Emperor 3181

Chapter 3181: All Are Mere Insects Before Me

The vessel of life exuded boundless life force, too much for any world to handle.

The vessel of athanasia represented everlasting life and indestructibility. Nothing could ever take it down.

The vessel of creation opened an entirely new world with brand new laws and orders.

"Crack!" The bronze seal instantly crumbled.

Inside the primordial chaos was a pristine expanse - a new life representing something even above the high heaven.

"?!!!" The dark progenitors and even the dark messenger felt alarmed, thinking that their lives were in danger in this split second.

Unfortunately, it was too late. A figure appeared in the endless primordial chaos - Li Qiye.

"Nirvana Heaven." He exclaimed. His words became eternal. One could still hear them after millions of years.

He was now under the state of Nirvana Heaven, empowered by his three vessels and thirteen palaces.

His power had reached an unbelievable level, reaching the limit of the myriad daos. He became an unsurpassable existence, the pinnacle of all.

"Heaven Suppression Fist." The next words to come out of his mouth would never be forgotten by the listeners.

"Boom!" Everything shattered beneath this devastating blow regardless of their prowess.

The invincible progenitors have dominated their entire life yet still felt the urge to prostrate, unable to move.

This punch could seal the high heaven itself. The other living beings were insignificant in comparison, progenitors included.

"Boom!" The three treasures exploded into little pieces.

"Ah!!" The three nearest progenitors were reduced to bloody mists. They were among the five who didn't show their true identity. Moreover, the punch destroyed their true fate as well.

The next set of victims included Left Bank and Bamboo Progenitor since they were also close by. The shockwaves left nothing behind but blood.

Three Paragon Artifacts and five progenitors went down just like that.

The other progenitors were blown away and suffered grievous injuries. Even the dark messenger was sent flying.

The latter activated his mirror and created a bronze barrier but this was far from enough. He vomited a mouthful of blood, heavily wounded.

The one with the strongest physique, Coiling Dragon, had broken scales and flesh all over. One could see the bones now.

It was worse for the other five. They were dismembered; their bones crushed to dust by the shockwaves.

"Run!" The astounded messenger realized that there was no salvaging this battle and turned to flee.

The other five became resplendent as they attempted to run.

"Where do you think you're going?" Li Qiye came out of the chaos while holding Terra Damnation.

"Buzz." The spear moved like a torrent and trapped the six progenitors.

"Ahhh!" The two unknown progenitors bellowed, left with a bloody hole on their forehead.

The spear had penetrated their true fate as they fell backward to go meet their maker.

"Nooo!" Stone Harmony Progenitor's wound was located on his chest. He didn't even notice until he was ten thousand miles away and looked down due to the pain. His true fate was crushed as well.

He watched blood gushing out from his chest before falling to the ground, painting it red.

"Whoosh!" Cicada and Eight Treasure Progenitors were skewered together and lifted up into the air.

The spear vibrated and turned them into bloody mists.

"Boom!" Coiling Dragon got quite far away. Alas, the spear still caught up and crucified him into the ground.

He struggled, destroying the ground in the process. This lasted several times before he twitched once and stopped moving.

The one who got the farthest away was the member of the Decemvirate since he was the first one to run.

He had made it through Sky Pass in no time at all, heading for Uncrossable Expanse.

His speed was something else, allowing him to reach the shore in the blink of an eye.

"Die." Li Qiye threw the spear forward.

"Boom!" It pierced through numerous dimensions and appeared by the shore, showing up in front of the dark messenger.

"Guard!" His bronze mirror became a massive wall in front of him, a defense resembling Sky Pass.

"Boom!" Unfortunately, the wall couldn't stop the terrible thrust and exploded upon contact. The spear hit the mirror and also annihilated this incredible treasure.

"Pop!" The messenger couldn't block it and was reduced to blood. However, a faint ray managed to fly into the expanse. This move wasn't enough to kill him.

This remnant soul disappeared from sight after entering the ocean.

Li Qiye didn't pursue, only smiling and staring at the expanse. Eventually, he said: "Well, I guess having a messenger about my arrival is fine."

He then turned towards the empty space and licked his lips: "An entire world is nutritious indeed."

Immortal Lineage was completely silent during all of this. Even the winds stopped, not daring to bother him.

All living beings were on the ground, slack-jawed. They have been suppressed by Li Qiye's supreme power earlier.

Heaven Suppression Fist simply reigned above all else. Everyone believed that it had more than enough power to penetrate Three Immortals or even turn them to ashes.

This height was unreachable even for progenitors. Even Lotus Ancestor and her peers were on their knees.

Chapter 3182: Peace

All were on their knees to show respect, whether it be the unknown cultivators or the famous ancestors. Even the emperors and Everlastings did so as well.

Lotus Ancestor, Trinity Eccentric, and Everlasting Jiang among others followed suit.

No one dared to breathe loudly by this point. Fiercest has become a supreme existence, no, the sole ruler of Three Immortals.

Destroying five progenitors at the immortal level with one punch and nearly killing a member of the Decemvirate! No one else in history could do such a thing.

The Decemvirate and Ten Radiance paled in comparison. This applied to any type of existence.

The greatest geniuses were also taken down a notch, needing to lower their head from now on at his sight. They needed to assess their right to be arrogant and prideful after this.

For example, Lotus Ancestor as one of the Ten Radiance was as peerless and brilliant as can be. Yet, she was still utterly won over by him.

All of these great historical beings have completely lost to him. The opponents ran like dogs with their tail tucked between their legs.

"Prime Progenitor!" Someone started shouting.

"Prime Progenitor! The savior and ruler of Three Immortals!" Others started coming up with new lines.

As some called out his title, they were moved to tears. The dark invasion had instilled horror and despair upon them. Numerous cultivators have died in battle.

Finally, Prime Progenitor Li Qiye joined the fray and massacred the dark legions, destroying eleven progenitors and sweeping through the darkness. He saved all of Three Immortals.

This magnificent contribution earned him their gratitude. They were willing to create monuments and statues of him in order to immortalize his deeds.

Many kowtowed nine times until their forehead bleeds while not minding in the slightest. They weren't doing it because of his oppressive aura, only out of gratitude.

"Rise." He said calmly.

Everyone heard it clearly despite the low volume. It was as if he was whispering next to their ears.

However, most still performed a full kowtow before getting back on their feet. All had a look of indescribable excitement.

"We're still alive!" So many looked around and saw their family members before gathering in a group hug.

"We're saved, our system is still here." Though most systems have sent their legions to their death, their system and lineage were still around.

They could pass on their legacy unlike Eight Treasures System and Metalkin Divine Court among others. Any price was worth it.

"Immortal Lineage stands!" One ancestor on the battlefield had tears mixed with blood.

People like him didn't think they were coming back alive, only wanting to contribute to Immortal Lineage. They appreciated being lucky enough to survive.

"It's thanks to Prime Progenitor." The soldiers on the battlefield understood the reason why and showed their respect to him.

The dark legions had the absolute advantage earlier. Though the alliance led by Five Elements Goddess was trying their best, they had zero chance of winning. Their only goal was to buy more time.

Some of these soldiers couldn't say goodbye to their family members or lovers. They needed to rush to the academy as fast as possible.

A few crawled out from the pile of corpses and looked up at Li Qiye before bowing. They could finally go home and see their loved ones thanks to him.

The goddess gave the command to withdraw troops. She gazed at the battlefield and saw mountains of corpses and rivers of blood.

Tens of millions of cultivators have died in this cruel battle. Fortunately, they were on the victorious side. Otherwise, nothing would have been left but ashes.

The troops heaved a sigh of relief while regrouping to their individual legion. They wore a heavy heart after losing their close ones - brothers and seniors.

At the very least, these men didn't lose their lives in vain.

"Today is a day that will go down in history. Future generations will sing songs about you." Hui Qingxuan had a solemn expression while looking at the men. Too many people have died including emperors and Everlastings.

Next, Li Qiye landed and all of its members bowed down after seeing him again.

However, he didn't stop at all and headed for Sacred Mountain. The bull, Lotus Ancestor, Trinity Eccentric, and Everlasting Jiang also tagged along.

They had a different opinion of him by this point. During their previous meeting, they already had a high evaluation of him. Alas, he actually surpassed all of their expectations.

Of course, the bull always believed in him. It started gloating and showed off right away: "Didn't I tell all of you? Only Sir can save Three Immortals. I'm not wrong, am I? Others were just too stupid to see."

The group only smiled and didn't bark back. After all, the bull contributed immensely during this battle; Its merits were second to none. It was one of the first to stand for Immortal Lineage.

Chapter 3183: Celebration Everywhere

Trinity Eccentric felt awkward after hearing the bull. He bowed towards Li Qiye and said: "I was blind back then to try and establish a connection with you, Young Noble."

He had met Li Qiye in a pavilion back then while the latter was trying to avoid the rain. He was still wheelchair-bound then.

Nonetheless, the eccentric still handed a jade pendant to Li Qiye in order to betroth Hui Qingxuan to him

Anyone would find this unbelievable given the circumstances if they knew the eccentric and the goddess's background.

After all, very few would be able to climb up the hierarchy to reach Five Element Mountains, let alone marrying their successor.

That would be akin to a bird becoming a phoenix - the luckiest thing in their life. This was the case for any cultivator in Immortal Lineage.

This was far from the case currently. Hui Qingxuan was indeed prestigious and brilliant, but now, Fiercest was the sole ruler in Immortal Lineage on top of being the greatest progenitor in history.

No one could stand on the same level as him. Thus, Hui Qingxuan had quite a way to go.

In terms of a match, the woman must at least be an immortal-level progenitor. That's only the starting point.

For example, Lotus Ancestor. A member of the Ten Radiance like her might be more qualified.

That's why Trinity Eccentric found himself in a tough situation. The whole matter back then seemed ridiculous in retrospect. Their sect was the one who was trying to climb on Li Qiye.

His erudite wisdom wasn't enough to see through Li Qiye. The bull did a better job in this regard.

Li Qiye actually didn't mind at all. He smiled and brushed it off.

Meanwhile, Everlasting Jiang had nothing but respect for Li Qiye. He got on his knees and said: "I wouldn't have been able to break through without your guidance and might have died in there."

Li Qiye briefly advised him back in the Immortal Demon Cave, allowing him to defeat his bottleneck and reach a level capable of fighting two progenitors alone.

Just think about it, so many brilliant minds toiled to reach the Fardao level. However, they became stuck there, unable to move forward.

Everlasting Jiang was also a member of the Ten Radiance. His talents were virtually unmatched yet he was still stuck for a long time, one era after another. In fact, he nearly died several times from potential qi deviation after trying to force his way through.

That's why Li Qiye removed the cultivation mist and he became enlightened. His cultivation soared like the wind afterward so he had nothing but gratitude towards Li Qiye.

Li Qiye accepted the gesture with a natural expression.

It was Lotus Ancestor's turn. She bowed and said with admiration: "I tried my whole life and couldn't figure out the mysteries behind the thirteenth palace. It's embarrassing to admit this but I didn't even see the door. The path towards the grand dao is long and mysterious. I have many questions and are more than willing to offer my service if you can teach me a thing or two, Young Noble."

This progenitor was beautiful enough to make people remember her forever after one glance. Now, she was on her knees, willing to offer her service to Li Qiye.

The others didn't find this too shocking. It would be an honor to stay by his side. The qualification for this was awfully stringent. A member of the Ten Radiance seemed appropriate.

"It wasn't too hard." Li Qiye shook his head and said: "I'll be leaving soon though, so I don't have anything to teach you."

"I understand." She bowed and didn't say anything else.

Of course, the first part could drive people insane. Many brilliant cultivators tried their whole life and couldn't get the thirteenth palace yet he got it so easily?

Nonetheless, it wasn't his fault for being Prime Progenitor. Someone like him could say whatever and it would still be justified.

"Your light will be the guiding lamp for Three Immortals." Li Qiye then told the old tree demon.

Li Qiye approved of this demon. To earn such praise from Prime was a peerless honor but the demon didn't become complacent.

He bowed and said: "You're too kind. You can become a devil or a saint with a single thought, far superior compared to me. You can create a light that can also illuminate and save the living beings in a split second while it took me a lifetime."

"It's already amazing enough. Desolate Saint could have gone farther but he chose a different path. The light was only an experiment to him but you are different, never wavering once during your journey. You are better than him in this aspect." Li Qiye nodded.

"I simply worked hard to compensate for my limited abilities." The demon said. Though they were enemies, he never once criticized Desolate Saint in public.

"Desolate Saint started this path for others' sake, he has done more than us." He continued on.

The bull naturally didn't buy this but it only shrugged and scoffed this time, not bothering to respond.

It always believed that Desolate Saint kept some dirty secrets and that it would actually be bad for Three Immortals if he were still alive.

"Since I'm just a visitor, there are some things I need to leave behind for Three Immortals." Li Qiye smiled and changed the topic.

He then took out a shiny rock, taken from the old palace. Sword Saint's group protected it with their lives while Fire Ancestor desired it.

"The wise sages left this for Three Immortals. I initially wanted to refine it but no time. This thing should be given to Qingxuan but she's young and not strong enough so I will leave it with you. Your light is beneficial for it as well. You can give it to her when the time is right." Li Qiye told the demon.

"This rock only exists in the legends." Lotus Ancestor's eyes widened with astonishment.

"I can't believe it is real." The eccentric became startled as well.

"I will do my best." The demon bowed and accepted the rock with both hands.

"Hehe, Brother, let me touch it, just one little touch." The bull salivated at this sight and became envious.

It coveted this rock but never had the chance to grab it. That's why it immediately tried to play nice with the demon.

Unfortunately, the demon ignored it and carefully wrapped up the rock. The bull gritted its teeth in rage and glared at the demon with its round eyes only to be ignored again.

Li Qiye smiled after the demon accepted. That's the reason he came here.

He originally planned to give it to Hui Qingxuan since she was the most qualified among the young generation. However, due to her age, she couldn't control it yet, hence his current plan. It wouldn't be late for the demon to give it to her later once she was strong enough.

Chapter 3184: I Don't Want Too Much

Li Qiye didn't waste time in Immortal Lineage and left after finishing his task.

He had no attachment to this world, thus his continuous statement regarding being a passerby. He only came to find some answers, to meet a few people, to experience a few things. There was no emotional past or lingering feelings here. He didn't need to stay or protect this place for anyone.

He returned to the deepest part of Ascension Pond in order to refine his weapon.

It was virtually finished by this point; he only needed to carve out some minor finishing details.

"You let that progenitor escape." The master of this place spoke. He was referring to the dark messenger.

"So what? Just one progenitor who will serve as a messenger to let others know that I'm coming. It's a matter of politeness." Li Qiye didn't mind at all.

The master didn't pursue this matter. Even a member of the Decemvirate wasn't much of a threat to someone at Li Qiye's level.

"What did creation taste like?" The master asked after a brief pause.

"Not bad." Li Qiye smiled and stared towards the depth: "I know that you're here for a multitude of reasons. However, can all of you resist the temptation of the feast? Don't tell me you have never thought about it."

"We would have done so long ago instead of waiting till now or the future." The master uttered coldly with dissatisfaction.

"Who knows? Characters of our level are quite unpredictable." Li Qiye shrugged in response.

"We have a different way of life instead of just wanting to feast, hence our current situation." The master scowled.

"Hmm, that makes sense." Li Qiye smiled: "Your way is indeed different from everyone else, just like the coin system in Moneyfall or the exchange here in Ascension Pond. Very interesting stuff."

"What, want to destroy us?" The master became annoyed.

"Like you have said, I wouldn't wait till now to do so either. Plus, it wouldn't be my turn anyway. The three geezers would jump on it first." Li Qiye said.

The master certainly didn't like this comment but didn't bother retorting.

Most beings at this level would share the same thought. The three geezers mentioned by Li Qiye felt the same way. But after experiencing certain things, they let go of their suspicion.

"If there's nothing else, you should leave now and cause trouble at the expanse. My place can't handle a troublemaker like you." The master wanted to send this uninvited guest away.

"Don't be so quick to chase me out, I'm still a guest, more or less." Li Qiye chuckled.

"No, my humble abode can't accommodate someone like you." The master sarcastically said.

"You're hurting my feelings now." Li Qiye continued: "Don't you see that I still haven't prepared well enough? I need to rest in order to be in peak condition for the next battle."

"That's your problem, not mine." The master didn't give a damn.

"Is that so? I'm sure you can't be sleeping well when there is an overlord slumbering in the expanse. I don't buy it." Li Qiye said.

"Hmph." The master scowled again, confirming Li Qiye's speculation.

"Just think about it, you're also a great piece of meat in his eyes, swallowing you will be so nutritious. I'm sure this is the same case for the others." Li Qiye went on.

"We'll see who will be the last man standing." The master said and exuded an invincible aura capable of crushing the firmaments. Regular progenitors couldn't fathom its power.

"Sure, but that means you're not completely confident either." Li Qiye said.

"You are?" The master's tone became harsher.

"Kill then refine. Just killing is too much of a waste. His biggest value is to be drained by me." Li Qiye calmly said.

"Save your haughtiness until after you kill him."

"Not difficult at all. I'll kill him if he dares to come out. Plus, you know that's not the only thing I want. I'll topple everything later." Li Qiye said.

"Only death awaits you." The master was actually speaking the truth this time, not only out of spite against this terrible guest.

As a supreme existence, the master knew the trouble ahead. Li Qiye was simply suicidal in his opinion.

"Save this comment until after I die." Li Qiye lazily said: "Of course, since we're friends, you can burn some paper money for me because being a poor ghost must suck. I would rather be a rich ghost when I die."

"You will, and yes." The master said, seemingly able to see Li Qiye's future - nothingness.

"Well, I'm sure you know that it's not a good thing for anyone if I die, especially you." Li Qiye didn't become angry and smirked: "Look at how nice this place is, the same with Sky Ruins. Who wouldn't like these places? If I were to die, your world would be next. For example, Immortal Lineage stands at the forefront then you and Sky Ruins are next. You know this better than anyone."

The master didn't like Li Qiye's attitude but still knew that the guy was right. The future certainly wasn't bright. This place would definitely become a battlefield. He would also be a main target.

"That's why you better pray for my survival, no, for my domination." Li Qiye stopped here and waved his hand.

"You're about to make some demands." The master said.

"Demand is a strong word." Li Qiye smiled: "No, no, I'm only asking for everyone's support since it's mutually beneficial. I'm sure you have gotten an answer. Go on, I'm waiting."

The master waited for a bit before revealing: "I have told the others about your intent. They are willing to help you but don't overthink it, it'll only be a little bit of assistance."

"I'm aware. Remember, I didn't ask for your group to personally help. Just give me all your good stuff so that I can throw it at the enemies, that's the best support." Li Qiye leisurely said.

"Don't be greedy now." The master spoke first in order to stop Li Qiye from even attempting.

"I disagree." Li Qiye elaborated: "Just think about it, if you all were to personally mobilize, leaving success aside, how much resources and heavenly materials would be required? Now, since I'm doing it instead, all of you can just sit back and relax. Isn't that the best? A lot of value for your money."

Another lull ensued. The master eventually asked: "What do you want?"

"Not much, just a few decent items." Li Qiye smiled in response.

Chapter 3185: Li Qiye

Just a few decent items were a big deal when it came from Li Qiye's mouth. Why? Because anything that could be considered decent by Li Qiye was definitely heaven-defying. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to call them the ultimate items.

No systems back in Immortal Lineage could provide what he wanted, only these mysterious characters.

"Just a few decent items, hmph!" The master saw his list and uttered coldly.

These items on the list could scare people to death.

"I have faith in you to gather these items, no? You all are extremely wealthy." Li Qiye smiled.

"I will let others know. It's their business whether they agree or not." The master snorted.

"I'm sure it won't be a problem." Li Qiye seemed nonchalant and confident.

"Get the hell out of my place once you get your items." The master demanded.

This was rather reasonable. First, Li Qiye forced this place to summon the power of the high heaven. Now, he demanded all of the good items. The master was actually quite patient for not lashing out at him.

Anyone else making such ridiculous demands would have been destroyed long ago. Alas, he had no choice but to listen to Li Qiye.

"You don't need to keep on chasing me away, I'll leave when I don't want to be here anymore. I mean, even the birds don't want to shit in this place, there's no one else but you. So boring." Li Qiye smiled.

"You!" The master got the urge to kick Li Qiye out of here.

His place was a supreme treasure land with boundless profundity. Others would love to come here except they weren't qualified. Thus, Li Qiye's comment was outrageously offensive.

"Just kidding." Li Qiye instantly added, stopping the master from erupting.

"So what if you can survive? What about after? Will you really declare war against the high heaven?" The master uttered coldly.

"Why not? An ultimate fight is what I seek. Fake immortals first, then time to play with the villainous heaven!"

"Suicidal." The master flatly said.

"Not like I haven't died before." Li Qiye smiled: "Plus, I've been there before and will have to try again. Everything else would be meaningless if I don't do so."

"Say that you can return triumphantly from the final battle, what's the point? You will take its place?" The master asked.

"Why would I want to do that? I do not wish to become the so-called creator. I will still be me, no need for anything else." Li Qiye smiled.

"Once again, what's the point? Your victory won't change anything." The master said.

Li Qiye's eyes became profound as he gazed towards the distance. He didn't answer.

"What's your motivation to fight? Immortality? Creation? Or the ages?" The master asked.

"For myself. I search for an answer and there are some things that I should do and finish off." Li Qiye withdrew his gaze and responded.

"It will be outside of your control once you reach that step. When standing above the high heaven, you will have to confront it." The master replied.

"Ask me again when I'm up there." Li Qiye let out a leisure smile.

"Your victory might not guarantee a better future than currently. This is a problem with no solution. No matter who it is, the result will be the same. This world and its order won't change." The master pondered for a bit before answering.

"Can't know until I try, a theoretical discussion is pointless. What's the worst that can happen? To ashes? Not like it hasn't happened before. Can't be worse than that." Li Qiye said.

"The high heaven will keep watch, this has always been the case." The master said.

"I disagree. It's one world after another. This isn't your garden where you can go eat everything after maturation then repeat it again." Li Qiye smiled.

"The changing of the epoch is not different at all, only the method is changed." The master said.

"Okay, let's change the method then. Either hand over the good stuff or I'll beat all of you down and force you to obediently hand them over. Which method do you want? I'm sure the result will be the same, only the method is different." Li Qiye shifted the conversation to another direction.

"Hmph!" The master scowled, causing the world to shake and the stars to tremble.

Only Li Qiye remained unperturbed, not affected by the master's fury.

"It's not only about the result, there are many, many other things..." Li Qiye said.

"So you have a better method?" The master asked.

"First, I want to kill all who deserve death." Li Qiye revealed a faint smile that would horrify those aware of its implication.

The master certainly read this smile correctly and became silent.

"What do you think about that? It'll make other things easier before my final battle." Li Qiye said: "In my eyes, orders are meant to be broken and changed, not lasting for an eternity! And the time for change is now!"

The master realized that Li Qiye had made up his mind. They wouldn't be able to stop him nor the villainous heaven. He would move forward as an unstoppable reaper.

"In history, no one has truly grasped the power of creation. The existence of one would easily solve these problems." The master said.

"True. For example, a hungry man can't cut off and eat his own flesh for satiation without suffering injuries, hence the current circumstances." Li Qiye smiled.

"Many have searched for this but success is nowhere to be found. This might be the real bottleneck to immortality. One man has made it quite far beyond anyone else, but I don't think he found success either because everything is still the same." The master said.

"That's your pursuit, not mine. I don't care for immortality or the power of creation. All I know is that I will kill anyone who stands in my way regardless of how far they run." Li Qiye asserted with a cold glint in his eyes.

The master knew that he was telling the truth. The guy was asking them for help right now but if they were to ever provoke him, he would kill them without any hesitation.

As powerful as he may be, intuition told him that he would be the one falling in a battle between them.

That's the result of those crossing this man named Li Qiye.

Chapter 3186: Departure

Li Qiye left after he finished refining his weapon to embark towards the expanse.

The bull's group for some reason knew that he was about to leave and were there to send him off.

Someone spread this information so everyone in Immortal Lineage found out about his departure. Numerous came to say farewell.

"Why is he leaving so soon? Peace only came recently." Many systems and masters wanted him to stay.

After all, Three Immortals would be safe under his protection. If he were to leave, who knows when the darkness would come again?

"It would be best if Prime Progenitor could stay." So many started praying to the heaven.

Most were unwilling to see this; some were actually hurt. In recent days, they have considered him to be the guardian of Three Immortals. His departure would leave a void in their heart.

"I heard he's going to Uncrossable Expanse." Someone who had received this news early revealed.

"Uncrossable Expanse?" Those who heard him looked up towards the mysterious ocean, boundless in size. They suddenly felt an instinctive fear.

This ocean had brought too many problems to their world so it became an ominous symbol by this point. The returning fallen progenitors extended their grasp, trying to attack their own world.

"Prime Progenitor is going there? That's why he's the greatest of all time, he wants to destroy the nest of darkness to forever rid the world of this problem." One insightful ancestor commented.

Many powerful masters assumed that Li Qiye was going there in order to fully take the enemies down.

"Yes, this is better than waiting for the darkness to come again. Might as well go on the offensive." Others nodded and praised: "Only Prime has such peerless decisiveness and the abilities to do so."

Nowadays, the expanse was considered a terrifying no man's land. No one would dare to go there, progenitors included.

However, Prime Progenitor was heading there alone. He was the only one capable of doing this.

"The lair of darkness is in the expanse, who will he find there? What if he meets a terrible being?" A few people became worried.

"You're worrying about nothing, have you forgotten who Prime is? The strongest progenitor in history, he'll definitely be able to clear a bright path for Three Immortals." Someone else laughed in response.

This comment won the crowd over. Prime was able to destroy five progenitors with a single punch then kill eleven of them. Even a member of the Decemvirate couldn't compare to him.

Thus, the darkness should stand no chance against their Prime Progenitor!

"That's true, but Prime is still alone. As the saying goes, two hands can't beat four fists." Another expert remained worried: "Just think about it, so many progenitors have gone there before. How many of them have fallen like the others?"

This made others shudder with a deep chill as if they have been engulfed by the darkness. This expert made a lot of sense.

More members of the Decemvirate along with top progenitors and Everlastings have entered the expanse. None of them have returned and by this point, everyone had a good idea about what happened to them.

That lair of darkness would have so many incredible existences - the most terrible place in the world.

Would Prime be able to fight against their sheer number?

This pessimism gradually took over the crowd.

"Instead of worrying for no reason, it's better to just pray for his victory." One senior said: "If all of our progenitors have fallen to the darkness, then it will return to Immortal Lineage one day anyway regardless of whether Prime enters the expanse or not."

Just this possibility alone frightened everyone. Not long ago, twelve progenitors and one Fardao nearly destroyed all of Three Immortals.

"Yes, let's just pray for his success, that he'll be able to defeat the darkness." Numerous people all over the world started praying. Some even organized official ceremonies for this purpose.

Numerous cultivators lined up in silence, waiting for Li Qiye to leave. Supervisors weren't necessary because everyone knew to be respectful and quiet.

Night has taken over yet ten million cultivators were still present for this event. One could only hear the sound of breathing.

Li Qiye finally showed up before many anticipating eyes. He crossed the sky and reached the shore.

Everyone got on their knees in unison, resulting in a wave of movement across the crowd.

"Greetings, Prime Progenitor." They greeted him. Every showing of respect came from the heart.

The black bull and the others approached him - Holyfrost, Hui Qingxuan, Lotus Ancestor, Everlasting Jiang... Even the old tree demon was present.

Since he had taken root at the academy, his true body couldn't go there. This was only his dao avatar.

"You're leaving, Young Noble." Holyfrost became emotional since she had stayed with him for a long period and truly benefited from it.

Chapter 3187: Goodbye, Three Immortals

"Separation is a part of life. You are born attuned with the light so your future is bright, you will definitely be able to shoulder your system as a progenitor." Li Qiye stroked her hair and smiled.

His praise revealed how highly he thought of her.

"I won't let you down, Young Noble." She bowed deeply to show her reverence.

"What about me?" The bull laughed and joined in: "Won't I be the greatest progenitor in history?"

Its egotistical style set off some chuckles. The bull had a way of alleviating a depressing atmosphere.

Li Qiye glanced at it and commented: "I don't know if you will become the greatest progenitor or not, but one thing is for certain, keep acting like this and you'll become the most delicious feast. A hot pot, maybe, or roasted beef? Who knows."

"I like thin beef dipped in boiling soup. A lot of energy." The old demon said.

"Hey! What the hell are you saying, old man!" The bull wasn't happy with this at all: "I'll dig out your roots and make dried medicine out of them!"

The old demon gave it a contemptuous glance. This worked perfectly in infuriating the bull.

Of course, this was all in jest. They had a special relationship - both friendship and mentorship. The demon considered the bull to be a close junior.

The bull couldn't do anything to the demon despite its annoyance. It moved closer to Li Qiye and smiled: "Hehehe, Sir, the world outside must be vast, give me a hint, where should I go to get to your world?"

It clearly was bored of Three Immortals and wanted to go take a look at Li Qiye's world.

"Wait until you're strong enough or you'll only be asking for trouble." Li Qiye nonchalantly said.

"Whoa! What you trying to say?!" The bull glared at him in response: "What kind of great existence am I? I can't handle it? I'm unbeatable and can take on three to five progenitors, no problem."

It shamelessly bragged without blinking an eye.

"So amazing, not like a certain thing that got its horn broken." The tree demon sarcastically mocked.

"Say it to my face!" The bull turned red and headed over to the tree demon, only to be ignored.

"It's a shame this is a time of chaos or I would be more than willing to accompany you to the expanse." Lotus Ancestor sentimentally said.

Though she wasn't a member of the Decemvirate, she was far above regular immortal-level progenitors.

In history, every progenitor eventually wanted to go to the expanse for many reasons. Thus, someone like her being able to stick around was miraculous. Only her system could accommodate this.

She naturally wanted to go there and nothing could be better than accompanying Li Qiye.

Unfortunately, potential dangers still loomed in Three Immortal so she needed to stay.

This was a heavy price to pay for the sake of Five Elements Mountain and all of Three Immortals.

"You'll have your chance and it'll even be better later when there is peace at the four oceans." Li Qiye said.

"I understand. I hope to see you again when I do depart." She bowed.

Li Qiye smiled and nodded.

Her going there was only a matter of time. Progenitors had a hard time staying in Three Immortals, especially someone as strong as her.

Time wasn't her friend either since she could die from old age. Thus, journeying to the expanse was imperative. Five Elements Mountain might have an unfathomable amount of resources but still couldn't supply an invincible progenitor like her forever.

"Thank you, Sir." Both Luminous Master and Orchid Sage came over next and bowed: "Your guidance will benefit us for a lifetime. We'll start training once you leave since we're too weak to contribute to Immortal Lineage right now."

The two of them were quite humble despite being the first to fearlessly fight on the frontline. They didn't shame themselves or run away from their responsibilities.

"I'm sure there will be two more immortal-level progenitors in the near future." Li Qiye smiled while looking at the two.

"We hope so too." They said. This was the purpose of their next cultivation session - reaching the immortal level.

They were quite strong already as imperial-level progenitors. Alas, the previous fight made the gap between the two levels abundantly clear.

Orchid Sage who didn't care about chasing the dao decided to train harder. His goal wasn't for power, only because the people needed him.

Both of them believed that they were insufficient at the moment to be useful.

"Will we meet again?" Hui Qingxuan grabbed Li Qiye's hand with adoration in her eyes.

The two of them had a special relationship thanks to Trinity Eccentric - a bizarre engagement.

Plus, she has been an ardent supporter, therefore winning his grace.

"If it meant to be." Li Qiye said.

"I will keep working hard to not be embarrassed by my low cultivation the next time we meet." She smiled.

"I'm sure you'll be like a different person when we meet again." Li Qiye said.

Her talents were exceptional so her achievements wouldn't be inferior to Orchid Sage and Luminous Master. In fact, Five Elements Mountain might have another progenitor on the same level as Lotus Ancestor.

"I hope so too." Qingxuan nodded, completely sure of another meeting.

"Goodbye everyone, I hope your world will be safe." Li Qiye didn't say goodbye to each individual and looked at the crowd.

"Hmm, maybe I'll meet your many children next time." He saw Three-eyed Prodigy and Spiritheart Emperor and decided to tease them.

"As you wish, Young Noble." The couple bowed towards Li Qiye since he was the reason why they were together.

"See you all." Li Qiye smiled and entered the expanse without looking back.

"Goodbye." The bull and the others watched his departing figure.

"May you return triumphantly, Prime Progenitor!" The kneeling cultivators shouted.

This grand gesture was necessary in order to show their savior the appropriate amount of respect.

Li Qiye disappeared from sight the moment his foot touched the water. Nonetheless, they kept on kneeling. Some performed a full kowtow ceremony.

His close allies became sentimental. They didn't know if they could meet him since he wasn't from this world.

"Goodbye..." Qingxuan murmured to herself.

Chapter 3188: Uncrossable Expanse

Uncrossable Expanse, an eternal mystery. No one knew how deep or vast it was, especially not its magical properties.

Discussions regarding this place sprung up across the years, just nothing concrete came from it.

One legend told that the mystical 'other shore' existed there. Reaching it meant being able to enter the immortal world.

Another stated that it contained the secret to immortality for those lucky enough to find it.

One more belief asserted that this expanse was a boundless world, provided that one can find the true entrance.

All in all, numerous legends regarding the expanse passed on through the generations.

Numerous top masters would go there after reaching a certain level. No one forced them to do so; there weren't any rules about this either. However, their departure has been consistent.

Another consistency was the lack of returners. This dark invasion was the only exception.

At their high level, their lifespan would start running out; death from old age became inevitable.

Thus, they needed to enter the expanse despite knowing that there was no return, at least in the past. That's the only way to replenish their vitality and life force. Many agreed with this statement, progenitors included.

The sky seemed rather low in this way ocean. One might be able to touch the sky just by reaching up with both hands. The stars were right there.

Li Qiye felt considerable moisture in the air and winds. They were gentle, akin to a lover's caress.

The place was as horrifying as expected. On the contrary, it felt so pleasant and comfortable.

Upon entering, one fused with the ocean, becoming a part of it. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that anyone here would feel as if they were returning home. They naturally wouldn't want to leave afterward.

This feeling was ridiculous. The place was famous for being dangerous and full of the unknown. How could it feel like home?

Alas, this was indeed the case. The sensation was as real as can be.

"Uncrossable Expanse." Li Qiye murmured while the winds caressed his face.

The supreme existences would appreciate the boundlessness of this place. They felt so free and unrestrained.

On the other hand, a world like Three Immortals felt so tiny in comparison, almost like having shackles there.

It was understandable why the progenitors never wanted to return to Three Immortals.

He looked back and saw nothing but an ocean. The shoreline was nowhere to be found, let alone Three Immortals.

Just taking one step into this place meant leaving Three Immortals completely. It would be impossible to find the initial path, let alone find the location of Three Immortals.

One needed a heaven-defying method to return to Three Immortals, leaping repeatedly from one dimension to another.

Keep in mind that this level of spatial leap required a long period of time and vast power. A powerful progenitor might not be able to handle this.

This was another reason why these progenitors didn't return after entering.

Li Qiye stopped looking back for Three Immortals. He tried to feel this area and the waves with his eyes closed.

He became a part of this ocean, able to sense a strange turtle swimming ten thousand miles below. One million miles ahead, he spotted a large aquatic creature resembling an elephant spewing out water. Then a billion miles up above, a star was dying...

He sensed all of these things so clearly like the palm of his hand. In fact, a fish letting out a bubble anywhere in this ocean would be known by him.

He stood there like a statue for a long time. After a while, he opened his eyes with a faint smile.

His body flashed while ripples appeared in space. This was the start of his journey.

This ocean was vast beyond imagination, perhaps more than a hundred thousand Three Immortals put together. A progenitor could spend their entire life yet still be unable to cross it.

Li Qiye continued moving across this area and saw many magnificent sights not found anywhere else.

In one place, numerous peaks towered in a particular formation. Water circled around them in the form of a maelstrom capable of tearing everything apart. Nothing would be able to escape its powerful current in one piece.

However, the peaks weren't affected by the maelstrom at all. They looked like special pillars serving to keep the ocean in place.

As the steam and water evaporated from the maelstrom, one could catch glimpse of the pavilions and cities on top of the peaks. Countless carriages and people moving about - a prosperous place to be.

This all disappeared the moment one set foot on the actual peaks as if they were mere illusions. Alas, the sounds of galloping horses and carriages, the people talking or the cries of the cicada were clearly heard. It felt so real yet impossible to reach.

Another area was engulfed by yearlong fog and mist. Numerous moons could be seen in there; they moved in an eternal rotation.

Its name was moon valley, seemingly the source of all the moons in existence. Their light gave this part of the sea a silver hue.

Unfortunately, the moons weren't the only things floating around. Corpses would also fly out from the ocean, completely covered in white cloth just like mummies.

These mummies would swallow the moonlight. As they absorbed more of this affinity, ancient inscrutable runes emerged on their white cloth.

Anyone would feel their scalp tingling after seeing this sight. This place seemed like a land of the dead.

Li Qiye stopped here for a bit to watch the corpses devouring the moonlight.

"People have tried all kinds of terrible methods for rebirth in history. How disappointing." He shook his head and said.

He didn't bother them and moved forward. This wasn't too out of place for him since he knew their goal.

This ocean also had broken places. Li Qiye made it to one and felt a powerful destructive aura.

The water surface here has been torn apart, resulting in a chaotic flow hitting the cliffs nearby. The celestials above have fallen down. One broken star could be seen floating on the water.

A great battle had clearly taken place here.

Chapter 3189: The Most Brilliant True Emperor

The gentle sea breezes induced drowsiness. The moon tonight was especially round on top of the night sky.

It poured down a silver light, resulting in the same silvery reflection on the water surface. Whenever a carp leaped out of the water, the splashing resembled a flower blossoming. Maybe it would turn into a dragon in due time.

A small island had old, tough trees and thick foliage. It looked like a jade pendant carved on a silver plate.

The shoreline was quite long with exquisite sand. Each speech had a golden shimmer.

Picking the sand up and letting it run down one's fingers would create a beautiful golden stream.

A youth was laying on a bed beneath a palm tree there, enjoying the breeze and the moonlight.

He wore a silvery robe, meticulously crafted by a great master. He was quite handsome and would always stand out like a crane among a flock of chicken.

His hands were beautiful, especially his thin and long fingers. Girls would go crazy from jealousy.

Time froze as he enjoyed his time there. However, he immediately got up and greeted: "A visitor? What a pleasant surprise."

Space rippled and Li Qiye came out, landing on the beach. He looked around the area before focusing on the youth. He had leaped through space several times and ended up here by chance.

"Oh, I should call you Senior." The youth stopped looking lazy and put on a respectful smile.

"No, I'm only eighteen." Li Qiye shook his head.

"Then I'll call you Sir. Respect should be given to those who have achieved more in the dao." The youth knew how to act with propriety.

Li Qiye only smiled, not refusing this address.

The youth summoned a courtyard facing the ocean. He prepared a table and hot tea before inviting Li Qiye over.

Li Qiye sat down without any reservation. The youth poured him a cup and said: "I don't know anything about tea so please excuse me, Sir."

"It's not too bad." Li Qiye took a sip and smiled.

"My name is Zheng Yin, may I have yours?" The youth laughed happily before introducing himself.

"Li Qiye." Li Qiye said before looking at the youth: "Emperor Zheng of Nine Secrets, quite famous."

"It's all in the past, so trivial before you, Sir." The youth shook his head.

Zheng Yin, a peerless cultivator who revived Nine Secrets, a member of the Ten Radiance. He was famous alongside Everlasting Jiang and Lotus Ancestor.

Born in War Saint Dynasty in a declining system, he rose above everything and revived it. His Lucidity Scripture was well known just the Nine Secrets of this system's progenitor.

He had entered a redemption ground and fought many great battles there. His feats weren't inferior to a progenitor so he was worthy of his spot in the Ten Radiance.

A disciple from Nine Secrets would never believe that this youth was their ancestor. It has been several million years.

"A peak progenitor now, worthy of being a member of the Ten Radiance." Li Qiye said with a smile.

"Just a false reputation. Nothing brilliant about being gifted from the start thanks to the heaven. Otherwise, someone as lazy as me would never be able to reach the progenitorial realm." Emperor Zheng humbly said.

His humility didn't imply weakness. In reality, he was just as strong as Everlasting Jiang or Lotus Ancestor.

Li Qiye smiled and held his teacup while gazing quietly at the horizon.

"Why are you here, Sir?" The emperor asked.

"Just passing by. Oh, and killing anyone who stands in my way." Li Qiye took a sip and responded casually.

"So daring and imposing. No one in this vast ocean should be able to stop you." The emperor praised.

The two of them stopped talking and simply enjoyed the night sky.

"Why are you here?" Li Qiye eventually broke the silence.

"I actually don't know the answer." The emperor pondered carefully and eventually put on a wry smile.

"Some progenitors come seeking everlasting life; others want the other shore, more seek strength..." He went on with a soft tone.

"Hmm, I came out of curiosity while hoping to break through. Someone told me to go so I did. Now, so many years have passed and I've forgotten most of my original intentions."

"Time is the best thing to have while capable of being a source of torment." Li Qiye nodded.

"Yes, I've forgotten so many things. I only remember myself now." The emperor became slightly emotional.

Both fell into silence again, looking like two old friends.

"You're not my contemporary and have experienced far more, may I ask what do you live for?" The emperor earnestly said.

"You answer first." Li Qiye smiled.

The emperor took his time thinking before coming up with a response: "I don't know. I asked myself this a long time ago, maybe several hundred thousand years, I don't quite remember. I couldn't come up with an answer then and I don't have one now. I just know that I'm living for the sake of living."

"Everything else is insignificant." Li Qiye understood.

"Yes, some progenitors still move forward after reaching the top. They want to become true immortals. Others searched for everlasting life. Some are righteous and wish to protect Three Immortals." He paused for a bit and sighed: "I had enough. I've experienced the pleasures of mortal life and dabbled in the myriad dao. This is my limit. Trying more won't turn me into a true immortal. Thus, I no longer have a goal. I don't care for everlasting life or the battle between good and evil either. Everyone has their own fate; the epochs will continue to cycle, no need to try so hard to survive."

"Seems like the rest of my time is doomed to boredom." He then finished with a bitter smile. His words contained plenty of emotions - a testament to his rich past.

As a brilliant emperor, his life was magnificent, to say the least.

He had both authority and prestige, more than enough beauties as well. The things people so desired? He possessed them all.

He also swept through the realms uncontested. People wrote tales about his battles.

As for his talents? He understood the mysteries of this world and wrote the incredible Lucidity Scripture.

Did he have any regret in life? No.

Next came his journey to the expanse. He survived the danger and saw many things, eventually becoming a top progenitor.

What more could he ask for in life? Therefore, his future prospect came to a halt for he no longer had any desire.

That's why self-reflection became necessary. What was his reason for living? This question haunted the great genius.

Chapter 3190: Why Chase The Dao?

A remaining lifetime of dreamless boredom for Emperor Zheng. Perhaps others wouldn't be able to understand him for they lacked the same talents, the same fortune bestowed upon birth.

"It's all in the past. To not have any pursuit is the best pursuit." Li Qiye nodded and said.

Li Qiye didn't think he was being extreme. The peak was cold and lonely, not something ordinary men knew about.

"Life and death stop mattering as well." The emperor said with a profound gaze towards the stars.

The emperor no longer cared about his survival since he had done everything previously, from fighting on numerous battlefields to teetering between life and death. The latter made him unafraid of death this might be the reason why he didn't seek everlasting life.

"Well, some people rather live in a pathetic manner than dying. That's the nature of men." Li Qiye commented.

"How meaningless." Emperor Zheng smiled and shook his head: "Dying is a salvation of sorts, no more living on in boredom."

Others would find this irrational. Why would a top cultivator want to die? He still had so much potential left, so many pleasures to experience.

Alas, Emperor Zheng had lived too long and began to lose patience.

There was someone familiar to him back in the Nine Worlds, Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo, cursed to live for an eternity, wanted by neither heaven nor hell.

However, one side experienced too much joy and happiness already while the other was the opposite. The former found these beautiful things to be boring now, as bland as water.

"Of course, I won't commit suicide." The emperor eventually added with a nonchalant smile.

How strange. A brilliant progenitor actually had thoughts of suicide. This would astonish any listener.

Of course, he wouldn't choose such a dishonorable way to go. His ending should be something amazing, a death to remember.

"Maybe go back and have a look at Three Immortals." Li Qiye suggested.

"I had this thought too a very long time ago when I was bored here. However, that place is no longer the same, the land is there, not the people. As boring as everything else to visit it again." Emperor Zheng spoke without any emotional fluctuation.

However, others would pity him upon hearing this. His world was no longer the same, neither was Nine Secrets.

His lover, his family, his loyal followers - all have returned to the ground. Nine Secrets would be completely unfamiliar.

If he were to return and experience the joy and pleasures of life again, that would only be repeating past experiences - akin to eating only rice day after day.

This sense of unfamiliarity might be why Eight Treasures and Cicada Progenitor found it so easy to destroy their own system. They didn't feel sad in the slightest.

"This is the price of everlasting life." Li Qiye smiled. His tone sounded quite sad since he had quite a melancholic past as well.

"Right, at least I'm not actually an immortal or I would go crazy." The emperor nodded in response. He seemed to find sweet salvation in death, unlike other top cultivators.

"Well, if you have no other pursuits or desires, then just a short life of brilliance is fine. Having no regrets is the toughest thing to obtain." Li Qiye said.

"What are your pursuits?" The emperor asked.

"An answer and a fight to the end, that's all." Li Qiye nodded.

"I see, such lofty aspiration." The emperor felt great respect towards Li Qiye: "I'm not a defender of justice but I truly respect Bao Pu and the others. They should be loved and respected by all, the same as you, Sir. Cultivators should aim to be like you but I'm afraid to say that I have no desire of being virtuous."

"Everyone has their own will, no need to force others to do so." Li Qiye shook his head: "The light and darkness are always present. There is no light without the darkness and vice versa. Now, not having a pursuit is the best pursuit. No pursuit, no desire, no darkness, then there's no light. Their pursuit is why there is darkness." He finished by pointing at the sky.

"Your words are made of gold, Sir." The emperor appreciated his perspective.

Li Qiye smiled and immersed himself into staring at the sky. There seemed to be something up there staring at everything below.

"Immortality." The emperor sighed and said: "No one can really resist its temptation."

He then turned towards Li Qiye as if insinuating something.

"Don't worry, I won't change even if I obtain immortality. It won't be my choice." Li Qiye shook his head.

"I don't doubt you, Sir." The emperor said.

"It's fine, you have seen it. Immortality isn't granted by the heavenly dao. The heaven will not tolerate it, so in order to obtain immortality, there must be a trade. Oneself, someone else, or even an entire world! That's a choice one will have to make." Li Qiye said.

The emperor agreed. He has been here for so long and saw things beyond imagination. Thus, he had a different perspective and thoughts on immortality than most.

"Everyone says that a true immortal can live forever. What do they look like if they actually exist?" The emperor said.

"Have you seen that dark being?" Li Qiye asked.

"Nowhere to be found but it was behind the war between progenitors. He also converted many to his side." The emperor said.

"He's certainly not a true immortal, just a pseudo or fake one. But nonetheless, using immortal to describe him is fine, thus, just extrapolate from that to get your answer." Li Qiye said.

The emperor pondered for a bit regarding the dark existence. After a while, he brought up something else: "What about the three immortals?"

At his level, he was able to make contact with these legends and had respect for them.

"In order to become an immortal, one must either be crazy or a saint." Li Qiye said: "However, this world is their heart system."

The emperor murmured to himself before choosing to be quiet. The latter part encompassed too many things. No need to go deeper or it would become disrespectful.

"The expanse is actually quite fun." The emperor brought up something else: "I haven't seen the other shore but even if it does exist, it won't be my turn to ascend. I can't reach it before being freed from myself."