

Emperor 2821

[Chapter 2821: Don't Bet Against Me If You're Poor](#)

"Do it! Bet against him!" The students in the back shouted, wanting to see a match.

Li Qiye only smiled, so did Du Wenrui who was standing next to him.

A dean like him wouldn't interfere with the juniors but he knew that someone was about to get really unlucky.

"So yes or no?" The student from Dawn stared intensely at Li Qiye: "You were so courageous earlier. Let's do it."

Li Qiye still stood there with a smile, looking as if he was trying to play it off.

"He's scared, only good at pretending to be cool." One student in the back sneered, very annoyed with Li Qiye earlier.

"There are dozens of you, what's there to be afraid of against one guy? How embarrassing." Another shouted.

"We should leave." Qiushi pulled on Li Qiye's sleeve again. The other students from Repentance stared at him, full of anxiety. They also wanted to leave.

"Scram then." The student from Dawn gloated after seeing this: "Don't come outside if you're both useless and cowardly. A few dozen can't match up to me alone. Leave right now to save yourself from further embarrassment."

The students from Repentance glared at this youth with anger. Alas, the power disparity still paralyzed them.

"What? You don't agree? Then accept the bet. I'll take all of you on." The student from Dawn wasn't afraid at all and became more aggressive, stomping on their pride.

"Can't believe they don't even dare to give it a try. Stop wasting our time then because you won't get crap from the tree anyway." Another student in the back urged.

"Yes, get out if you don't want to bet." The others loudly parroted.

"Alright, what's the bet?" Li Qiye chuckled to Qiushui's astonishment.

"He finally grew some balls." The student from Dawn laughed and looked down at the group: "I can handle whatever you want to bet, treasures, pills, just name it."

He paused for a bit before continuing: "Realize this though, I'm not a bully because if I were to name the bet first, you all won't be able to match it."

"Of course they wouldn't be able to put up the same bet as you." Another student jeered: "All of them combined won't match a pinky of yours."

"So? Take out your valuables and I'll just match them." The student from Dawn snorted.

Qiushi shook his head several times at Li Qiye in order to tell him that they wouldn't win.

"I see, so you're telling me you can handle whatever I put on the table?" Li Qiye acted surprised.

"That's right, I don't care what your bet will be, I can handle it. The issue here is that you probably won't be able to bet anything valuable." The student from Dawn proudly said.

"Perfect, I just happen to have a little bit of change on me." Li Qiye smirked.

Having said that, he took the Sword of Repentance off his back and unsheathed it.

Sword energy billowed in a crazy manner as he said: "This sword's name is Repentance and should be worth something. Oh, yeah, I think Progenitor Desolate Saint left it behind. Come take a look, tell me how much it's worth."

"Clank!" He gently flicked the blade and unleashed a draconic roar. Its sword energy blotted out the sky as if there were ten thousand swords up there.

"Repentance, the defining treasure of that academy!" Everyone looked up at the sky. A relatively older student recognized this sword.

Qiushi and the others were shocked to see Li Qiye betting their defining treasure. Qiushi tugged on Li Qiye's sleeve like crazy now. His eyes begged Li Qiye to not do it.

"Is that real? A sword left behind by the progenitor?" Everyone checked out the sword.

"Look at that sword energy, it has to be real." A powerful student was keen enough to recognize treasures.

Du Wenrui who has been quiet the entire time coughed to get everyone's attention and said: "I don't interfere in juniors' matters but as for this sword, I guarantee that it belonged to the progenitor using my reputation as the dean of Repentance. It was also his personal sword."

Since the dean himself has staked his reputation on the line, everyone realized that this sword was the real thing.

"A personal sword of our progenitor..." Astonishment struck the crowd.

This meant that this sword was an incredible ancestral treasure. In any system, these treasures were extremely precious.

Not to mention a regular disciple or student, even their strongest and most brilliant wasn't qualified to have one.

Thus, everyone was shocked to see one in person. Some even had flashes of greed in their eyes. Who wouldn't want an ancestral treasure, especially the personal sword of their progenitor

This should be far stronger than a regular artifact of the same grade.

"Mmm, I'll be betting this sword, what about you?" Li Qiye casually said.

He pinned the sword down on the ground and everyone's attention turned towards the Dawn student.

This student turned red. Yes, he was an excellent member of this prestigious academy and his clan wasn't bad either. It could be considered a large-sized clan in their area. Alas, they still wouldn't be able to take out an ancestral treasure.

How could he bet against Li Qiye if he couldn't produce a similar-level item?

He became stunned. Not even in his dream would he expect Li Qiye to have a sword of this level. Worst of all, the guy was even using it for a bet.

"He's insane to do something like this." A few older students shook their head after seeing this.

No one in the entire system would dare to do something like this. Heads might start rolling if their seniors were to find out.

Qiushi and the others were pale too. If they were to lose their school's defining treasure, they would forever be branded as sinners.

"And? What are you taking out for the bet?" Li Qiye asked the student from Dawn.

The red on this student's face darkened as he couldn't reply. He opened his mouth but no words would come out. He could sell himself and wouldn't be able to muster up something for the bet.

"I don't have a problem with you not being able to take out an ancestral treasure." Li Qiye leisurely said: "You can still bet something else instead, for example, your clan's little sister or an ancestral ground, whatever inheritance is fine too. If one little sister isn't enough, then make it a hundred. If one land isn't enough, bet your entire clan. I'll take anything you can come up with."

"You..." The Dawn student trembled with rage, nearly vomiting blood.

"Sigh, looks like selling your entire clan still won't be enough." Li Qiye shook his head disappointedly: "I was impressed earlier with your bravado and arrogance, thinking that you're a big shot. Looks like you've wasted my time."

"Don't, don't push me too far!" The student shouted back.

"Since when am I being unreasonable? If you aren't convinced, then bet something worthwhile. The sword is right here, win and it is yours."

The student shut down again. The crux of the matter was that he couldn't come up with anything. Plus, even if he had an ancestral treasure, he would never take this risk or his seniors would really let him have it.

Only a madman would bet an ancestral treasure.

"There's no winning going against a madman." One student shook his head, thinking about how hard it would be to find another person as insane as Li Qiye.

"Are we doing this or not? Who's the coward now?" Li Qiye said while looking at the poor guy.

[Chapter 2822: Bet](#)

The Dawn student has never been in such an awkward position before. He trembled with anger while feeling trapped in an impasse.

He was the one who initiated this betting game. Leaving right now would be even more embarrassing.

“We’re all fellow students, no need to bet so big. Just change it up.” Another student helped out.

“Yes, make it smaller.” Others nearby made it easier for the one from Dawn.

After all, the majority of them wanted to befriend this person. Everyone from that academy either had great talents or a strong background and certainly a bright future. Thus, they wanted to build a relationship right now.

This wasn’t the case for the students from Repentance. They didn’t give a damn about offending these country bumpkins and viewed them with disdain.

That area had no big clans and sects. Plus, they were the descendants of sinners too. Who would want to associate with them?

This sense of superiority permeated the crowd. That’s why they chose to help the student from Dawn right now.

“We’re all from the same system, go easy on each other, not to mention what our seniors will do to us after an irresponsible bet. Go smaller.” Another older student added.

“Let’s bet something else.” The student from Dawn finally had enough support to make this request.

Qiushi gestured towards Li Qiye again by shaking his head, not wanting Li Qiye to risk betting the Sword of Repentance.

“Fine, I see that you can’t come up with anything anyway. Should have known that from the start judging by your shabby appearance. I’ll let you off then.” Li Qiye smiled and took back the sword.

“Let’s not bet properties this time.” The student from Dawn restrained his anger and came up with something else.

“Okay, bet whatever so you can spare yourself from the same humiliation.” Li Qiye said.

“Let’s do this, the loser has to crawl around the valley and bark like a dog. If your group can’t get as many fruits as I can, all of you have to do it. How about that?” The student’s eyes darted around, clearly thinking, before stating.

“And if you lose?” Li Qiye asked.

“If I lose, I will do the same thing, hmph. But don’t worry, I will never lose.” The guy snorted in response.

He was completely confident about picking several fruits. As for his opponents? It would be a miracle if they could get one or two.

Li Qiye smiled and looked at his fellow students. Qiushi did the same.

Everyone was hesitating because they knew that given their talents and powers, only Qiushi had a chance of picking this fruit.

They couldn't beat this arrogant guy from Dawn - zero chance of winning.

"Too scared?" The student from Dawn noticed this hesitation and sneered: "Well, at least you know your place and the imminent defeat. Just a bunch of descendants from prisoners and sinners. Your ancestors never got illuminated by the light and you're abandoned by it too. The sacred fruits here are the essences created from the fusion between the light and the heaven and earth. The higher the purity, the higher the grade of the fruit. Thus, how can something as pure as the White Hair Fruit be obtained by you and your ilk."

He stared at the group with nothing but contempt in his eyes. This aroused the group's anger because his words struck deep into their insecurities.

They have never considered themselves to be descendants of evil men. Many came from regular families. Their ancestors were only farmers in Repentance. Thus, his accusation stirred a fire in their heart.

This fire has been fueled ever since they got here. Other students treated them with this same prejudice along the way.

This was the biggest insult to them and to their home.

"We'll do it!" A nice guy like Zhou Qiushi gritted his teeth and nodded.

"Yes!" The other students agreed. They rather lose instead of being looked down upon.

"Did you hear that? We're in." Li Qiye smiled.

"Good, it's decided then. Everyone here heard it, no take back." The student from Dawn laughed.

"Yes, we'll be witnesses and won't let them renege." Others hastily chimed in.

The barrages of disdain left Qiushi and the others fuming with anger. Alas, they swallowed this indignation down.

"Haha, it's almost your turn." The student from Dawn said with a smug smile: "You better appreciate the time you have now because you'll be barking like a dog soon enough."

Li Qiye ignored the taunt while his peers clenched their fists. They must go all out and at least grab one fruit down.

It was finally their turn after a short moment.

"Are you all ready? Go up there already and try to get at least one." The student from Dawn shouted.

"Go." Li Qiye smiled at the group.

The group exchanged glances before jumping onto the branches to pick their fruits.

"And you, why are you not going up there? Don't tell me you want to back out now. It's too late though!" The student from Dawn glared at Li Qiye and uttered coldly. [1]

“No rush, I can beat you in the blink of an eye so I don’t want to scare you too badly.” Li Qiye leisurely smiled.

“We’ll see about that. You can go at the end then.” This student’s expression turned ugly after being treated disrespectfully by someone he deemed inferior.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn’t retort.

Meanwhile, the students from Repentance were knocking on any ripe fruit. Alas, not a single one has fallen just yet.

“See? A high-ranked sacred fruit is holy. Descendants of sinners like you all aren’t qualified to pick them. Just forget about it, scums will be scums.” The student from Dawn enjoyed watching.

“It’s impossible because they’re too weak. Luck isn’t enough.” An older student gently shook his head.

More time passed and the group still had trouble. They were extremely anxious and felt helpless.

“Just give up, you’re not qualified.” At the same time, the Dawn student continued taunting.

“Focus your heart and mind, stay true to your dao...” Du Wenrui started speaking. His words echoed like bells in their mind.

Their dao heart was shaken as if struck by thunder. A light suddenly shined on their dao heart in this split second.

[Chapter 2823: Rain](#)

Zhou Qiushi was the most talented among the group. A wave of radiance instantly chased away the mist and fog in his dao heart.

The other students also benefited, albeit slower compared to him. Their dao heart became less hazy as well.

“Poof.” Zhou Qiushi finally knocked down a fruit.

“I got one!” He became ecstatic and shouted.

His peers looked over and rejoiced. They held their breath and focused up in order to try.

Meanwhile, Zhou Qiushi continued trying with the fruits nearby. Unfortunately, he couldn’t get a second one to drop.

“Poof!” Another talented disciple finally got one, resulting in cheers all around.

After the time it takes to drink a cup of tea, a third student successfully got one. No one else managed to do during this time, not even Qiushi.

In fact, getting three fruits was already exceeding their capabilities.

The circumstances permitted their success due to their motivation and Du Wenrui’s guidance. Du Wenrui himself thought that only Qiushi would be able to get one. Thus, this was a resounding success with two more students being able to do it.

“Hey, time’s up.” The student from Dawn shouted.

The group had no choice but to get down from the tree. They looked slightly ashamed.

“I think we’ve lost.” Qiushi quietly told Li Qiye.

The other students remained silent too. They mentally prepped themselves for something even more humiliating - crawling around the valley and barking like a dog.

Li Qiye still had a smile on his face and didn’t respond.

“You guys did a great job. Keep it up for a bright future.” Du Wenrui nodded approvingly.

“Only three? I can get five for sure.” The student from Dawn sneered.

“Go for it then.” Li Qiye said without giving a damn.

“What about you? Don’t think about backing out.” He glared at Li Qiye.

“Go first, I’ll wait till you’re done. It’s an easy victory anyway.” Li Qiye smiled in response.

“Okay, then start the time now. When time’s up, it’ll be your loss whether you have tried or not.” He sneered.

“So be it. The next set of time will determine the victor.” Li Qiye said.

“Start!” He leaped on top of the tree and began knocking the mature fruits. Meanwhile, Li Qiye stood there, seemingly not ready to start.

“Junior Brother, go try or you’ll run out of time.” Qiushi softly urged.

Though they weren’t hopeful about his success, an attempt was still better than doing nothing.

“No rush, there’s plenty of time left. Let him go first.” Li Qiye said.

The group gave up on persuading this fella.

“Poof! Poof! Poof!” Meanwhile, their opponent has gotten multiple fruits.

The group’s heart was hanging on a thread, especially when a third fruit fell.

“We’re losing for sure.” Their only hope has been extinguished.

“Junior Brother, go try already!” One student raised his voice at Li Qiye.

Li Qiye didn’t move an inch, still looking nonchalant.

“Please hurry!” The group became more nervous as time passed. They were ready to push him up the tree by this point.

“What is he doing? Does he want to renege?” The students from the other academies wondered.

“Haha, don’t worry, everyone saw him accepting the bet. He can’t back out now.” One of them sneered, more than willing to shame the students from Repentance even more.

“Poof!” Finally, the student from Dawn got a total of five fruits. He kept on trying but couldn’t get another, realizing that this was his limit.

He jumped down even though time wasn’t up.

“Five.” He laughed heartily while showing off his harvest.

“Amazing, Brother Dingyu, looks like you’re already an Ascender.” A student noticed his cultivation and praised him.

“Thank you, I’ve only recently broken through.” The Dawn student named Zhang Dingyu smiled. His words indicated humility but his expression was full of arrogance. [1]

“I can’t believe it, you’re really a genius.” The students nearby flattered him in succession.

“I won with five.” Dingyu snorted and stared contemptuously at Qiushi’s group.

The group was pale after seeing five. Though they already knew that they would lose, reality unfolding before them still hurt all the same.

They didn’t blame Li Qiye for not trying at all because that wouldn’t change anything. Even if Li Qiye could somehow get one fruit, they would still only have four. The dozens of them only got three so why would they blame him for not getting any? Moreover, he even joined the institution later than them.

The only thing they could do right now was bracing themselves for the upcoming disgrace.

“Calm down, it’s too early for conclusion when I have yet to start.” Li Qiye said insipidly and interrupted Dingyu’s gloating.

“You?” Dingyu guffawed after hearing this: “You don’t even dare to climb up there, let alone get some fruits. Okay, there is still one minute left, go see if you can get one now out of sheer luck. But don’t forget, even a miracle of getting one fruit is still not enough.”

“Got it.” Li Qiye said.

“Tick tock, start climbing already. You’re running out of time but I suppose struggling is useless anyway. You’ll all bark like dogs soon enough for that is your fate. Let everyone hear the barking of wretches from Repentance...” Dingyu laughed again.

“No need to climb.” Li Qiye smiled and flicked his finger.

“Poof! Poof! Poof!” A rain of fruits suddenly descended after his finger flick.

This scene was magnificent - dozens of White Hair Fruits fell down like a miracle.

Everyone became slack-jawed as a result, including Qiushi’s group. They felt that this was just a dream. How could these fruits rain down like this?

“...” The spectators became frozen while Li Qiye swung his sleeve and caught all the fruits with a smile.

“Enough for everyone.” Having said that, he threw the fruits perfectly, giving his peers one each.

The students from Repentance couldn’t believe it despite holding the fruits in their hands.

“Forget it, I’ll be merciful and leave some for the rest.” Li Qiye glanced at the tree and declared.

No one moved an inch, still trying to make sense of what had transpired just now.

[Chapter 2824: Can’t Handle Losing](#)

The rain of the fruits seemed like an unreal legend. Things like this should only happen in dreams. Of course, the dreamers would jolt into consciousness from being overly excited.

Nevertheless, this was reality, not an illusion.

“Pinch me real quick.” A student asked his friend nearby.

The painful sensation made him realize that he was indeed awake.

The same shock struck everyone with disbelief. How could he get so many fruits at the same time? Not even a True Emperor could replicate this feat.

Zhou Qiushi and the others could feel the tangible fruit in their palm, letting them know that this was actually happening.

Zhang Tingyu stood there with his mouth open wide enough to fit a duck egg. His jaw nearly dropped to the ground.

“This... this can’t be...” He murmured, unable to accept the irrefutable reality.

“Unfortunately, it is.” Li Qiye smiled and said while taking a bite out of a White Hair Fruit.

He immediately spat it out and threw down the rest too. It disappeared back into the earth.

“So hard to eat, only meant for street vendors.” Li Qiye smiled, treating the big fruit as if it was disgusting.

This outrageous and wasteful act of his made some students want to strangle him to death. They stared at the disappearing fruit and felt deep pain. Some of them couldn’t get a single one at all.

A fifth-ranked fruit, and the finest type among them... Not to mention ordinary students, even the ones from the four great academies considered them precious. Only very few in Immortal Lineage could afford to treat it like a regular fruit and consume it for mere pleasure. Normally, a White Hair Fruit would be viewed as an immortal fruit. People would take their time relishing just one.

“You should have given it to me! I don’t mind if you’ve taken the first bite!” One student yelled in agony and felt indignation.

Only Du Wenrei remained calm, thinking that this was to be expected.

“You have lost.” Li Qiye turned his sight towards Zhang Dingyu.

“No, impossible!” Dingyu turned pale while staggering backward.

He thought that five fruits would have been enough for sure but he ended up losing in such a terrifying manner. The sudden reversal caught him off guard.

“Nothing’s impossible about it. It’s a loss so start crawling around the valley while barking.” Li Qiye said flatly.

“...” Dingyu continued to retreat. Everyone could see his face turning red.

To do so in public was unacceptable. There was no way he could remain a “human” after suffering such humiliation.

In the beginning, he made this arrangement since he was certain of victory. He had imagined the dozens of students from Repentance crawling and barking. It would have been quite a scene - enough to satisfy his ego and make him feel great.

Alas, the loser ended up being him.

He didn’t know what to do right now. He naturally wouldn’t start crawling. What a joke. How could a student from Dawn do something like that?

“This is the consequence of betting and losing. Start crawling, everyone is waiting to hear you bark.” Li Qiye added.

“You!” The red-faced youth trembled with rage. He eventually shouted: “You have to be cheating, there’s something wrong with this!”

“Cheating? As if such a thing is possible.” Li Qiye smiled: “If you know of a way to do so, let me know, I’m listening.”

The crowd exchanged glances. Li Qiye was able to knock dozens of fruit down with a flick of the finger.

This was indeed unbelievable but they saw it with their own eyes. Li Qiye had no way of cheating the system. Plus, plenty of experts and masters were present. They should be able to tell if he did something in secret.

“There’s no magic spell that can do so. The only thing we can really attribute it to is luck.” A student from a big academy stated.

After all, plenty of people have tried numerous ways to get these fruits down outside of knocking. Even progenitorial merit laws were useless.

This land has been gestated by Desolate Saint’s power of light. No one else had more power than him in the system.

“Don’t embarrass yourself any further by going back on your words.” Li Qiye looked at the youth.

All eyes were on Dingyu now. Li Qiye’s victory was as clear as day. There was no way for Dingyu to renege on the bet.

“You people from Repentance are willing to do anything to win! Hmph, your ancestors are treacherous criminals and sinners who have done heinous deeds. I’m sure you scums have prepared something sinister beforehand in order to trick everyone here...”

Some of the gazes had disdain in them now. Though certain students here really did look down on Repentance, Dingyu’s dishonest and shameless act wasn’t doing him any favor.

“Boom!” He couldn’t finish before getting stomped down to the ground.

“You dare to hit me?!” Dingyu bellowed.

The assailant was actually Du Wenrui, not Li Qiye.

“Crack!” Wenrui raised his foot and stomped down on the youth’s back.

“Ahh!” Dingyu screamed in agony due to bones being broken.

“Young one, a senior like myself doesn’t interfere with the business of the young generation. You all can do whatever you want. However, playing dirty and falsely accusing Repentance Institution? That’s not acceptable so I, the dean of Repentance, have no choice but to step in for my students.” Wenrui said flatly.

Wenrui didn’t seem powerful so few students outside respected him. Nonetheless, he was still a dean recognized by all four great academies. Thus, his status and position were the real deal.

Now, Dingyu failed to perform his end of the bargain so it was fine for a dean to step in. This couldn’t be considered a senior bullying a junior. None in the crowd had a problem with this.

“You, you dare to hit me?! I’m a student at Dawn! Our academy won’t let this go!” Dingyu shouted again.

[Chapter 2825: Divine Beast Legion](#)

“Dawn to the east, right? Okay, I’ll find time to visit Brother Chengwen later and ask him how he’s teaching his students, that one of them is renegeing on their words. I hope that’s not what they teach you over there.” Du Wenrui chuckled instead of showing fear.

“Idiot.” The older students glared at Zhang Dingyu, especially the ones from Dawn.

Though Repentance Institution had a bad reputation, its history was on the same level as the four great academies. Moreover, its founder was the progenitor himself.

It wasn’t on the same level as academies started by powerful True Gods or future descendants. The latter was completely insignificant.

Repentance Institution was the real deal despite its terrible reputation as being a prison for the descendants of sinners. Its statue and history were recognized by the four great academies.

Clearly, Dean Du Wenrui stood evenly with the other four deans. His cultivation might not be excellent and his friendly demeanor was unsuitable,

For example, “Brother Chengwen” was the Dean of Dawn. The two of them were equals.

On the other hand, the deans from the smaller and unknown academies weren’t qualified to drink tea with “Brother Chengwen”.

Ultimately, regardless of how brilliant Zhang Dingyu might be, he was still only a student. Conversely, regardless of how mediocre Du Wenrui might be, he was still a dean.

Holyfrost True Emperor had both power and status but as a student, she still respectfully addressed Du Wenrui as “dean”.

Now, Zhang Dingyu tried to threaten him with Dawn? It was simply idiotic, to say the least, in the eyes of the audience.

If Du Wenrui were to write a complaint to the Dean of Dawn, Dingyu might be expelled from Dawn.

“I will not abuse my seniority. You have two choices right now, one, obediently carry out your end of the bet, two, I will stomp you into a paste! Don’t worry about Dawn either, we’ll try our best to give them an answer.” Wenrui smiled.

Don’t be fooled by his friendly demeanor. This man was brutal when necessary.

Everyone stared at Dingyu, knowing that this dean could kill him without facing any consequence. Dingyu was the one at fault first. It was fine for the Dean of Repentance to step up for his students who have been wronged in this situation.

Dingyu’s expression kept on changing color as he finally understood the gravity of the situation. It was impossible for him to accuse Repentance Institution of cheating now.

“F-fine... I, I’ll start crawling...” He gritted his teeth and said with an ugly grimace.

He had no other choice or otherwise, this dean would really stomp him to death. That would be dying for no reason.

“That’s better, now you’re looking more like a student from Dawn.” Wenrui removed his foot and smiled.

Dingyu couldn’t handle the stares before even starting to crawl. Alas, he ended up crawling one round around the valley and barked several times. After finishing, he started leaving in a hurry, wanting nothing more than to find a pit and jump inside to not see anyone here.

“We’re not finished.” Amusingly enough, he didn’t forget to glare at Li Qiye and leave a parting message.

Some of the crowd shook their head, not expecting this outcome for Zhang Dingyu.

“Let’s go.” Wenrui smiled and told his students.

Zhou Qiushi and the others have been frozen nearly the entire time. They didn’t expect to win but the most surprising thing was that they all had at least one White Hair Fruit right now. Zhou Qiushi and the other two who got one themselves had two fruits each. They felt as if this was an unexpected gift from heaven.

“Don’t waste this chance.” Wenrui woke them up from their stupor: “Your current cultivation right now isn’t suitable to consume this fruit. Wait until you’re stronger then slowly refine it. Your benefits will be greater at that point.”

The group nodded right away before turning their sight towards Li Qiye and became confused. He seemed to be shrouded in fog, impossible to fathom. Du Wenrui took note of this and became quite amused.

The group continued heading deeper into the orchard and saw better fruits along the way - sixth rank and seventh rank. The students had no chance but still gave it a shot.

Li Qiye didn't do anything during this portion of the journey. Wenrui would occasionally teach them a thing or two, not merit laws but only how to calm their mind and stabilize their dao heart. This was beneficial in its own way.

Eventually, one of them actually managed to knock down a sixth-ranked Jade Jujube Fruit. The entire group celebrated from this unexpected gain.

As they delved deeper into the area, the terrains became perilous and hard to navigate.

They saw one particular stream that was hurriedly avoided by any incoming students.

"Screech!" Suddenly, a gigantic bird beast landed from the sky and blocked their path.

It was a lion-eagle with flames wrapping around its tail - clearly a special species that should be valuable.

The rider was fully adorned in armor; his weapon of choice was a sword. Lightning flashed in his eyes.

"Rumble!" A dozen more or so beasts descended from the hill above and surrounded them before they could react.

They came in all forms and sizes - bull-type, tiger, panther, serpent-elephants...

All were either hybrid or part of a special breed. They emitted a powerful aura like a surging wave. They glared at the group, causing the young ones to have cold chills.

"Senior Brother Wu, it's them!" A student jumped off a beast and shouted. Who else could it be but Zhang Dingyu?

He came back with reinforcement in such a short time.

"What's happening?" A few students walked by and saw the commotion. They looked around and saw the beasts and became startled: "That's members of Divine Beast Legion."

"Oh? A legion under Violet Dragon Empress?" A young student has heard of this title before.

"That's right." An older student nodded with a serious expression.

After hearing that it was an imperial legion, these spectators held their breath and hid behind boulders to spy.

"So the Repentance students have offended this legion?" One student asked.

"No, it's Zhang Dingyu. He is a sworn-brother with that Wu fella. I heard he lost a bet earlier along with his dignity. That's why he's here with help in order to wash away the shame." The older student knew everything about this matter.

A student jumped off the lion-eagle. He was the sworn-brother of Zhang Dingyu, a member of the Divine Beast Legion.

"What?" Du Wenrui glanced at the newcomers.

“Dean, sorry for bothering you. My Brother, Zhang Dingyu, lost to your students so he deserved the punishment. We have nothing to say about that.” Wu Ke came over and bowed towards Wenrui with reverence.

“So why are you here?” Wenrui calmly asked.

“But, Dingyu told me that Repentance Institution is full of hidden dragons and crouching tigers!” Wu Ke’s eyes fell upon Li Qiye while speaking.

[Chapter 2826: The Danger Of Harboring Wealth](#)

Wu Ke stared at Li Qiye or to be exact, he was focusing on the sword on Li Qiye’s back.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn’t comment on this invasive gaze.

“Repentance is only a tiny school with no hidden dragons to speak of. What happened recently is only a stroke of fortune.” Wenrui also smiled.

“Dean, may I test myself with him?” Wu Ke seized the flow of the conversation, still confident despite talking to the dean.

It seemed as if he would fight Li Qiye regardless of Wenrui’s opinion.

“You really want to spar with Student Li?” Wenrui smiled.

“Yes, please grant me permission.” His words were respectful but the same couldn’t be said about his attitude.

Everyone could see that he didn’t actually care to get permission from Wenrui. This was due to the power of his legion. Not many in all of Immortal Lineage would dare to look down on the Divine Beast Legion.

This group was started by Violet Dragon Empress, a student of Dawn. However, she had another terrifying status - the lord of True Dragon Court!

This sect was rumored to be the only contemporary power to have real divine beasts!

In history, many people and sects claimed to possess these divine bloodlines. More often than not, they only had pseudo or fake bloodlines. At best, it would be a thin bloodline from a descendant of a divine beast.

This wasn’t the case for True Dragon. This system had the real thing. In fact, rumor has it that their progenitor was an ancestral dragon. This was an extraordinary bloodline.

Thus, this particular system was both prestigious and powerful.

Violet Dragon Empress herself had plenty of power as a mighty Everlasting. Her legion, Divine Beast, had many young masters and experts with divine bloodlines. This legion was influential in the entire world, not just in the Academy of Light.

Wu Ke wasn't an outstanding member of this legion. However, he had good social skills and had many brothers. That's why when Zhang Dingyu asked him for help, he immediately brought a dozen beasts-or-so here without hesitation.

Wenrui didn't mind the aggressive tone and turned towards Li Qiye then said: "I'm afraid that's no good, blades do not have eyes so someone can get hurt. That will harm our academies' relationship."

"Dean, please don't worry." Wu Ke sneered: "This is a personal matter and has nothing to do with the academies, not even if death is the result."

"Still no good." Wenrui shook his head and blabbered onward: "Peace is best, everything is negotiable..."

"Please allow us." Wu Ke interrupted him: "You wouldn't have been so tough on my brother back then if you truly believed that. It's too late now to try and protect your students. They will need to answer this themselves or we won't let this go."

He no longer gave Wenrui any face and revealed his real agenda. He had absolute confidence thanks to his party members.

If Du Wenrui were to forcefully step in, these members would stop him. In fact, if they weren't hesitant because of his status, they might teach him a lesson too.

Wu Ke and the others were different than Zhang Dingyu. The latter was a student of the Academy of Light while they were from another system.

Plus, they had powerful backgrounds too. Joining the Academy of Light was only a type of training for them so they didn't care about being expelled.

"Dean, let this thing be resolved. Someone must be responsible for this. We're not in a position to trouble someone of your great status, but he, he must give us an answer." Another member of the legion spoke.

"Well, it's unreasonable to demand an answer. Dingyu lost a bet and deserved the punishment." Wenrui waved his hand.

"Hmph, using some devious art to knock down the fruits is not winning. There is clearly cheating involved, that's why I'm here to get justice back for my brother." Wu Ke snorted.

"Many eyes were watching, none of them saw anything..." Wenrui shook his head.

"Dean, let's stop wasting words. We don't care for your permission and will capture your students to reveal the truth. You can't protect them forever." Wu Ke lost his patience.

"Repentance Institution messed with the beehive this time." A hidden spectator murmured.

"I heard this particular legion focuses on comradery and heroism, resulting in strong solidarity. Messing with one is the same as messing with the entire legion. They are quite notorious in our system right now because of this." An older student revealed.

“It’s over for them then, that’s what they get for provoking the legion.” Another student gloated on someone else’s misery.

Du Wenrui put on a look of helplessness and said: “Fine, then let me ask Student Li.”

“Student Li, what’s your thought on this, will you accept their challenge and spar with them for a bit?” He asked Li Qiye.

“The enemies are standing at the gate so what else can I do? Definitely not turn into a cowardly turtle.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“Student Li, that’s not always the case. Take one step back and realize the immensity of heaven and earth. If you’re really not a match for Student Wu Ke, then you can apologize and pay the damage. For example, give them the Sword of Repentance.” Wenrui coughed and said.

“Dean!” The Repentance students were shocked. This sword was their academy’s defining treasure!

The members of the legion including Wu Ke had a greedy flash in their eyes as they stared at the sword.

Though they claimed to be here on the side of justice, they were actually here for this sword.

Dingyu persuaded them by bringing the sword up when he asked for help. Just imagine, an ancestral treasure in the possession of a regular student? How could experts like them sit idly by?

“Hand over Repentance and we’ll go easy and spare you.” Dingyu shouted.

“Repentance...” Li Qiye touched the sword and looked helpless: “I can’t do that, it’s a progenitorial sword that can slay evil and uphold righteousness, an ultimate treasure. How can I give it away?”

“Well, life is the most important thing.” Wenrui seemed vulnerable as well: “It’s worth it to trade the sword for your life. It’s your sword so I can’t interfere, think hard about it.”

Having said that, he told Qiushi and the other students to move farther back. He seemed satisfied with just watching.

The students became anxious. Zhou Qiushi hurriedly said with a low voice: “Dean, we, we can’t abandon Junior Brother Li like this...”

Wenrui smiled and shook his head, signaling them to calm down.

“You should listen to your dean. Hand over the sword now, it is your only chance.” Wu Ke said and tapped on his own sword.

He was a swordsman and his current sword wasn’t too bad. Of course, it was a piece of crap compared to a progenitorial sword. How could he not want the latter for his own given the current opportunity?

[Chapter 2827: Shameless](#)

“Looks like you all want my sword.” Li Qiye smiled and tapped on his sword.

Wu Ke and the others felt that they have been too blatant. This was unbecoming of their status.

Going about this in the wrong way could ruin their reputation if words were to get out.

"We're only here for justice." Wu Ke coughed and said: "You cheated during the previous bet and damaged our brother's reputation along with the academy's. That's why we're here to get it straight."

Wu Ke spoke as if his group was on the side of justice. They have surrounded Li Qiye so he couldn't escape at all.

He was a fish on the chopping board right now. It was time for them to use words to change the circumstances, turning them into heroes instead of bandits.

"It's funny that no one else there saw any cheating." Li Qiye chuckled.

"That's a one-sided perspective, I'm sure you did something to shroud their gazes. No one can knock down dozens of fruits at the same time, not even a True Emperor, let alone you..."

He gave Li Qiye a disdainful stare - clearly indicating that Li Qiye wasn't strong enough to do so.

"That's right, trickery certainly happened. I hate swindlers the most so we'll get to the bottom of this. Dawn and Divine Beast Legion won't let this go either." Zhang Dingyu chimed in, stating his powerful backings.

He knew he wouldn't be able to get the sword but just getting revenge was fine.

"No need to look for excuses after losing." Li Qiye said.

"That's not up to you." Wu Ke uttered coldly: "The rat must come out to give a reasonable answer."

"What do you want to do then?" Li Qiye smiled.

Wu Ke's group exchanged glances, thinking that this guy was playing along with their game.

"Since everyone here are students of the Academy of Light, we'll give you a way out instead of being too merciless." Wu Ke scowled and said.

"I'm all ears." Li Qiye's smile became wider.

Those who knew Li Qiye would know that death was coming after seeing this smile of his - not just one but many victims.

"First, you must confess about cheating, second, apologize to Brother Dingyu." Wu Ke then glanced over at Dingyu.

"Make him crawl in a circle ten times and bark!" Dingyu shouted with hatred in his eyes. His expression became twisted - a perverse grin after getting the satisfaction of retribution.

Zhou Qiushi and his peers became furious. They would smash Dingyu's mouth if they were strong enough.

"Ahem." Wu Ke said: "Well, let's not go that far, we're all gentlemen, right? I propose that you just need to kneel and bow your head to accept your mistake towards Brother Dingyu."

This suggestion had nothing to do with mercy or kindness. Wu Ke just didn't want to push Li Qiye too far and ruin his plan.

“Anything else besides this?” Li Qiye said.

“The third thing is...” Wu Ke paused for a bit and stared at Repentance: “You should know that forcing Brother Dingyu to bark in public is extremely humiliating - hurting both his personal reputation and Dawn’s. That’s why reparation is required. We’re not unreasonable and won’t force you to humiliate yourself in public, just doing it here is enough.”

“This reparation will cure the damages that have been done.” Wu Ke played the role of a nice guy and continued.

“What do you want?” Li Qiye asked.

“The Sword of Repentance!” Dingyu shouted: “Hand it over and we’ll spare you from an ugly death!”

“As you can see, the victim demands the sword. We don’t dare to overstep our bounds and will listen to him. The sword it is then.” Wu Ke coughed and said.

“Finally spilled it after half a day of nonsense. You’re just here for the sword, not because of the so-called cheating and upholding justice. The ancestral treasure trumps all, just admit that you have been tempted.” Li Qiye burst out in laughter.

He then shook his head and added: “The Academy of Light is losing face for accepting students like you. Just make sure to stop calling yourselves students from this place when you’re outside. But at the very least, Desolate Saint doesn’t have dishonest descendants like you all.”

“So you want this the hard way!” Wu Ke turned cold after seeing Li Qiye not wanting to confess.

“In my opinion, all of you should kneel and apologize now. I might be merciful and spare you all, otherwise...” Li Qiye smirked while speaking.

“Ignorant fool!” Zhang Dingyu bellowed: “Do you know who you’re speaking to?! Brother Wu Ke is a member of Divine Beast Legion under Violet Dragon Empress. They have swept through the nine firmaments, be smart and hand the sword or you will know a fate worse than death...”

“Never heard of them.” Li Qiye shook his head: “Go on, apologize now because relying on your empress and legion is useless. I’ll kill them to the last man if they dare to provoke me.”

“Is he insane?” A few hiding spectators were amazed at Li Qiye’s tone: “Does he not know who he is or his academy? Killing the empress and her legion? The guy’s tired of living.”

Regardless of the legion, just the empress alone was frightening enough since she could dominate by herself. People would definitely think he was crazy if they were to hear this.

“Insulting the empress is worthy of death and nine clans extermination!” Wu Ke’s eyes had murderous flashes.

“Clank!” He unsheathed his sword and pointed it straight at Li Qiye.

“You pick hell over heaven, not wise. I was merciful enough to think about sparing you but not anymore. No one can save you today!” He threatened.

Wu Ke no longer needed an excuse anymore after Li Qiye had insulted the empress. He could kill the guy now and had all the right justifications. The sword would be his for the taking afterward.

"It's about time." Li Qiye smiled while looking at the sword tip.

"Three moves and you'll be dead." Wu Ke coldly said.

"Three? No, what will happen is that I will kill all of you with one move." Li Qiye chuckled.

Wu Ke and the others rolled their eyes, thinking that they had misheard.

"Is this guy serious?" The spectators couldn't believe it.

"Hahaha, brat, are you insane?" Zhang Dingyu pointed at Li Qiye while guffawing: "Do you not know Brother Wu Ke's power? He's a fifth-level Ascender and his friends aren't weak either. It's more like they'll kill you with one slash!"

Zhou Qiushi's group was surprised too, thinking that Li Qiye was being too arrogant.

"Silly weaklings, I don't even need to do anything. Just this sword will be enough." Li Qiye didn't mind the attacks and slowly unsheathed his sword.

"Clank!" The sword pulsed with holiness. Each strand was supreme and pure, allowing it to cross everything over.

[Chapter 2828: Spirit Of The Sword](#)

Repentance slowly floated up without being controlled by Li Qiye. It seemed to have its own spirit and will.

"Buzz." It no longer resembled an ordinary blade and exuded a holy pulse. Just this light alone could purify all darkness and evil.

Wu Ke and Zhang Dingyu trembled in response. This light illuminated deep into their heart and washed away their evil intents, forcing them to succumb.

They instantly protected their mind in order to prevent any further influence.

"What a good sword..." Wu Ke praised after protecting his mindset; his eyes were fixated on the sword.

Wu Ke might not be a top master of the sword dao but he still knew swords very well. Because of this, he instantly realized that this sword had become sentient with its own spirit.

This was very rare since it meant that the sword was a deity - a peerless weapon. Normally, only a sword always carried around by a progenitor and immensely gestated by their grand dao would achieve this level. Not all progenitorial swords were so lucky.

That's why Wu Ke lusted this sword, evident by the fire in his eyes. He would become a tiger with wings since his sword dao would become so much stronger.

"Of course it's good." Li Qiye chuckled: "The progenitor groomed it for a generation so its light is supreme and mighty. It can spot evil and will automatically erase any existence with nefarious thought."

“That’s a progenitorial sword for you...” Wu Ke’s gaze intensified and wanted to wield the sword right away.

“Be smart and hand it over right now!” Zhang Dingyu shouted.

Who wouldn’t want an ancestral sword? Even those not trained in the sword dao still wanted one. Possessing a weapon of this level boosted one’s battle potential by several levels.

The hidden spectators were shocked to hear Li Qiye too.

“Is it true? How can Repentance Institution have a progenitorial weapon?” One of them said in disbelief.

“That’s because you don’t know anything about that academy.” An older student shook his head: “Yes, it has a bad reputation, weak, and hasn’t taught any decent student. However, its history is as long as any of the four great ones, some say it is even older than Northern Academy. It is founded by the progenitor so it makes sense that it has some great resources. The only problem is a lack of effort from its future students.”

“I know of this sword. The progenitor left it there as the ultimate treasure of Repentance Institution. It’s just that very few can lift it up, let alone taking it away. In the present time, I only know one person capable of lifting it, and that’s Holyfrost True Emperor.” Another student added.

“The emperor is the only one?” The friend became startled: “Then how does this student have it here right now? Don’t tell me he’s stronger than Holyfrost True Emperor.”

“Don’t be silly, how can a student from Repentance compare to her?” The older student shook his head: “It might be a stroke of luck that he’s accepted by the sword. Fate and fortune are too intangible and mysterious, no one can predict these affinities.”

“So lucky.” All the students became jealous. After all, not everyone can possess an artifact of this level. Normally, only the most talented geniuses could possess a sword like this.

“This sword of light can dispel darkness and sever evil thoughts. Do you dare to test your righteousness with it?” Li Qiye saw their greed and smiled.

“And then what?” Wu Ke scowled, not really believing it.

“Let’s make another bet then. If you test this sword without suffering any backlash, it will show your innocence and righteousness. Of course, in the opposite case, if you can stop the slash, it will be considered your win too.” Li Qiye elaborated.

“What happens when we win?” Dingyu impatiently shouted.

“Very simple, when you win, this sword will be yours. But if you lose, then I have nothing to do with it. The sword will be the thing refining your evil intents. One can only say that you are punished by the judgment of the progenitor in that case.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Really?” Wu Ke’s eyes flashed brightly.

Why did he come all the way here? This sword was obviously his target, not justice.

“Of course.” Li Qiye chuckled: “So yes or no? Win and this great treasure will be yours. I’m sure your sect doesn’t have one like this.”

The group froze after hearing this since it was indeed the truth. What if they were to get one for their sect? They would be so well-respected and beloved in the future, perhaps becoming the sect master too.

“Let’s go!” Wu Ke and the other members exchanged glances before nodding.

“Okay, time to start.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Wait, if we need to block a slash, it will still be our win, right? All of us can do so together?” Wu Ke asked for confirmation.

“Yes, that will mean that you have evil thoughts but as long as you can stop it, it is your win.” Li Qiye said.

“It’s a deal. If we can’t stop the slash, we can only blame ourselves for being weak.” Wu Ke solemnly said.

Though the sword was a progenitorial weapon, they didn’t believe that someone as weak as Li Qiye could exert its true power - not even ten percent.

That’s why they were confident about stopping the slash when working together.

“Yes, gentlemen keep their words.” Li Qiye said.

“Very well, start the formation!” Wu Ke commanded and they jumped back on their beasts.

They swiftly moved to the correct positions, seemingly well-practiced. This only took a brief moment and a murderous aura engulfed the area.

The spectators knew that they were battle-hardened and not just pampered students stuck in the classroom.

After all, they were from big sects and clans before joining the academy as excellent geniuses. Thus, they had plenty of trials and training previously.

“Clank! Clank! Clank!” Everyone and their beasts were adorned in another layer of metallic plates, eventually forming a full armor.

“Ra!” The beasts roared. This activated the formation, causing it to pulse with them commanding various spots.

All of them disappeared and a gigantic armored leopard appeared in front of Li Qiye. This beast looked like a mountain made of metal. Its long tail was a steel whip. Its teeth and claws resembled sharp swords, capable of tearing all existences to pieces.

Moreover, its frightening aura had both the wild ferocity of a beast along with a murderous presence. People couldn’t help but shudder while being the target of its glare.

[Chapter 2829: Steel Leopard Formation](#)

Each step of this leopard issued loud explosions. Its massive frame toppled many peaks and trees nearby. One tail swing split the ground to pieces, causing rocks to go flying.

The hidden spectators were scared out of their mind and instantly retreated to a safer point.

“Steel Leopard Formation, created by the empress herself!” One student shouted in astonishment.

“This one is only at the elementary level.” A student from Dawn put on a serious expression: “I heard the empress had created a formation called Divine Beast with unreal power like a divine beast is actually present. People say it can kill a True Emperor.”

“She’s extraordinary, no wonder why she manages to recruit so many experts from True Dragon Court. She must be ready to carry out her ambition.” A mighty student felt fear while looking at the beast.

Just one casual formation from her was already this powerful. Just imagine the result of her actually being in combat.

“This array is also a beast formation.” A student versed in formations said: “It’s fusing Wu Ke’s group power along with their beasts’ power, a perfect harmony between men and beast to achieve maximum power. In my opinion, it should be able to challenge a ninth-level Ascender without a problem.”

“But can it stop one slash?” A student asked with bated breath.

“It’s hard to say but that student from Repentance shouldn’t be able to exert the power of a progenitorial sword.” Another powerful student earnestly answered.

Ancestral treasures were undoubtedly powerful but also hard to control. Without enough cultivation, one wouldn’t be able to use them at all, let alone using them effectively.

In their eyes, even an excellent student from Repentance should have limited cultivation. That guy simply wouldn’t be able to control this sword.

“That depends on how smart the sword is. If it’s truly sentient, it can activate its own power without needing a controller. At the highest level, its slash can unleash the force of a progenitor.” An older student stared enviously at the sword.

A sentient treasure was far more precious and stronger than a regular one.

“Sure.” The powerful student replied: “A fully sentient sword will be able to protect its master against strong enemies and weapons.”

“It’s about to start.” The spectators opened their eyes wide and didn’t care about the winner. They didn’t want to miss a single detail of a progenitorial sword in action. This would be a great learning experience.

“Brother Wu Ke, you can do it, block this slash and the sword is yours!” Zhang Dingyu shouted.

The group knew that it was impossible for them to have only purity in their heart and mind. Everyone had evil intentions and nefarious thoughts since people weren’t perfect. Only a saint would be the exception. The only thing they could do was use their power to stop the slash.

“Go!” The leopard opened its mouth with words sounding like two metal plates grinding together, extremely unpleasant to the ears.

“Very well, it’s time for you to face the light.” Li Qiye smiled and shouted: “All-illuminating light, chase away evil and purify darkness!”

“Buzz.” The sword became resplendent with holy rays shooting out in an endless manner. The rays looked like tidal waves and eventually formed an ocean of light.

This gathering of power alerted people in the distance. Many instantly looked over at the source.

“So majestic...” The students far away felt the power contained in this ocean of light.

Needless to say about the ones present, these spectators were astounded. The power of light seemed omnipresent and engulfed them, turning them into tiny boats amidst an ocean.

“This has to be the feeling of being in the presence of a progenitor, right?” Some students got down to the ground, unable to handle the pressure.

“Clank!” A sword hymn echoed through the nine firmaments as this power began to consolidate onto the sword.

It absorbed this force and turned it into sword energy. These sword rays had a golden glow, infused with the power of the light.

They didn’t have a violent or murderous affinity at all but the spectators were still horrified. Even the strongest being would be crucified without being able to escape.

“Buzz.” One ray flew straight towards Zhang Dingyu.

“This, this has nothing to do with me! I’m not facing the light!” Dingyu turned and fled while panicking.

He ran with all of his might but it wasn’t enough. He was fast but the ray was faster.

“No!” He took out defensive treasures in a futile attempt. The ray cut through the treasures as if they were tofu and pierced his body.

“Buzz.” Tiny strands of holy light drilled out of his body, seemingly wanting to crack him open.

“Ahh!” After a pop, he exploded into bright particles and scattered to the ground. Eventually, not a single trace of him remained as if he was never here in the first place.

“Complete purification...” One spectator got chills all over.

“Now!” The steel leopard bellowed and clawed towards Li Qiye. Its sword-like claws emitted horrifying glints during the swing.

It wanted to seize the initiative by killing Li Qiye. The sword would no longer have a master at that point.

“Boom!” The claw carried enough force to crush an entire mountain range.

“Clank!” Li Qiye didn’t move at all since the sword automatically cut vertically forward, leaving a trail of holy light in its trajectory.

This blazing trail illuminated the world and left behind an indelible scar in the sky.

Fiery sparks went flying but the result was obvious. The slash cut through the claw first then the rest of the leopard’s body, splitting it in half.

“Ahh... Ahhh!” The members of Divine Beast Legion got invaded by the holy strands.

“Boom!” They instantly exploded into particles, resulting in a beautiful scene like the illusory night sky full of stars.

Many were shaken. This was their first time seeing death without blood and severed limbs. The victims’ proof of existence scattered away in the form of these particles.

“That’s unreal...” One student was absolutely horrified.

[Chapter 2830: Stonecarver True Emperor](#)

The particles were beautiful indeed; the refinement process looked holy as well. However, remembering that they used to be beasts and humans made people shudder.

After they dispersed away, people finally saw a lone survivor - Wu Ke.

He was pinned to the ground by the Sword of Repentance, unable to move an inch with his eyes wide open.

He was still alive but his body could sense death already to his horror. Strands of sword lights have drilled into his body. This invasion didn’t instill pain. Moreover, the hole where the sword pierced him wasn’t bleeding either, not even a single drop could be seen.

His physical form consisted of light and darkness right now, not flesh. He could sense pieces of him turning into light particles - the same fate as those before him.

Moreover, his evil desires and darkness were being refined as well. The sensations remained but his body was a holy manifestation brimming with power.

Alas, he couldn’t become excited about this new power since death was coming soon enough.

“You’ve lost, looks like you’re not fated to have the sword.” Li Qiye smiled while looking at the youth.

“You, you can’t kill me... I am a member of Dawn and Divine Beast Legion. The empress and our legion will avenge me!” Wu Ke was scared out of his mind and bellowed.

“It’s useless to tell me this, speak to the sword. If it thinks you’re not evil, it will let you go.” Li Qiye shook his head.

“You, you can take it off.” Wu Ke was still shouting.

Everyone watched with bated breath, realizing just how incredible this sword was - truly desirable by all.

Just imagine, Li Qiye was just an ordinary student from Repentance. He didn't even need to control the sword yet it could still exert enough power to kill powerful Ascenders. Now, what if its master could actually utilize its full potential?

"What an incredible power." A sonorous voice came about. A real master has been attracted by the power of Repentance and started heading over.

This person's imperial aura preceded him and engulfed the entire area, washing over the mountains and rivers.

The people nearby felt something smashing onto their chest and were nearly blown away.

A figure finally landed. His presence heralded dao runes, turning the place into an ocean of dao.

He was an exceedingly young True Emperor. Imperial laws poured down from the sky like heavenly waterfalls.

"A True Emperor..." Everyone knew his cultivation level right away due to the various phenomena.

When looking into this youth's eyes, one could see the venerable dao within - a stark contrast to his young age.

His figure shined like crystallized corundum and jade for he was not made out of flesh. It seemed quite tough too.

Numerous runes and symbols were engraved on his frame, perhaps engraved by the heaven itself at birth.

"Stonecarver True Emperor!" A spectator shouted.

"I heard Goldpython True Emperor is here too, so this shouldn't be too surprising." A student with a good information network said.

"Stonecarver True Emperor might not be on the same level as Holyfrost True Emperor, but he's still the pride of our academy as an incredible genius." A native of the academy proudly said.

All eyes were on him now. Though his aura stopped directly suppressing the crowd, many still had to look up to him in reverence. Some even had the urge to kneel.

He was a student of Sacred Bank Academy to the west, a native of the Academy of Light just like Holyfrost True Emperor.

He came from the Celestial Stone Tribe. The members of this tribe were born half flesh and half stone. They had two potential paths as they cultivated, either to gain all flesh or all corundum.

Stonecarver True Emperor was born with ancient runes - an extremely ominous sign and a blessing from their progenitor.

Thus, even as a baby, he was instantly recruited by Sacred Bank. He didn't waste his innate talents either, becoming a two-palace emperor at such a young age.

"Repentance." He gazed at the sword, astonished.

A native such as him naturally understood the significance and the origin of this sword.

He turned towards Du Wenrui next. In his opinion after looking at the students here including Li Qiye, only the dean could actually bring the sword here.

“Dean Du.” The true emperor still showed respect to Du Wenrui because of the guy’s seniority.

“Don’t look at me, this isn’t my sword, it’s his.” Du Wenrui smiled and pointed at Li Qiye.

“Really? How strange.” The emperor looked over at Li Qiye and became surprised.

He was aware of the difficulties innate in taking this sword away from Repentance. Now, an unknown student managed to do so?

“Your Majesty, save me!” Wu Ke was ecstatic to see this emperor and saw hope.

Stonecarver finally looked at Wu Ke and didn’t have any impression of him. Though Wu Ke was an Ascender, Stonecarver has seen plenty of True Gods. How could he remember this person?

“Your Majesty, I am Wu Ke of Divine Beast Legion. I was there during Her Majesty’s previous banquet.” Wu Ke hurriedly said.

“Ah, Brother Wu.” Stonecarver vaguely recalled this person.

“Please be benevolent and save me.” Wu Ke begged. Dignity and reputation didn’t matter when death was so close.

The emperor’s eyes narrowed. He looked over at Li Qiye and cupped his fist: “Fellow Student, it’s better to end a feud than start another one, you don’t have to kill him.”

Of course, Stonecarver didn’t care about Wu Ke himself but he didn’t mind doing a favor for the empress.

The spotlight fell on Li Qiye. It was very rare for Stonecarver emperor to ask someone for a favor in his own system. Ultimately, this emperor would owe Li Qiye if he were to agree to release Wu Ke. This could be a start of a beneficial relationship.