

Emperor 3001

### [Chapter 3001: March Of The Dead](#)

“We’re going this way.” Li Qiye shook his head at the peddling merchant and told the group.

They continued onward in this minor world. However, its vastness far exceeded their imagination - most likely larger than any system in Immortal Lineage. This meant that the ship was carrying an entire system across Uncrossable Expanse.

Some people began to understand why these top masters never returned. Just imagine, they could continue further in such an amazing world. This lessened their likelihood in wanting to return to Immortal Lineage to an extent.

Everyone noticed a clear lack of damage after entering this world at first. The mountains, rivers, and stars were all intact.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye’s group began crossing a snowy mountain range. After making it through, they finally saw a chaotic mess - cracks on the ground, empty rivers, and broken hills.

“So powerful, this is where a battle took place.” The bull took a deep breath.

This battle had happened so long ago but it could still sense the ever-present remnants.

This minor world was tougher than any system yet it still got broken to pieces - a testament to the destruction found here.

“This is a progenitor-level battle.” Holyfrost became startled and commented.

“Indeed, and not at the ordinary level either. This is at the very top.” Li Qiye nodded: “The barriers here were completely broken. Remember, they were refined by more people than just Fire Ancestor.”

“Fire Ancestor was a member of the Decemvirate, an extremely brilliant being. I guess you can say that this ship is his dao system. What the hell happened here?” The bull became serious.

Remember, this minor world could actually be considered the greatest system in existence. It had five progenitors, more than ten peak emperors, and another hundred Everlastings or so.

“Rumble!” They suddenly heard noises, not too loud and actually quite orderly.

“What’s that sound?” The bull’s ears moved.

“You’ll see soon enough.” Li Qiye’s eyes narrowed as he moved forward in a hurry.

A while later, they saw a shocking scene - a marching army. This was indeed unexpected on this seemingly-haunted ship.

The army consisted of only the dead, not a single living soul could be found.

They had died in battle long ago but the majority of their armors and weapons were still looking new, albeit damaged. Their armors were made from the finest black celestial steel; their weapons the best type of divine metal.

Arming this army would have depleted a system's treasury. Nonetheless, these great artifacts weren't enough to save them.

Flames burned brightly in their eyes; their withered face still had a tough expression as if they thought they were still alive.

One couldn't see the tail end of this great march. Who knows where they came from and where they were going to?

They marched with great speed and knew nothing of fatigue, still hellbent on completing their mission.

"What are they?" The bull didn't expect this.

"An army from hell? Hmm, they're not war puppets." Scouting rays shot out from Holyfrost's eyes. She eventually concluded.

War puppets were a legion created from an evil method, turning living warriors into the dead. This made them a lot more effective and dangerous.

"Right." The bull said: "This is a legion created after death. Wait, that's not right. No, they were already a legion beforehand, death didn't change anything."

"So how did someone do this?" Holyfrost asked.

Death should have been the end. Even an emperor wouldn't have been able to keep a legion around in this manner.

"A certain supreme overlord didn't want to give up, not willing to accept death." Li Qiye concluded.

"So are they good or bad?" Liu Yanbai on top of the bull asked.

"There's no good or bad for them. There is only one thing in their mind - completing their mission." Li Qiye said.

"What the hell?!" More experts have finally arrived and noticed the dead army.

"So many fiends..." Another said.

"How can they still march like this? What power is controlling them? This is nothing short of a miracle, we should capture one for research." An Eternal became curious.

He actually took action and reached for one of the soldiers.

"Pluff!" Five soldiers from the army broke off to form a small formation. Five spears thrust towards the Eternal with lightning speed.

"How impudent!" The Eternal summoned his treasures to attack the five.

Alas, he was still underestimating the group. The five spears instantly pierced through his defensive lines.

"Ah!" He had five new holes in his body. Blood dripped down the cold spear tips.

“Boom!” His corpse fell down. The ground became stained with his blood while the five soldiers returned to their position.

They continued marching just like before. The entire killing process was automatic, precise, and swift. They were clearly made for war.

“So strong.” The crowd was intimidated.

“Just those five are enough to kill all of you in the blink of an eye.” The bull gave them the side-eye.

“Let’s go!” They turned pale and decisively left this place.

“What a legion. I think it is stronger than Sky Pass Legion.” Holyfrost commented in astonishment.

“Yes, Sky Pass Legion is no match in an all-out brawl on an open field. The wall is the key there.” Li Qiye said.

“It’s over for Immortal Lineage without the wall...” Holyfrost had this realization.

This dead army must have a reason for being here. If they were to march against Sky Pass...

“The dead can’t take down Sky Pass so no need to worry about that. You should be afraid of the living instead, only powerful living beings can take down the wall.” Li Qiye shook his head.

#### [Chapter 3002: Emphasis On The Dao Heart](#)

“Where are they going?” The curious Yanbai asked.

One could only see more soldiers ahead. It was as if they were marching towards the end of the world.

“We can go take a look.” The bull laughed and started moving ahead.

Li Qiye smiled and followed along with Holyfrost Emperor right behind him.

“So what’s the goal of this army?” She had this question while staring at the march.

She has seen plenty of strange and horrifying things before, just not something like this.

“There’s a reason for the march.” Li Qiye said: “The ships are chasing after the meteor as well, now this? It’s no coincidence.”

“The ships have been chasing the meteor?” Holyfrost shuddered after hearing this.

All along, people had no idea what that meteor was. Metalkin War God and Brightking Buddha were there but didn’t send any relevant information back.

“Everything happens for a reason. Uncrossable Expanse has been peaceful for years, now is the time for the calamity.” Li Qiye replied.

Holyfrost had a serious expression since she saw that event before. As a twelve-palace emperor, she would have been able to survive the impact. But as for protecting her system? She wasn’t strong enough to do so.

“So is the meteor the beginning of the calamity or the actual source?” She asked.

Tai Yinxi remained cautious towards the meteor even though it was in Sky Ruins now. Maybe this made sense.

“Yes, you can view it as the beginning of the calamity but not the latter. The real source of the problem is the heart of people.” Li Qiye smiled.

“The heart?” Her eyes narrowed.

“Tell me what you think about the dao heart.” Li Qiye looked at her.

“A firm dao heart is necessary to have an unyielding dao foundation.” She said: “One wrong thought can lead to qi deviation. When I tried to make it to the imperial realm back then, the bottleneck was very difficult and arduous. During this tough moment, I had crazy thoughts and mental disturbance but my seniors were there to point me to the right path. I calmed down and bore the hardship with equanimity to eventually become an emperor...”

She revealed her experience without hiding. That cultivation breakthrough was very beneficial for her, not only because it allowed her to become an emperor but also because it gave her a deeper understanding of the dao heart.

Prior to this, her seniors have always harped to her about the importance of the dao heart but she didn't care too much.

After all, she still suffered from an overabundance of pride. She hailed from Northern Academy, a prestigious background on top of having peerless talents.

Cultivation has been easy during her youth. Thus, she believed that being talented was the most important thing to cultivation.

However, during her imperial ascension, only the dao heart helped with calming her mind and chasing away the heart devil.

Without a firm dao heart at this point, one step could lead one to the gate of heaven or the door of hell - akin to treading on a steep precipice.

In such a dangerous situation, talents didn't help much. That's why the emperor realized that in order to become an expert, just having talents and ample resources was enough.

Alas, in order to take the next step and become an emperor or even a progenitor, a dao heart was absolutely crucial. It needed to be strong enough or one would lose everything overnight.

“Good answer.” Li Qiye nodded: “When you become a progenitor and aim to go higher, your dao heart definitely needs to be firm or death awaits you in a single thought.”

“That quickly?” She asked.

“One thought alone is enough to wither the ages.” Li Qiye looked at her and said.

She shuddered in response, still unable to fully grasp the potential. Nevertheless, she felt as if she was making contact with something new.

“Of course, you’re not at that level yet. Once you’re there, you will have to face this problem. A single thought then will influence many things, not just your own life but all of Three Immortals.” He said.

“Could you elaborate?” She had a faint answer but still inquired.

“At that height, you will find that the entire world seems so tempting, perhaps enough to make you salivate. That’s when a very, very strong dao heart is required. Otherwise, even if darkness doesn’t exist, you will become the new darkness with a single thought. Your talents, strength, and amazing feats in the past no longer matter, the only deciding factor is your dao heart, whether it is strong enough or not!”

“I see...” She murmured.

A while later, she told him: “Dao Brother Li, don’t worry. I have always aimed for the light since youth on top of cultivating the grand dao of light. This flawless affinity will dispel the darkness and chase away all temptations.”

This wasn’t a baseless statement. She had a physical constitution in harmony with the light since birth and grew up in a light system, always basking in this affinity. Moreover, she cultivated the grand dao of Desolate Saint - a flawless purity in this affinity.

Plus, her dao heart became firmer after becoming an emperor. Darkness could only be refined in her presence, unable to tempt her.

“Wrong, absolutely wrong.” Li Qiye shook his head: “Nothing in the past matters once you get to that level, not your type of cultivation or anything else. Don’t forget, the end of the light is darkness. You will be facing this once you reach the limit of the light. At that point, darkness doesn’t need to tempt you since your very being might swap affinity. How can there be light without darkness and vice versa? The two are two sides of a coin.”

This powerful comment took the emperor like a storm.

“Dao Brother, please guide me.” She calmed down and took a deep breath.

“I can’t help you since you need to rely on yourself. No one else can either. There is one simple way to put this. If there is no way to reach immortality with the light but there is hope with darkness, what will you pick?” Li Qiye elaborated.

“I...” She didn’t expect this question.

She smiled wryly a little later and said: “The truth is that I do not dare to answer since I haven’t reached that level. The only thing I can say is that I believe I will hold strong.”

“I know you’re not lying right now.” Li Qiyer chuckled: “Just imagine though, immortality is within your grasp. At that point, Academy of Light, Immortal Lineage, or even all of Three Immortals, no, history itself, do any of this matter to a being so powerful? You can wipe away everything with a single move. So, what does it boil down to?”

“My dao heart.” She realized.

As Li Qiye implied, someone at that level would no longer care about anything, viewing everyone as ants.

“Since you’re young and weak, you won’t care about the dao heart. Once at the apex of the world and history, the dao heart becomes the most important thing. It will decide your fate along with everything else. Make sure you’re ready for that crucial moment where you make up your mind with a single thought.” Li Qiye stressed.

### [Chapter 3003: Boiling Army](#)

Holyfrost Emperor hasn’t thought of this before because she wasn’t strong enough.

Suddenly, the bull further ahead shouted: “Come, look over there!”

Liu Yanbai also audibly gasped. The two behind heard them and increased their speed.

They were standing at the end of the army now and saw a massive valley. One could feel a heatwave beforehand.

This wave was hot enough to dry someone’s skin. It carried a dense presence of steel.

One would see a bizarre scene after coming inside - this was no valley.

It was actually a massive pot spewing out bubbles, hence the far-reaching heatwaves.

The thing boiling inside was purified molten water, made from a mix of a dozen divine metals or so.

Even a fool could tell that this liquid was extremely rare and valuable. Using it would allow one to create a massive army of elites among elites.

It wasn’t the most shocking thing here. The dead soldiers took that spot.

They lined up and jumped into the pot in an orderly fashion. The pot seemed to be bottomless, capable of taking in a billion soldiers. They sank all the way down to the bottom.

This was quite a frightening spectacle. Holyfrost herself took a deep breath.

The dead army was purposely boiling themselves?

“What are they doing?” The courageous and knowledgeable bull still became slightly afraid with chills running down its spine.

“Just what is making them go there in waves?” Holyfrost didn’t quite understand why they marched for so long just to get to this pot.

“Hmm...” Li Qiye stared at the pot in rumination.

“This is the mythical boiling torture in hell? People say that sinners would be thrown into a boiling pot after death. Their screams could be heard through all of hell.” The bull commented.

“Really, Master?” Yanbai shuddered after hearing this.

“Who knows? At least your master hasn’t done anything wrong before.” The bull shrugged.

“Right, never done anything wrong before yet your heart is as black as can be.” Li Qiye smiled and bullied the bull.

“Sir, you can’t slander me like this. I am innocent and pure.” The bull protested while being dissatisfied.

Li Qiye ignored the comment.

“Dao Brother, why is this happening?” Holyfrost couldn’t see any clue and resort to asking Li Qiye.

“They’re getting ready for war.” Li Qiye flashed into disappearance and appeared again on top of a cliff next to the valley. The group followed right behind him.

They saw flames dancing like dragons while looking down the cliff. If the valley served as a pot, then this bottom played the role of a stove. There were fiery openings shooting out fierce flames to increase the heat.

In front of these openings was a man shrouded in black smoke. He created a powerful gale to fan the flames, adding more intensity as a result.

“So you’re causing trouble here!” The bull shouted and stomped down.

“Boom!” This man got blown into the fiery opening and into the flame.

“Poof!” The flame burned more powerfully and engulfed this man.

“Haha, that’s the end of you.” The bull was very happy with its display of might.

“Master, he’s crawling out.” Yanbai interrupted its gloating moment.

The bull looked over and saw a man on fire crawling out of the opening. The flame instantly distinguished and the guy continued to fan the fire. He didn’t bother looking at the bull or the others once.

“We’ll see about that!” The bull roared and did the same thing again.

The man was knocked inside but this didn’t matter. He climbed back out and resumed his task.

“He’s not alive.” The bull finally realized: “This is a ghost, no, a puppet. The same as the dead soldiers.”

“So what’s happening here?” Holyfrost thought that she had seen too many strange things today.

“Go take a look.” Li Qiye smiled.

The emperor took a deep breath and shouted: “Show your true self!”

Sacred light emerged around her. It wasn’t in the form of an overwhelming flame but was still extremely pure.

She seemed to be the source of the light, wielding its mightiest force. Darkness instantly had no place to hide, just waiting to be refined.

“Buzz...” The smoke shrouding the man dissipated, revealing the skeleton beneath with flashing flames in its eye sockets.

“So powerful and pure, the girl truly inherited the legacy of the academy.” The bull praised after seeing the emperor’s light power.

“Gaa!” The skeleton screamed while being purified by her holy power.

#### [Chapter 3004: The Cause](#)

“Buzz.” Her holy light intensified with dazzling rays capable of piercing Three Immortals - enough to illuminate the age and save all existences.

“Gaa!” The skeleton cried out again. The flames inside its eye socket extinguished - they were clearly the driving force of this creature.

Moreover, this flame had the power of darkness. Thus, the purification property of the light turned it to ashes.

The skeleton crumbled after losing its empowerment and scattered to the ground in pieces.

Holyfrost Emperor heaved a sigh of relief after seeing the pile of bones. This skeleton was still purifiable - meaning that it wasn't a supernatural phenomenon, just the power of darkness at work here.

“Poof!” A flame came out from the opening during her distraction and slither forward like a serpent. It engulfed the pile of bones, seemingly intending on burning it.

Holyfrost and the others watched the massive flame and started thinking of the possibilities.

Suddenly, the flame flicked a bit and a strange development occurred. The man earlier crawled out of the opening, still shrouded in black smoke.

He didn't attack Holyfrost Emperor as if he didn't know what had happened. He sent out gale once more in order to empower the flame beneath the pot to heat up the boiling water.

“Hmm?” The bull was startled, not just the emperor.

“Master, it's alive again.” The inexperienced Yanbai thought that this was magic.

“Understand now? The problem isn't coming from this man.” Li Qiye said.

“So it's from the strange flame itself.” Holyfrost had a serious expression as she stared at the flame.

It seemed to have its own life, whooshing back and forth. She focused her attention on the flame instead of the man. The latter was only a tool.

She then noticed that this strange flame was filled with the power of darkness. The skeleton would only come back to life with the flame's power.

“The dead army has flames in their eyes too. They're not the ones doing anything, just the flame.” She concluded.

“You're half right.” Li Qiye smiled while staring at the man in black.

“This place is so strange. Maybe the flame isn't the source, this whole place is filled with dark power too.” The bull mused.

“True as well.” Li Qiye looked around and said: “It's not an issue of which power is causing this but rather, where the heart yearns.”



“Where the heart yearns?” She didn’t understand the comment.

It wasn’t due to a lack of intelligence but because she had a heart of light, never thinking about nefarious matters.

“Damn! No way!” The bull was the opposite. It always had a sinister mind and believed that others were the same. Thus, it understood the implication right away.

“The expedition... the strongest group in history... completely annihilated.” It murmured.

“Really?” Holyfrost remained skeptical: “Fire Ancestor is exceedingly strong, there are four other progenitors with him and numerous other experts, what in the world can defeat them?”

Remember, Fire Ancestor was part of the Decemvirate.

There have been many progenitors in Three Immortals but only ten made it to this list. This was indicative of Fire Ancestor’s abilities.

This was before taking his comrades into account. This group should have been unbeatable, hence her disbelief.

Of course, she wasn’t naive enough to not think about this worst-case scenario when she got on the ship. However, optimism was her choice.

After all, if Fire Ancestor’s group was annihilated, then how could Three Immortals ever hope to stop the incoming calamity?

“Haha, because they’re too strong.” The bull realized something and laughed. [1]

“This is looking grim for Immortal Lineage.” Holyfrost became dejected, thinking that Immortal Lineage wouldn’t make it through this.

“Haha, that’s why we need someone like you to save us, that’s the only way for Immortal Lineage to survive.” The bull began flattering Li Qiye.

Holyfrost turned towards him as well.

“There is no savior.” Li Qiye shook his head: “Or at least I’m not one. They need to rely on themselves and stop thinking about a savior. A savior of today can become the destroyer of tomorrow.”

“Why is that?” She instinctively asked.

“Just the way it is with the heart of men. It’s all within a single thought, so it’s better not to have a savior. Perhaps a lack of one would result in not having a destroyer.” He looked straight at her with this response.

She shuddered and reflected on her experience. As a wielder of the light, she shouldered the hope of many. That’s why she became cautious and thought that she needed to improve her dao heart.

“It’s good to be cautious. Looks like you’ve realized it and will be preparing sufficiently.” Li Qiye smiled and nodded.

She took a deep breath and nodded in return.

“Ahhh! Ahhhhh!” Suddenly, screams echoed from the distance. They were miserable enough to give people goosebumps.

“Something’s happening.” The bull glanced over and said.

“Let’s go take a look!” Holyfrost instantly soared towards the horizon.

“The girl has a kind heart, still wanting to save people even after becoming an emperor. Very rare.” The bull commented after seeing her eager departure.

“It’s good if she can reach the apex with one. However, a dao heart like that, once damaged, will become a terrible weapon.” Li Qiye said.

“There is good and bad in all things.” The bull agreed.

The two then soared towards the direction of the screams as well.

The location was another valley surrounded by a mountain range. Experts who have boarded the ship found an amazing alchemy garden left behind by a big shot there.

It had plenty of precious alchemy materials and grass. They have been growing for millions of years.

These experts were ecstatic at this sight, of course.

#### [Chapter 3005: Power Of Light](#)

The experts became crazy and rushed forward for a harvest. They opened the seal of the garden, ready to take everything.

“Rumble!” Unfortunately, skeletons and corpses got out of the ground during their frenzy.

They got out of the mud, also cloaked in black from top to bottom. It looked like they didn’t allow anyone to see their real appearance.

“The dead are attacking!” The harvesting cultivators shouted after seeing the awakening.

‘Boom!’ The dead began their attack, catching them off guard.

One of the corpses summoned a treasure cauldron that sent out a massive flame towards one of the experts.

This was a type of black flame looking just like smoke, filled with the power of darkness.

“Ah!” This expert was instantly turned to ashes after being engulfed.

“Take them down!” The cultivators finally reacted and took out their weapons.

“Clank! Clank! Clank!” Sounds of battle echoed across the valley with no sign of stopping.

These dead creatures were still as strong as when they were alive. Most importantly, they felt no pain despite being pierced by weapons and continued to dash towards the enemies.

Moreover, their number only increased with time. Escaping was too late for the cultivators since they were surrounded.

This puts them at an obvious advantage. One particular corpse was extremely powerful.

It wore the armor of a general - black and fully concealed from top to bottom. Black smoke hovered around its spear, looking just like a general from a realm of the dead.

It rode a stallion and attacked with lightning speed - killing one combatant with each fatal thrust.

'Ah!! Ah!' One after another cultivator fell to this dead general, pinned to the ground.

"It's over..." The survivors lamented, unable to make a path despite several attempts.

"They're so strong." Of course, the loud commotion attracted others. More cultivators came and observed from the distance without trying to help.

They didn't know the victims so there was no point in risking their lives.

The ones stuck inside recklessly tried to make a path but they kept on losing and dying. The disparity in power was obvious.

"Back off!" A shout interrupted their moment of despair.

A person descended from the sky and her light illuminated the entire area.

"Zzz..." The dead had black smoke oozing from them - the result of being refined by the power of the light.

They fell to the ground and turned to dried corpses - truly dead this time around.

"Holyfrost True Emperor!" The lucky survivors shouted, ecstatic.

"The emperor saved them." The faraway spectators were surprised to see this.

She didn't use any technique, only a holy radiance emanating from her. This supreme affinity made people want to kneel.

The dead found this light dreadful and retreated. Even the powerful general rode his stallion to the side.

"Her light is so strong." The spectators praised after seeing her instant victory.

"Strong indeed, when strictly talking about the light, I don't think there's anyone on her level right now." Another emperor said: "Such purity and flawlessness, this power is definitely at the source level."

"Holyfrost is a special talent who had inherited the legacy of Desolate Saint." An older Everlasting admired her pure light.

Everyone knew that she belonged to the orthodox branch of the academy. Violet Dragon Empress and Brightking Monarch were also students but this was only temporary. They only understood the very surface of the grand dao of the light.

Thus, their light power was far inferior. After all, she basked in the light since birth and cultivated in this dao her whole light.

Her power was very close to the original force for this affinity. Therefore, just her light alone was enough to threaten the undead.

“Leave this place now.” Holyfrost only used her light to chase away the dead creatures and didn’t launch and offensive.

The lucky survivors hurriedly fled, going as far as losing their shoes in the process.

“The girl is far better than Desolate Saint. She’s still pure, not a hypocrite who puts up a righteous act like him despite having only nefarious attempts.” The bull said.

“Desolate Saint has flaws but don’t put him down so much.” Li Qiye gently shook his head.

“Haha, I know exactly what is there in his mind so I do not accept his light.” The bull laughed.

Li Qiye smiled - there was no changing the bull’s prejudice against Desolate Saint.

Although the cultivators have escaped, the corpses and especially the general glared at her, seemingly wanting to attack.

Everyone could see that they were afraid of her holy power and stood no chance. The emperor was too strong in comparison. Nevertheless, they were still eager to give it a shot.

“Light and darkness do not co-exist.” An expert from the last generation understood this logic.

The darkness in their bones demanded a match.

“Rumble!” They gathered into a grand formation akin to troops on the battlefield.

Black smoke gathered together with haste and the power of darkness intensified. Eventually, it took the shape of a black dragon with a majestic momentum.

“So what kind of dark power is this? They’re virtually the same as living beings.” Many became afraid of these smart creatures.

After all, normally, the reanimated undeads were moving corpses at best even after being revived by dark power.

This wasn’t the case here. They seemed to have their own consciousness and capable of performing high-level tasks.

Nevertheless, Holyfrost remained calm with no intent on attacking first. Her holy power was as unyielding as ever; nothing could ever move her.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” Suddenly, drummings came from the distance. These were war drums, not ordinary ones.

The orderly beat struck everyone like a smack to the chest. People felt the urge to answer its summon, ready to kneel on the ground while obeying all orders.

### [Chapter 3006: Movements](#)

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” The drumming echoed across the entire minor world.

“Where is it coming from?” Everyone looked around in confusion.

“Rumble!” Explosions came from a particular ocean - seemingly the opening of a gate.

Incredible tsunamis ravaged the areas. A great army emerged from these waves and rode towards the drums.

They wore black armors from top to bottom while being shrouded in mist. The leader was an armored crab, looking quite gallant and majestic.

The spectators became surprised upon closer inspection. This army also consisted of dead creatures that were no different than if they were alive. Their murderous intent remained.

“So many undeads.” Many cultivators took a deep breath.

Even the ones that wanted to attack Holyfrost Emperor turned around and soared towards the summoning call without any hesitation.

“They’re different.” She murmured.

“Yes, the ones attacking you and the ones from the ocean are different, same with the marching army earlier.” The bull’s big eyes were fixated on these creatures.

“Just a different type of death, or rather the transformation process.” Li Qiye said: “For example, the marching army or the underground ones joined the darkness while they were still alive. The oceanic ones joined the darkness after death.”

“They have become puppets?” She became startled.

“These stories are full of twists and turns but in the end, it came down to the heart of men.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Creak-” Another divine mountain suddenly opened and out came a brilliant light.

This gained the attention of the crowd. They looked over and saw an internal dimension inside spewing out the light.

One could hear galloping noises before a chariot flew out from the internal dimension with enough force to crush the void. It also answered the drum call.

Everyone saw an old man sitting on top, resembling a supreme emperor with a righteous aura. He had a crown with pearl tassels covering his face.

Nevertheless, he still gave off a dignified and imposing presence, always ready to take over the world. This mighty old man had no trace of life, also an undead like the rest.

“He... he looks a lot like...” An ancient True God watching from the distance thought about someone else with uncertainty.

“Boom!” Another armored rider appeared from the void, looking mighty and merciless. His weapon of choice was a sun-moon sword hanging on his waist.

Half of his armor was broken from a previous battle but he was still as domineering as ever. His steed galloped towards the drum call.

“Another master...” Many shuddered after seeing him.

They could tell that he was definitely a monster when he was alive - capable of easily slaying lords like them.

“Rumble!” Next came a great ship with a golden radiance.

A keen spectator saw a bronze statue towering at a thousand meters. His hand could grasp the celestials above.

Everyone shuddered after seeing the flash of his eyes. They were filled with darkness capable of penetrating the soul.

“Isn’t... isn’t he the master from Immortal Bronze...” A True Emperor became startled. He was knowledgeable despite his young age and immediately thought of a legend.

“Dao Brother, tread carefully.” An older Eternal next to him reminded.

The emperor took a deep breath and no longer spoke needlessly.

A matter like this, once spread, would ruin the golden reputation of a master and his race. A storm would start right away.

“Shit, all of the emperors and Everlastings from the previous expedition are undeads now?” The bull didn’t give a damn at all about his words, unlike the others.

This wasn’t a baseless comment either. The bull had lived for a long time and knew the crew of Fire Ancestor’s expedition. Thus, its words carried a lot of confidence.

Many nearby heard this unbridle comment and became emotional. Some started staring at it intensely.

Remember, many systems and sects had wise sages and powerful combatants participating in the previous expedition - some progenitors too.

Now, their great ancestors have become undead? This news would turn Immortal Lineage upside down.

“What you looking at? Think I’m making things up?” The bull glared back at them.

The descendants of the expedition participants were naturally unhappy with him. Nevertheless, they could see the hints of this and simply chose to keep quiet.

In just a short time, mountains opened and palaces flew up. Unbeatable generals and kings emerged from all eight directions. They began heading towards the drum call.

Many became afraid, wondering about their destination.

“Should we take a look?” One person wondered.

“You want to die? These undead creatures might attack us there, you’ll be torn to pieces in no time at all.” A powerful Everlasting reprimanded.

Those nearby immediately dropped this idea.

Some of these foes were insanely strong, enough to kill regular cultivators. They weren’t that afraid of Holyfrost Emperor’s incredible light either, still wanting to attack her.

They would never survive going to that place.

Some people started blinking at their friends. A few were smart enough to understand why and quietly retreated.

However, they weren't leaving this minor world. Their goals were the divine mountains and independent dimensions along with the treasures inside.

"Let's take their treasures while they're gone." The crowd became smart enough to realize what was going on.

Since the masters of these places have answered the summoning call, their actual abodes were left open.

The ones from outside had the chance to enter now in order to steal some treasures. No one cared for the drums anymore.

Of course, Li Qiye had no interest in doing so. His focus was solely on the horizon with the drums.

"Hmm, this devious place might be the lair of evil now." The bull laughed and said.

"But it's the ship of Fire Ancestor." Holyfrost remained hopeful.

"So what?" The bull continued: "No one can be sure. He might be powerful but that doesn't mean that his dao heart remains the same."

"A dragonslayer might become a dragon one day." Li Qiye looked at her and said.

"..." She felt a chill after hearing this.

### [Chapter 3007: Progenitor](#)

"Let's go take a look." Li Qiye smiled and headed towards the drums.

"Finally, let's see what they got." The bull laughed and followed right behind Li Qiye.

Holyfrost Emperor hesitated for a moment before floating in the air to follow these two.

The hesitation had nothing to do with fear of facing the darkness. She was afraid of revealing the truth since it would be a great blow to Immortal Lineage.

Li Qiye took one seemingly slow step forward but this was enough to cross through numerous domains. The sceneries before him changed continuously - from one great plain to a raging lake or majestic mountain range...

As they traveled deeper, these beautiful sceneries became sparse.

One could see the marks of war now - ancient battlefields falling to the ground; the earth being scarred into valleys; scorched land for miles and miles; mountains being rendered to hardened lava...

Delving farther resulted in even more shocking scenes. The ground completely penetrated, leaving behind a great abyss along with tiny continents floating in the air. Some areas had irreparably damaged space so they became lasting black holes...

Pieces of stars were floating too. The celestials weren't spared from the great battles.

Liu Yanbai who has never seen such grand scenes became pale. The powerful Holyfros took a deep breath. She could imagine the wondrous moves being exchanged here for such immense destruction to take place.

The bull smelled the air and murmured: "A battle between progenitors, and many at that. Quite impressive enough. Arrogance Enterprise is something else, this ship is truly tough. No wonder why it took up so many resources. Their precious metals and stones must have been expended..."

"Hmm, perhaps Fire Ancestor was ambushed by evil entities?" Holyfrost had a serious expression.

She recognized that this was indeed a battle at the progenitorial level judging by the remnant damages.

"Haha, little girl, you can keep on hoping, I don't think it's that simple." The bull laughed.

It maintained the most offensive speculation. After all, it had reasons for believing this and its vision and knowledge were incredible as well.

Holyfrost's heart grew heavy and became nervous about the grim possibilities.

"Don't worry, everyone makes their own choice. It's only victory or defeat; their descendants don't need to bear the responsibilities." Li Qiye chuckled after seeing her expression.

"You're right, Dao Brother." She nodded in response.

They made it to a mountain range and saw the land as ravage as can be around it. However, this mountain range was still there.

It had many broken with spots entirely crumbled. Nevertheless, its general outline remained, looking just like a dragon in the distance. The boundless aura here demanded respect and fear.

The undead army and powerful lords took a long way around instead of crossing through this mountain range.

"Such a powerful presence." The bull stopped once they got close and praised.

"Yes." Holyfrost felt the same way. This aura far exceeded anyone she has seen before.

"Indeed, still here after millions of years." Li Qiye nodded approvingly and had no intention of bypassing this mountain range.

"Dao Brother, stop. Just go back." The place suddenly flashed and its aura intensified - akin to a dragon opening its eyes.

This voice was timeworn and sonorous on top of being sincere.

Li Qiye stopped and gazed deeper into the mountain range.

"Show yourself." The bull laughed and shouted.

Holyfrost was excited because this was her first time hearing a living person in this minor world.



An old man emerged from the mountain range. He wore a crescent robe that didn't have a single speck of dust on it.

He emitted a lunar radiance, looking like a moon god during his slow approach.

Time had left its mark on his skinny face. However, not in an aging sense but rather, it made him look even more profound thanks to its polishing.

He didn't exude his aura yet still gave off an uncrossable aura as he stood before the mountain range.

"Go back, Fellow Daoists." He cupped his fist. Just this gesture from him was enough to move heaven and earth. This was a top-level existence.

"He's..." Holyfrost recalled a legendary progenitor. This person matched the descriptions perfectly.

Alas, she shuddered upon closer inspection because this old man didn't have a single sliver of life force in him.

In other words, this progenitor was another undead!

"Just an undead." The bull became disappointed.

There was one thing noticeably absent from him, unlike the ones they have seen so far - the power of darkness!

"Fellow Daoist. I will cross this path." Li Qiye bowed his head in response.

The old man's eyes were still spirited. Others would certainly mistake him for a living person.

"Danger looms ahead, don't make this mistake." The old man returned the gesture, still polite despite being a progenitor.

"Mistake? What kind?" Li Qiye smiled.

"Losing your life, or, falling to the evil path from now on. Fellow Daoist, you have achieved so much. Just go back and perfect your strategy." The old man put on a serious expression.

"How many of you have fallen to the evil path then?" The bull laughed.

The old man's expression changed for a bit before becoming normal. "Pureness comes from the heart; darkness can be all around and it still doesn't matter." He said.

"Your heart is firm indeed, quite commendable." Li Qiye nodded.

"It's beyond salvaging." The fact that he still looked like a living person was a testament to his power.

"What happened here back then?" The bull asked curiously.

"Leave this treacherous path. Come again once you have a perfect plan." The old man ignored the question and repeated.

"I am the perfect plan." Li Qiye said.

"That's right, Sir is indeed the perfect plan. Everything will be fine with him around." The bull laughed.

The old man turned towards Li Qiye and sent out a radiance with enough intensity to suppress the myriad ages.

Holyfrost Emperor trembled as a result. This power far exceeded her station.

### [Chapter 3008: Perseverance](#)

A gaze belonging to a supreme of the ages. Even a twelve-palace emperor like Holyfrost found it unbearable.

This was a progenitor at the immortal level. Thus, he was frightening even after death. This affinity didn't hinder his power and divinity in the slightest.

"I'm no longer alive and can't see through many things. I won't stop you if you must enter." In the end, he withdrew his gaze and sighed.

He undoubtedly couldn't fathom Li Qiye despite his immense power. Of course, this would still be the case if he were alive.

"Thank you." Li Qiye cupped his fist and smiled, completely unaffected by the previous gaze.

"May I ask why you are here, Fellow Daoist?" The old man asked.

"Haha, for treasures, of course, to see if there's anything good here." The bull made up an excuse.

"Only danger awaits, not treasures." The old man shook his head.

"I'm sure you don't believe it yourself. Your expedition ship carried numerous heavenly treasures, same with your group of progenitors. This dimension alone is already an extraordinary treasure." The bull shrugged.

The old man opened his mouth but only a sigh came out. He sentimentally said: "Tempting treasures have killed so many people."

"But what moved your group's heart isn't treasure." Li Qiye said, not messing around like the bull.

The old man's eyes flashed as he said: "Fellow Daoist, what thing do you think moved our heart then?"

"The overarching momentum." Li Qiye answered: "That's the reason for the current situation, not treasures."

"Right you are. Unfortunately, we couldn't meet when I was still alive." The old man sighed with disappointment.

He paused for a bit before asking: "Fello Daoist, what is your goal?"

"Just going to take a look and follow my heart." Li Qiye smiled casually.

The old man remained silent while Li Qiye went on: "There is nothing here truly worthwhile for me, maybe that meteor is different but it's not part of my plan. Of course, Uncrossable Expanse is still worth a trip."

"You wish to go there?" The old man became interested.

“For certain.” Li Qiye said leisurely. However, nothing would ever be able to force him otherwise.

“Fellow Daoist, you are incredible and shouldn’t go there. Three Immortals need someone like you to protect and lead.” The old man said.

“I’m only a passerby and has nothing to do with Three Immortals. There are others to lead Three Immortals, like your group for example.” Li Qiye smiled.

The old man didn’t say anything after hearing this.

“What is the expanse like?” The bull investigated.

“Impossible to describe, boundless and profound.” The old man answered the bull: “But it is no longer peaceful, danger has infiltrated.”

“What danger?” The bull went on. Even a character of its level wouldn’t tread that place recklessly.

The old man hesitated for a bit before answering: “It’s best for you not to go there.”

“We just need to slay it, that’s all.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“Can you do it, Fellow Daoist?” The old man’s expression changed. He remained skeptical.

“I won’t care if it doesn’t provoke me but if it does, I will show zero mercy. No exception.” Li Qiye said. This murderous and domineering comment was unquestionable.

The old man remained worried: “Fellow Daoist, this is a great danger. We and Fire Ancestor’s group...”

He stopped speaking.

“And?” The bull jumped in.

The old man had an expression of disappointment: “The path towards the heavenly dao is dangerous but it doesn’t compare to the heart of men. Take care.”

With that, he turned back towards the mountain range.

“How come you have yet to close your eyes?” The bull shouted at the old man. This rude comment actually made a lot of sense.

After all, the guy had died for so long yet still lingered in this place. It had nothing to do with him still “barely surviving”. It was because he still had lingering sentiments and grudges after suffering an indignant death.

The old man paused and turned around. He mused before speaking: “I’m waiting for someone to come back. They need to give me and the dead souls here an acceptable answer.” He kept on moving after saying this.

“What happened back then? Where is Fire Ancestor?” The bull remained unsatisfied with the answer and continued onward after realizing a few possibilities.

Alas, the old man was long gone now.

“Haha, I won’t pursue this any further and uncover his pain.” The bull shrugged and said, aware of the right answer.

“That’s Divine Moon Progenitor...” Holyfrost Emperor quietly said.

She recognized the old man and his wondrous legends. Alas, this immortal-level progenitor had fallen in this place.

“Indeed.” The bull nodded: “He was amazing back then, heaven-defying to say the least. Unfortunately, still dead right now. In my opinion, he died an indignant death, thus he is still lingering around this world.”

“They’re all dead anyway, just forget about it.” Li Qiye shook his head.

“Not necessarily. I don’t care since it has nothing to do with me but as you can see, an immortal-level progenitor dying indignantly? This wouldn’t happen if he died to a stronger foe in battle. He would have been aware of this from the start. Therefore, use your imagination, hehehe, regarding the reason for his indignation. What happened back then? What made this invincible progenitor die with his eyes still open, his intent still roam the land for generations to come. I don’t think he’s waiting for his lover but the ones who did this to him!”

This was the most discomfiting and darkness speculation. Nevertheless, it made a lot of sense.

A progenitor had experienced numerous storms and tribulations. Being killed in battle was fully acceptable - not a big deal at all. Alas, this wasn’t the case here.

Holyfrost felt a chill after hearing this, wondering about the possibilities. She only knew that this secret was purposely hidden or that the world should never find out about it!

“Let’s go, let the dead deal with their mess. We’re still alive.” Li Qiye said.

“I wouldn’t give a damn if I was an undead either way. I’ve seen plenty of treachery in the past already.” The bull laughed.

Holyfrost remained silent. She didn’t wish to comment or criticize the wise sages back then.

The group crossed through this great mountain range under Li Qiye’s guidance, delving deeper into the land.

They found the next area to suffer an even higher level of damage versus the previous. The battle must have been fiercer and brutal in this place.

Black holes occupied the sky along with chaotic spatial flows. Time itself was broken in multiple parts.

Traversing this place could easily end with death. Monsters didn’t need to be here; just the terrain alone was dangerous enough.

Of course, Li Qiye’s powerful group had no problem dealing with this.

### [Chapter 3009: Dao Derivation Canon](#)

They crossed through the damaged space and found a boundless golden radiance from the distance.

“What’s that, Master?” Liu Yanbai pointed forward.

They saw a colossal tablet ahead, seemingly cast from gold and capable of piercing the sky.

It suppressed the entire area and gave off a majestic presence. The world itself felt insignificant in comparison.

The tablet had boundless strength that exceeds all else. It seemed capable of shouldering the myriad realms - truly a sight to behold from a distance.

Gold runes moved on the surface - ancient and powerful. They were formed naturally, not carved by someone.

A strand of spirit energy seeped within the runes, one that could be from the past and travel through the river of time to get here.

To the top were two massive characters that could be seen from far away - Dao Derivation. The runes below seemed tiny in comparison, resembling countless spirits dancing around.

“Dao Derivation, the legendary canon?” Holyfrost became startled.

“Looks that way.” The bull’s eyes widened as well: “These two characters are immensely profound. Probably not fake.”

“Who would have thought that we would see this legend here?” Holyfrost was still amazed despite having seen many dao laws before.

“What is it, Master?” Yanbai asked the bull.

“According to the legend, Emperor Xi of the Three Immortals left behind a dao explanation with the name Dao Derivation. It explains the myriad dao and mysteries of the three worlds. Many actually originated from this canon. However, very few people actually saw the actual thing.”

“Let’s go take a look.” Holyfrost became excited: “This canon is only one portion of the text but it contains incredible profundity. Just understanding a little bit of it is enough to make one a peerless progenitor.”

She couldn’t help wanting to learn from a source of the dao in Three Immortals. So many masters have dreamt about this despite possessing numerous merit laws and techniques.

“No rush, keep on waiting.” Li Qiye raised his hand to stop her while shaking his head.

“Hmm...” Holyfrost calmed down and thought that Li Qiye wouldn’t stop her for no reason.

“Something is strange.” The bull became alerted and opened its third eye. This one was even larger than the other two.

The emperor shuddered and took a deep breath. She then activated her heavenly gaze and derived the dao to take a closer look at the towering tablet.

Unfortunately, its blinding brilliance rendered taking a closer look at the runes impossible.

Nevertheless, she began to see that there was something wrong. Something might be hidden beneath the golden light.

Li Qiye stood there with no intention of coming over. The rest felt the same way.

A while later, a group of experts with halos rotating outward has arrived. Their strength made it obvious that they were at the ancestor level. They also noticed the bright tablet from the distance.

“Dao Derivation Canon?!” One of them got a closer look and shouted.

These famous ancestors knew their stuff and immediately recognized the two characters.

“Looks like this risk was worth taking, we found the legendary Dao Derivation, a supreme text from one of the three immortals.” One of them said.

“Come, let’s take a better look and take it down!” Another lost his patience and flew over.

The others didn’t want to fall behind and rushed towards the tablet. It wasn’t long before they were the bottom.

They looked up and carefully read the runes: “Amazingly profound, this has to be the real thing.”

They became entranced and inadvertently moved closer to the tablet because the runes were too tiny. They eventually made contact with the tablet.

In this blink of an eye, the tablet activated like a beast opening its jaw and instantly tried to swallow the ancestors.

“Shit!” They shouted in horror and quickly retaliated.

Alas, it was simply too late. The tablet was powerful enough to nullify their offense and swallowed them whole.

“Ah!” Quiet wails along with grinding noises came from inside. The tablet’s base started moving for a bit, akin to chewing.

A while later, it stopped moving again, still looking as sacred and bright as ever. No one would be able to imagine that it just had devoured several powerful ancestors.

“A fiend...?” Liu Yanbai became afraid.

“Haha, definitely nothing good for sure.” The bull laughed.

Holyfrost trembled inside. She would have been tempted by the runes as well if Li Qiye didn’t stop her earlier. Perhaps she would be inside its stomach as well.

“What is it?” Her heavenly gaze couldn’t see its true form.

There were two possibilities stemming from this. First, this was its actual form, or, something far stronger than her has assumed this form.

She was a twelve-palace emperor on top of possessing the purest holy affinity. However, this monstrous entity could still shroud itself against her. She realized that this was a powerful foe, most likely above her current abilities.

“You can try, haha.” The bull said.

“That’s what I’m thinking.” She nodded, wanting to give it a shot even without the bull’s egging.

“Buzz.” Her holy light became resplendent and illuminated the sky.

Her pair of light wings also spread and opened a world of light. Each feather seemed to be a gate pouring out boundless light affinity. A bright tsunami instantly drowned out the region.

Her current appearance of being shrouded in this affinity was very comforting. The darkness receded instantly; the mortal coil became bearable.

“Big Sis is so pretty.” Yanbai became amazed.

She didn’t know that she would be on her knees right now, unable to lift her head if it wasn’t for the bull’s protection.

“Buzz.” She took one step forward and channeled her light straight at the tablet with the unceasing force of a primordial flood.

“Boom!” Alas, the tablet’s golden light remained with the same intensity.

“Rumble!” She didn’t stop there. One flood came after another in an unending barrage!

### [Chapter 3010: Hidden Darkness](#)

“Boom!” The flood of light slammed into the golden tablet in an unceasing and merciless manner.

The tablet was drowned out completely like a rock beneath the ocean. Alas, it remained immobile regardless of the waves.

“Rumble!” The power of the light roared with explosions.

The waves then turned into a frightening storm. One could hear thunderous rumbles within before lightning arcs started to form. Magnificent bolts then struck the tablet directly.

The scale of this contest was a sight to behold - perhaps the most impressive scene some would see in their lives.

The bolts of light illuminated the entire region and had enough power to crush all evil and darkness into smithereens.

People would gain a new impression of Holyfrost Emperor after seeing her offense.

Many thought of the light as a sacred affinity. Plus, she herself exuded an aura of serenity. No one could connect this dominating and relentless attack to the emperor without witnessing in person.

Alas, the insane torrents of light still didn’t do anything to the tablet.

Her expression became serious; her mind slightly wavered. This tablet’s power clearly exceeded hers.

“Activate!” She didn’t give up just yet and decided to change her method.

The light suddenly became gentle, no longer resembling an attack. It felt like the sunlight pouring down during winter and chasing the coldness away.

This soft aura was comforting and warm. Others would become drowsy after sensing this.

The power wasn’t refining or attacking this time around. It simply permeated in all nooks and corners, seemingly pitying all living beings and wanting to make life better, taking away all pain and suffering.

It could infiltrate anything, whether it be the toughest being or the hardest-to-reach location.

This was the strongest aspect of the light - its omnipresent ability. It drowned the tablet and began infiltrating everywhere.

“Zzz...” The tablet began losing its golden light.

A while ago, it looked like the ruler of this area due to its overwhelming radiance. Now, the power of the light was weakening it.

The radiance slowly disappeared and the tablet revealed its true form.

Its imposing and holy aura was no longer there. The tablet itself was gone now, leaving behind billowing darkness like a bottomless abyss.

This dark affinity could devour anything dumb enough to get close. Escaping was futile.

“This is the strongest profundity of the light.” The bull sentimentally said: “That old geezer always spied crap about saving all beings and subduing evil, that’s only his own thought in my opinion. The power of light should be comforting like this.”

“Can’t you see? This is a transformation. The light isn’t a power, just a form of expression. This has nothing to do with Desolate Saint. Academy of Light is just transforming, same with its dao source.” Li Qiye smiled and said.

“The old demon!” The bull’s expression changed.

It naturally didn’t like the demon and always competed against him. However, it must admit that the tree demon was able to change the dao of the system.

Its progenitor was still Desolate Saint - everyone in the world knew this. Alas, after millions of years, the old demon’s effort was gradually changing the system.

Eventually, it would become the demon’s legacy, not Desolate Saint’s.

Li Qiye only smiled in response without elaborating.

“Goddamn it, he’s really doing it. Inferior to Desolate Saint in the past but he will certainly surpass him in the future.” The bull murmured.

Li Qiye ignored the bull and told Holyfrost: “Be careful.”



“Zzz...” The omnipresent power of Holyfrost continued to infiltrate the darkness, wanting to reach the center before starting the purification process.

“What is that thing?” The bull wondered while looking at the abyssal entity.

“Boom!” The dark energy rushed to the sky and seemingly devoured everything like a primordial beast.

It opened its jaw and licked heaven and earth in a creepy manner. This jaw resembled the largest black hole in existence and its prey was Holyfrost Emperor.

She hurriedly gathered her holy power. This resulted in her wings growing to an immense size and posing in front of her like an impregnable gate. All of the power of the light has condensed into the wings. It became difficult to look straight at her radiant state.

“Boom!” The jaw bit her defensive barrier without showing any mercy.

“Crack!” The crystallized barrier began to crack as a result.

Next, the dark energy crazily surged as if a great devil king was descending. It began to assault the region.

“Crack!” More cracks appeared on the barrier due to the increased amount of energy.

Her expression dimmed, aware of how strong this dark power was.

“Eat this!” The bull joined the fray and leaped up for a stomp.

Don't be quick to underestimate the bull. This stomp had enough power to turn the sky vault over or leave a hole in any system.

“Boom!” The abyssal jaw was blown flying far away - truly a magnificent spectacle.

Holyfrost retreated behind Li Qiye with haste at this second.

“Raaa!” The dark energy became enraged and roared. Its power became heightened to the next level.