qiye's dao heart.

A buzzing corrosion could be heard since the darkness has also turned into a cruel curse aiming to devour Li Qiye's dao heart. However, the light was protecting him by refining it away.

“Rumble!” Offensive attempts from multiple fronts failed to affect Li Qiye's dao heart.

Nothing in the world was tougher than his dao heart so he led this monstrous being here. He wanted to take the person's dark laws and turn them into a seed.

On the other hand, the dark being wanted to take over Li Qiye's body and fell into this trap, perhaps knowingly.

This being was just too strong and could take down any progenitor. People considered invincible by others were only ants in comparison.

Power led to overconfidence and arrogance. Plus, the dark being truly desired Li Qiye's body and needed to take down his dao heart anyway. Unfortunately, this resulted in an unfavorable situation.

As for Li Qiye, he needed to make this risky move as well because his dao heart was his best weapon - the only thing he could use to imprison a supreme character of this level.

"I will break your dao heart and take your body." A roar came from the darkness. The dark being's visage remained hidden, only a large pair of horns could be seen.

"I'm afraid you will never get the chance." Li Qiye's divine intents materialized into a figure resembling his original self.

This being exceeded all of his previous enemies so he needed to go all out by sending his full focus into this world inside his dao heart.

"You are not a saint; your light won't last forever." The dark being used a language too ancient to be traced - older than any existing world.

However, people at their level had no problem communicating. Their divine intents could understand everything.

"You surely know that darkness and light are just different forms of powers, only an immovable dao heart is eternal." Li Qiye said: "I can become a saint with a single thought and bring light to the world, or a devil, the harbinger of darkness, if I will so."

The dark existence didn't respond, aware of this truth.

"If I was at my peak state, I would take you down so quickly and devour this world." The being coldly threatened.

This wasn't empty bravado either. This comment of his carried enough weight to intimidate any emperor, even progenitors.

"I won't deny your unmatched strength. Progenitors and the darkness can't compare to your group, but you should be able to recognize that the thing trapping you is a Primordial Will." Li Qiye chuckled.

"I'll accept defeat if you can break out of it. But honestly, if you were capable of doing this, you wouldn't need to avoid the high heaven's watch right now and sneak to this place."

"Damn that villainous heaven!" The existence in the darkness cursed.

"The heaven is indeed wretched and I do want to stomp on its face at times, but with regard to the issue of dealing with bastards like you, I actually commend its decision." Li Qiye smiled.

"Boom!" The existence responded by releasing more energy. The holy world trembled a bit but this still wasn't enough.

The Primordial Will rendered escaping an impossibility, not to mention the power of light canceling out the darkness.

“Don’t you want to have a talk? Cooperate and the world might even erect a meritorious tablet in your honor in the future.” Li Qiye said.

“Haha, worry about yourself first, you will die a terrible death in due time. If you think you’re unbeatable just because you can seal me, then you are sorely mistaken. There are those up there stronger than me.” The existence laughed.

“I’m aware. I’ve had a deal with that eye back in Moneyfall so I know quite a bit about your group’s situation.” Li Qiye wasn’t worried.

“Hmph, they’re living a borrowed life so they want nothing more than an unyielding dao heart like yours. You’ll be the finest delicacy.” The existence said.

“That’s only if they can actually handle me. But forget about that, let’s focus on you first. I’m not asking for much, just go ahead and talk. I’m a great listener.” Li Qiye said.

“Give up on this foolish notion. I’ve lived longer and experienced far more things than you.” The existence replied.

“To be expected. You really won’t yield, but that’s just fine. I will slowly annihilate you until only one divine intent is left. That’s when I’ll pry everything out of you.”

[Chapter 2712: Immortals Do Not Exist](#)

The dark existence only answered with retaliation. The darkness became ferocious and wanted to flip the holy world over with even more monstrous tsunamis.

The waves of onslaught resulted in disappointment and failure, unable to corrode Li Qiye’s dao heart.

As long as his dao heart stood strong, this dark existence would never be able to escape to the outside, forever subjected to being withered down.

This seemingly swift process was extremely dangerous. The existence was of a level far beyond progenitors, standing at the very apex of history. In fact, it alone could take on multiple progenitors at the same time.

This meant that emperors and Eternals were nothing more than ants in its eyes.

If it were to invade a progenitor’s dao heart, even the most gifted one, this progenitor wouldn’t be able to handle the dark corrosion. The progenitor’s dao heart would fall and his body would be stolen.

Unfortunately, Li Qiye’s dao heart was special too. Moreover, it was trapped by the Primordial Wills and couldn’t get out.

It seemed that its fate has been sealed.

“What are you hoping to accomplish?” The dark being asked.

“What about you all?” Li Qiye chuckled: “Wait, let me guess, I have seen your actions before from the eye. Your pursuit is very simple, just immortality, and you would do anything for this goal with wanton regard for the rest.”

“Haha, same for you.” The existence snorted: “Isn’t that your pursuit too? You have reigned the world for ages in the past with total authority, but that’s only ephemeral in your eyes. You wish for immortality just like us.”

“You’re wrong there. My pursuit is not to become an immortal with everlasting life. I only want an answer.” Li Qiye smiled.

“An answer? It doesn’t exist, no one can give it to you just like how no one gave one to us. However, the real answer is in your heart - immortality.”

“An immortal touches my head and ties my hair, granting me everlasting life. Tell me what an immortal is then.” Li Qiye chuckled. [1]

“We are immortals, and you will be one too.” The existence said.

“You all are pseudo-immortals at best.” Li Qiye said flatly.

“Then who are the real immortals in your eyes then?” The existence didn’t become angry and spoke as if this was only a dao discussion.

Li Qiye didn’t respond.

“If your definition consists of everlasting life, then we are immortals, true immortals since we can’t be destroyed.” The existence said.

“Really now? You think you’re indestructible?” Li Qiye chuckled.

“Try if you’re skeptical. Even if you destroy me, I’ll still be eternal as long as I have one strand of essence left.” The existence spoke nonchalantly and with confidence after calming down.

“I will since I have plenty of patience.” Li Qiye smiled.

“So what if you can get everything you want from me? You’ll become one of us, living for immortality. As you have said earlier - an immortal touches my head and ties my hair, granting me everlasting life. I’m the one teaching you how to come an immortal!” The existence asserted.

“You sound quite confident.” Li Qiye said.

“Though we are outside, we are also existing with the heaven and earth for an eternity. We have seen and experienced far more things than you. I have witnessed those even more gifted with greater determination than you. All of them still joined us in the end. Darkness and light are just mere concepts, watch.” The existence calmly spoke.

“Buzz.” All of its ink-like darkness suddenly turned into a holy brilliance.

Inside the glorious waves of light stood this existence, still shrouded by the blinding light. It no longer chose to attack Li Qiye’s light but tried to meld into one with him.

Li Qiye’s holy light didn’t hold back and still suppressed its brethren, not allowing a fusion to take place. It still considered this holy expanse from the dark existence to be darkness.

“You’re right, light and darkness can change with a single thought. They are mere forms, just another type of method. That’s why even if you turn into a true saint, I will still suppress and destroy you.” Li Qiye said.

“I know, but this is my answer to you. We are the same and you will join us after becoming a true immortal. The myriad ages are ephemeral; the reincarnation cycles are just part of an order.” The existence said.

“Stop boasting, if you’re a true immortal, then there’s no immortal in this world.” Li Qiye smiled. This line had several layers of meaning, not as obvious as it seemed.

“Doubt all you want. You won’t be able to escape your fate in the future. You already have your answer.” The existence laughed.

“We’ll about that, but there’s one thing I’m certain of right now - your demise.” Li Qiye threatened.

“Hmph, you got lucky. Who can actually stop me from devouring your world during my prime? Hmph, I’m reduced to this from being stuck in the gap or your dao heart wouldn’t be able to trap me.” The existence said with arrogance and pride, fully deserving of so.

“Blame your fortune then.” Li Qiye retorted.

“Boom!” The existence turned its holy light back into darkness for more explosive rounds of assault against Li Qiye’s holy world and dao heart.

This being could use both light and darkness with a single thought. It could turn into a saint if it wanted to. However, it chose darkness since that’s its most skillful aspect.

At their level, becoming a devil or a saint didn’t really matter. They remained themselves with the same personality and intrinsic nature.

This group of terrifying beings’ truest nature was being everlasting. In this sense, they could be considered immortals.

[Chapter 2713: Sealed Six Senses](#)

Meanwhile, the actual Li Qiye fell into a deep mountain and left behind a pit. After a single night, vines and trees started growing around it, culminating in a forest.

He landed on a system named Immortal Devil with quite an origin.

Its progenitor had the title of Everlasting Forefather. The guy was very magical and could certainly back up this bold title choice.

Rumor has it that he was the only person in history with a masterly understanding of the samsara and the only one who will experience it. That’s why he would return after each era with a different identity.

Numerous emperors and progenitors became interested in him, also wanting to learn the mysteries of the samsara. However, this person resembled an unreachable dragon. Though people knew that he has reincarnated, few could actually find him.

He continued to shroud himself in fog, not letting others know his identity and background. Who knows how strong this progenitor was?

That's why he was considered the most mysterious progenitor.

He eventually stopped appearing a very long time later. Some guessed that he had finally failed on the cycle and became ashes.

Future generations slowly forgot about this magical progenitor. However, the system he created continued to exist despite numerous ups and downs after many generations.

However, the world didn't know that Everlasting Forefather also has another identity - Everlasting Xiao of Immortal Demon Grotto in the nine worlds. [1]

Old man, why does fate bring us together again? That's why Li Qiye said this after the landing.

After being sent flying by the explosion of his own holy light, a powerful force from this system pulled him here.

The relationship between him and Everlasting Xiao was too deep, spanning for eras. In fact, one could say that Li Qiye came from the Immortal Demon Grotto.

Thus, the techniques and resources left behind by Everlasting Xiao in this system drew Li Qiye here during his freefall.

Li Qiye was actually going home, in a sense. His divine intents were in his dao heart, completely focused on taking down the terrifying existence.

Thus, he looked to be unconscious, almost like being in a vegetative state.

Of course, it was easy for him to wake up. He just needed to remove one strand of intent from his dao heart then he would be back and not much different from now.

Alas, his biggest goal was refining the dark existence right now so he didn't care about his actual body.

The weather and bugs didn't bother him at all. His constitution has reached an insane level. An ant couldn't dig its teeth in his skin.

After a few days, the forest around him continuously expanded. The area directly below him fared even better. Some spirit grasses and alchemy materials flourished around him.

This was to be expected. His blood stained the area from the previous wound. Even if it wasn't his true blood or imperial blood, just his regular blood was extremely precious - capable of making the soil fertile.

Days passed by then years in this wilderness rarely visited by others so no one found him.

Eventually, a group of young disciples from Mountguard School came here to pick herbs.

"Hey, there's a cluster of spirit materials over here." They spent half a day for little gains until they found his location and saw a plethora of herbs and grasses.

The various types were precious on top of growing very well, resulting in an alchemy garden of sorts.

The youths became excited and hurriedly gathered the items.

“We finally found a good area.” They happily filled their baskets.

“Thank god First Brother noticed this or most of us would have returned empty-handed.”

“We’re rich now... well, I guess this will be considered a meritorious contribution for the sect. The elders will be very pleased.” Some of them started celebrating and continued the harvest.

“First Brother, there’s a corpse here!” One of them finally saw Li Qiye.

“A corpse?!” Some were startled and stumbled backward.

They exchanged glances of astonishment. The more timid members became frightened.

“Dig it out so we can have a better look.” Their first brother named Li Jiankun remained cool and ordered.

The group worked together to clear the vegetation and finally exposed the corpse.

“It hasn’t decomposed.” Their first brother pulled up the muddy corpse and took a look.

“Not someone from our school.” They heaved a sigh of relief after seeing the corpse’s face.

“Well, this person technically shouldn’t have died that long ago judging from the state of his corpse, but why was it buried so deep? A murder, maybe?” Speculation arose.

This naturally scared some members. Did someone kill then bury him in this remote region? Maybe a robbery escalating into a murder, or just something else altogether.

“Does anyone recognize him?” Their first brother asked.

This was the territory of their school so it could be someone from there. The group took a look before shaking their head.

“I think he’s a mortal, not a cultivator and definitely not an expert.” One said quietly.

The majority agreed and nodded, thinking that this guy looks way too ordinary to be an expert or a cultivator.

“Hmm, no wound on him, maybe he got sick while plucking herb and died.” Another disciple said.

“Wait, wait, he’s, he’s still alive!” One disciple turned pale and shouted.

Li Qiye opened his eyes for a split second before closing them again, returning his one intent back to his dao heart.

The refinement was still happening in his dao heart but this group disturbed him so he took a quick look. He lost interest after seeing them.

A “corpse” suddenly opening its eyes naturally scared the youths. Many have just joined the sect and have yet to see the world.

“He’s alive.” They carefully observed him again after the momentary shock and calmed down. This wasn’t a reanimated corpse.

“Yes, I think he fell down hard and became crippled from top to bottom. It’s a miracle that he’s still alive.” Their first brother squatted down and confirmed.

[Chapter 2714: Tough Choice](#)

“Poor guy.” One member murmured after hearing the first brother’s assessment.

“Right, he might have been here all alone for a long time now, maybe he has no family so no one looked for him.” Another shook his head.

“This is a miracle already. I think he’s in this vegetative state thanks to the spirit medicines around him. The dew and pill energy are keeping him alive.” One more added.

The majority agreed with this statement.

After all, a mortal shouldn’t stay alive for this long in this state. It had to be the abundant precious medicines and their spirit energy keeping him alive. Otherwise, this mortal sticking around here for this long? Even if the beasts were to spare him, he would have died from starvation anyway.

“What should we do with him?” One disciple asked.

The youths didn’t know what to do since they were inexperienced.

“How about we bring him back to the sect and let the masters decide?” His friend suggested.

“Who is carrying him back? And what if there’s no resolution afterward, who’s responsible for taking care of him?” A different disciple immediately responded.

The group became quiet. Though their sect wasn’t a big one or anything, they were still cultivators.

Whether strong or weak, they still considered themselves superior compared to a mortal. Who would be willing to take up this task?

After bringing him back and he still has some family members nearby, then it would be easy. But conversely, their masters might make the one who brought him back responsible for taking care of him. That would be very troublesome since it might last for decades.

“Why not just leave him here and ignore him? He’s not a disciple from our school, a complete stranger. He’s the one who fell, it’s not like we did this to him.” One member said; the last line was meant to make them feel better about doing so.

The group started pondering. This wasn’t actually a bad idea. After all, this mortal had no ties with them.

“I don’t agree, he’ll be eaten by wild beasts right away if we leave him here.” One of them stared at Li Qiye and couldn’t do it.

“Who is responsible when it comes down to it after we take him back?” A slightly older disciple deepened his tone.

Once again, no one was up for the task. They needed to focus on cultivation and finding the dao. How could they waste their precious time on a stranger?

“Kill him.” Finally, their first brother offered a suggestion.

“Kill him? We shouldn’t...” Someone in the frightened crowd disagreed.

They have killed before but only enemies. It seemed unsuitable for them to kill someone in a vegetative state.

“If we don’t kill and just leave him here, he’ll only suffer even more. It’s only a matter of time too, so a sword is a better outcome than being bitten by insects and eaten by beasts. Make it easier on him.” Li Jiankun had weathered more storms than the rest so he revealed his hardened perspective.

Though the disciples didn’t vocally agree, they found logic in his suggestion. Perhaps killing someone in this state was actually doing him a favor, delivering him from this horrible fate.

“If no one objects, then let’s do it.” Jiankun looked around and declared.

The group answered with silence since no one wanted this trouble.

Jiankun slowly unsheathed his sword, revealing a bright glint.

“Senior Brother, I’ll... do it, I’ll carry him back to the sect and see if he’s savable.” A feeble and uncertain voice stopped Jiankun from carrying out the task.

All eyes darted towards her. This was a delicate and pretty girl. Her expression looked nervous outside of the unyielding flash in her pure and spirited eyes.

“Junior Sister...” An older female disciple pulled on her sleeve after hearing this.

She couldn’t handle the spotlight and hastily lowered her head.

“Junior Sister Guo, you shouldn’t. You don’t even know him.” Another senior brother disagreed.

The girl’s name was Guo Jiahui who has only joined Mountguard for a year or so. Her talents were average; she didn’t stand out that much compared to the rest and lacked meritorious achievements. All in all, a very forgettable disciple.

“Are you sure? If you bring him back, you will take care of him since if you throw him out later, it will be bad for both you and the reputation of our sect. Do not do this if you lack the determination.” Jiankun turned towards her and advised.

The seniors all stared at her, thinking that she was making a bad choice.

“Junior Sister, don’t do it. Others might gossip if you bring him back and it’ll only be a waste of your time too. Spend it on cultivation, not a mortal.” A sister next to her said.

“She’s right, why add unnecessary trouble? If you can’t bear to watch, then leave first. Senior Brother will do it afterward.” Another brother added.

“Junior Sister, rethink this because this might waste several decades of yours if he actually stays alive for that long.” The group started chiming in.

Jiahui hesitated after being bombarded. She knew they were right too and plus, this man was a stranger. She looked over at him. His face was still dirty and covered in mud. Alas, his features actually made her think of someone and felt a sense of familiarity.

"I...I've made up my mind, I will be responsible for him." She gritted her teeth and said before heaving a sigh of relief after making a big decision.

"You're too kind, Junior Sister." Her seniors shook their head and stopped. They have said enough already.

Everyone knew that bringing this person back would only slow her down, hindering her future.

"I won't say anything else if you wish to do this good deed. However, from now on, he is your responsibility." Jiankun sheathed his sword and nodded.

"Yes." Jiahui didn't regret her decision and came to prop Li Qiye up. Her close friends offered their assistance.

"Our mission is complete, time to return." Jiankun looked at the group and ordered.

The rest followed behind him with Jiahui carrying Li Qiye all the way in the back. Fellow sect members occasionally helped her.

Though many disagreed and found her decision strange, she didn't say a word back and quietly carried Li Qiye back to the sect.

[Chapter 2715: Guo Jiahui](#)

The group finally made it back to Mountguard School and instantly reported to their seniors.

The once famous sect has fallen into a third-rate one, far inferior versus its peers. It used to be an authority figure in all of Three Immortals, not just in Immortal Demon System. It also reigned over this system for a long period of time.

Its name had an impressive history. As long as one was within the territory of the sect, they could always see a towering mountain reaching the sky. It looked to be the center of the world.

It wasn't the tallest one in the system but it looked like the imperious king of all mountains.

The mountain didn't have a name but according to the legends, there was a cave at the very top with the name "Immortal Demon".

Everyone knew about this particular cave since it represented Everlasting Forefather. The sect got its name from protecting this mountain.

Its progenitor was a disciple of Everlasting Forefather. The progenitor usually cultivated here back during his era.

Thus, this disciple decided to create his own sect here in order to protect his master.

But why would an incredible progenitor need protection from his disciple?

According to the rumors, Everlasting Forefather would come back again in this cave after each cycle. Thus, Mountguard's greatest responsibility was to be there for that moment.

When the progenitor was experiencing the various cycles, Mountguard also stood at the height of its power, producing numerous Everlasting and emperors.

No one could touch them at that point. They served as guardians of their progenitor and defended the system as well.

Unfortunately, the forefather eventually disappeared and his samsara cycles stopped. The sect gradually weakened afterward before falling off the cliff completely. The once strongest sect in Immortal Demon became a third-rate one.

Nevertheless, the subsequent generations still protected this place. They would have official yearly ceremonies to worship the mountain and their progenitor.

Though far from their golden age, the sect still had several thousand disciples - not too bad relative to their peers.

The group handed the herbs to the sect in exchange for considerable contribution points. The seniors noticed their rich harvest and nodded approvingly.

This trip was amazing for them so each disciple became quite excited. Finally, Li Jiankun told the seniors about Guo Jiahui's decision to save Li Qiye.

One senior took a look and shook his head: "There's no divine intent in there so he can't be saved. He'll be a vegetable for the rest of his life."

The group took this as fact now. Of course, this senior had a decent cultivation but he couldn't see through Li Qiye's real situation.

In this last moment, some friends of Jiahui told her to change her mind. Alas, she chose to keep him here to take care of his needs.

"You need to take good care of him. Don't let others use this to criticize our sect and damage our reputation." The senior didn't stop her nor force her to throw this cripple away.

"I understand." Jiahui confirmed.

Most didn't understand but still respected it. She then brought him back to her place.

The once-mighty sect had plenty of territories even to this day. Thus, many disciples had their own peak, the same for Jiahui.

It wasn't a special location or anything but she still had freedom here. The first thing she did was cleaning him up.

At the start, she thought that he would be all skin and bones but after taking him off his clothes, she saw his vigorous muscles.

She naturally blushed due to her inexperience and was at a loss of what to do next. Alas, she couldn't ask anyone else for help. She awkwardly cleaned him from top to bottom before finding suitable clothing for him.

Once finished, she took a good look and found that he was very ordinary-looking, clearly a mortal.

However, for some strange reasons, perhaps due to her own feelings, she appreciated his appearance and thought that he was very pleasing to the eye.

"Just a little similar, not him." She quietly sighed and stroked his cheek: "My older brother was ordinary too but he was the best brother anyone can ask for."

Her mood became dejected as she wept softly. She recalled her youth and her older brother - just another common-looking fella.

As he escorted her to Mountguard School to learn cultivation, he fell down a cliff along the way and died.

Because of this, after seeing Li Qiye's ordinary appearance, it sparked some deeply-rooted emotions in her. That's why she made the decision to take care of this mortal.

Though Li Qiye wasn't her brother, she still took good care of him despite being busy with her own tasks and cultivation. She even made a wheelchair to take him out to the sun to enjoy the fresh air.

Li Qiye was aware of the events happening outside but he chose to ignore them. All of his focus remained on refining the monstrosity within his dao heart.

Of course, he would have been perfectly fine due to his current power level even if she didn't bring him back to the sect, no different from another rock in the mountain.

"I failed five times today while reciting the mental chant. The senior brothers and sisters have done it, even the juniors too, I must be truly stupid..." She sat next to him beneath the sun. Who knows if she was the one keeping him company or vice versa?

She regularly told him the events going on in her life since she had few friends here at Mountguard, both the good and bad. A man in a vegetative state was probably the best listener.

She has grown accustomed to not getting a response because he hasn't batted an eye ever since he was brought back to Mountguard.

Alas, she didn't know that Li Qiye heard every single word. He just didn't have time to care right now.

[Chapter 2716: Desolate Mind Scripture](#)

Guo Jiahui's decision to take care of a cripple like Li Qiye truly perplexed her fellow sect members.

A few gossiped and criticized her while most thought that she was too kind-hearted, throwing her precious time away in the process.

Cultivators truly valued their time; none would want to waste a single second, let alone on a crippled mortal like Li Qiye.

Her innate talents weren't exceptional either so she should put in more effort and time for cultivation. Otherwise, her peers would surpass her, even the juniors who joined the sect after her too. At that point, she would be abandoned by the sect.

Some have convinced her to forget about Li Qiye and take him down the mountain then pay a regular household to take care of him.

Alas, she continued on her stubborn way. In the beginning, he looked similar to her late brother. But now, after spending some time together, the resemblance ended long ago. Nevertheless, she still didn't want to abandon him for she slowly started considering him as a family member.

Her mood and state of mind improved when he was around. She had few close friends in the sect and even fewer confidants. Li Qiye was the only person she opened her heart without needing to hide anything.

Though Li Qiye never answered back or even opened his eyes to look at her, she was still more than willing to chat with him about her daily life.

She thought about curing his ailment. Though Mountguard was no longer the same as before, it still had plenty of capable medical masters and alchemists.

It might be possible for a powerful alchemist to cure a crippled mortal so she tried asking them.

"Impossible, his six veins are done for. He'll be bedridden forever." Alas, one alchemist took a look and shook his head.

"Is there no other way?" She held on to hope.

"Try using true energy to massage him each day to open his energy channels. There might be hope later down the line." The senior said with uncertainty before adding: "But don't waste time on a mortal. The right thing for you to do is focus on your own cultivation."

The senior left after saying this, thinking that it wasn't worth it to do this over a mortal.

From then on, Jiahui had a new task. She would massage him every day and pour her true energy into him.

Unfortunately, this proved to be futile because her energy couldn't move through his hardened veins.

How could her weak energy actually activate the veins of such a monster? Simply impossible.

This didn't stop her since she continued onward while hoping for a miracle. This sheer determination showed that she viewed him as a family member.

All of this still didn't warrant a response from Li Qiye. As time passed, his suppression successfully weakened the monstrous being.

"Sigh." She lamented during a sun-bathing session one day: "I can't finish my mental law, even Master scolded me for being stupid, maybe it's really true. I'm not suitable for cultivation..."

"You're not the only stupid one, your master is stupid beyond help too." A faint voice interrupted her reflection.

“Ah!” She jumped from being startled and started looking around, thinking that there was a ghost.

However, only Li Qiye was with her in this courtyard.

“Who, who is it?!” She shouted after not finding anyone; fear loomed in her mind.

“Next to you.” Li Qiye finally opened his eyes to look at her.

“You...you’re up!” She was astounded since this was his first time reacting outside of moving his eyes when they found him the first time.

She looked into his eyes and saw a look of disdain as if he found himself superior to her and everyone else. However, why would a mortal have this type of glare?

Li Qiye said his part then closed his eyes again, seemingly asleep.

She calmed down and realized that she had told him everything in the past so she became embarrassed, wanting to dig a hole and jump down on it to hide.

“I, I’ll make you something to eat.” She came up with an excuse to run.

“No, your cooking is terrible, find someone better.” Li Qiye said flatly.

Jiahui didn’t know how to react and moved her arms around awkwardly. This person woke up and didn’t bother thanking her, only criticizing her cooking.

“You trained the Desolate Mind Scripture incorrectly and were silly enough to take your master’s teachings as facts instead of learning on your own. Then again, your idiotic master made the simple scripture so complex. If the old man were alive, he would go crazy after witnessing this level of stupidity.” Li Qiye spoke again while she stood there in a daze.

“How can you be so rude?!” She became angry after hearing this criticism of her master.

Her master didn’t mistreat or punish her despite her mediocrity. She wasn’t angry when he called her stupid, but insulting her master was a different story.

“Buzz.” Li Qiye pointed at her forehead with a speed too fast for her to react. A tiny law entered her brain.

“Boom!” A complete version of the Desolate Mind Scripture emerged with amazing profundity and transformations. She could hear the chants now.

The difficult scripture suddenly couldn’t be any simpler for her. She understood the mysteries right away.

More importantly, she found her previous cultivation of the scripture to be full of mistakes and holes. The scripture fully drew her attention. This was her first time finding out the beautiful grand dao. It wasn’t as dry and confusing as she thought.

[Chapter 2717: I’m Eighteen](#)

Desolate Mind Scripture was her merit law, a foundational block of Immortal Demon System passed down by Everlasting Forefather.

Guo Jiahui has been training with this law ever since joining Mountguard. Alas, she showed no signs of improvement and limited accomplishments. Thus, she couldn't move on to a more powerful merit law.

On the contrary, this merit law was too simple for Li Qiye. He just needed to listen to a couple of chants before gaining a full grasp of its mysteries.

He knew Everlasting Forefather the best in this world. They have existed together for millions of years. Moreover, he could easily figure out a law from a system on his own at his current level. Unfortunately, this proved to be an arduous task for Jiahui - something that could affect her future.

In this second, she felt a door opening inside her mind allowing her to see a whole new world. The light from there illuminated her path. She found hope for the future and this increased her determination and courage to tread onward.

It took a while before she regained her wits from this beautiful immersion.

"Thank you for your guidance, Senior." She bowed deeply towards him and didn't know how to address the guy. She eventually chose to go with 'senior'.

Though Li Qiye looked quite young, she didn't want to be wrong. A slow girl like her could still tell that he was a hidden master despite his current state. Otherwise, he wouldn't understand this scripture so well.

Li Qiye sitting in his wheelchair didn't respond at all to her bowing.

She had no idea what was going on with Li Qiye and the reason for his pitiful state. Alas, she restrained her curiosity since the guy might ignore her anyway.

She accompanied him for a while longer under the sun before pushing him back home.

In the next several days, he continued to be sleeping just like before. She realized that he might not be in a vegetative state but couldn't come up with another answer. Thus, she resumed her normal duty in taking care of him.

However, she stopped talking as much after finding out, no longer confiding in him about her days.

His imprinted law benefited her greatly and allowed her to understand the scripture. Her cultivation started becoming smooth with great improvements, almost like a fish returning to the water.

She quickly surpassed many peers in a short time. Her master praised her many times, thinking that it was a little miracle and that it was thanks to his teachings.

With this, her state of mind naturally improved and this also played a positive role in her cultivation.

On this night, she and Li Qiye observed the stars. Normally, she would be talking nonstop to him right now. Alas, she became afraid of him after the previous awakening.

"Why aren't you talking anymore?" Li Qiye suddenly asked with his eyes open.

"Se-senior." She was still startled but fared much better than last time.

"You're awake now?" She thought that he was alternating between consciousness and otherwise.

“It has been peaceful without your yabbering.” Li Qiye said.

“I... I’m afraid of disturbing you, Senior.” She became awkward and lowered her head.

“I’m only eighteen so don’t call me Senior. You may call me Young Noble instead.” Li Qiye closed his eyes.

The girl wanted to chuckle but didn’t dare to; her lips curled into a faint smile.

“Yes, Young Noble.” She nodded, finding herself to be very obedient before him for some unknown reason even though he couldn’t move at all.

Li Qiye seemingly had a natural dominating affinity over other living beings. His words must be obeyed even though he didn’t exert an imperious aura right now. This made Jiahui feel quite strange.

This brief conversation relaxed her. She slowly got used to his style and became normal again, chatting with him while taking care of his daily essentials.

She didn’t mind a lack of response from him, thinking that he has entered a deep slumber once more.

She didn’t know when he would wake up again and wanted to help. Alas, she didn’t know where to start. Even the reason for his need to sleep eluded her.

Days passed on and the status quo remained the same between the two. Li Qiye focused on refining the being in his dao heart while she took care of him.

Guo Jiahui brought home a senior sister today. The girl wore a red dress and was slightly older than Jiahui, also more noticeably gorgeous.

“Young Noble, this is my senior sister.” Jiahui introduced the two.

“Young Noble.” The girl bowed respectfully towards Li Qiye.

Alas, the “cripple” in the wheelchair didn’t respond, still deep in his slumber.

The girl seemed unsure and looked over towards Jiahui. The latter pulled her away and whispered: “Let’s make something tasty.”

The two then became very busy in the kitchen.

The older girl’s name was Zhao Zhiting, Jiahui’s best friend in Mountguard. She joined the sect earlier and had the status of First Sister.

Jiahui didn’t stand out in any way so most peers didn’t give her the time of day. Only Zhao Zhiting watched over her like a sister and helped her with various matters. They slowly became friends and sisters as a result.

Zhiting had better talents so her cultivation was also stronger than Jiahui. However, Jiahui improved by leaps and bounds in recent days and almost caught up with her. This made her very curious.

[Chapter 2718: The Profundity Behind Stir-frying](#)

Guo Jiahui's improvement surprised Zhao Zhiting. The two of them were close enough so Jiahui's monumental transformation was very obvious.

Because of this, Zhiting started asking her. Of course, Jiahui wouldn't divulge this sensitive information to outsiders.

In the beginning, Jiahui remained prudent and skirted around the issue.

Recently, Zhiting has reached a bottleneck, resulting in stagnation. Her peers started surpassing her so this became a source of stress and vexation.

Jiahui worried about her since they were close. She finally chose to tell Zhiting her secrets because the latter used to be so kind to her. It was her turn now to help.

Zhiting didn't believe it at all after listening to Jiahui's secrets. She was also there during the herb-plucking expedition so she knew about Li Qiye's situation. In fact, she even helped Jiahui carry the guy back.

So now, the sudden reversal of a crippled mortal turning into a hidden master was too much for her to accept.

If it didn't come from Jiahui herself, Zhiting would never believe it, thinking that it was only a cruel joke.

However, Zhiting chose to believe due to their intimate relationship. Jiahui wouldn't trick her and plus, her improvements were as clear as day. Their master praised her nonstop, saying that it was a miracle and that she had learned everything from him.

Finally, Jiahui came up with a plan for Zhiting to ask Li Qiye for help. The focus was on making a good meal for Li Qiye.

When he woke up the last time, he instantly berated her lack of skills in the kitchen. On the other hand, Zhiting was famous as a cook in the sect.

Zhiting loved cooking from a young age. This eventually earned her a nickname in the sect, "Beautiful Chef".

She had no choice but to ask Li Qiye for help since her own master had tried to guide her several times to no avail. All of her hope was placed on Li Qiye now.

Zhiting visited each day to take care of Li Qiye. She racked her brains coming up with her best dishes, hoping to win Li Qiye's grace.

Time passed and she earned nothing since Li Qiye continued to be unresponsive.

Zhiting started wavering after a while, wondering if Li Qiye actually had this ability. Maybe he wouldn't wake up again since Jiahui wasn't certain of a timeline either.

Nevertheless, she pressed onward and continued to serve Li Qiye with Jiahui. She treated it as a trial of determination and perseverance - no different than cultivation. The possibility of failure was present in both tasks but one still needed to do them.

The days went on. They have grown so accustomed to the task that even Zhiting started chatting with Li Qiye about her problems.

Just like any other day, Zhiting also put a lot of effort into making a table full of good meals for Li Qiye.

“Your food has been terrible recently.” A faint voice resounded next to her.

This naturally scared her but luckily, Jiahui has warned her before or she would have dropped her tray.

“Seni-, no, Young Noble...” She stammered and saw that his eyes were still closed.

She thought that maybe she was only hearing things and watched with bated breath.

“You’re not imagining it.” Li Qiye finally opened his eyes.

This scene completely won Zhiting over. She truly believed Jiahui now.

Why? Prior to this, she had doubts because of Li Qiye’s dormancy. She slowly became accustomed to this and thought that it no longer matters whether he wakes up or not. This was a test for herself, a period of reflection.

Now, his gaze alone made her feel insignificant like an ant. She had no choice to look up at him despite his current state and ordinary appearance. This gaze of his encompassed all living beings and everything else.

“Zhiting greets you, Young Noble.” She calmed down and respectfully bowed her head.

Li Qiye closed his eyes again.

Zhiting didn’t know what to do. She opened her mouth several times but nothing came out, worrying that Li Qiye has fallen asleep again.

“You wish for pointers from me, right?” Li Qiye broke her awkwardness while just sitting there, not bothering to open his eyes.

“Y-es, Young Noble.” She nodded her head repeatedly like a chicken pecking for grain.

“I already have.” Li Qiye said.

“You have?” She became frozen and carefully recalled her experience. Alas, this was his first time reacting to her.

“I’m afraid I’m too foolish to understand.” She eventually answered.

“Are you persevering right now? That’s the whole point of cultivation, riches after enough accumulation. Can’t you tell that your mentality has changed versus how it was in the beginning?” He said flatly.

She carefully thought it over and agreed. In the beginning, she came here for help with an urgent mindset wishing for success.

His lack of response truly made her question the process. Alas, as time went on, the sense of urgency and need for success gradually decreased. The process became a part of life instead.

Her mental state calmed down by quite a bit. Though she still couldn't break through the cultivation bottleneck, she didn't mind it as much and had enough determination and confidence to eventually make it.

"Right, but I still can't find clues about reaching the next level." She said.

"Then go stir-fry some more vegetables." Li Qiye said.

"Stir-fry?" She didn't know what this has to do with cultivation.

"What's the most important thing to keep in mind while stir-frying vegetables?" He opened her eyes and asked.

"Fire and temperature." She answered right away.

"Correct. As a cultivator, what can you use to control the fire so that the temperature is precise to the finest detail? Have you ever thought of this?" Li Qiye asked.

She stood there in a daze.

"Use your fire mastery for cooking. Your Encroaching Flame Scroll is exactly that. Why do you like cooking so much? It's because you feel close to the flame yet you have never thought about incorporating cultivation into cooking."

She started contemplating. Encroaching Flame was a great merit law of Mountguard. Using this technique for cooking seemed to be wasting it like appointing a talented person to a useless position. Her master might become infuriated thinking that she was besmirching the ancestors' invincible merit law.

However, she also agreed with Li Qiye's logic - something she had never considered before.

"Go feel the fire and understand its transformation and you will see where the bottleneck is." Li Qiye said.

"Feel the fire..." His few words truly stirred her emotions and opened a door for her.

[Chapter 2719: Divine Mountain](#)

Zhao Zhiting found Li Qiye's line of thinking to be unprecedented. She has always taken cultivation step by step, relying on the methods passed down by her master.

In fact, these methods have been passed down for generations as unending dogmas.

"Not only are you stupid but your master is also idiotic beyond cure too. I can smell the rot of this teaching method from far away. So many years yet still adhering to old ideas, resulting in stagnation. The merit laws passed down by the ancestors are meant to be improved or changed by the new generations." Li Qiye didn't hold back.

Zhiting smiled wryly and didn't dare to respond. Commenting on one's master was considered extremely disrespectful in Mountguard.

“Try and comprehend this with your heart and mind while abandoning dated beliefs.” Li Qiye shot out a tiny law into her brain.

She became startled after finding out that this law pertained to fire mastery. Li Qiye didn't teach her how to cultivate the Encroaching Flame Scroll, only a few profundities regarding fire mastery.

She looked conscientiously at it and became shaken. These methods of fire mastery perfectly fused with what she had learned in the past. It boosted her current abilities in such a smooth and flawless manner.

“Thank you, Young Noble.” She bowed deeply towards him and didn't garner a response. Nevertheless, she was more than satisfied already.

Jiahui returned and found out a bit later. She became pleasantly surprised.

Sure enough, Zhiting broke through the bottleneck that has been plaguing her in no time at all. Her cultivation soared at an unprecedented rate.

Moreover, she seemed to understand everything from the Flame Encroaching Scroll. Today, she realized that the methods passed down by her master were inefficient and blind.

Li Qiye's guidance opened numerous illuminated paths for her. A feeling of elucidation made her think that one dao could reach the myriad laws.

She gained a deeper appreciation of his unfathomability, perhaps stronger than anyone else in Mountguard. After all, her seniors didn't have a way to help her while Li Qiye's few words were more than enough.

The duo resumed their duties in taking care of him, not knowing when he would wake up again.

They also didn't dare to let anyone else know since it was better to be prudent. First, others might have nefarious ideas towards him after finding out. Second, they didn't want to offend him. A master was always impossible to predict so they wouldn't do anything without permission.

Taking care of him didn't slow their cultivation rate at all since they trained skillfully and easily.

Today, Jiahui took Li Qiye out for fresh air again. She gazed at the divine mountain for a long time, completely immersed.

This mountain was visible in any location inside Mountguard. It looked to be right in front of any spectator despite being very far away.

“Is reincarnation really possible?” Jiahui curiously wondered.

She has heard many legends about the divine mountain after joining Mountguard. Plus, there were yearly ceremonies to worship Everlasting Forefather.

Her seniors told her that their sect's purpose is to protect the divine mountain and any reincarnated form of their forefather.

Though the cycles of reincarnation stopped and the sect started to decline, they have never forgotten their purpose and the creed of their founding patriarch.

“Will the progenitor return in the Immortal Demon Grotto?” She rested her chin on her hands while ruminating and staring at the mountain. Its peak was shrouded by clouds and fogs so she couldn’t see the legendary cave at all.

According to the legends, their forefather always returned inside that cave. The sages of Mountguard would then greet him afterward.

“But no one can climb to the peak now in our sect. We wouldn’t even know if the forefather had reincarnated.” She murmured.

Because of the current state of declination, not a single member of Mountguard was capable of reaching the top of the divine mountain, let alone entering Immortal Demon Grotto.

Ascension required overcoming an immense pressure. This force gradually increased as one climbs higher - not something they could handle or resist. At a certain level, the climbers would be crushed into streams of blood.

A very long time ago, they had ancestors capable of entering the cave. Alas, after the last sage passed away, not a single newcomer could accomplish this task.

Of course, great masters have tried in each generation. This only resulted in failure. Later on, their descendants had no choice but to give up, realizing their lack of abilities.

“Reincarnation won’t happen again.” Li Qiye’s voice lingered by her ear.

“Young Noble!” She didn’t expect him to wake up at this moment and became excited.

Li Qiye ignored her and stared at the mountain. His eyes became profound, perhaps capable of peering through the boundless realms.

For some reason, she suddenly felt sad, perhaps influenced by Li Qiye’s mood.

“Old man.” Li Qiye gently sighed and said: “There’s no doubt that you’re a son of a bitch but I can’t deny your distinguished accomplishments as a pioneer.”

Everlasting Forefather and Li Qiye had a complicated feud in the past. Alas, he was dead now so animosity no longer existed.

“Few could persevere on this path. The most brilliant and the strongest have tried but a majority usually fell into temptation, unlike you. A son of a bitch worthy of respect.” Li Qiye said.

The death of Everlasting Xiao wasn’t the death of an enemy to Li Qiye, only the death of another adventurer on this path.

This arduous path wended forever and the travelers could die at any moment, or worse - sinking into depravity.

Pain and agonies tormented his eras but Everlasting Xiao still didn’t give up even when everything else has turned to ashes.

He searched for possibilities and methods. For example, this system was one of his experiments.

He tested with the samsara cycle in order to accomplish the impossible. That's why he came to Three Immortals, hoping for both an answer and finding the things he wanted.

Unfortunately, Three Immortals didn't have them, so he had to leave for his own world. That's why the reincarnation cycles stopped in the divine mountain.

Finally, Everlasting Xiao went all out just once. The result was obvious - absolute failure and destruction.

Luckily, this system in Three Immortals could still be considered as his legacy.

[Chapter 2720: To The Mountain](#)

"Go climb it." Li Qiye gave Jiahui a glance and commended.

"Climb it?" She pointed at herself then the mountain before stammering: "Me-me? Going up the divine mountain?"

"Yes, carry me up there." Li Qiye slowly closed his eyes.

Jiahui's vision darted back and forth between her and Li Qiye, thinking that he might be joking despite his serious expression.

No one has been able to do so for millions of years now. Even the strongest member of Mountguard couldn't do so, let alone an ordinary disciple like her. Moreover, she needed to carry Li Qiye too?

"I, I can't do it. I think I'll be turned into a mist of blood before reaching the halfway ridge." She said without confidence.

"That's why you have me on your back." Li Qiye said insipidly.

The girl didn't know what to do. This wasn't an issue of lacking confidence or having low self-esteem, just a matter of abilities and being realistic.

"My insignificant cultivation can't withstand the suppression from the mountain." She added, knowing that even their sect's Eternals powerful Eternals couldn't do it.

"That's irrelevant. What's important here is whether you have enough determination and will to do so. The suppression won't fall upon you." Li Qiye said.

She had no response due to lacking enough information about the divine mountain. This lack of knowledge extended to the rest of the sect.

"Can you do it? Do you have what it takes to pass this mental trial?" Li Qiye opened his eyes and asked.

She has never thought about this matter before due to its impossible nature for an ordinary disciple like her.

An attempt should be left for the seniors of the sect so Li Qiye's request completely caught her off guard.

"To live a boring life of adequacy or to risk it all for one shot. Your choice." Li Qiye ended with this and closed his eyes.

“Fine, I’ll, I’ll do it! I will climb the mountain!” She took a deep breath and gritted her teeth after a long silence.

Li Qiye seemed to be asleep and didn’t hear her answer.

“What?! You want to climb up there?” Zhiting was shocked to hear Jiahui’s decision.

“I’ll be carrying the young noble.” Jiahui has made up her mind and wouldn’t listen to anyone.

Zhiting instinctively stared at the slumbering Li Qiye, realizing that it was his idea.

“I’ll go with you.” She took a deep breath and nodded. She couldn’t let Jiahui go by herself due to the arduous task.

Jiahui shook her head and didn’t say anything.

“Then I’ll accompany you to the foot of the mountain.” Zhiting conceded.

Jiahui agreed and went to report this to her master.

“Insanity! Such foolishness!” Her master instantly scolded after hearing about her intent to climb the divine mountain on top of carrying a cripple.

This was nothing short of being suicidal because he himself wouldn’t be able to do it.

Alas, Jiahui maintained her stance and her master couldn’t stop her. There was no rule forbidding disciples from climbing up the mountain. The only deterrence in place was the fear of death.

“Don’t you know that once you fail to resist the suppression, it will turn you into blood?” Her master said with a grave tone.

She quietly nodded and didn’t tell him about Li Qiye.

Seeing his disciple as stubborn as a donkey prompted him to convene with several other elders. They eventually allowed her to do so in accordance with the sect’s rules.

“The elders have agreed. Your life is in your own hand.” Her master helplessly said: “It’s not too late to drop this. You have improved recently and showed great potential for a bright future, no need to throw your life away.”

He believed that there could only be one outcome - death for both her and Li Qiye. It was fine for a crippled mortal to die but a disciple like Jiahui dying would be such a waste. He had such high hopes for her recently too.

“Go back and prepare.” In the end, all he could do was watch.

Jiahui went back to gather some necessary items for climbing. She didn’t know how long this would take so she brought some dried rations and healing ointments.

Though her master completely disagreed with her decision, he still brought her a bottle of medicine. Perhaps it could prove useful later.

She set off with Li Qiye on her back for the mountain after ample preparation.

Numerous peers heard about this matter and became very confused. The whole thing seemed illogical. The task alone was impossible enough but she wanted to bring a mortal too?

“So ignorant, she doesn’t know her own limits.” Some criticized her choice.

Jiahui wasn’t popular in the sect but this climb of hers created quite a stir. Alas, very few actually cared about her wellbeing.

Those close to her tried to dissuade her from being so crazy but she maintained her decision. No one else could do anything about it.

Only Zhiting didn’t try after finding out that it was Li Qiye’s choice. It would be a good test for Jiahui. Thus, Zhiting also aided with the preparation process. She put more effort into helping Jiahui than she would for herself. She even gave Jiahui her weapons and treasures.

Those close to her came to see her climb. Of course, plenty of disciples came to watch the fun too.

“She’s insane, going up there with such meager power.” One senior brother shook his head.

“Well, Junior Sister Guo is a weird one. First, taking care of a cripple for no reason then climbing with him up the divine mountain? There must be something wrong with her mind.” Another senior sister sneered.

“Shut up!” Li Jiankun shouted: “There’s nothing wrong with saving him, Junior Sister Guo is just a kind person.”

He paused for a bit before continuing: “Those who dare to climb the mountain are full of determination. Few have the courage to even attempt this.”

He was the first brother of the sect and had a better vision compared to the others. No one else dared to say anything after this.

“Don’t force it if you can’t go any higher, no one will laugh at you. In case of danger, just throw that person away and run.” One close senior sister quietly told Jiahui while seeing her off.