Emperor 2801

Chapter 2801: Sinkin

The old man stared intensely at the mark on Li Qiye's forehead. When they crossed each other's path, his eyes suddenly lit up.

"A sinkin!" He stopped, showing aggression.

The group also halted; their eyes fixed on Li Qiye. In the beginning, the majority of the group didn't pay any attention to someone like Li Qiye.

"Senior, what's a sinkin?" A young one heard this word for the first time and asked while staring at Li Qiye. [1]

"A sinkin is a banished tribe. Rumor has it that the ancestor of this tribe was a terrible evildoer, even the great progenitor of our academy couldn't enlighten this person. Thus, this ancestor was banished. Their posterity, later on, is known as sinkins." A middle-aged cultivator explained.

He had a high forehead and looked dignified. He carefully examined Li Qiye and couldn't see anything evil.

"Senior, are you sure this young brother is from that tribe?" He asked.

"Absolutely!" The old man stared at the mark on Li Qiye's forehead and said: "According to the ancient text, these sinkins have a mark on their forehead. That mark right there is exactly like the text description, so I'm certain that he's one of them."

"I've never heard of this sinkin tribe." Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: "This mark is from an unexpected wound, not a symbol."

"Excuses are useless." The old man became serious: "When the great progenitor banished your kind to Repentance City, he hoped that your future generations would be able to change. However, they disappeared later on into the wild, no longer showing themselves to the outside world. Looks like this is true with you here."

All eyes were on Li Qiye. Some of them had a glimpse of animosity.

After all, they came from the Academy of Light and instinctively viewed a member from a banished tribe as an enemy.

"I heard the ancestors of this tribe are all evil with darkness in their heart, some might be devils from the darkness. Their future generations probably belong to this evil affinity as well." A relatively older youth has heard rumors about this tribe before.

"From the darkness?" Some youths staggered backward while their aggression intensified.

"How shallow. Let's say that my ancestors are indeed sinkins, does that make me evil too?" Li Qiye shook his head.

"Hmph, hard to say, a dog can't stop eating feces. You might be just like your ancestor." A person glowing with holy light coldly uttered.

"Sinkins haven't shown up for a long time so this is very surprising. This wildland had some changes in the last several days with darkness turning the land evil. Perhaps this is related." "An old man became cautious.

"Maybe this is the work of their tribe." Another suspected Li Qiye right away.

They began to crowd around him while slowly taking out their weapons.

"What do you want?" Li Qiye glanced at the group.

"Speak, did your kind do this?!" A youth shouted: "You must be scheming against our academy, or maybe your ancestors are still holding a grudge about being banished back then and want to return."

"You have a rich imagination." Li Qiye chuckled in response: "You're wasting your talent by cultivating instead of becoming a storyteller."

"Don't run your mouth and surrender or we'll let you have it." The youth barked back.

"Senior, is this accurate?" The middle-aged man with the high forehead said with uncertainty. He found Li Qiye to be an ordinary person, not a big schemer with ties to the darkness.

"It's better to be prudent." The old man said: "A scout said that the situation deeper in there is extremely grave with rampaging darkness, worse than our expectation."

"What should we do?" The man looked at Li Qiye.

After all, Li Qiye hasn't done anything evil yet. They shouldn't capture him just because he is a sinkin.

The young ones exchanged glances. Say, killing Li Qiye was an unreasonable decision. Nevertheless, they still had animosity towards him.

They have never seen sinkins before and had no feud with Li Qiye. However, the history of this particular tribe made them view him as a bad person with darkness in his heart - a preconceived prejudice.

"This is your light?" Li Qiye couldn't help but laugh: "Not distinguishing between right and wrong and wanting to kill from the start just because a person is of a different dao."

"Don't try to twist the situation with words." The glowing youth had a murderous glint: "He's not one of us and definitely has nefarious intent especially with the darkness in his heart. He'll cause trouble for sure. Kill him now to avoid needless complication."

"So this is a student from the Academy of Light. How disappointing." Li Qiye shook his head disapprovingly.

"Ignorant fool, insulting our academy? That's even more deserving of death!" The youth unsheathed his sword, ready to kill.

"Don't act blindly!" The middle-aged man yelled at him.

The youth begrudgingly listened while still pointing his sword at Li Qiye, waiting for an opportunity to strike.

"Senior, what now?" The middle-aged man asked.

"You are from the wildland? Where, exactly? Who are your seniors in the tribe?" The old man stared at Li Qiye before answering.

"Unfortunately, I'm not interested in answering you." Li Qiye refused.

"Hmph!" The old man scowled, unsatisfied with a lack of response. However, because of his status, he wasn't in a position to deal with Li Qiye.

"Let me capture him. He'll spill everything right away." The youth earlier became excited.

"What's happening here?" Suddenly, a voice capable of swaying the soul came from above.

Light emanated and flowed like water before the coming of this speaker. It was as if a layer of white snow was covering the ground.

This light was warm and had a cleansing nature like a hot breeze amidst a world of snow. It could clear a lost traveler's mind.

A girl appeared once the light dispersed. Everyone instantly bowed towards her with a look of reverence.

She was quite young, only slightly over twenty. Beautiful features, tall and thin - more than enough to make the fish and birds hide from feeling inadequate. Her white-snow dress accentuated her flawlessness. Most importantly, her hair draping over her shoulders was white as well. She looked like a princess from a world of snow.

However, the most noticeable part about her was her sacred glow.

The light followed her wherever she went. She even had a pair of wings made of light particles. When they flapped ever so slightly, these particles would rain down and chase away the darkness. She was a holy and inviolable beauty.

Both men and women stared at her in awe. Meanwhile, she had a group of followers behind her as well - clearly prodigies.

"Your Majesty..." The group greeted.

Despite the overwhelming holy light, a careful cultivator could also sense the dense presence of an imperial aura.

There was no doubt that she was a True Emperor. It's just that she chose to converge this imperial aura.

Chapter 2802: Holyfrost True Emperor

Her presence filled with holiness and an imperial aura demanded respect and worship from others.

"Dean, what's happening here?" Her voice was heavenly and soothing; others became immersed while listening.

She was talking to the middle-aged man right now.

"Your Majesty..." The man cupped his fist in response.

She shook her head right away: "Dean, Meng Xi appreciates your kind gesture but you have the same seniority as the elders from our Northern Academy, so you are also my senior. Please call me by my given name."

The crowd was surprised to see how amiable and approachable she was, feeling even more impressed. Her power didn't result in her being prideful. This type of humility was very rare to see.

"Alright, deference is no substitute for obedience. Miss Meng, Elder Demg said that this young brother is from the sin tribe so we just want to verify it." The middle-aged man smiled.

The girl glanced at Li Qiye, showering him with a holy radiance as pleasant as spring itself. One would feel comfortable but also inadequate in comparison.

"This young noble is a sinkin?" The girl didn't see it at all. She was more perplexed by how calm he was despite being under scrutiny by her.

"Who might you be?" Li Qiye stared at her without holding back.

This action looked very disrespectful to the rest of the crowd.

"Such impudence! You dare to act like this in the presence of a True Emperor?!" The youth who wanted to capture Li Qiye earlier instantly shouted.

He had nothing but admiration for the True Emperor. Just being close enough to see her was more than he could ever ask for. So now, he naturally hated Li Qiye's lack of respect.

The girl waved her hand and stopped him. Her holy light also had an amicable aura to it.

"It's understandable that you don't know me considering how vast this world is." She didn't seem to mind.

"Hmph, what a frog under the well, he doesn't even know who Holyfrost True Emperor is." Another youth snorted.

All of them were fans of this girl. Though she was around their age, she was already standing at the apex as the pride of the Academy of Light.

She was extremely famous at the academy, the same for Immortal Lineage.

The great prodigy came from the Northern Academy, a native emperor on top of hailing from the Sacred Spirit Race.

This was a noble race. Their infants were born with a pair of wings made of light.

"Oh, I see, a True Emperor." Li Qiye leisurely smiled.

This only earned him more animosity from the youths here.

"Are you really a member of the sin tribe?" She asked again, still exuding a gentle holy light.

People couldn't help wanting to submit to her gentle gaze. Unfortunately, Li Qiye was unaffected.

"I've never heard of this so-called sin tribe. I was simply leaving the wildland but feel free to make whatever claim." He shrugged in response.

"Miss Meng, the sinkins have a mark on their forehead. He has one just like the description from the scrolls." Elder Deng accused Li Qiye of being one from the very start. His full name was Deng Rensen, a very powerful cultivator.

She focused on his forehead instead. Though she didn't exert her imperial aura, her gaze was still very oppressive. Others would have gotten on their knees already, just not Li Qiye.

"Such shallow knowledge, calling this the mark of a sinner?" Li Qiye shook his head: "It's nothing more than a wound."

"You!" Deng Rensen was an influential figure so to be looked down like this left him with an ugly expression. He would have exploded already if it wasn't for the emperor's presence.

"May I take a closer look at the mark?" She asked. Just her words alone were impossible to resist for most.

"Why not?" Li Qiye smiled in a carefree manner.

She raised her finger and a holy light gathered on the tip. This light seemed to have its own life like a spirit.

The spirit gently touched Li Qiye's forehead. She bore no ill-will, only wanting to test the mark.

"Pop!" The spirit instantly dispersed after experiencing immense pressure.

"You have a dark affinity in you." She was surprised to see this.

"See?! He's clearly a sinkin, a creature from the darkness. We need to capture him right now!" The glowing youth shouted. His name was Lu Shimao.

The group became frightened. Some started pointing their sword at Li Qiye. If the emperor said that he had darkness in him, it was definitely true.

Just think about it, how could that mark not have a trace of darkness when it was caused by the eye of darkness?

It didn't affect him too much, just another scar that would take some time before it goes away. This wouldn't be the case for another person since they would be affected by the mark.

"So it's true." Deng Rensen glared at Li Qiye.

"Nefarious creatures are roaming in this wildland so no travelers can guarantee that they won't be infected by dark affinity. How foolish to construe this as a sign for sinkins." Li Qiye laughed.

Deng Rensen's eyes flashed with murderous intent after hearing this taunting.

Li Qiye ignored him and turned towards this emperor, seemingly more interested in a cultivator like her.

"You were just there?" She gazed towards the direction of the wildland.

"To find some stuff. It is an evil land now." He casually revealed.

"I see, the wildland has turned evil." She withdrew her gaze and looked at him: "If you are in no hurry, it's better if you don't leave."

"Oh, you want to keep me around?" He smiled.

"With the exception of Repentance City, the rest of our system is filled with holy light. Every inch of the land belongs to this affinity. As you are right now, you will be suppressed by the holy light if you were to leave and that will be very painful. Perhaps staying at Repentance isn't a bad choice either." She said.

"Her Majesty is so kind." The young group gossiped among themselves.

"I suppose staying at Repentance is just fine since I'm just wandering around aimlessly." Li Qiye smiled.

He wasn't in a rush to leave. Plus, he was very interested in this particular city too.

"Dean, is Repentance still accepting people?" He asked the middle-aged man who just happened to be the Dean of Repentance.

"Yes, the new semester is starting so we're recruiting." The man answered.

"Then you can stay at Repentance Institution right now. It does have holy power but it's very gentle. Stay there and let it wash the darkness away. At the same time, you can get accustomed to the holy affinity too. It's far better than venturing out into other parts of the system." She told Li Qiye.

"Sounds good." Li Qiye went with the flow: "Come visit me if you have time."

"So ridiculous!" The group of youths glared angrily at him.

Chapter 2803: Repentance City

His flippant attitude infuriated the others, just not the emperor herself.

"I'll visit Repentance if I have free time later." She nodded in response.

Her attitude shut others down. If the person herself didn't mind, it wasn't their place to say anything.

"Dean, Elder Deng, you two should return too. This place isn't safe anymore for the joint training program between the major institutions. Your various deans are telling the students to go back."

"Everyone is returning?" The middle-aged man was surprised. He didn't expect the sudden recall before everyone got here.

"Yes." The emperor nodded: "Luminous Master has sent news about the current condition of the far regions in the wildland. It's too dangerous for training now and students will turn evil as a result. Thus, the deans have decided to temporarily pause the training."

"Luminous Master..." People had an expression of respect after hearing this name, even more so than towards the emperor.

"Luminous Master is here..." Deng Rensen felt the same respect as the rest.

"I'm sure he'll be able to take care of the darkness." Many started praising this being whom they considered to be invincible.

This title was very prestigious and influential in Immortal Lineage. Virtually everyone admired him. Some even said that he was brilliant enough to compare to the Radiant Decemvirate.

"You're right, he'll turn darkness into ashes for sure." Everyone agreed.

"What a shame that we can't see him in person. It would be a life worth living." One young female disciple looked like a huge fan.

Of course, no one found these comments to be unreasonable. Numerous people in Immortal Lineage virtually worshipped Luminous Master.

"It's best not to go if Luminous Master said so." The middle-aged old man nodded: "Let's go back to avoid needless complication."

The big schools sent students on a training trip to the wildland. Repentance Institution was the closest one, hence why they were the first to get here.

They didn't expect something like this to happen but agreed with Luminous Master's assessment about the risks in the wildland.

"Then please head back now, Dean. I'll delve deeper for a look and see if the fellow daoists there require assistance." She disappeared into the horizon before finishing her words.

Everyone watched her departure for a while before looking away.

"When will I be strong enough to sweep the darkness away like the emperor?" Someone said with envy.

They knew that the "fellow daoists" she referred to were the top beings in the contemporary or the greatest geniuses.

They were so far from reaching this goal, just something for them to wish for.

"Let's go. Young Brother, follow me to Repentance Institution." The man called for Li Qiye.

Li Qiye smiled and played along. Many in the group still had a prejudice against him for being a sinkin. However, they maintained the proper amount of civility and didn't attack him on the way back.

He didn't provoke them either, just following the group in the back in a leisure manner.

Meanwhile, the Dean of Repentance was very nice the entire time. He was afraid that Li Qiye couldn't keep up and ordered one disciple to take care of him.

This disciple was from Repentance as well. The youth did quite well with his training and had many achievements.

He had an impressive stature and wore his emotion on his sleeves - a dependable and honest youth.

"Junior Brother, how about I carry you the rest of the way?" His name was Zhao Qiushi. He noticed Li Qiye's feeble appearance and felt the same way as his dean.

Since the emperor told him to stay, Dean Du Wenrui didn't want anything to happen to Li Qiye either. That wouldn't be good for their institution.

"It's fine." Li Qiye smiled. He wasn't weak right now and could destroy everything with a single even when injured.

He simply wasn't in a hurry because he was still spending more time and energy refining that existence in his dao heart.

This made Zhao Qiushi think that Li Qiye couldn't keep up because of fatigue.

The middle-aged man led the group back to Repentance City.

The Academy of Light was a special place. Other systems were filled with grand dao power but this type of power had little effects on the living beings there.

This wasn't the case for this system. The holy light here was overwhelming and omnipresent. Just imagine the people growing up in such a system.

They were devout believers. Even the mortals believed in the light and had a kind disposition. Some beasts bathed in this holiness and became sacred creatures as well.

The emperor was also right about Li Qiye being suppressed by this bright affinity. The system simply didn't allow for darkness to exist. Anyone stained by the darkness would be suppressed then refined.

However, the light didn't reach one particular location as if it had abandoned it - Repentance City and its vast territory. The reason for this remained unknown.

The power of light was still flowing through this land, just not to the same overwhelming amount as other places. One wouldn't be able to feel the flowing holy aura here.

Future generations had several explanations for this phenomenon. One stated that this city used to be the gathering den of evil. Desolate Saint himself couldn't save or change the villains here. Later on, their descendants populated this place.

Some said that this city was actually a prison created by Desolate Saint to jail evil beings. Now it became home for their progenies.

The third speculation asserted that Desolate Saint purposely removed the light, wanting to turn this place into a trial for the heart.

While standing before the gate of the city, the words "Repentance City" popped out like a sore thumb.

Some students in the group were from the other academies. One of them asked: "Why is it named Repentance?"

No one could answer this question, not even the dean.

"Because it washes away the sin caused by the light, hence the name, Repentance." Li Qiye chuckled.

"Nonsense, the light is the holiest force in the world. The only thing being washed is the sin caused by the darkness." One student from another academy refuted.

These foreign students were blessed with light in their own academies. They condemned Repentance and thought this was a place of sin - the reason for the absence of light.

So now, they naturally became infuriated when Li Qiye said that their light was also a cause of sin.

"If there is nothing but light in this world, how can darkness exist?" Li Qiye elaborated: "Without darkness as a yardstick, how do you know that the light is the holiest force?"

Chapter 2804: The Reason For Repentance

Li Qiye's comment stunned the group, making them exchange perplexed glances.

"Are you even listening to yourself?" Deng Rensen, the oldest among them, coldly said.

"Then tell me the reason why Desolate Saint left a place like this. Do you think his light, one that can illuminate all of Three Immortals really couldn't reach this place?" Li Qiye smiled.

No one could refute this statement. Desolate Saint was one of the top progenitors in history. A place where his light couldn't reach meant that it should be terrifying - the greatest darkness.

This wasn't the case for Repentance. It wasn't that terrifying or dark, just the same as any other city in Immortal Lineage to a certain extent.

"The light is salvation, a guiding lamp in the darkness." Li Qiye smiled: "But what happens when the entire world is covered in light and all the inhabitants are worshippers of this affinity? Being slaves to the light is no different from living under darkness. The only difference is the process. The darkness utilizes terror while the light entices with hope. Thus, always being subservient to the light is a sin of complacent and indulgence. This necessitates repentance, hence the creation of this city."

The youths were stunned to hear such a radical thought. They have never thought about it or dared to do so before. Perhaps this made them question the light, even if just a little bit.

Growing up in this system meant bathing in the light. In their eyes, the light was the guiding principle. Anything not touched by the light was darkness and unforgivable.

Some began contemplating; others became angry at him for insulting their faith.

"Preposterous!" Deng Rensen's eyes turned cold with murderous intent: "Our system will not allow for a dark-stained person like you to do as you please! Death is in order!"

"This is the conduct of the light? Talking about killing after one disagreement?" Li Qiye smirked: "Let's assume I'm a sinkin, have you witnessed any immoral act from me? All I'm doing right now is commenting on the light yet you are asking for my head. Who is the light and darkness between the two of us then? Don't forget, the light's goal is to save all living beings, not putting down dissidents."

"Elder Deng, his words have some sense to them. Just this comment alone doesn't warrant any punishment." Dean Du Wenrei nodded and said.

"That's more like it, the benevolence of light." Li Qiye said: "Resorting to using fists right away is well, putting light and darkness aside, it's really the nature of cultivators - the rule of the jungle. The bigger

fist will be on the side of justice! No need to assume the role of the light and judge others. That's throwing away your ancestors' reputation and Desolate Saint's prestige."

"You!" Deng Rensen turned red. Alas, he couldn't actually do anything to a junior because that would be inappropriate for his status.

"Okay, stop arguing, everyone." Du Wenrei said, appreciating the subtleties behind Li Qiye's critique.

Some students here were still hostile towards Li Qiye despite his mediation. However, the ones from Repentance reflected on this new perspective.

The group eventually entered the city and headed for their school. A prosperous and lively atmosphere greeted them.

There was no light and darkness here - only people trying to live. It was a bustling scene with people coming and going - the lifestyle of mortals consisting of kindness and treachery; hard work and thievery...

One could hear the loud peddlers on the streets filled with people. Some young thieves were trying to earn their next meal...

These actions weren't separated into light or darkness, just another part of the mortal coil.

The group consisted of students from outside academies and those from Repentance Institution. The latter was familiar with the city since they grew up here, accustomed to this rowdiness.

However, this wasn't the case for the outsiders. They thought they were entering a vulgar town, akin to noble knights visiting a tiny village.

Other places in the system were filled with light. Their lives revolved around faith and worshipping.

This affinity made their soil fertile, allowing them to live in riches. Thus, they spent their time learning the etiquette and customs of nobility. They couldn't adapt to this situation; some even looked down on this way of life.

"Degenerates, how unsightly, they dare to consider themselves people of the light?" Deng Rensen observed the thieves and dishonest peddlers, finding them an eyesore.

"Buzz." A powerful aura erupted from him like a soaring dragon.

The light affinity rushed out and filled the area nearby, washing away all impurities. The muddy green tiles beneath his path started glowing. It was as if he was turning the ground itself into a sacred paradise. He then put on a dignified and intimidating expression.

"A messenger of the light!" Those nearby shouted after seeing his appearance.

The citizens on the streets stared at him in awe so the place quieted down.

"A light messenger" was a general term in Repentance City for powerful outsiders. Ordinary students and disciples weren't strong enough. Deng Rensen was a senior so he had enough power to make the crowd call him a light messenger.

The non-native students joined in as well. They released their light and lined up in a column behind him, looking quite serious while expelling corruption. They were in high spirits, standing shoulders above others like nobilities.

"Are they from Northern Academy? Or from the other big three?" Some wondered with admiration.

The group believed that they were superior and didn't try to hide it at all with their gazes.

The students from Repentance didn't do anything. They could also have the same glow because they have cultivated merit laws before. Their glow might be weaker than Lu Shimao, but not by much.

However, they came from this city and doing so was akin to looking down upon their own background. They didn't want to have a conflict with Lu Shimao's group either so they lingered behind, eventually walking next to Li Qiye.

The dean of Repentance Institution remained quiet with a natural expression, not showing his stance on this matter.

Chapter 2805: Seeing Her Again

The people on the streets made way for Deng Rensen and the others who were glowing with light.

Zhao Qiushi and his own peers found this sight discomforting, akin to a rich guest visiting one's humble abode, bragging about their wealth while making fun of others' impoverishment.

"Dean Du, Repentance Institution is an influential academy in our system." Deng Rensen told Du Wenrui while walking forward: "It should be responsible for spreading the light to every nook and corner in this city so that it can cleanse everyone's heart, turning them into devout believers."

Rensen was clearly rebuking Du Wenrui and his academy for not upholding their responsibility.

Wenrui simply smiled without retorting.

"They're only regular mortals trying to survive, not like they're villains or anything with darkness inside. Why must they worship the light?" One student from Repentance in the back couldn't help but speak up.

Deng Rensen and his group clearly considered themselves to be superior, treating others like they couldn't see the light.

"What else are they going to worship in this system, the darkness?" Shimao joined the conversation: "We cultivate the path of the light originating from our progenitor and obey his wishes. As a member of the Academy of Light, we should spread his light even more. Even this city should be under its influence."

"Idiotic." Li Qiye smilingly shook his head: "An absence of light is not a sign of evil. All living beings have their own consciousness, free will, and dao heart. They don't need to worship the light. Desolate Saint himself never said something like this when he was around. Saving the world and its inhabitants is his will, he never forced others to worship him and the light."

"The light must illuminate everything in order to stop the spread of darkness!" Rensen coldly uttered.

"Even more idiotic." Li Qiye repeated his headshake: "Forcing the world to worship your religion, that's something that darkness would do."

"I've had enough of your hogwash! A sinkin like you deserve death!" Lu Shimao raised his sword.

"Gentlemen, this is our academy's business, we'll come to a conclusion ourselves, no need for you to worry about it." Du Wenrui interrupted the fight.

Shimao's expression became frozen since this was not the right time and place so he couldn't respond.

"Dean Du, we only want what's best for everyone." Deng Rensen said flatly.

"And I appreciate your kind intentions." Wenrui smiled.

Wenrui once again mediated successfully. Nevertheless, the animosity and disdain only grew between the non-native faction and Li Qiye.

As for the natives like Zhao Qiushi, they were annoyed with Shimao's attitude but couldn't do anything about it.

On the other hand, they actually felt closer and had a better opinion of Li Qiye who came from the sin tribe.

The conversation stopped after this fight as they made their way towards Repentance Institution.

Repentance was the largest academy in this city. Well, it was the only one. Thus, the majority of people aspiring to cultivate would pick it.

Of course, those who have the means to travel further would try to join other academies. Alas, their background was a disadvantage during the recruitment process. The other academies were prejudiced against them, thinking that they were descendants of sinners.

Repentance was actually quite large. It was more than just an academy in the city. One could even say that it was the city's governing body.

It was built long ago. Some even believed that it was started during the foundation of the system by Desolate Saint himself.

That's why a few lists included it as the fifth great academy of the system. However, it hasn't been on the same level as the other four, partly due to the undesirable location. No outsiders wanted to join so there was a lack of available talents.

After the arrival, Zhao Qiushi followed Wenrui's order and prepared a place for Li Qiye. He was a reliable person, not discriminating against Li Qiye at all.

"Junior Brother, you can come to me for anything since you've just got here. I'll be around the reception post for new students." He even told Li Qiye before leaving.

Li Qiye smiled at the enthusiastic youth and didn't say anything. After the guy was gone, he sat on the bed and closed his eyes, seemingly falling asleep.

"You've been spying for quite a while now." Li Qiye slowly said: "Provoke me and I'll drag your sect down here from the sky."

There was no one around him, only thin air. But with that threat, spatial ripples appeared along with a person.

She wore a blue silk dress and hid her face with a veil. Li Qiye had met her back in the pavilion during the training trip with the seven youths and Chen Weizheng. She eventually fled after getting a taste of his power.

She came back before him now, completely undetected by anyone else.

"Senior, I have no ill-will towards you, I simply want to end this karmic tie." She bowed respectfully while speaking with a voice as pleasant as an oriole.

"You can't do anything to me anyway. A finger of mine can crush you and that monk." Li Qiye didn't bat an eye.

She stood there with both hands straight down to show subservience. She knew who she was dealing with this time around and that he wasn't lying about his abilities.

"Well, you're at least a little capable, following me here from Immortal Demon." Li Qiye said.

"Senior, the truth is that the ancestor had given me a treasure capable of deducing your traces." She hurriedly revealed.

"Jade-zenith is indeed gifted, especially with calculations and divination." Li Qiye didn't mind. [1]

"You know our progenitor?" The girl became startled.

"No, but since she dared to pry at the heavenly order, I'm sure she knows I'm here. Those who cultivate a heavenly scripture are indeed capable, but my background isn't something she can spy and calculate."

"I was foolish and might as well not have eyes." The girl started having cold sweats.

"Well, you're not as dumb as that monk." Li Qive said.

She lowered her head and listened obediently. He already showed mercy for sparing her in the past.

Though her identity and backing were impressive, they weren't enough to get into his sight. Perhaps he viewed her the same as an ant.

"Since you should be good at seering, what have you seen?" He glanced at her and asked.

The girl heaved a sigh of relief since earning his attention was an honor.

"Senior, I am incapable and didn't get anything specific, only that the future is dark and impossible to calculate." She honestly answered.

"You're not qualified to calculate this matter." He said.

"I'm ashamed of my lacking." The girl added: "I've previously left the sect under the order of the ancestor in order to settle a karmic tie and ended up offending you."

"The heavenly change heralds a monster." Li Qiye repeated this phrase.

"Yes, Senior." She said.

"What's your take on this?" He smiled.

"In my opinion, you might be the savior, Senior." She hesitated for a moment before looking at him and answering truthfully.

"Why savior instead of monster?" He shook his head in response.

"I do not dare to guess my ancestor's words of warning. Even if I do, I'll probably be wrong." She added.

"Savior or monster, that's up for debate. However, the overarching situation has changed indeed. One wrong step and Three Immortals will cease to exist." Li Qiye narrowed his eyes.

Chapter 2806: Weird Dean

"Really?" The frightened girl murmured in a daze.

"I'm not a quack fortune-teller. Plus, Jade-zenith left this message for a reason." Li Qiye chuckled.

The girl was shaken. Yes, Li Qiye had no reason to trick her. Plus, her progenitor was the one who left the cryptic and ominous message. This has to be the truth.

She took a deep breath, thinking about the destruction required to turn Three Immortals to ashes.

In the past, everyone would think that this was impossible, just groundless fears.

After all, Three Immortals have existed for who knows how long? One era came after another regardless of the ruling sects. Disasters struck before, albeit only on a small scale. Three Immortals remained the same; the only things that changed were its inhabitants.

Worst of all, this might actually happen during her generation? She was also powerless to stop it like the rest.

She recalled the sudden darkness several years ago during the divination attempt. That scared the hell out of people and it remained a mystery even today.

This dream-like sequence made the progenitors around become cautious. It was also the reason why she entered the world.

"The progenitor only left this prophecy for us. We have yet to meet." She shuddered after thinking it through and bowed deeply towards Li Qiye.

"Prying into the machination of the heaven and the momentum of the earth isn't a good thing. Failure would result in death." Li Qiye stated.

The girl didn't dare to respond.

"Take off your veil." He ordered while glancing at her.

Her origin was extraordinary, the same for her cultivation. Her status alone warranted love and respect. So many systems would treat her like an esteemed guest.

Alas, she didn't dare to refuse and slowly took off her veil, revealing her appearance.

Pretty she was with starry eyes capable of illuminating the night sky and leading the way for lost travelers. The purse of her lips gave a mature look and a special temperament. Spectators couldn't help themselves from being in awe as if she was a pure lotus deep in the valley.

"Disciple of Heaven Calculating Pavilion, Xu Xiaojin, respectfully greets you, Senior." She bowed her head again.

Most people would be shocked to hear the name of this sect but not Li Qiye. This was within his expectations.

"I'm eighteen so stop making me look old with that address." He said.

"I understand." She refrained from laughter and maintained a serious expression.

"Forget it, don't be so serious either." Li Qiye waved his sleeve.

"I'll be sure to remember, Young Noble." She was smart and flexible.

As she was about to leave, Li Qiye told her: "If you meet that monk, warn him about his silly thoughts or I'll twist his head off."

"I will let Senior Brother Dajue know." She knew that Li Qiye wasn't joking and left.

Li Qiye closed his eyes to meditate once more.

His time at Repentance Institution was peaceful because everyone else was busy with their own matters. No one came to bother him, giving him time to fully focus on refining the terrible existence.

Alas, on the second day, the dean of Repentance, Du Wenrui came to see him.

The dean took out a folded document and smiled: "Young fella, are you used to living here? What do you think about the institution?"

"Dean, if you have to fart, just do it, don't beat around the bush. Speak." Li Qiye opened his eyes.

The man turned red for a second before putting on a dignified look again. He held the document in front of Li Qiye and said: "You have agreed to join our institution so you're a student now but we're still not done with the paperwork. Write down your name and put your fingerprint right there and we'll be done."

"How rare, for a dean to personally recruit a student." Li Qiye smiled.

Du Wenrui coughed before arching his chest to speak with sincerity: "The truth is that our institution loves talents on top of treating everyone equally..."

"Dean, you're a good liar, spewing bullshit so naturally. Maintaining this facade is probably your best ability." Li Qiye leisurely said.

"Hahaha, of course not, you're quite funny." Wenrui smiled wryly.

Li Qiye accepted the scroll and added his fingerprint without checking the content.

"You don't want to read it over?" The dean was a little nervous.

"As if you can do anything if I were to change my mind. Not even you suddenly become a hundred times more courageous. Am I right?"

"Of course." Wenrui rubbed his palms together in an excited manner. He then carefully put the document away and said: "From now on, you are a student of Repentance."

"You said that your institution loves talents, how come I haven't seen you recruiting anyone capable yet?" Li Qiye asked.

"I got one now, right?" Wenrui was quite pleased with himself: "It's one thing if I don't roar, but when I do, it will echo across the world. I've just recruited the most peerless student in history, even more incredible than the progenitors."

"Well, I do enjoy this flattery." Li Qiye nodded: "People say that those with a high forehead, thick brows, and big eyes are all good men. Unfortunately, you're more of a sly fox."

"Thank you for your praise." Wenrui smiled back.

"When did you realize it?" Li Qiye sat there casually.

However, Wenrui didn't dare to act in the same manner. He solemnly said: "I found it strange right when Holyfrost True Emperor took action. Her light isn't the strongest in our system but it is still among the top three, maybe top two. However, that power of hers got crushed right away. This required a monstrous level of darkness."

He then stared at the mark on Li Qiye's forehead with apprehension.

"Who do you say is the number one then?" Li Qiye asked.

"Well... I don't know..." Wenrui shook his head in response.

Li Qiye stopped prying and gazed towards the horizon: "You're the dean of Repentance Institution. What is your view of this city?"

"How can regular people like me understand the intent of the progenitor?" Wenrui replied: "I only know that the world is wrong about Repentance. It is not a prison. The omission of light is on purpose."

"That's why you ignore it too." Li Qiye said.

"All things exist for a reason." Wenrui said seriously: "So many living beings struggle to survive. The light, darkness, various heavenly laws, chaos... They have their own orders. Living beings also have the right to pick whether they want to be with the darkness or worship the light."

"Thus, peace will be around as long as powerful beings refrained from evil deeds. The world exists for living beings to try and survive in an ephemeral yet beautiful manner. The root of evil is cultivation and searching for immortality." "Li Qiye added."

"My dao is inadequate so I do not dare to comment." Wenrui pondered before answering.

"What is your opinion on your progenitor, Desolate Saint?" Li Qiye chuckled and asked another question.

"It's fine that the world remembers the light of the progenitor, that's enough. No one is perfect, so how many can actually become a saint?" The answer came after a brief moment of hesitation.

"There are saints, albeit not that many in the long course of history. Unfortunately, this dao dooms one to solitude."

"His light still illuminates everything." Wenrui ended with this.

"Clever, avoiding the important and dwell on the trivial. No wonder why you are staying in a place like this." Li Qiye praised.

Wenrui chuckled without responding.

Chapter 2807: Fighting To The End

The courtyard outside the academy was very rowdy due to the new semester.

However, Li Qiye wasn't disturbed by this at all. He rarely went outside and focused on the task at hand.

He benefited greatly while destroying the darkness. In his mind, the eye of darkness has lost its power under the suppression of the four images.

It was reverted back to its initial form - just another eye. It's just that it gained the same power as its owner in the past.

The eye was quite large with two distinct pupils. At the very least, its owner wasn't a human. It was hard to determine the nature and race of the owner judging by this eye alone.

Upon closer inspection, Li Qiye found this eye to be incredible, seemingly containing an endless period of time.

Perhaps it was there during the initial inception and has been watching the entire world. Billions and billions of years along with the rise and fall of all have been observed, turning this eye into the greatest witness in existence.

Neither jade nor gold but the eye looked quite tough, seemingly untouchable. Through extrapolation, its master was clearly an indestructible and undying being.

"Incredible, this eye is a supreme treasure. Even ancestral weapons can't compare at all." He eventually praised it after the meticulous observation.

It had an innate force and could destroy the world, provided that someone could activate it.

"Hehe, don't forget, half of its everything is in this eye, it's not doing well right now without it. Well, finding it is very, very difficult. But now, you can use its own eye to look for it." The terrible existence said.

The "it" here was referencing the master of the eye.

"When at maximum power, who is stronger between you and it?" Li Qiye eventually said.

"Hah." The existence didn't answer: "It's a shame that coming to Three Immortals isn't easy. This is a very good place that has gestated for eons. Even the villainous heaven can't touch it."

It paused for a moment before continuing: "However, this won't last forever since everything will cease to exist when that day comes. Not even the villainous heaven is excluded from this."

"That day won't come." Li Qiye smiled.

"It's good to be confident but you will surely lose this match." The existence said: "Compare yourself to that villainous heaven under your strongest state."

"I will certainly come back triumphantly!" Li Qiye's gaze became profound.

"However, you will die above the firmaments." The existence said: "It doesn't matter how strong you are, even to the point of being able to kill me. Your fate is already sealed."

"That day comes to all of us. Living and dying are the same things to me as long as I get to fight until the end." Li Qiye calmly said.

"Good mentality to have." The existence pondered for a moment before speaking: "It's very difficult to maintain this mindset though. As you grow stronger and learn more, especially while standing at the apex and looking down on the world, you will no longer want to die. Your only pursuit will be immortality!"

"My immovable dao heart is eternal - all I want is just one chance to fight." Li Qiye said.

"I see." The existence sighed in response: "I'm inferior to you in this regard. So what if I had a lifetime of brilliance? I suppose losing to you isn't shameful at all since I can't break your dao heart."

"Your death will be meaningful due to the values that come after." Li Qiye smiled.

The existence didn't answer, ending the conversation.

Li Qiye turned his focus back on the eye devoid of the dark affinity now after reverting to its original state.

He put it away and took out the severed golden hand. One would mistakenly think that it was cast from gold instead of being a part of someone. The muscles and various lines had a metallic appearance.

It gripped the eye tightly even after slamming into the ground. This successful suppression was due to two things - the power of the hand along with the undying intent of its owner.

Thus, the grip loosened in a natural manner after the dark affinity went away.

Whatever its owner might be, this being must have been extremely mighty in order to claw this eye out.

It wasn't enough to break the indestructibility of the eye, but just taking it off of the immortal being was incredible. Ordinary progenitors had no chance of doing so.

The next noticeable thing was the various dao runes from an ancient era. Another sign of this owner being superior to progenitors.

"These are supreme dao runes. Anyone who can create these runes will be able to traverse the world untethered." Li Qiye praised.

To earn such praise from Li Qiye wasn't easy. After all, merit laws heaven-defying enough to amaze him were extremely rare.

The hand by itself couldn't physically dig out the eye. These runes played a great part in addition to the owner's prowess.

From this, he speculated that these runes weren't imprinted by the owner of the hand but by an even more impressive existence.

The owner of the golden hand was already beyond imagination but there was someone else even stronger?

"A brutal war." Li Qiye put the hand away and gazed through the sky vault: "It's inevitable. Come, I'll be waiting."

"You might be ready but what about everyone else? Are those True Emperors and progenitors ready?" The existence jumped in again.

"They will still need to fight, ready or not. It's impossible to plan against all the dangers in the world." Li Qiye said.

"Well, failure might not be a bad thing. Those ready to die are amazing. Their death will encourage their descendants. That's why these sages moved forward despite knowing the futility of their action, that their blood and head will fall to the ground."

It paused for a moment and continued: "Don't forget, darkness and light exist together. They do not discriminate between allies and foes either. Some people are afraid of death too. The fatal blow might not be from your enemy but your allies. Not all the inhabitants will be on your side."

"So what? I'll just continue killing everyone in my way." Li Qiye didn't mind at all.

"Even your closest ones?" It revealed a faint yet truly sinister smile.

"Indeed." Li Qiye's expression didn't change in the slightest.

"Then you are no different from me." The existence's smile grew wider: "What makes you think you're qualified to be the savior?"

"I've never claimed to be." Li Qiye replied nonchalantly but his eyes were brimming with determination: "I'm just another combatant ready to fight until the sky falls into ruins."

"Then be ready to hear the laments of everyone." The existence said.

Li Qiye smiled and closed his eyes.

Chapter 2808: Repentance Pond

Li Qiye never lost sight of his goal and ignored all external matters at the institution.

Zhao Qiushi came to visit him today. In fact, this youth has been visiting every day since Li Qiye's arrival.

He didn't dare to be careless after being assigned this task by the dean himself. He was afraid of Li Qiye not being used to this new place.

"Junior Brother, do you want to go outside? You haven't gone out at all." Qiushi noticed that the guy has only been meditating: "Cultivation isn't done in one day. The weather is perfect so why not go take a look around the institution?"

"Indeed, cultivation isn't done in one day. Let's go take a look then." Li Qiye agreed and smiled at the youth.

"I'll be your guide." Qiushi enthusiastically said, feeling much better.

He was afraid of Li Qiye being sensitive and feeling inferior about being a member of the sin tribe, and that others would despise him.

Li Qiye understood what the youth was thinking right away and didn't bother correcting him.

Qiushi took him to different places in the academy while telling him relevant cool stories or interesting anecdotes.

Repentance Institution and this city have been around for about the same time as the four great academies. Alas, it had a serious lack of talents, let alone geniuses.

Thus, there weren't that many interesting topics about it. Nevertheless, the education here shouldn't take the blame.

Only natives would join Repentance so there existed a clear lack of potential recruits. On the other hand, everyone in the system wanted to join any of the four great academies.

Moreover, the stigma stemming from the lack of light also hindered its reputation.

Think about it, the merit laws taught in this place were still of the light affinity passed down by Desolate Saint. Therefore, not having the light affinity in abundance slowed the cultivation process.

Students at the other academies studying the same merit laws could train less yet gain more in comparison.

All of these factors culminated in a lack of success and prodigies in Repentance.

In this generation, Zhou Qiushi was already an excellent student. He was already a True King at his age. If he had joined one of the four great academies, he might be a True God right now.

He was relatively older and nearing his graduation date, just missing a chance to go on a training adventure.

That's why many students here respected and came to greet him. Of course, some glanced at Li Qiye too. Most have heard that he was a sinkin.

However, they didn't share the same animosity towards him like the students from other academies.

Lu Shimao and his group considered themselves to be righteous. A sinkin like Li Qiye was naturally considered an enemy.

The narratives from outsiders considered the natives of Repentance to be descendants of evil-doers. They weren't basked in the light either, so in their opinion, Li Qiye being a sinkin wasn't a big deal.

Li Qiye strolled along and occasionally chuckled at the stories told by Qiushi.

Finally, the duo made it to the very center of the academy. There existed a great pond with surging spring water.

This was the only place in the academy - no, in the entire vast city - that actively exuded the light affinity in a continuous manner.

A stone statue of an old man was in the middle of the pond. It wore a simple robe and sat in the meditative pose with its head lowered. One couldn't see its face too well. A sword was laying on his knees - ashen in color and had ancient runes carved on the blade along with its name, Repentance.

Seeing these two characters written in an aggressive style left the spectators with a heavy heart.

Li Qiye paused and looked at the old statue then the sword.

"This is our sacred spring also named Repentance, the only spot in this land with light and the power source of our institution." Zhao Qiushi proudly said.

The water came from the bottom of the pond along with the power of light. Qiushi was right to be proud.

People would start wondering about whether this land was cursed or not if it wasn't for the existence of this pond. At the very least, it showed that light hasn't abandoned this place completely.

Li Qiye smiled and nodded, still looking at the sword.

"It's a statue of our progenitor, of course. I heard he himself put it here. Plus, that might be his personal sword too." Qiushi said with respect.

"It's definitely a fine blade." Li Qiye nodded and stopped looking.

"A peerless divine sword." Qiushi was still full of pride: "Rumor has it that no one can take this sword away ever since the progenitor left it here. It's unique and needs to accept a master. Using brute force is useless."

This pond, the statue, and the sword were symbols and evidence of the institution's orthodox status.

If it wasn't for them, who would actually think that this land was a part of the system and that it was started by Desolate Saint? They would have accused the place of being part of the heretical dao long ago, denouncing its role as an academy.

Fortunately, these remnant artifacts stopped everyone from ever refuting the academy's status.

"No one can take it away?" Li Qiye glanced at the sword again and chuckled.

"Junior Brother, just holding it is impossible, let alone taking it away." Qiushi put on a serious expression: "According to the dean, for millions of years now, only a few beings can actually pick it up. Even a True Emperor must be recognized by the light before trying."

"Just picking it up is no big deal. Now, taking it away is indeed difficult." Li Qiye smiled: "Those who can't pick it up just lack a firm dao heart."

"You must be new here." A student nearby overheard Li Qiye and shook his head. He didn't mean to mock Li Qiye at all: "Seems like you don't know much about this blade. Its name is Repentance as well. Students like us have no chance, the same with the older masters. In fact, the only person currently known to be capable of picking it up is Holyfrost True Emperor!"

"He's right, Junior Brother, it's an impossibility. Holyfrost True Emperor is from the Sacred Spirit Race. She has cultivated in Northern Academy since youth and is the strongest light user in our system. She's the only one who can pick it up but she still can't take it away. Don't underestimate this sword. People like us have no chance of taking it away without being chosen." Qiushi said.

He wasn't exaggerating, only merely stating facts. All along, few have managed to pick it up. The successful ones eventually returned it to this spot.

The brilliant Radiance True Emperor had visited this place too. He held the sword before putting it down again, ending with a comment: "This sword belongs here."

Chapter 2809: Turning Evil

"Well, it's a bit wasteful to leave such a good sword here." Li Qiye smiled.

"What else can we do? No one can take it away, not to mention that it is our academy's treasure." Zhao Qiushi smiled wryly.

Everyone knew that this sword belonged to Desolate Saint and should be immensely powerful.

To possess this ancestral sword meant being capable of conquering the world with a single slash.

In fact, numerous disciples of the system have tried before. The lack of results was well documented.

"Repentance." Li Qiye stared at the head of the statue, unable to get a full look due to its lowered state. However, he still knew exactly who it was.

Back in the thirteen continents, those powerful enough to witness the fight in the old epoch would be shocked to see this statue, recognizing who it was with haste.

"What crimes are being repented and washed away?" Li Qiye smirked and said.

Qiushi and the students nearby couldn't answer this question. The name of this place has always been Repentance. Perhaps only Desolate Saint himself could answer this.

"It's washing away the crimes of dregs like you!" A loud voice full of enmity answered Li Qiye.

"That's Lu Shimao." The native students shouted. Some stepped backward to stay away from him.

The raging speaker was Lu Shimao who was temporarily staying here after the failed training attempt. He wasn't well-received by the native students.

He and his peers looked down on the students here at the bottom of their heart. They considered themselves to be superior while the native students were descendants of sinners.

Because of this, the natives didn't like him either but still needed to restrain their annoyance.

"Little animal! You better spill it!" Shimao seethed with anger and glared at Li Qiye.

"Shimao, what's going on? Junior Brother Li has not left his room in the last several days and couldn't have offended you." Qiushi blocked the way. He naturally wouldn't watch Li Qiye being bullied by Shimao since the dean told him to take care of Li Qiye.

"Scram to the side, I will take my time interrogating this bastard!" Shimao remained aggressive.

"Let's calm down and talk it out." Qiushi didn't relent.

In the case of a fight, a True King like him probably wasn't weaker than Shimao.

"Talk?! Too late for that! I want this bastard to spill what the sinners are doing in the wildland, to actually plot against Holyfrost True Emperor!" Shimao's eyes widened with fury.

"Holyfrost True Emperor was hurt?" The others became surprised.

Though they were from Repentance, they still sincerely respected this emperor. A powerful existence like her being ambushed naturally astounded them.

Shimao admired the emperor as well so he was shocked to hear the news of her injuries. He immediately thought about Li Qiye and decided to vent. He believed that the sin tribe in the wildland had schemed against the emperor.

"Fool." Li Qiye said: "Being wounded after entering the darkness shows that her dao heart isn't ready to directly face it."

"Bullshit!" Shimao took advantage of Qiushi being caught off guard after hearing the news and rushed past him.

"Honestly confess or I'll whip you!" He stood before Li Qiye and threatened.

"Lu Shimao!" Qiushi regained his wits and shouted.

"I'm gonna crush you, disgusting sinkin!" Alas, Shimao already made his move, reaching straight for Li Qiye's mark on the forehead.

He wanted to rip away Li Qiye's mark by tearing off the skin layer - a brutal move indeed.

Li Qiye didn't move at all and stood there waiting.

"Watch out!" Qiushi bellowed but it was too late. Shimao's fingers have touched his forehead.

Strangely enough, the assailant seemed to be struck by lightning after the successful contact.

"Bump! Bump!" He leaped backward and tumbled with a pale expression.

No one knew what was going on.

"Ah!" He suddenly screamed while buzzes could be heard.

A plume of darkness appeared on his fingers. Next, his entire hand was covered. It immediately turned black like coal.

"Ahhh!" He screamed repeatedly as the darkness spread to his entire body. The guy looked like he was covered in ink now.

Prior to this, the youth was always covered by a holy glow. This light couldn't do anything now and was turned into darkness as well.

Black scales started growing on this youth; his face became twisted.

"What the hell is happening?!" Qiushi and the others retreated farther away, afraid that this darkness would spread to them.

Qiushi hurriedly glanced over at Li Qiye but nothing was happening to him. Of course, Qiushi couldn't know the reason for this.

That mark was a wound caused by the eye of darkness. The dark affinity left behind was extremely powerful. Holyfrost True Emperor couldn't purify it, let alone others.

Li Qiye stopped suppressing this dark power when Shimao touched his forehead. He directly channeled it into this youth who was courting death.

How could Shimao's pitiful power be able to suppress this terrifying darkness? Just one strand like earlier far exceeded his level and took over his body.

"Ahhh!" His scream echoed across the academy so many heard him.

"What's happening here?!" Deng Rensen and the foreign students ran over, becoming startled after seeing the darkness taking over Shimao.

"Elder Deng, save me! Hurry!" Shimao bellowed.

White bone spurs started protruding from his back and pierced through his robe. The spectators were horrified.

"What... the monstrosity..." The crowd retreated even more at this sight.

"Bastard, what did you do?!" Deng Rensen shouted at Li Qiye.

"Elder Deng, haven't you heard about a legend regarding the sin tribe? Why do we have this mark on our forehead? It's because we're born with darkness coursing through us and this mark exists to seal this power. Shimao tried to rip out my mark so the seal was broken. The dark affinity instantly escaped and drilled into his body. I should be thanking him for saving me. From now on, I can stop worrying about it." The moment Li Qiye finished, the mark on his forehead fell off like a scab.

Chapter 2810: Purification

People believed him after seeing the mark fall off his forehead because they knew nothing about the sin tribe, having only heard about its existence without any detail.

The sinkins that used to live in Repentance were gone now and haven't shown up since.

Deng Rensen started doubting himself too due to a lack of knowledge. He only read about them in the ancient scrolls, just little tidbits here and there.

The youth's comment seems to make sense. Even Shimao's fellow students exchanged glances and found this to be a logical explanation.

After all, Shimao forcefully broke Li Qiye's mark along with the seal. That's why darkness surged into him.

Little did they know that Li Qiye was making the whole thing up in order to play with them.

"Elder Deng, help me!" Shimao screamed again.

A full section of bone spurs has finished growing on his back. They were extremely sharp and shiny at the tip.

"Go!" Rensen saw the unfavorable situation and exuded holy light.

A large pair of light wings materialized behind him. His light then focused on Shimao's body.

"Boom!" It looked like a pulse shooting straight at the youth's heart.

Deng Rensen wanted to use his mighty light affinity in order to wash away the darkness inside Shimao.

"Ah!" The youth screamed even more after being struck by the pulse.

The darkness in his heart seemed to be receding for a split second. The color around his chest became regular once more.

"Raaa!" This didn't last long. He suddenly turned into a fierce beast with red eyes.

A terrible aura erupted as if a devil had taken over him. The darkness grew in power and arrogance. His chest turned black again with scales growing once more.

"Raaa!" This bestial state and frightening visage of his scared the students nearby.

"Zzz-" The darkness spread through the pulse and headed for straight Deng Rensen. It wanted to turn the light into darkness along with this old man.

"Break!" Rensen added more power to the light affinity. He summoned a treasure - a holy scepter that poured out boundless light.

The pulse became more powerful and pushed back against the darkness.

The darkness plaguing the pulse instantly dispersed. Alas, Shimao was still wrapped in darkness despite the light overwhelming him.

"Teacher, we're coming!" All the students that followed him took action.

Their light gathered together into a majestic force shooting straight for Shimao.

"Ah!" The youth screamed again. Unfortunately, the power of the light seemed futile here. The darkness continued to consume it.

As the light grew stronger, so did the darkness through consumption.

"Throw him into Repentance Pond!" The alarmed Rensen shouted after seeing darkness crawling towards them through the pulse again.

"The pond?!" His students didn't expect this.

"Go!" Rensen decisively stopped trying to purify the darkness on Shimao.

"Splash!" The pulse then pushed him flying straight into the pond.

The pond instantly became resplendent. The water turned back to their original form - the holiest light.

This "water" engulfed him and seemed to be burning him.

"Ah!" The pain must be intolerable, causing his face to become twisted and ferocious.

However, this blazing light seemed to be effective in burning away the darkness on him.

Thus, the darkness tried to escape from the youth but it was trapped by the power of the pond now. Each dark strand got incinerated into smoke.

The screams from the boy never stopped. Though the darkness was leaving his body, he was still twitching, his eyes all white. Being tortured by two powerful affinities was too much for his body to take.

"That's bad..." The native students knew that there was no saving him.

The water from the pond was the purest light power. Rumor has it that Desolate Saint used this place to try and purify sinners in the past and that the manifestation of water here came from the dao source itself.

After millions of years, the light power here naturally weakened but still had plenty of might.

Being washed by the light was very beneficial - cleansing both the impurities and dispersing one's mental demon. However, this depended on the intensity of the light.

The light from this pond was just too pure. Just this little pond alone had enough light affinity to incubate a vast area like Repentance City.

Once thrown in this pond, the terrifying yet holy water would wash away all evil in one's mind.

The problem was, no one is perfect. Everyone had evil thoughts in them. Not too many people had a dao heart strong enough to withstand this cleansing.

Staying in the pond for a long time had a serious effect. One could become kinder and purer, but abusing this could also turn them into a fool. They would lose their memories and intelligence, leaving only the physical husk behind.

The natives believed that this was the case for the twitching Shimao right now even if he were to

However, Deng Rensen had no intention of helping the youth since the darkness earlier truly frightened him.

He was a very powerful cultivator but still couldn't suppress that darkness earlier despite having the help of many students.

He thought that there might be more darkness hiding in Shimao. That's why he let the youth stay in the pond and let the light ravage him.

In his mind, this sacrifice was necessary so that not a single strand of darkness could escape.

"Senior Deng, I don't think Lu Shimao can last much longer." Qiushi kindly said since he couldn't bear to see Shimao squirming in agony.

"It's fine, let him accept the light. It will grant him a lifetime of benefits." Rensen was unmoved.

The natives became afraid of Rensen's ruthlessness. No one from Repentance would dare to go in that pond since they knew the terrible consequence. It looked like Rensen didn't mind letting the boy turn into a fool.