

Emperor 2921

[Chapter 2921: Fine Wine](#)

The expanse was a boundless world of gray from the outside with no sun in sight. This wasn't the case after entering. It became a realm full of possibilities and complexity.

Feeling the sea breezes and listening to the waves were comforting and satisfying.

When one was strong enough, they would find something strange. Though the waves were clearly heading towards the shore, this wasn't the case. The waves were actually heading towards the center area, the opposite of what the eyes saw.

At the progenitorial level, they would find that there was a power in this ocean attracting them in a mysterious manner.

Li Qiye stood on a boulder with his eyes closed, seemingly turning into a statue.

As time passed, his feet seemed to be taking roots underground. These "roots" penetrated and infiltrated the depths of the ocean.

Eventually, he slowly opened his eyes and said: "The calamity is really here! Someone has opened the way so others will ride the winds to get here. Alas, those returning won't be the same..."

Those who could hear and understand this prophecy would be scared out of their mind.

He shook his head, not really giving a damn. Three Immortals didn't need his protection; others were up to the task.

He withdrew his gaze and walked along the shore, letting the waves hit his ankles and erasing his previous footprints on the sand.

He made it to a gulf and saw a person sitting on the promontory nearby.

"Dao Brother, care for a drink?" The person immediately raised his cup as Li Qiye was passing by.

Few people came to this place. Even if they did, they would only take a quick look before leaving instead of staying here for a drink and enjoying the scenery like this person.

The person was young and had a jade table in front of him with a stove heating up wine. A boiling sound indicated that the wine was ready. He opened the lid and let out the steam and enchanting fragrance.

He was only twenty years of age or so, choosing to wear a hemp robe instead of an expensive one. Nevertheless, the needlework was quite well done, clearly made by a master. The buttons were decorated with ancient symbols.

He had long hair tied up with a black bamboo hairpin, very simple while looking quite scholarly and unrestrained. His natural demeanor would remain unchanging even if Mount Tai collapses before him.

Nothing oppressive came from him, only an air of literature. People would feel as if he had a thousand scrolls hidden in his chest.

Just one look at him gave the impression that he was a walking encyclopedia of knowledge.

Li Qiye looked up at the inviting youth.

“To meet you here is a great honor, a touch of fate. Will you bestow me the honor of having a drink together with you?” The latter instantly stood up and said enthusiastically.

Li Qiye smiled and walked over. The youth saw this and took out a jade stool and wiped away the leaves nearby. He prepared a full set of appetizers for Li Qiye while looking very humble.

Li Qiye took this as a matter of fact and sat down. The youth picked up the wine pot and poured a full cup for him.

When the wine streamed into the cup, golden energy emerged along with draconic roars and an earthly momentum.

This fine wine contained the power of the dragons and the essences of this earth. Drinking this for a regular cultivator had the same effect as training for several millenniums.

“I brewed it recently using the core of a star. The taste isn’t too bad, please try.” The youth smiled.

Li Qiye took a sip first before drinking the whole thing. He softly breathed out, letting out the strong fragrance with magnificent starry light.

“It’s good.” He praised: “The water from a lofty gold star fermented with old ancient-cliff grains and boiled using autumn-moon wood, to be poured on an era-looping cup. Not overly strong nor astringent, just perfect.”

To earn such praise from Li Qiye meant that this wine was indeed special. Few in this world had the privilege of tasting it.

“You know your wine.” The youth was happy to see a fellow connoisseur: “Just one taste and you know everything, very impressive. Your knowledge far surpasses mine.”

Li Qiye smiled and began trying the appetizers that go along with the wine.

The youth prepared different dishes - cold horned-dragon wings, white phoenix liver, wyvern’s liver... Each dish had a frightening origin. Even True Emperors might not have tasted them.

Li Qiye looked around and only tried two of them. Remember, these were extremely nutritious meals. Anyone would salivate at this sight. Alas, he was still very picky and only picked the ones he fancied.

“The wings are tender, 3,000 years is the right age too for this dragon. The phoenix liver is too old, not enough sticky rice as garnish... Hmm, this kudzu is right, planted in violet mud and cooked in eonic wood charcoal. Not bad, not bad.” He assessed the various meals.

“You really know your food.” Though Li Qiye was very picky and pointed out the flaws, the youth still appreciated the occasional praises.

“Another cup, Dao Brother.” The youth kept on pouring more wine whenever Li Qiye finished.

Li Qiye kept on eating and drinking, not minding having the youth serve him.

This pleasurable feast went on for quite a bit, unbothered by anyone.

“It’s a shame you’re not a cook.” Li Qiye said with a smile.

A third person would be shocked to hear this. No one else in this world would dare to make this comment.

“I was a glutton during my youth and have thought about it.” The youth said: “Unfortunately, the seniors didn’t let me, threatening to have my head.”

He didn’t put on an act at all nor thought that he was superior to others.

“Everyone has their own problems. Life doesn’t go the way we want all the time.” Li Qiye shook his head.

“Right, only an immortal can claim to have all their wishes fulfilled.” The youth replied.

“I disagreed. Immortals might not be happier than mortals. Becoming an immortal is already hard enough but what comes after is just more suffering. The nobility in the mortal realm is the right way to live.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Then you’re saying that cultivators who seek immortality are all idiots?” The youth said.

“No, they’re very impressive and commendable. To know the difficulties yet still keep on going? That’s the first step. The pursuit of immortality shouldn’t be about fulfilling one’s wishes, it’s about searching for insights and more determination. The former results in falling into the wrong path. Why? Because the endless years of immortality will also instill boundless suffering. A greedy heart will give birth to resentment, eventually culminating in a heart devil. Therefore, immortals do not exist.” Li Qiye stared implicatively at the youth after finishing.

The youth became emotional and stood up to bow: “Dao Brother, your comment alone is more beneficial than ten thousand years of dao search.”

Li Qiye was one of the few who can accept the grand gesture from this youth.

When the youth sat down again, Li Qiye stared at the horizon and said: “Everyone seeks immortality, but no need for that.”

“Why do you say that?” The youth curiously asked.

“Immortality will only breed calamity.” Li Qiye explained: “If such a being were to exist, they are not one of us and do not belong to our world, definitely shouldn’t come to visit either.”

“Makes sense, so what if some immortals decide to visit us?” The youth said.

“Then they’re not immortals. Why would they come down again after having ascended? Do you want to dig a hole and lay in the mud all day?” Li Qiye shook his head.

“I don’t know.” The youth said.

[Chapter 2922: Respect To The Wise](#)

“So why would a person purposely go live in the mud?” Li Qiye smiled.

“There must be a reason, some sorts of plans for gains.” The youth’s eyes narrowed.

“Indeed. A mortal world shouldn’t have immortals so when they come, they’re coming with an agenda.” Li Qiye said.

“What you’re saying is truly frightening.” The youth smiled wryly: “All cultivators yearn for immortality. Emperors and progenitors believed that immortality is the true apex.

He paused for a bit before continuing: “But, you are saying that immortality is the wrong and certainly evil path. This perspective offends the whole of society.”

“Not necessarily evil but definitely different. This world doesn’t have immortals - this phrase is certainly true. So when some claim to be immortals, whether true or not, they are not part of this world.” Li Qiye said.

“Why are you so sure, Dao Brother? Why can’t the world have immortals?” The youth asked.

“How many progenitors come out in each generation?” Li Qiye answered with a question.

“Normally one or two, three would be a miracle.” The youth responded.

This has been true across the history of Three Immortals. The appearance of three in a single generation was extremely rare.

“So why is this the case?” Li Qiye smiled.

“The fortunes and creations of heaven and earth. The world is only so big, how can it gestate an immortal!” The youth understood right away.

“Correct, the size of a pond is determined, same with the fish within. A tiny pond can’t produce a golden qilin and definitely not a true dragon. In case a true dragon appears, it will still leap out of the pond and soar above the nine firmaments.” Li Qiye nodded.

“No wonder why the wise sages and the progenitors of the past all enter Uncrossable Expanse. The rumor is true then.”

“Right, that’s why Emperor Sui, Nong, and Xi never appeared again. Remember, it’s a good thing to not have immortals around. Once they descend, it will be the start of a calamity.” Li Qiye said.

“What about you? Do you want to become an immortal?” The youth stared at the ocean for a while before turning back.

“That depends on whether taking the next step is possible. I know what you’re trying to say, it isn’t easy so that’s why I must enter the expanse.” Li Qiye smiled. [1]

“I see, Dao Brother. The fog has been lifted from my eyes after listening to you. You have been a good teacher.” He bowed deeply towards Li Qiye.

Li Qiye accepted the respectful gesture.

“Teacher, how hard is it to become an immortal?” The youth changed his address from “Dao Brother” to “Teacher” to show more respect. [2]

“Can be easy or hard depending on your definition of an immortal.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“Then let’s start with the world’s definition first then yours, Teacher.” The youth smiled.

“I can’t speak for everyone else, but maybe in their eyes, what’s above a progenitor is an immortal.” Li Qiye smiled and shook his head.

“Like our ancestors.” The youth said.

“Though I haven’t seen their true forms, maybe you’re right. They can be considered immortals with your definition.” Li Qiye said.

He finished another cup and added: “However, in reality, they’re only pseudo-immortals at best. This includes myself as well even if I manage to take another step.”

“Then what is a true immortal, Teacher? Everlasting life?” The youth respectfully poured another cup then asked.

“Do you think everlasting life and indestructibility are that unobtainable?” Li Qiye looked at the youth.

“How many have done it?” The youth asked.

“Look at the ocean, how many progenitors are still alive now in there?” Li Qiye asked.

“I don’t know.” The youth didn’t dare to answer without being certain.

“Some have lived for a long time without needing to slumber.” Li Qiye revealed.

“Is that considered everlasting life? How about indestructibility?” The youth replied.

“Some have done both.” Li Qiye stared at the ocean and said.

“Really?!” The youth stood up in shock.

“Yes, but you can call it pseudo once again since they require external items.” Li Qiye nodded.

“I see. I understand your definition now - someone who has both everlasting life and indestructibility is a true immortal.” The youth speculated.

“One more thing.” Li Qiye smiled: “Using their own dao! Now that’s not relying on any external factor. Otherwise, right here and now, I can turn back towards Three Immortals and become an immortal!”

“....” The youth was peerless enough to understand Li Qiye’s intent right away.

“You’re still not an immortal.” The youth took a deep breath.

“It’s because I look down on doing so.” Li Qiye smiled: “No one in Three Immortals can touch me right now, not even the three emperors together.”

This casual statement was enough to declare his supremacy.

“Allow me to thank you for being so virtuous on behalf of all living beings in Three Immortals. Your merciful thought blesses all of us.” The youth got on his knees.

“Stand up, I don’t accept this one.” Li Qiye shook his head.

The confused youth stood up but didn’t directly ask.

“This has nothing to do with virtue and mercy. On the contrary, brutality and murder are my themes. One thought of mine will end with a massacre, leaving behind only blood and bones. The only reason why I won’t do it is once again, I look down on doing so.” He spoke with more arrogance and pride than any others.

“Do you know why the disdain is there?” Li Qiye asked.

“I’m all ears, Teacher.” The youth said.

“The dao heart. As I said earlier, all are just pseudo-immortals regardless of how strong they are. They can break the firmament and sweep through the realms, it doesn’t matter. Only an unchanging dao heart will reach the truth and at that point, one will become a true immortal without relying on external help.” Li Qiye elaborated.

“I understand. Becoming a true immortal requires a peerless dao heart more than pure power.” The youth nodded.

“That’s right.” Li Qiye nodded: “A master can create light and dark or save the souls with a single thought. However, this doesn’t stop them from having a heart devil and falling into darkness. Only an unchanging dao heart will reach the ultimate truth.”

“Yes.” The youth replied.

Li Qiye turned towards the ocean and continued: “Some have gone really far but unfortunately, urgency among other things made them fall. It’s too late to try and go back once they have crossed the line, betraying their original purity. Their dao heart would have moved and there’s no putting it back in the right place.”

He paused for a bit before adding: “That’s why the three emperors are quite impressive. They didn’t take the next step and still managed to maintain their pure heart.”

“It is our fortune.” The youth agreed.

“I’m sure you know that Three Immortals have prospered enough after so many years. Very delicious, don’t you think?” Li Qiye said.

“I don’t dare to think about this.” The youth put on a forced smile, feeling a chill running down his spine despite being at the apex of this generation.

“The greatest of delicacies especially for the starving ones. They won’t be able to maintain their dao heart and will see Three Immortals as a delicious steak.” Li Qiye said.

“Teacher, that doesn’t sound optimistic at all.” The youth smiled wryly.

“You have been sitting here for so long to look at the ocean. I know you can sense it.” Li Qiye gave him the side-eye.

“Agitation.” The youth hesitated before admitting.

“Uncrossable Expanse has been the same throughout history, why is it changing now?” Li Qiye asked.

“I do not dare to speculate baselessly.” The youth pondered for a bit before answering.

"I can tell you." Li Qiye smiled before focusing his eyes towards the horizon.

[Chapter 2923: Can't Say No After Taking The Bribe](#)

"Someone has gotten very hungry now after the long years." Li Qiye withdrew his gaze and said.

"What actually caused this?" Fear spawned in the youth's mind. He was strong enough to have a pretty good guess, just nothing concrete.

He has been here long enough to conclude that a disaster was coming, starting with this expanse. Li Qiye had confirmed his thought just now.

"The details aren't clear. Three Immortals and the expanse have been through numerous epochs yet the balance remains. This shows a historical consistency that has been broken, why? Because of an outside force." Li Qiye said.

"Evil is invading." The youth thought about the heavenly tribulation back then along with the evil engulfing the entire world.

"That's one way to put it, who knows if you can classify them as 'evil'. It depends on the definition once more." Li Qiye smiled.

The youth smiled wryly and got the point.

"Will we be able to escape?" He respectfully asked.

"It's hard to say. I believe that it was only a test, just the beginning. So what does this mean? Would you scout against a bunch of ants? No, you would just destroy their nest, so scouting shows a lack of confidence in strength."

"Makes sense." The youth nodded.

"If I'm not mistaken, there will be a vanguard. The future depends on if someone can hold them back and the real power of the expanse." Li Qiye smiled and said.

"The sky moat will be the first gate." The youth stared at the wall and Sky Pass.

"Yes." Li Qiye nodded: "The best strategy is to keep the fight outside of the wall. It will be difficult if anything makes it to Immortal Lineage. Once the seeds are there, they will sow discord everywhere in the three worlds."

"Please tell me more on what to do, Teacher." The youth said.

"No need to worry at your power level. Just leave and the flames of war won't touch you. Only worry about yourself." Li Qiye chuckled.

"Immortal Lineage is my home, I don't want its inhabitants to suffer and for it to turn into ruins." The youth said.

"It's simple then. Gather the forces of Three Immortals and fight the enemies outside the wall. That's the simplest and most effective method. Of course, if you are decisive enough, kill your way into the expanse and take them down!"

“You think too highly of me.” The youth shook his head: “I am weak and won’t be helpful. So many stronger people have entered the expanse. I can only hope to try and stay alive in there.”

He wasn’t being humbled. Across the years, numerous progenitors have entered. The ones at the immortal level were frighteningly strong.

“Then protect the wall. As long as Sky Pass is there, everything will be fine.” Li Qiye said.

“I wonder how long we can last. My dao isn’t enough.” The youth stared at the wall. He felt a bit helpless because he was aware of the incoming forces.

“That depends on the guests from Uncrossable Expanse. Pray that they aren’t as strong as your group. Otherwise, you might hold for now but not forever.” Li Qiye smiled.

“What will you do, Teacher?” The youth stared at Li Qiye.

“If I were to raise my blade, the myriad ages would cower in fear.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Please help us!” The youth cupped his fist.

“Why should I?” Li Qiye shook his head: “I’m only a passerby, not the guardian or savior of Three Immortals.”

“For the sake of all living beings?” The youth asked.

“As I’ve said earlier, if I chose to move against Three Immortals, I would be an immortal right now. Am I not showing enough mercy already?” Li Qiye smiled.

“Not mobilizing is indeed a great showing of mercy.” The youth pondered and had to agree.

“Thus, I have no interest in protecting anything. Just sparing this world is already more than enough.” Li Qiye finished another cup.

“Teacher, fight one battle to illuminate the ages.” The youth eventually cupped his fist and requested: “It will herald eternal dawn. You can test your incredible prowess in this battle before going all the way later. Let’s make the loudest bang to build morale?”

“Hahaha, well said. Very well, I guess I can test my blade with this battle to start things off. So be it.” Li Qiye laughed in response and patted his thigh, seemingly quite amused before finishing another cup.

“Thank you, Teacher.” The youth excitedly bowed and poured another cup for him.

“Your flattery struck the right chords, I know that you’re digging a pit but I’m jumping in anyway.” Li Qiye drank the whole thing and shook his head.

“Of course not, given your peerless dao heart. You would have joined even if I didn’t say anything to make this battle the first of your great campaign, raising your blade and waving your banner.” The youth poured more for him.

“A scholar indeed, making flattery so flowery.” Li Qiye shook his head with amusement: “Sigh, it’s hard to say no after already eating someone’s food. Your meals and wine have done their job well as a bribe.”

“Your approval amplified their value. It’s a shame that I came in a hurry and didn’t have time for ample preparation. Otherwise, I could prepare even better dishes for you.” The youth laughed heartily. [1]

“Three Immortals does have a lot of delicacies.” Li Qiye nodded: “Too bad it is not the purpose of my trip or I would give them a try.”

“I know that there is an incredible meal in Sky Ruins, probably the greatest of all time and virtually impossible to find.” The youth smiled.

“Trying to tempt me with food again? If I eat another meal of yours, I will have to jump into another pit.” Li Qiye shook his head.

“Of course not. It’s already enough to have you join in this battle. It’s only regrettable that I haven’t prepared more dishes for you, Teacher. Give me a little time and I’ll go catch them and make some appetizers for you, okay?” The youth said.

“Good, I want to see if it is really as good as you say.” Li Qiye smiled.

This great feast unavailable to emperors was slowly enjoyed by Li Qiye, accentuated by the sea breezes. He treated it as just another meal at home.

He stood up after finishing and smiled: “I have to go to Sky Pass for a small matter.”

“Alright, I will go to Sky Ruins and catch one of them to let you have a taste.” The youth also bid goodbye.

“I’ll be waiting.” Li Qiye smiled and moved on.

The youth cupped his fist. He then turned back for a quick glance at the expanse before sighing.

Next, his sight turned towards Sky Ruins. His body flashed once and he instantly appeared inside Sky Ruins.

Li Qiye landed on Sky Pass and was greeted by a prosperous aura, the opposite of the solitary shore.

One could truly feel the changes of life while standing in this massive area - the first gate of Immortal Lineage and the only check post of the great wall.

Once the sky moat was activated, the only way to enter was through this pass. Otherwise, one would be stuck outside.

Thus, the pass was extremely important geographically. However, it never had the chance to show its importance due to a lack of invaders.

Nevertheless, as the biggest pass in Immortal Lineage, it also became one of the biggest cities after years of accumulation. The prosperity and liveliness here could match any other city.

It was independent of any system. The only entity in charge was the legion of the wall.

One would be hard-pressed to find a more powerful legion in Immortal Lineage. The members consisted of the natives in Sky Pass along with men recruits from the wildlands.

Moreover, other cultivators in the system could also join as long as they met the requirements. Thus, the actual composition of the legion was relatively complex.

[Chapter 2924: Sky Pass](#)

Sky Pass was no longer limited to a military fortress or a base. It resembled a great city with busy commerce.

Despite being the first gate of Immortal Lineage, the place lacked both guards and patrols.

This was due to a lack of foreign invaders. Moreover, the legion was actually very capable. The wildlands had plenty of villains but none dared to mess with this area.

This resulted in rather lax security. Anyone could enter the pass without being searched or interrogated.

They could come via flying beasts or riding divine mountains or with their auras fully activated... No one would bother to stop them.

This freedom of entry wasn't a sign of weakness for the legion. It didn't lack control over the wall and the pass. On the contrary, its grasp remained as tight as ever in the past.

The power of the legion was virtually unmatched in this world. Moreover, its commander, Tai Yinxi, was unfathomable.

This confidence and absolute control resulted in the current lack of military presence, at least in these sectors.

In fact, one would find it difficult to find a single soldier on the street. Nevertheless, everyone still obeyed the laws of the pass, whether it be a powerful Eternal or a regional tyrant.

Even the villains in the wildlands would tuck their tail in between their legs after coming here. There would be no place to hide once being targeted by the legion.

The existence of order resulted in peace and prosperity for many generations. Li Qiye witnessed it the moment he set foot inside.

The prosperous city was enchanting like fine wine. Cultivators would be lost in the temptations of this city and never look back. They would rather be lost in this world and live like kings.

The streets were built with wars and battles in mind. That's why they were wide enough to accompany dozens of carriages in parallel without a problem.

Impressively enough, they were completely filled with pedestrians. They came from all over the world. One would truly broaden their horizon by just people-watching.

This might be the place with the most diverse gathering of races - Heavenly Buddha Tribe, Eight-armed Tribe, Metalkin Tribe, Immortal Bronze Tribe, Celestial Tribe...

It also had the most merchandise from all over the world. If one couldn't find something here, they wouldn't be able to find it anywhere else.

That's why many powerful cultivators would come to look for their desired artifacts.

Arrogance Enterprise also had a branch here. It might be one of the biggest stores in all of Immortal Lineage.

Outside of the big stores, there were little merchants and peddlers all over the streets.

“New octo-purified dragon blood, come take a look, it’s definitely worth your time!”

“A family heirloom! A treasure tile for cheap!”

“Look, eight-treasured pills personally refined by an alchemy saint, only one bottle left for the highest bidder!”

One could hear these merchants shouting up and down the streets.

Cultivators who wanted to buy things for cheap or young ones without money roamed these areas searching for good deals. Of course, these places were complicated and laden with scams.

A few cultivators also tried to sell their own items. They found an open spot and sat down, either marking a clear price or trading for other items.

Li Qiye watched the merchants and cultivators along the way with a smile on his face.

This sensation was too familiar. He actually enjoyed going to such places to find cheap treasures whenever he had free time.

This time around, he was looking to sell. He picked an inconspicuous corner and sat down, took out a wooden box and placed it in front before leaning back on the wall and closing his eyes.

He didn’t bother to yell or name a price. The corner he picked seemed quiet relative to the rest of the city - a point of serenity among a cacophony of noises.

He only had one customer in mind so he was going to wait here until the time was right.

There were too many sellers like him in these alleyways so few actually paid attention.

Of course, due to the huge mass, one or two would find his item interesting.

“What are you selling, friend?” One person came up and asked.

“A priceless treasure.” Li Qiye answered without opening his eyes.

“Priceless?” The person became interested and took a meticulous look.

This didn’t look “priceless” at all, at least not when judging by this wooden box.

“Can you open it so I can take a look?” The person asked.

“You can’t afford it.” Li Qiye lazily said, eyes still closed.

This attitude annoyed the potential buyer. His expression soured: “Bold words there. I want to see what your treasure is that I can’t afford them!” [1]

The buyer had high status and only came out of curiosity, not expecting to be shown such disrespect.

Li Qiye ignored him and maintained the same posture.

“Hmph, you think too highly of yourself, it’s just a broken box.” The buyer snorted and had no choice but to leave.

Freedom of trade was encouraged here. He couldn’t force the guy to sell the wooden box to him even if it was worthless. No one would dare to rob someone in broad daylight in this city.

A few more came later. One or two were actually masters with keen vision. They could see that this wooden box was special.

They asked to take a look inside but Li Qiye also ignored their request. His attitude annoyed the potential buyers, forcing them to leave.

If this wasn’t Sky Pass, people would have tried to beat him up several times already. After all, his attitude was really asking for it.

This didn’t matter to Li Qiye. He just needed to wait for one person to come. This type of fishing required patience. Plus, he believed that it wouldn’t take too long.

“Oh? It’s you again.” A pleasant voice sounded today.

Li Qiye opened his eyes and saw the girl - Bai Jinning. She didn’t have armor on today, just casual clothes. This made her look relatively more amiable but still mature and experienced.

He closed his eyes again after a quick glance.

“Great Scholar, what are you selling here?” She remembered how this bastard teased her on the wall and her anger returned.

[Chapter 2925: Selling Or Not?](#)

Bai Jinning had an off-day without any mission so she took a stroll in the city, not expecting to see Li Qiye right away.

The street was indeed narrow for enemies.

Of course, she didn’t care for payback since they had no real feud between the two of them. Moreover, the legion didn’t allow their members to act on vendetta either.

However, the moment she saw him again, the previous exasperation returned so she wanted to get payback.

“A priceless treasure.” He said the same thing as before.

“You have a priceless treasure? Really?” She saw no such thing in this wooden box and didn’t believe that he would have one either.

“Yes.” A direct answer.

“Open it so I can take a look at your priceless treasure.” She stared at him.

“No need for that, you can’t afford it anyway.” He lazily said.

“You...” She thought that she would never get along with this person. Her belly became filled with fire again.

“Hmph.” Tell me what it is, we’ll see how much it is worth.” She gritted her teeth and asked.

“Just a waste of time.” He refused again.

“!” Her breasts made waves as she trembled with anger.

“Hmph, don’t want others to see? Probably not worthwhile.” She took a deep breath to calm down before uttering.

“And?” He smiled, deciding to play along since he was getting bored.

“Hmph, it must be stolen goods.” Her eyes lit up as she gritted her teeth: “I’ll let you have it if this is true.”

“As if you can tell. The original owner must be here to make their case, so go find them if you want to play.” He leisurely said.

This argument demoralized her. Though their legion had full authority here, abusing it wasn’t allowed.

Without an actual accuser, she would just be taking his item in a completely uncalled for manner. Moreover, she wasn’t on official duty today.

“Go away then if you don’t have anyone, stop bothering me since I’m waiting for a buyer.” He waved his sleeve.

“Hmph, you think I’ll just leave because you told me to?” She didn’t give up and sat not far from him.

This became quite interesting. She wasn’t a supreme beauty or anything but still looked quite good. This naturally attracted some eyes.

“What are you doing?” He asked the girl.

“Just keeping an eye on you. If you really stole the item, someone will eventually come looking. Plus, it can be fake too, I don’t want you to trick anyone. ” She gloated while resting her chin on her hands.

She just wanted to annoy him since she wasn’t on duty anyway. There was nothing holding her back.

“That’s a good excuse to stare. You must have a crush on me and want to see my handsome face all day long. Yes, I know I’m handsome but don’t fall in too deep.” He retorted.

“Bullshit, haven’t you looked in a mirror before? The word ‘handsome’ is definitely not written there, maybe the word ‘shameless’.” She barked back while turning red.

“I have and found myself to be insanely handsome.” He leisurely said.

“...” It was hard for a young girl like her to argue with someone as shameless and sharp-tongued as Li Qiye.

“So, don’t fall in love with me.” He smirked. Teasing her wasn’t a bad idea to pass the time.

“So narcissistic.” She glared back.

Li Qiye chuckled and went back to his sleeping pose.

She continued to keep an eye on him, wanting to see what trickery he was up to.

Just like that, the two of them became a very strange pair on this street.

Eventually, another potential buyer looked at Li Qiye's wooden box and asked: "Hey, what are you selling?"

She answered before he could: "That's stolen goods, don't buy it lest you want trouble."

The buyer turned towards her then back at him, thinking that these two were weird. However, bizarre matters happened all over the city so he didn't pry and decided to leave.

She was very pleased with herself for chasing a customer away and glanced at him: "Hmph, don't think about selling anything today. I got my eyes on you."

Li Qiye didn't mind the provocation.

A while later, several more people came to ask him about the wooden box. Unfortunately, she repeated the same thing. Each shook their head and walked away.

This process went on for a while but Li Qiye didn't mind at all. His biggest reaction was an occasional chuckle.

This perplexed and filled her with curiosity. It was as if she wasn't chasing his customers away but more like doing him a favor - swatting the flies away.

"Hey, are you actually trying to sell this?" She asked.

"Obviously I'm trying to." He leisurely said.

"Then why don't you answer them?" She remained suspicious, thinking that Li Qiye wouldn't have actually answered his customers even if she hadn't chased them away.

"Because they can't afford it, just like you, a waste of my breath." Li Qiye replied.

"..... Hmph, we'll really see what you're up to." She swallowed her anger and became more determined to linger around.

More people came and expressed their interest in the box. Li Qiye actually ignored them this time as if he didn't hear their questions.

Her suspicion was correct. She didn't try to stop anyone yet he still ignored them. What was he trying to do here?

"I'm here." She suddenly heard a voice that disrupted her train of thoughts. An old man was there in front of Li Qiye now.

A very strange feeling struck her. She felt as if the old man was there the entire time but she couldn't see him.

He wore a cotton robe meant for the winter. His hat nearly covered his entire face. She couldn't really see anything due to his clothing style.

Of course, she didn't know that these two have met before back in Myriad Lineage for a transaction. Li Qiye told him a story.

"That's good. I thought you were dead." Li Qiye opened his eyes.

The girl became drawn into the conversation. Li Qiye didn't care for anyone else until this old man.

"I want to die... but can't." The old man wasn't offended.

[Chapter 2926: Seeing The Mysterious Old Man Again](#)

"It's good if you die, I will buy firecrackers for your funeral. See, at least there is still someone who cares enough for you." Li Qiye smiled.

"And I appreciate it." The old man chuckled.

Meanwhile, the girl thought that these two didn't sound like friends, just acquaintances. All in all, their attitude was very confusing to outside listeners.

"Is it that thing?" The old man looked at the wooden box.

"Three leaves, just so that you can have a smell. That's how you found your way here, right?" Li Qiye smiled.

The old man looked up and stared at Li Qiye for a long time before nodding: "You do have it, I see. I've been searching for a long time but couldn't get it due to various constraints."

"You're just fishing, don't call it searching for a long time." Li Qiye said.

"Are you the fish? Or maybe you're the fisherman and I'm the caught fish." The old man smiled.

Li Qiye laughed and didn't comment on this.

The old man picked up the wooden box and opened it for a look. Meanwhile, Bai Jinning's neck seemingly stretched quite a bit. She was very curious about this so-called priceless treasure.

She thought that Li Qiye wouldn't be able to produce something of that level, at least based on his appearance.

The old man saw three leaves inside, as green as can be. A majestic aura struck him in the face.

Bai Jinning also felt as if she was inside an ancient forest with boundless life forces. However, she didn't get a good look before hearing a pop - the old man closing the box tightly.

Despite not seeing them well, the aura just now left a deep impression on her. The three leaves were equivalent to three forest worlds.

A question popped up in her head - are these three leaves really priceless? They didn't look like immortal alchemy materials.

"This is it, these three leaves are right. I will bring them back so others can take a look and celebrate this great news." The old man nodded.

The old man recognized that these leaves came from the Three Immortals Tree, unlike Jinning. Li Qiye let them out in order to draw him here.

"Mmm, I'm waiting for my payment." Li Qiye smiled.

"What do you want? Or rather, what must I do?" The old man looked at him.

"Hmm, hard to say." Li Qiye rubbed his chin in response: "How about this? What do you guys have? Let me pick something suitable so I won't go overboard, just to be reasonable."

"I'm pretty sure you will try to extort us." The old man didn't hold back.

"Haha, I was a little embarrassed and didn't want to do so, but now if I don't do it, I'll be letting myself down. After all, you three have been setting up this net for too long and far. A fish such as myself deserves something sweet for biting, right?" Li Qiye smiled.

"This isn't a good place to talk. We're just speaking without any proof, why don't you come to our place and we'll take our time there?" The old man pondered for a bit before answering.

"You want a three-on-one? It'll be a desolate place so what am I going to do if you decide to rob me?" Li Qiye's eyes narrowed with a smirk.

"You're afraid?" The old man smirked back.

"No, your group should be the ones afraid." Li Qiye's smile grew wider: "You're in a tough position right now so can you spare the effort to deal with me? I'll be one taking everything mercilessly."

"Is that so?" The old man's eyes narrowed.

"Certainly. I don't mind taking on three at the same time since I want to see the apex of this world. Plus, I don't need to hold back in Three Immortals, unlike you three." Li Qiye remained relaxed but his words were quite imperious.

He still sat there without posturing but Bai Jinning felt as if he was the ruler of the entire world. Everyone else crawled next to his feet like ants - including progenitors and emperors. He would only need to stomp to decimate them all.

She felt suffocated by this strange feeling. Li Qiye had turned into a completely different person.

"I'm immortal in Three Immortals all the same, but you three? Let's pretend that we're on even-footing, it still won't end well for this world." Li Qiye said.

The old man remained silent against the threat.

"You think such a thing will happen?" He eventually smiled and said.

"Who knows? I just like items and there's no point in taking you down anyway, I don't benefit from it or feel accomplished." Li Qiye smiled back.

"We're not your targets." The old man said.

“Then let’s continue this transaction?” Li Qiye asked.

“Look at me and my pitiful cultivation, I don’t have anything good. You have to come to our place for them.” The old man said.

“So you still want me to visit your place.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Why not? We won’t let you come there and leave empty-handed.” The old man became friendly right away: “Plus, I’m sure you’ll cross the ocean anyway even without this transaction, am I wrong here?”

“Whether I go or not is a different issue. Of course, the trip is not a big deal either.” Li Qiye said: “But keep in mind that due to recent events, the path is very chaotic and it’ll be harder. Don’t you think the fare should be double, no, ten times the normal rate?”

“You want to raise the initial price?” The old man didn’t like this.

“No, but the fare has to be ten times more than normal. Otherwise, how can I get to your place?” Li Qiye was blunt.

“Has anyone told you that you’re a merchant with no heart?” The old man said but didn’t look angry at all.

“No, you should be thanking me for being so nice by just raising the fare, the nicest man in the world, in fact. I’m sure there are those who would pay more for what I’m offering.” Li Qiye smiled.

“I don’t think anyone can afford it.” The old man shook his head.

“Really? That’s true in the past but now, I know that some will be more than willing to pay a sky-high price.” Li Qiye added.

The old man had no response.

“You would trade with those existences? Your targets should be them.” The old man eventually said.

“No, they’re not my targets.” Li Qiye shook his head: “Of course, I’ll be sweeping through them in the future, but it’s still fine to do business with them right now.”

“I doubt it.” The old man didn’t believe it.

“You think too highly of me, more than I do myself.” Li Qiye couldn’t help but laugh.

“I don’t think highly of you, just your dao heart. It told me everything I need to know.” The old man smiled back.

“That’s why you three cast such a wide net to reel me in.” Li Qiye said.

“Aren’t you doing the same thing, trying to catch some big fish too. Otherwise, you wouldn’t have come to us in the past.”

“Fine, I will have to make do with this loss then.” Li Qiye nodded: “You have my words, I will bring it to your place.”

[Chapter 2927: Unfavorable Transaction](#)

“Almost forgot about something, you still owe me for devouring one darkness for you three, saving you all a lot of trouble.” Li Qiye brought something else up.

“True, but isn’t it extremely nutritious for you too?” The old man admitted.

“Got anything else like it? If yes, then the negotiation will be very easy. In fact, I’ll do it free of charge.” Li Qiye smiled.

“No idea. If we could bring something like that to you, the present day wouldn’t be messy like this.” The old man smiled wryly.

“Looks like you’re not very reliable.” Li Qiye narrowed his eyes: “There’s something I don’t understand. There is no world tougher than Three Immortals, so why are these things showing up? I wouldn’t be surprised to see them in the nine worlds but here? It’s impossible unless you all courted death.”

“Unfortunately, that was indeed the case.” The old man had a bitter expression: “Yes, we brought this on ourselves. We were simply curious but didn’t expect evil to sneak in.”

“You couldn’t find it in the ocean.” Li Qiye said.

“Right, everything happened so quickly and caught us off guard. An explosion sent us away. We barely suppressed one side but I’m sure some still made it in.” The old man said.

“Hence the phrase - one might be able to survive an act of god, but no one can survive a self-brought calamity.” Li Qiye smiled: “You have been living too peacefully and decided to mess it all up. Three Immortals is a blessed world allowing its inhabitants to escape so many tribulations and total destruction. Now, they all know that there is a fat piece of meat right below and are salivating. You think they’ll just let it go?”

“That’s why we need to patch it up, waiting for you to deliver.” The old man said.

One misstep nearly ruined everything. Though they managed to stop it, evil entities still snuck in and became seeds of discord. [1]

“You know that it is on the move.” Li Qiye chuckled. [2]

“It is hiding too well. It has never stopped though, still scheming in the darkness and affecting many.” The old man helplessly said: “When you devoured its kin, the thing became restless and nervous, thinking that we have found reinforcement. That’s why it’s on the move now, not that it’s a bad thing.”

“Right, you guys haven’t been able to find it so this could be a good opportunity. You’re using Three Immortals as the bait though.” Li Qiye smiled.

“As long as the sky moat is around, it can only stare and not eat.” The old man said with confidence.

“Who knows? What if future generations are worthless? I believe in your power but unfortunately, the world can’t handle it, pierced into a billion holes.”

“We had no choice but to resort to this plan.” The old man said: “It is a source of problems as long as it is around. It is extremely evil, even more frightening than the one you devoured. It had poisoned many despite our constant vigilance. If we let up for a single second, all inhabitants will be done for.”

“So that’s where I come in with the delivery.” Li Qiye smiled: “You want to use me to bait it out then we’ll mount a joint attack from all sides to destroy it.”

“It’s a good opportunity for you too since you want to go to the ocean anyway. Take advantage of this to train, isn’t it good to have such a strong opponent?” The old man calmly admitted.

“You think too highly of me. First, I don’t have that much time to waste and second, you three have been searching for so long to no avail. How am I going to bait it out so quickly? It’s impossible. In my opinion, stay even more cautious. This might be a bait in an attempt to divert your attention. What if it appears out of nowhere and catches you off guard, killing one of you in the process?”

“Perhaps.” The old man nodded: “We can’t judge it using conventional wisdom. Prudence is necessary. Hmm, this might just be a scouting attempt too.”

“Well, all of this has nothing to do with me.” Li Qiye said: “I will deliver the goods since the ocean is indeed a good place to train. It’s time for me to take the next step anyway. However, I won’t stop here and waste time with you all and will be leaving after this matter.”

Meanwhile, Bai Jinning has been resting her chin on her hands, listening to the whole thing. They spoke the same language as hers but she didn’t understand anything.

However, she felt as if they were up above the clouds while she was an ant on the ground.

“For the expedition?” The old man asked.

“That’s something worth musing over if I can take the next step.” Li Qiye said: “It just depends on the situation.”

“Ah, you still haven’t made up your mind. Have you thought about the situation after an expedition?” The old man said.

“Did you think it through back then?” Li Qiye asked.

“We’re not like you and have different goals. Moreover, we’re lucky enough to have Three Immortals. I won’t deny your abilities but even in the case of victory, have you thought carefully about what comes next?” The old man said.

“The thing I want is very simple.” He chuckled.

“I believe you.” The old man nodded: “But I also know that you’re not as free as you like to think. You can’t abandon your world and that’s your biggest shackle. Otherwise, you wouldn’t be trying so hard to gather items and consolidate more power. It’s definitely for yourself but more so, your world.”

“There is no savior but guardians do exist!” The old man looked straight at Li Qiye: “Where are the guardians for your world when you are gone? Most importantly, if heaven were to break after your final battle, the result is quite grim for a world without defenders. That’s why you haven’t made up your mind. I’m sure you have an outline in mind but it’s not time yet. Taking the next step for you might not mean starting the expedition right away.”

“That’s why you want to borrow my power.” Li Qiye chuckled.

"I do want to see you take the next step. You have been accumulating for a long time now. Plus, no other place is more suitable to do so than this ocean. If you really want to do it, then do it there! Is that why you're coming?"

"Yes." Li Qiye didn't deny his plan.

"Just hang around the ocean for a bit. It's best if we work together because our side is lacking manpower." The old man invited.

"This is where our styles are different." Li Qiye shook his head: "What was on your mind when you were standing at the very edge?"

"The truth is... we didn't win back then." The old man smiled: "The consequences were heavier than our imagination so we stopped."

"So your preparation was inadequate; your heart unprepared." Li Qiye chuckled.

The old man looked at him and said: "You are the strangest man we've met. Despite your unwillingness, you will really do it, not giving a damn about anything. Your heart is colder than any overlord. But, it looks like you still can't drop it so you rather pull the entire world up."

"Why not? Where I go is where my world shall be, in my heart." Li Qiye smiled: "That's why, don't question my determination. I will fight the final battle without looking back!"

"Yes." The old man sighed: "Though we didn't win, we still had a chance but ultimately decided to turn back."

"We're just different." Li Qiye added: "In my opinion, offense is the best defense. If anyone dares to cross my line, I will take the fight to their nest. It is that simple."

"I got it." The old man nodded: "Once you have a substitution method in place, that's when your expedition will start."

"The villainous heaven and I... perhaps we can co-exist, not one of us must die. However, all of those fiends, they must die!" Li Qiye's eyes became all-piercing after declaring this. [3]

Bai Jinning lost control of her body and felt chills all over the moment she saw this gaze.

[Chapter 2928: The World Exists With Me](#)

The piercing gaze could kill the gods without difficulty. Bai Jinning became frozen even though it wasn't pointed at her. She felt completely insignificant and trivial as a result.

"Alright, just remember that once you take the next step, they will try to annihilate you for peace of mind." The old man contemplated before telling Li Qiye.

"As if we can escape by not moving forward. No one is that lucky. Three Immortals is blessed not like other places but how much longer do you think this will last? Perhaps it is targeted now." Li Qiye smiled.

"You're right. It was our fault anyway for inviting this greed." The old man nodded.

"It's really only a matter of time. The starving existences have an incredible sense of smell so they'll find this place one day or another. It is enough to fill their belly." Li Qiye said.

"True, that's why no one can escape, neither you nor me." The old man accepted the grim reality.

"The only way is to fight until death, otherwise, this state will always be the same. Escaping won't solve anything." Li Qiye said seriously.

"What happens when one obtains victory? They'll just replace it, this is an endless cycle." The old man smiled.

"I've told people this old story before. A warrior slaying a dragon only to find that the dragon used to be a great warrior. However, my dao heart is unbreakable. I am a dragonslayer, not someone who will turn into a dragon!" Li Qiye said.

The old man's eyes became profound, vast enough to encompass Three Immortals. Everything was as tiny as a speck of dust in his eyes. This seemed to be an attempt at reading Li Qiye's future.

"I should have faith in you. Perhaps one day you will be able to do it." He eventually said.

"No, don't believe in me." Li Qiye shook his head: "You should believe in yourself. Are you a dragonslayer or a dragon? Or another existence, such as the villager or a saint?"

"Nothing good comes from being a saint." The old man said.

"Who actually has a good ending on this path? No one. Even the villagers have to offer sacrifices." Li Qiye smiled.

"Maybe just being a mortal is best. The insects of summer do not worry about the coldness of winter." The old man became slightly emotional.

"Can you handle being an insect? If not, then at least try. Who cares what the world thinks?" Li Qiye said.

"Mmm..." The old man chuckled: "Well, in terms of history, you and I are just specks of dust. We'll disappear in the rain."

"No, the world shall exist with me." Li Qiye revealed a transcending smile.

"We're inferior to you in this regard." The old man shook his head.

"Because you are saints. There are things you couldn't let go of and they hold you back." Li Qiye said.

"Perhaps, no need to think about these matters that are still so far away. Just fixing the wall is good enough, and maybe having peace during our old age. That's perfect." The old man replied.

"That's easier said than done. If you can actually uphold this mentality and let go, then it's possible. I don't think you can do it though." Li Qiye smiled.

"There will be people after us that will take over our burden." The old man had an insightful gaze into the future.

"I hope you will have great successors. Unfortunately, I probably won't see that day, it's too far away." Li Qiye smiled.

"Sounds pessimistic." The old man shook his head.

"Is it? Your group hasn't been able to let go after so many years. One day, maybe some will reach your height but what will they become? Dragonslayers, dragons, or saints?" Li Qiye chuckled.

His eyes became serious as he stared straight at the old man and warned: "Cultivation isn't important at our level, dao heart is where the emphasis should be. Worry about who they will become instead."

"Let's drop this issue." The old man smiled and shook his head.

"Fine with me, it's not my Three Immortals World. No need for me to worry about it." Li Qiye responded.

"Let's move soon, we need the goods right awa-..." The old man said.

"Don't be so hasty. You've waited so long already, what's a bit more waiting?" Li Qiye interrupted him.

"Alright, we'll wait for you in the ocean. You'll know how to find us then." The old man smiled and became increasingly ethereal before disappearing altogether.

"Where, where did he go?" Jinning was shocked to see the old man seemingly melding and becoming one with space.

"He left." Li Qiye got up and stretched, ready to leave.

"Why are you following me?" He didn't get far before stopping to smile at her.

"Who, who says I'm following you?" She dodged his gaze before responding: "We just happen to be walking in the same direction. Sky Pass doesn't belong to you either so I have the right to walk on these streets."

For some strange reasons, her voice was filled with timidity. She was a little afraid of him right now after seeing his gaze prior.

He was still the same as always - just another regular man. But now, she felt as if she was being stared at by a primordial beast. There was a sense of looming danger.

"Makes sense." Li Qiye chuckled and didn't mind being followed.

She mustered courage out of nowhere, perhaps fueled by curiosity about Li Qiye.

"Who was that earlier?" She said softly.

"The strongest existence of your world." Li Qiye glanced back at the girl and said.

"Nonsense." She scoffed. Albeit, the volume this time was far quieter than her previous display of contempt and disbelief.

"I always speak the truth." Li Qiye smiled.

“Everyone knows that in the present days, Luminous Master is the strongest. That person wasn’t him.” She tilted her head in contemplation.

“Luminous Master is only an ant or a speck of dust.” Li Qiye commented.

“Shhh!” She was scared out of her mind after hearing this and gestured with her finger on her lips: “You’ll lose your head if anyone else hears this comment.”

“Is it that serious?” Li Qiye chuckled.

“I’m not messing around. Luminous Master is admired by everyone. Your insult earlier would make you the number one public enemy.” Bai Jinning leaned in closer and whispered.

This was indeed the truth. Luminous Master had plenty of followers and admirers in Immortal Lineage. They wouldn’t forgive Li Qiye for insulting him.

“Bunch of idiots.” Li Qiye shook his head.

“Are you tired of living? Plus, Luminous Master and you probably don’t have any feud, why do you need to insult him?”

“Once again, I’m just staying the truth. Must I praise him as the strongest like the rest?” Li Qiye said.

“He is the strongest.” Jinning said.

[Chapter 2929: Wooden Buddha](#)

She wasn’t being unreasonable. The majority would give the same answer when asked who was the strongest right now in Immortal Lineage.

This seemed logical because he was the first to become a progenitor in this generation - completely unfathomable and peerless in strength.

Li Qiye didn’t bother correcting her this time around, only revealing a faint smile.

“Why are you smiling?” She was dissatisfied with his attitude.

“A frog only thinks the sky is as big as the mouth of the well.” Li Qiye answered.

“So how big is your sky?” She retorted, furious.

“Boundless, exceeding your imagination so you can’t imagine it.” Li Qiye leisurely said.

“Are you saying that I’m stupid?” She glared at him in response.

“I didn’t say that, although I would absolutely believe you if you were to say that you’re stupid.” Li Qiye replied.

“You!” She almost vomited blood from anger and glared at him again.

Unfortunately, he ignored her and casually strolled down the street.

“Your commander is Tai Yinxi, right?” Li Qiye suddenly asked.

“Yes, and?” She angrily said.

“Nothing. Go tell him that I want to see him.” Li Qiye replied.

This attitude rendered her speechless. He was treating her like a servant at his beck and call.

“Why should I listen to you? I’m not your servant or anything.” She said.

“Oh? That’s fine. I’ll just go meet him then.” Li Qiye didn’t mind.

“You think you’re a progenitor? Not just anyone can come and see our commander. He’s in isolated cultivation right now. Few actually get to meet him.” She said.

“No problem, I’ll pay him a visit.” Li Qiye added.

“You gotta be insane. Sky Pass is not the same as before, if you do anything stupid, our legion will surround you. And I’ll warn you now, it won’t feel good then.” She gave him the side-eye.

“I heard that your legion is the strongest in Immortal Lineage. Let’s see how strong it is.” He responded.

“...” She became speechless.

“Why do you want to see our commander?” It took a while for her to calm down.

“Just want to chat with him for a bit.” Li Qiye replied.

Bai Jinning didn’t know whether Li Qiye was crazy or just insanely egotistic. Not just anyone could have an audience with their commander. His nonchalant attitude about the whole thing was just too arrogant.

“You’re insane if you think you can go wherever you want in Sky Pass.” She said with a mean glare.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn’t answer.

“Our commander will show up in a few days.” She didn’t know why she wanted to help him: “There is a big banquet with numerous guests. Maybe I can get you a seat so that you can meet our commander.”

She immediately regretted this potentially foolish move. To sneak a stranger inside? She wouldn’t be able to handle consequences if something were to happen. Alas, it was too late to take it back. She wondered if there was something wrong with her right now.

“Sounds good.” Li Qiye nodded and accepted the suggestion.

His casual demeanor was simply infuriating to her. Did he not know that she was risking her life to do this favor?

“Don’t cause any trouble or, or I’ll be the first to deal with you.” She gritted her teeth.

He answered with the same smile.

They have been walking for a while and just happened to come across a store with a display window.

He didn’t really care but the content of the store made her stop for a bit.

He walked several steps ahead before noticing and stopping to look at the dazed girl.

“Let’s go in.” Li Qiye opened the door and was greeted by an enthusiastic worker.

Jinning regained her wits and also followed along. The two of them were next to the display window now.

"It's not bad." Li Qiye knew exactly the item that stole her attention.

"Esteemed Guests, you have keen eyesight. This carving is in the form of Lankavatara Buddha. Our Shopkeeper has identified it as authentic." The worker told the two.

"I'm aware." Jinning jumped in.

The item on the window display was a wooden Buddha, small in size, and had a cute smile - looking quite merciful.

"Lankavatara Buddha." Li Qiye chuckled while looking at it.

"Yes." The worker said: "It has been blessed by Buddhist arts and able to expel evil and subdue fiends. It might come from the Buddha himself, a very fine item."

Lankavatara Buddha was a progenitor in Immortal Lineage, one of the few that didn't have an official title. He started a temple with the same name at first. This eventually became an entire system.

For a long period of time, some said that only he could rival Desolate Saint in terms of illuminating and saving the people. His Buddhism affected many generations in history.

"Definitely high-grade." Li Qiye nodded.

It was clearly treasured by its previous master - shiny and clean.

"Would you like to buy it?" The worker asked.

"Yes." Li Qiye smiled, not bothering to look at the price.

"Are you crazy?" Jinning became startled and pointed at the price plaque beneath: "It cost 300,000 Eternal stones."

Her reaction was justified. This was a monstrous sum to her, not something she would even dare to dream about. She thought that he didn't see the price.

"Oh? That's fine." Li Qiye glanced at the plaque and still didn't care.

Jinning was astounded. Not to mention regular cultivators, even the successors or princes of systems wouldn't be able to produce such a large sum in one go. However, Li Qiye acted as if he was only paying three pebbles found on the street.

"Amitabha." Right when Li Qiye was about to grab the wooden Buddha, the threads of a whisker coiled around his arm to stop him.

Two young men were standing next to him now, both wearing the robe of a novice monk and had orderly dots on their forehead.

They had a bright glow behind their head, looking like two little Buddhas. Their robes were simple but still glowed all the same, making them look freed from a single speck of dust.

They looked very similar; one would easily mistake them for twins. There were distinct differences - the one on the left had long arms while the one on the right had big palms.

The one using a whisker to stop Li Qiye was the left monk.

“Amitabha. Benefactor, this wooden carving is connected to us through fate.” The left one placed his palms together and told Li Qiye.

“What does that have to do with me?” Li Qiye seemed slightly annoyed.

On the other hand, Jinning was nervous and hurried pulled on his sleeve while whispering: “Don’t argue with them.”

[Chapter 2930: One Hundred Million](#)

Li Qiye smiled at Jinning and said: “Why not? Are they going to eat me?”

He didn’t hold back on his voice while she was blinking at him in a futile attempt to stop him.

“They’re Brightking Buddha’s companions, don’t compete with them.” She whispered.

“So what? I don’t care if Brightking Buddha is here in person.” Li Qiye refused.

She became afraid, not wanting him to invite needless trouble that might end with death.

The two monks’ expression changed after hearing this. They were attendants of Brightking Buddha, known as Brightking Left Child and Brightking Right Child. [1]

Brightking Buddha was extremely prestigious in Immortal Lineage on top of being powerful. Rumor has it that he was a grand-completion Everlasting or at the peak level. All in all, he was not one to be trifled with.

He joined Academy of Light and became the strongest student in Western Bank on top of being the abbot of Lankavatara Temple - the largest in the world. This latter status was far more prestigious than the first, gaining him the respect of many systems.

These two were his direct attendants and always served him. Thus, they were respected by others as well.

Now, Li Qiye’s blatant disregard for them on top of insulting their master made their expression change.

“Amitabha.” The two of them placed their palms together in unison.

“Benefactor, this wooden Buddha was carved by our progenitor so we wish to take it back to our temple. Please do us this favor.” The right one said.

This was reasonable if the wooden carving originated from their progenitor. It was fine for them to want to take it back to their temple.

Jinning shot more glances at Li Qiye, telling him to abandon this carving. They didn’t need to offend Brightking Buddha and his temple.

This particular temple had numerous worshippers in Immortal Lineage. Brightking Buddha was naturally very influential as the abbot.

"That has nothing to do with me." Li Qiye ignored her and said: "It's just a transaction, go tell someone else about Buddhist fate."

The two have never experienced such disdain before. Being disrespectful to monks was one thing but one needed to gauge their abilities going against an entire religion.

"Friend, how much is this carving?" The left monk asked the worker.

"300,000 Eternal stones, but of course, hmm, the highest bidder takes it." The worker could tell that these two groups wanted the carving at all costs. Thus, he encouraged competition.

"I will pay 400,000." The right monk immediately said.

"I see, I see." The worker became excited at the generous display and smiled wryly at Li Qiye who was holding the carving: "Sir, this esteemed monk is offering 400,000, do, do you still want the carving?"

"1,000,000." Li Qiye stroke the carving and said flatly.

The two monks became annoyed as a result.

"1,100,000." The right one fought back.

They couldn't be as bold as Li Qiye and more than double the price. Of course, they could afford to spend given their status but 1,000,000 Eternal stones were a big sum.

"5,000,000." Li Qiye replied without batting an eye.

"5,000,000..." Jinning looked like a cat that had its tail stepped on.

"5,000,000?" The worker was shocked too. He has seen many customers but none ever raised the price so much.

Li Qiye seemed to be telling everyone that money is no problem.

The two monks found this to be extremely confrontational, going five times higher.

"We bid five-..." The two of them gritted their teeth after hesitating.

"10,000,000." However, Li Qiye casually interrupted them with another bid.

The two had no choice but to swallow their words, turning red afterward and were speechless.

"You're insane..." Bai Jinning turned pale. This item was only worth 300,000 but the bid was now 10,000,000 - simply illogical.

The stunned worker thought that this was a once-in-a-hundred-years customer. Just doubling the price was bravado enough. This guy took it to a whole new level as if he was afraid of spending too little.

The two monks exchanged glances. This sum was large enough to make it very difficult now.

They then looked at the carving in Li Qiye's hand. They could see that it wasn't simple since they had a keen insight after following their master for so long. Moreover, they were masters themselves.

This carving had incredible Buddhist affinity and probably did come from their progenitor. They weren't completely sure about this but the carving was definitely worth more than 300,000 stones. 10,000,000 stones were a different story.

Thus, they hesitated and wondered. The crux of the issue was its origin. The value differed so much depending on if it came from their progenitor or not.

They finally made up their mind while staring at the carving, albeit begrudgingly, and were ready to bid again.

"50,000,000." However, Li Qiye bid before they could speak.

"50,000,000?!!!" The worker blurted out. The shopkeeper noticed and ran over as well.

"You... this isn't a game..." Jinning's legs trembled as she tugged on his sleeve and whispered.

"100,000,000." He responded to her with another raise for no reason.

"...I...I..." Jinning couldn't form a coherent sentence.

The worker nearly fainted and leaned on the shopkeeper.

The experienced shopkeeper found this astounding as well. Li Qiye ended up bidding 100,000,000 stones for an item priced at 300,000?

Plus, he didn't even bother listening to his competition and just raised the price all by himself.

No one has seen someone bidding against himself before since it made no sense. Only an idiot would do so and they have met one today.

The monks had an ugly expression. First, let's put aside whether they could afford it or not, spending this much on a wooden Buddha wasn't worth it. It wasn't a supreme treasure.

"Ahem, S-sir, you sure you want this carving?" The shopkeeper cleared his throat and was skeptical.