

Emperor 3221

[Chapter 3221: Becoming An Immortal?](#)

Fear engulfed all masters who knew that Li Qiye was invincible.

“Rumble!” Loud explosions echoed across the expanse and suffocated everyone.

They instinctively assumed a defensive position regardless of their location. There was no chasing away this instinctive fear.

Normally, once a cultivator reached a particular level, they would gradually stop being afraid. Very few things could frighten progenitors, especially at an instinctive level.

This didn't mean that they no longer felt fear. This emotion was just better hidden deep in their heart. For example, a mouse would always be afraid of a cat.

They looked up and saw a bright radiance above the sky vault. It has been accumulating for who knows how many years, resulting in an extreme power in the form of a lightning ocean.

This was a heavenly tribulation, the strongest type of them all. It included dancing bolts of a yellow shade, fire rays pulsing like thunder, and constant explosions of energy...

Not to mention progenitors, even a true immortal couldn't get out of that place alive.

Now, everyone suddenly realized why their survival instinct was going off earlier - a tribulation was coming.

The greatest supreme beings still felt an instinctive fear against these tribulations. Just one wrong move could result in death.

“The villainous heaven!” The dark existence hiding deep in the expanse gazed at the sky, feeling the same dread as the others. However, he was also quite happy, hoping that it would go down as fast as possible.

“Yes, it won't just watch.” He celebrated while watching the bright ocean descending.

He knew that Li Qiye had done the most taboo thing possible. Thus, the heaven decided to send down its strongest tribulation.

Li Qiye's death would mean that he would be perfectly fine, the biggest winner without doing anything.

“That entire ocean is coming down.” One progenitor shuddered.

Heavenly tribulations rarely descended down on Three Immortals and the expanse. Now, it wasn't just one but the entire thing.

The progenitors realized that it was because Li Qiye was too heaven-defying. This had enraged the high heaven, resulting in this monstrous tribulation.

“I hope he can withstand it.” Some progenitors started praying.

A few cultivators have been able to defeat the tribulations but naturally, many brilliant existences have fallen too.

The stronger one was, the more ferocious the tribulation. Thus, no one could really claim that they could defeat it.

Li Qiye was absolutely mighty. That's why people couldn't fathom the tribulation he was about to face.

"Boom!" The sky vault collapsed.

The tribulation ocean was not part of this world but in the next second, the world barriers of Three Immortals broke down, unable to stop this monstrous influx.

There was no warning at all, only pure destruction - a testament to the high heaven's rage.

The blast affected the nine worlds and thirteen continents as well. Everyone became suppressed and dropped to the ground, from the worms in the ground to the supreme overlords.

Immortal Emperors and monarchs felt the same pressure. They were no different than ants.

No one had the courage to even look up at the lightning ocean. The expanse was on the verge of breaking down from the first impact.

"This damned villainous heaven." The hiding dark overlord murmured in fear.

Nothing else but the high heaven could possess this terrible force capable of bringing three thousand worlds to their knees.

Once the progenitors could open their eyes again, they immediately looked towards Li Qiye's location. This resulted in their mouth becoming agape.

The crystallized barrier personally erected by Li Qiye was the toughest defense in existence. Nothing could take it down.

The area became the most dangerous in all of the expanse. It had both defensive and offensive potential. The dark existence himself wouldn't have dared to venture there.

Today, the tribulation left nothing but ashes and dust in that part.

"So strong, it's good that we got around instead of facing it directly." One of the three immortals said, intimidated.

The villainous heaven has always been the most dreadful existence. The strongest overlords still couldn't take it head-on.

"Bastard!" The dark existence cursed after seeing the destruction.

"Where's Li Qiye?" All the progenitors started looking for him. What if he had been wiped out just like the barrier?

"Look, over there!" An observant progenitor shouted.

They followed his head and saw Li Qiye meditating in space with his eyes closed. The area around him has been annihilated completely.

All took a deep breath because bright, long needles pinned him. They looked like crystal needles but inside each was a lightning bolt.

This was the strongest type of heavenly tribulation. Lightning currents oozed out of the needles straight into his body, intending on destroying his dao foundation.

“I’ve never seen this tribulation before.” The direct injection of lightning tribulation into the body left the three immortals horrified.

They have experienced numerous tribulations before and managed to keep them out. Alas, this tribulation had penetrated Li Qiye’s body. The level of destruction of it being outside and inside should be utterly different.

The crystal needles successfully penetrated his indestructible physique, allowing the tribulation to head straight for his grand dao.

“Quite merciless this time.” The dark existence shuddered. This tribulation was also new to him.

[Chapter 3222: Horrendous Heavenly Tribulation](#)

The crystal needles managed to pierce his flesh so that they could pour lightning liquid directly into his body.

No one had ever seen nor imagined this type of tribulation before, not even the three immortals or the dark existence.

The entire process was as fast and sharp as can be. The piercing wounds were uniformed and identical since all of them struck at the same time.

Keep in mind that Li Qiye’s body had reached an impervious state, virtually indestructible. Nothing could harm him once he fully activated his power. Nonetheless, the crystal needles immediately penetrated his physique.

Nothing could stop these needles, at least no one currently in the expanse. The outcome would be even worse.

The three immortals and the dark existence knew that these needles were actually the blades of the heaven, simply impossible to stop.

“Buzz.” Just one drop of the liquified lightning carried enough power to explode an entire region or instantly reduce a progenitor to dust.

The sheer amount entering Li Qiye right now was ample to destroy the three thousand worlds.

“Boom!” Everyone could hear loud detonations coming from inside him.

Yes, the real offensive potential of this tribulation came from this direct injection, not from the massive ocean earlier.

Everyone turned pale as a result after the detonations, the three immortals included. The rest of the world also heard the explosions; their soul nearly left their body in fear.

They believed that three thousand worlds would have exploded if it wasn't for Li Qiye's body containing the tribulation.

Rays of blood gushed out of his body. The beautiful red crossed through the sky and left behind terrible scars. They pulverized and tore a massive portion of the expanse.

The progenitors couldn't believe it. Just his blood splashing alone embodied insane destruction. This spoke volumes about the tribulation's power. They knew that they would have died from the shockwaves without Li Qiye's containment.

"Crack! Crack!" His bones shattered loudly enough for the progenitors to hear.

All knew that his body encompassed the greatest mysteries and profundities of the grand dao on top of numerous dimensions.

Alas, this great physique still suffered damages from the monstrous tribulation. Cracks appeared all over him like a porcelain that had just fallen on the ground.

A piece of flesh fell off him, resulting in something terrible.

"Boom!" The liquid in that portion exploded and created a black hole.

Each inch of his flesh was engulfed by this tribulation now. When they fell down, the lightning waves in there would go out of control. Just this mini tribulation was far worse than anything others have seen before.

More were about to fall off him. This meant that the consequences would be quite disastrous. The exploding tribulations might destroy everything about him.

"No, don't break..." One progenitor murmured.

The frightened masters knew that Li Qiye's body was a crucial line of defense. Some of them wanted to run. Alas, to where?

The expanse was large enough. They wouldn't be able to fly out of it in such a short time. Thus, the only option was to pray for Li Qiye's perseverance or it would be all over.

His body became an apocalyptic bomb. A detonation would spell absolute demise.

"Boom!" A dark slash came out of nowhere, tearing apart time and space, and struck Li Qiye's chest.

"No!" The masters shouted but it was already too late.

The dark slash was simply too fast and powerful. It pierced through the length of the expanse in an unstoppable manner.

This was an attack stemming from the dark existence's source - a sure-kill technique.

"That dark being!" Everyone knew who ambushed Li Qiye during his weak state.

“Crack!” The cracked chest collapsed to the horror of the crowd.

Everyone could sense a calamity coming for the expanse and Three Immortals from the released tribulations.

“You’ve lost!” The dark existence shouted after the successful ambush. He has lost numerous times over the years and ran like a pathetic dog but still waited for the right moment, snatching victory from the jaws of defeat.

[Chapter 3223: Dark Existence’s True Form](#)

He became the biggest winner of this match. Li Qiye still died because of him despite being more powerful.

He stared at Li Qiye with neither excitement nor gloat. This victory didn’t come easy. Plus, it wasn’t his first either; he had grown used to the taste of victory.

Li Qiye’s broken body couldn’t handle the ambush. He was bound to fall.

The progenitors and other masters at the expanse couldn’t say a word. It was as if there was an invisible hand grabbing their throat. They didn’t have a plan to deal with this.

Who knows if they were stunned because of Li Qiye’s death or the world’s destruction? Perhaps both.

The strongest being was about to die, leaving them speechless.

However, Li Qiye’s eyes that have been closed the entire time suddenly open.

“Boom! Boom!” Everyone heard two loud thunderous explosions.

His eyes were filled with lighting bolts of various forms - golden bolts and exterminating red arcs... This accumulation was enough to frighten anyone.

It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that just one gaze from him was enough to destroy virtually everything.

“Damn!” The dark existence realized that something was amiss and instantly had a single thought in his mind - run! As far away as possible!

Unfortunately, he couldn’t move right now because the dark slash used earlier included his source and essences. This fatal slash and he were one.

“Buzz.” The cracks on Li Qiye’s body suddenly melted together, the same with the dark blade in front of his chest. This made it impossible for the dark existence to escape.

“Ahhh!” Li Qiye’s hand pierced through his indestructibility.

Remember, he had lived for numerous years, even older than this world. His indestructible form had been polished and refined countless times.

Alas, Li Qiye still penetrated this form without a problem. The dark existence thought that he was dead for sure, realizing that he had fallen into a trap.

Li Qiye had dug a pit for him to jump in and he did exactly just that. The guy was clearly capable of withstanding this tribulation but purposely feigned weakness.

“Pop!” Li Qiye closed his palm and extinguished the dark affinity from the existence, revealing his true form.

A wondrous light illuminated the expanse and shocked the crowd. They couldn’t believe their own eyes.

They saw a magnificent unicorn with holy radiance, brimming with the light affinity. [1]

The academy back in Three Immortals was also bright and illuminated the world. However, this unicorn’s light was far superior.

In other words, the unicorn’s light was the sun above while the light back in the academy was only a spark. The two weren’t on the same level.

Even the three immortals were astonished. They have calculated this numerous times but didn’t expect this result.

The unicorn was immaculate and marvelous. These words were created solely to describe it.

Everything about it contained the grand dao. The runes encompassed peerless mysteries.

It wore a five-colored crest, not made from wood or gold. It seemed to be the crown of the grand dao. Wearing it would turn the user into the ruler of the dao.

The most conspicuous thing about it was its horn. Calling it “perfect” was an understatement, to say the least.

It held the purest light in the world. One would think that this holy affinity originated from this horn.

“How can this be?” The progenitors were still astounded.

Darkness was destructive and evil. It and the light were eternal enemies. However, this supreme creature of the light belonged to the darkness right now. Beneath the shroud of darkness was actually the light.

“Why is the light wearing a cloak of darkness?” One progenitor shuddered at this horrifying revelation.

The defenders of the light among the audience felt their conviction crumbling.

“How can this be?” One blurted out.

“There’s no light or darkness in this world. They’re merely classifications assigned by others.” one progenitor said.

So which affinity was in charge here? Was the light actually gathering darkness?

Thinking about this made the progenitors shudder. They were powerful and experienced enough to draw further conclusions.

“It’s my defeat.” The dark existence stared at Li Qiye, looking quite nonchalant. It had completely lost with no chance of reversing the tides.

“Yes. The winner takes all.” Li Qiye smiled.

“I was careless.” It had no regrets and accepted its mistake.

“This was the only way to obtain your source. Destroying something this good instead would have been a shame.” Li Qiye said.

He then placed his palms together. “Buzz.” The perfect unicorn started melting as a result. He was refining this creature, wanting to take all of its power.

Light particles and countless majestic visual phenomena appeared, many of which have never been seen by the progenitors.

These phenomena were the marks of this existence’s life. It had lived through countless eras so these marks were wonderful. The spectators became immersed in this scene.

“Pop!” Li Qiye finally finished refining the unicorn and obtained its power.

The dark existence only had one thing left behind - its horn still stuck on Li Qiye’s chest.

He got a good grip and slowly pulled it out.

“Pop!” The moment he pulled it out, its light reached all corners of the expanse and Three Immortals.

[Chapter 3224: Power Of The Tribulation](#)

This horn might be the most gorgeous thing people have ever seen. They were fully captivated by its beauty.

This horn was the dark existence’s source and possessed unfathomable power, impressing all spectators as a result.

“Is this the source of the power of light?” One progenitor praised while looking at the horn in Li Qiye’s hand.

The masters at the expanse have seen plenty of treasures. Alas, none could compare to this horn today.

A few of them sighed, still having a hard time accepting reality. In their mind, a unicorn was a peerless divine beast - a symbol of luck, peace, hope, and most importantly, the light.

Who would have thought that this beast would become the embodiment of darkness, or perhaps even a source of darkness? It brought nothing but disaster to the inhabitants of Three Immortals.

This cruel reality shook people to the core. This light beast still chose the darkness, then what else could they believe? What else could they place their faith in?

“Buzz.” While these masters were occupied with thoughts, Li Qiye’s body started healing.

The damages from the tribulation disappeared, akin to a broken statue being rebuilt. Not even a tiny wound could be seen. His hair looked the same as before.

“Clank!” Immortal rays in the form of chains emanated from him and became supreme laws, too many to count.

These chains surrounded him, resulting in an indestructible and immortal body.

“My turn, Villainous Heaven.” Li Qiye looked up in the sky after assuming this new state. His eyes pierced through the ages to look at the deepest part of the azure, perhaps the location of the high heaven.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” The crystal needles still pinned on him became larger and long enough to connect to the azure.

A flood of liquid lightning flowed through these needle tubes and entered his body again. This happened extremely quickly.

The resulting explosions scared the hell out of the inhabitants. They felt as if thousands of stars and all other affinities have been destroyed.

The same fear emerged - the breaking of Li Qiye would end the worlds.

“Survive! You must!” One progenitor prayed.

For many years, these progenitors never prayed or placed their hope in someone else. They trusted in their strength. As long as they were strong enough, there was no point in praying.

Unfortunately, praying was the only thing they could do right now for this world.

“Clank!” Explosions detonated continuously inside. One could see flashing lights and his body swelling, even cracks appeared.

However, because of the sealing dao outside, his body had enough time to refine the tribulations within.

A repetition of explosion, swelling, and contracting occurred. Li Qiye seemed to be doing just fine so the progenitors let out a sigh of relief.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” The tribulation above didn’t stop sending more liquid lighting into his body.

It became a battlefield inside. The heaven wouldn’t relent until Li Qiye was blown to smithereens.

“Wait a minute..., something’s off.” A brilliant progenitor suddenly noticed something during this process.

“The, the tribulation isn’t coming down on its own accord.” He took a deep breath and said with shock: “It’s being forcefully dragged down by a monstrous power.”

“What?!” His peers couldn’t believe it.

“Yes, I’m sure of it.” The progenitor confirmed.

The rest looked up towards the depth of the azure and focused on the tribulations pouring into Li Qiye.

Upon closer inspection, they found that this progenitor was right. Both the crystal needles and liquid tribulations were attracted and led by something. The man behind this seemed obvious - Li Qiye.

The high heaven wasn’t sending these tribulations down. The guy was the one forcing it down in order to absorb all of its power before stopping.

This made them stare at each other, bewildered and aghast.

Just a single drop of lightning liquid inside those needles was enough to instantly destroy a progenitor. However, Li Qiye swallowed all of them without a problem. He clearly viewed them as nutrition.

“That’s so fierce.” One progenitor couldn’t believe it.

They wanted nothing more than to get away from the tribulation or for it to pass as soon as possible. On the other hand, Li Qiye was crazily devouring the tribulation.

Moreover, his tribulation was a thousand, a million times stronger than anything they have seen previously. This still didn’t deter him in the slightest.

“How can anyone view these tribulations as food?” Another amazing progenitor said with admiration.

The majority of the group had a wry smile or a strange expression while looking at the sky. They wondered that if the high heaven had a humanoid form, what kind of expression would it have right now?

“I see why people called him Fiercest now.” Another master commented.

They have done crazy things before but these deeds were not worth mentioning compared to Li Qiye’s current feat.

[Chapter 3225: Tribulation Is A Delicacy](#)

It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that the current tribulation was its ultimate form. However, Li Qiye still absorbed it while the progenitors watched on in horror.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” Their astonishment was interrupted by more explosions from above.

Endless lightning bolts of a golden shade poured down, seemingly cast from gold.

“More tribulations?” One master blurted out in fear.

However, they were shocked to see that the target wasn’t Li Qiye but rather the needles pinned on him. Why would this golden tribulation aim for its own allies?

The crystal needles shattered as a result. Bright fragments shot out in a beautiful manner.

This was the first time they have ever seen the high heaven destroying its own tribulation. In fact, it seemed unprecedented and unheard of.

They eventually realized that it couldn’t do anything to Li Qiye and was left with no choice. This was the only way to prevent Li Qiye from absorbing the entire ocean of tribulations, fully robbing the high heaven of its power.

“Only Li Qiye can do something like this in history.” One progenitor murmured.

Not to mention regular experts, even the peerless progenitors have never thought about attempting to rob the high heaven, let alone actually carrying it out. Li Qiye was the only exception.

This was so ridiculous that no one would believe this story without seeing in person.

Of course, it didn't matter whether regular people believe it or not. At their height, all other beings were mere specks of dust.

"Boom!" Li Qiye's thirteen palaces showed up and hovered around his true fate.

He didn't need any aura. The presence of his supreme true fate forced all the masters to kneel before him.

Beneath was a surging ocean exuding a power mighty enough to horrify three thousand worlds.

Why? It was an ocean of tribulations stolen from the high heaven. Random bolts would shoot out at times, wanting to escape.

"Boom!" Li Qiye's true fate gradually entered the ocean. This created a massive lightning tsunami, causing the progenitors to quiver.

The bolts in the ocean naturally struck his true fate, eager to crush it to pieces.

"Insanity..." The spectators gasped at this sight.

It was common knowledge that a true fate was at its weakest after leaving the body and especially the palaces. Yet, he still chose to move it to an expanse of ultimate tribulations. Nothing else could be crazier than this.

"Buzz." The four symbols of the palace lit up and four items flew out - Ancient Void Rune, Heavenly Dao's Primal Chapter, Life Origination, and Epoch Leaf.

They attached themselves to his true fate for a full assembly. Then this new entity sank completely into the lightning ocean.

"Rumble!" The world seemed to be spinning from the wrath of this ocean. More tsunami mercilessly smashed the sky, once again suppressing all inhabitants.

However, the thirteen palaces sealed the ocean and its power, not allowing anything to leak out from the area. Otherwise, the consequences would be unimaginable.

Nonetheless, the spectators were still scared out of their mind and completely drenched in cold sweats.

They were afraid that this ocean would be able to break out. These waves alone would drown and destroy the expanse and Three Immortals.

Luckily, the thirteen palaces did an amazing job. The raging ocean failed to get past its line of defense.

As time passed, its power weakened. It started sinking with less water and lightning.

This process was quite fast. The ocean was now the size of a lake.

"He's using the ocean to refine his true fate, it's still absorbing the tribulation right now." Everyone had a strange expression on their face, speechless.

What could they really say? If their true fate was struck by one bolt, that would be the end of them. On the other hand, he was treating the tribulations like nutritious delicacies. Words were no longer sufficient to describe him.

The lake eventually turned into a pond. “Buzz.” Finally, his true fate absorbed the entire ocean. Not even a single drop was wasted.

His true fate hovered there, looking immaculate and unique. No one else had something like this.

It pulsed with an immortal light as if it was the origin of the myriad dao. With it, Li Qiye became the ruler and the creator of an epoch. All the laws and orders would start from him and be under his control.

Absorbing the tribulation was obviously a great development. However, the most important thing was that he had managed to refine the four peerless symbols into his true fate.

In fact, it reached an unprecedented level. Hypothetically, if a true immortal were to exist, their true fate might not be comparable to Li Qiye’s right now.

“Ancient Primal Origination Epoch Myriad Tribulation True Fate.” Li Qiye gave his true fate a new title, one representing ultimate strength. [1]

“This true fate alone is invincible, it’s all one needs. Nothing else matters, one can have a mortal physique and still be the same as having an immortal physique.” One of the three immortals emotionally commented.

1. Yes, the name in English is silly. This might be the silliest one so far. It’s not bad at all in Chinese since it takes one character each from the four symbols then adds myriad tribulations to it, just 8 syllables versus 17 syllables in English. The more I look at it, the more ridiculous it seems. Ah, heck, I’ll name it Tetra Tribulation True Fate. I’m keeping the original name in the passage for now and changing it later just so that this note would make sense

[Chapter 3226: Clear Sky](#)

Tetra Tribulation True Fate was entirely unique in history and should hypothetically be comparable to a true immortal’s true fate.

If one were to use the perspective of regular cultivators, Li Qiye should be considered a true immortal by this point.

The three immortals themselves couldn’t help admiring his true fate. Just this alone was enough to be invincible, no need for the grand dao and a powerful physique.

As for the top masters in the expanse? They stared at the true fate in awe, having never seen such a thing before. It was simply beyond their imagination, breaking their existing knowledge regarding true fates. Such a true fate shouldn’t be allowed to exist.

“Not an immortal yet above one.” Everyone said with admiration.

“Just seeing this true fate in person is more than one can ask for in life.” One progenitor added.

Everyone else was quite satisfied to witness this apex.

“Time might have limits but not the grand dao.” A member of the Decemvirate felt lost.

Through the years, very few people have reached their level. During their own generation, they thought they had reached the limit of the dao. Just another step would take them to the apex.

Alas, they felt insignificant before Li Qiye's achievements. They were nothing more than frogs under a well in the past.

They realized that they weren't close to reaching the limit of the dao at all, far from it. This was akin to the massive expanse stopping them from reaching the other shore.

"The dao is limitless indeed." The three immortals agreed.

They certainly stood at the top in their world. In fact, they weren't that intimidated by the dark existences because they were at a similar level.

Li Qiye, on the other hand, shattered all conventional wisdom. They realized that they still had a way to go.

"Immortals, if they exist, still can't be more powerful than him." One of the three said.

Because of their height, they were able to get a good gauge on Li Qiye's current abilities. The only thing Li Qiye was lacking was everlasting life.

"Yo, Villainous Heaven, don't be so stingy now, it's just a little tribulation." Li Qiye looked up at the sky and smirked.

Thunderous detonations and flashes up in the azure answered him. Wrath seemed to be building up there; the high heaven seemingly wanted to send out another blow to destroy Li Qiye.

Alas, nothing came down. The ocean of lighting slowly dispersed and light returned again as if nothing had happened.

Men couldn't come close to speculating about the heaven's whims. The new tribulation seemed eager to strike earlier but it simply dispersed.

Li Qiye wasn't surprised at all to see this, evident by the smile on his face.

Meanwhile, the rest realized that the high heaven had abandoned the idea of destroying Li Qiye. No more tribulations would come.

Perhaps it thought that tribulations were no longer effective? Li Qiye's grand dao has been perfected to the point where he wouldn't die to one.

"Anyone else?" Li Qiye turned his focus at the expanse and his eyes swept through the area.

He saw everything clearly, from the swimming fish to the shells at the bottom, the islands, the inhabitants... All were within his grasp.

The top masters regained their wits during this observation process.

"Uncrossable Expanse is normal again now." One of them said.

"Yes." The others agreed, feeling quite happy as a result.

It has returned to its previous state before the invasion of darkness. Their anxiety and fear have all but disappeared. The place became a paradise for adventures again.

There were still fierce monsters and evil creatures around along with dangerous areas such as void zones and storms... These things were enough to kill progenitors.

However, they were part of the world. Adventures and conflicts of this type were perfectly fine. Some of them would be more than happy to participate despite the risks.

In fact, a few believed that to go down during an adventure was a type of happiness. Their life would be as brilliant as the fireworks during the night.

On the other hand, succumbing to the darkness? This corruption wasn't what they wanted.

As Li Qiye continued to search, the progenitors understood that the darkness was no longer around at the expanse.

"Let's build a supreme kingdom." One progenitor's ambition was at an all-time high. He could set sail on a new adventure.

Being a progenitor meant searching and fighting forever. A "safe" expanse became the perfect place.

"We can relax and do what we want now." Other people started leaving.

The darkness made them tread with caution. Some decided to hide instead of traveling freely in the expanse, especially those who had their own minor dimension or lineage.

They focused on protecting their home and even formed alliances in order to keep watch, afraid of being tempted by the darkness.

Now, they no longer needed to stay around as protectors. They could do whatever they wanted now.

"He saved both Three Immortals and the expanse." The majority kneeled towards Li Qiye in order to show their gratitude and respect.

These dark years would have gone on for who knows how long? More progenitors would have fallen.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that the sun has returned to the expanse once more.

"Buzz." Suddenly, a bridge materialized from the horizon and connected to this location. It had three separate lights and holy runes. It naturally attracted everyone's attention due to its immortal aura.

[Chapter 3227: Three Immortals](#)

The end of the bridge stopped in front of Li Qiye, clearly welcoming him to board.

"It's the three immortals!" One progenitor said.

The existence of the three immortals wasn't a secret for the top masters at the expanse, contrary to the view back in Three Immortals.

After entering the expanse, these progenitors found out about the three immortals. They were the earliest pioneers, the greatest sages, and the strongest cultivators.

For millions of years, these three were viewed as the apex of cultivation.

The progenitors knew that peace was possible due to these three guardians. They have been guarding this world all this time.

During the earliest era, some came to the expanse and were lucky enough to receive their guidance. This allowed them to become top progenitors.

They also took charge during the dark war. Their leadership kept the expanse free from total corruption.

Later on, they stopped showing up for some unknown reasons. Bao Pu, Zither Empress, Fire Ancestor, and Gao Yang - these brilliant progenitors took over.

They were certainly amazing but without characters like the three immortals to stop the darkness, many progenitors started falling.

The trio was still gone after several cruel battles. This made people question whether they were still around. Some thought that the dark existence had killed them.

This speculation was reasonable because during the later battles, Zither Empress' group barely held on, losing fights after fights.

Thus, this bridge came as a surprise for many among the crowd.

"The three immortals are still alive, maybe they're at the other shore." One master murmured.

"This is great news for Three Immortals." One progenitor commented.

The ones here knew that the first line of defense for Three Immortals was actually the expanse, not the sky moat. Some of them stuck around, serving as defenders.

Though Li Qiye had swept away the darkness today, who knows if another danger would come to this unknown land?

They would be the first to face the next wave of disaster, shouldering the responsibility of protecting Three Immortals. That's why they felt so relieved to know that the trio was still alive. Three Immortals always had hope regardless of the calamity with the trio around.

The name of their world originated from the protection of the trio. Without them, this world might be completely different right now.

Li Qiye smiled and stepped on the bridge to head towards the other side. As he moved along, the section behind him gradually disappeared.

"Sir is going to see the three immortals." One progenitor said.

This invitation came as no surprise. Plus, Li Qiye was strong enough to go see the three immortals regardless of being invited or otherwise. He was certainly qualified to meet them.

Remember, weaker cultivators relative to him have met the three before. For example, Zither Empress and her peers.

"So there will be four immortals now? Our world will be Four Immortals from now on if they stay together?" One master started fantasizing with a smile.

The majority thought that nothing would be better if Li Qiye were to stay at the expanse. They would no longer need to worry about any threat.

"I hope so, our world will be at the top, completely peerless versus the others." An optimistic progenitor answered.

"No, Sir won't be around." One who had talked to Li Qiye before knew his goal.

"He's only a passerby, nothing in our world can make him stay. He has done enough for us anyway." Another sighed and added.

The group familiar with Li Qiye didn't say anything. They naturally wanted him to stay but no one could persuade him anyway.

The bridge crossed through space and took Li Qiye along. He eventually made it to the other end of the expanse in no time at all.

A person stood at the end of the bridge, waiting for Li Qiye. He wore a cotton robe along with a winter hat, nearly hiding his entire face.

Li Qiye was no stranger to this man. They have met several times back in Three Immortals.

This time was a little different. The old man had a pulsing green glow brimming with life force. The area around him felt like spring - the perfect time to sow some seeds. His life force seemed enough to create three thousand worlds.

In the case of everything dying and drying out in Three Immortals, his life force was enough to save them all.

"Excuse me for the late reception, Dao Brother." The old man bowed respectfully.

"You're deliberately late." Li Qiye smiled.

"I'm sure you're happy about the outcome. Our interference would have ruined your plan, we would be inners then." The old man said.

"You're good at running from your responsibility and letting someone else clean up the mess. Did this happen a lot during your expedition too? Tricking the villainous heaven up and down." Li Qiye joked.

"That past is not worth mentioning, we were just struggling and didn't accomplish much, unlike you who keeps on fighting back, Dao Brother." The old man shook his head.

"It's just small-scale stuff so far, not really fighting directly. There'll be a chance for that later." Li Qiye smiled.

The old man nodded. He believed that Li Qiye would be able to put up a monstrous fight - a battle for the ages.

"I am Emperor Nong." The old man bowed again for an introduction. [1]

Li Qiye smiled. This was within his expectation.

"I've heard good things about your Nine-pistil Golden Grain, that it's the best in history." Li Qiye chuckled.

The bull had bragged about eating this grain before but not a single soul believed it. Why? Because according to the legends, these grains belonged to Emperor Nong, one of the three immortals. Those back in that world thought that these beings were myths or even fabrications.

"Just child's play, nothing impressive, can't enter your sight." The emperor shook his head.

"Of course, it's not what I want." Li Qiye let out a wide grin: "I want way more, obviously."

"Mmm..." The emperor let out an awkward smile, aware that Li Qiye was about to bleed them dry.

"You're already a true immortal now. Our crappy possessions can't enter your sight." He said.

[Chapter 3228: Emperor Sui](#)

A boundless void lay ahead. Nothing else existed as far as the eye can see. It felt as if everything had been sucked out of this place, even space itself.

In front of the void was a beautiful and magnificent radiance. No one would be able to avert their gaze from this greatest work of art.

It looked like a gathering of the galaxies. All the stars from three thousand worlds were here and slowly floated in a profound yet mysterious order. It seemed as if it contained everything possible, even the most basic requirements for creation.

It gestated the sources of all along with a power beyond imagination. Each starry ray possessed the power of all-things, the dao, and the spirit and heart...

One could see everything in the three thousand worlds while standing before this celestial accumulation. They could then act as the rulers of this domain.

However, Li Qiye didn't care about this profound entity. His focus was set on the void ahead.

There was nothing there - no time and space; no grand dao and mysteries. It simply had nothing that made up reality.

"An impregnable wall." Li Qiye commented.

"It's a sight to behold. We've seen it once during the very edge of that event, this is the second time. It's really impossible to cross, we've tried it." Emperor Nong who stood next to him nodded in agreement.

From one perspective, people would mistake it for being easy to cross. There were no affinities holding them back. However, this wasn't the case. The absence of affinities rendered all movements impossible.

Techniques and dao were useless. One would just be stuck there. There were no rules of distance and time, only eternal stagnation.

This void was a dimensional bulwark. In other words, this was it - the end. No one would be able to move forward. Therefore, calling it the end point of the expanse wasn't unreasonable.

Even the three immortals had no means to travel through it.

“Yes, there was one like this.” Li Qiye became slightly emotional.

He eventually shifted his gaze towards the stars instead. Earlier, there was an old man meditating there.

Now, he had gotten up and walked over to the duo. He wore a coat made of straws and was engulfed in flames.

These flames were refreshing and pleasant instead of being overbearingly hot. They felt like the springwater amidst a hot summer day, enough to quench any thirst.

Nonetheless, they still had plenty of destructive potentials. Just one spark could reduce a system to ashes or kill a powerful progenitor.

The old man bowed deeply at Li Qiye and said: “Brother Li, you’re a sight for sore eyes. We have been waiting.”

“He is Brother Sui.” Emperor Nong introduced with a smile.

The introduction was unnecessary since Li Qiye had seen the three immortals’ dao images after arriving in this world.

That was so long ago. Now, they have finally met in person. Either way, it didn’t really matter to Li Qiye.

“A peerless fire dao, definitely deserving the immortal classification. Simply incredible.” Li Qiye praised.

This wasn’t conversational pleasantries. The emperor’s fire dao was definitely the best in Three Immortals.

“I don’t deserve your praise for my legacy has been tainted by a child with a weak dao heart. My reputation is gone.” Emperor Sui shook his head, feeling embarrassed.

“A master starts one’s journey but the rest is up to them. There are plenty of unfilial descendants in history, this is common enough to not worry about it.” Li Qiye chuckled.

The topic of this conversation was Fire Ancestor - a direct disciple of Emperor Sui.

Just imagine, a cultivator lucky enough to receive personal guidance and arts from Emperor Sui. His future was as bright as can be.

Sure enough, he eventually became a member of the Decemvirate. Moreover, he gained great influence and authority due to the prestige of his master.

Who wouldn’t want to follow a disciple from one of the three immortals to battle?

Therefore, those who knew about this little secret were willing to follow him on his expedition to the expanse. Unfortunately, he failed to accomplish his goal and faltered to the darkness.

“You’re right.” The emperor smiled and said: “I suppose everyone has one regret or two in life.” He sighed after saying this.

He still had emotions despite his current cultivation level. In the end, he had to personally pursue Fire Ancestor and cleaned up this mess.

This wasn't easy for him in the slightest. He adored his student due to the latter's gifts. Fire Ancestor possessed insane talents. Thus, Emperor Sui taught him everything. This choice turned out to be his biggest regret in life.

"Oh? A friend from afar visiting, what a joyous occasion. Let's not talk about unpleasant things when we should be celebrating." Suddenly, their conversation was interrupted by jovial laughter.

Another person from above landed in front of Li Qiye. He was taller than Emperor Nong and Emperor Sui. He had a special rhythm and temperament to him as if he was made from the grand dao.

One wouldn't be able to sense his flesh and blood as if he wasn't in the same dimension.

"You're back, Brother Xi." The other two smiled to see him.

"We have been expecting you, Brother Li." The old man also bowed towards Li Qiye and said: "A few million years ago, we were discussing how long it would take for you to come here."

"It's not easy to find." Li Qiye chuckled.

The three immortals in the legend have finally gathered. Li Qiye knew that they were real unlike those back in Three Immortals.

To a certain extent, he came to this world in order to see them. Thus, with this meeting, his trip could be considered a complete success.

"You've done a superb job, far better than us." Emperor Xi smiled and reflected: "We've been trying to find that guy ever since he got here. We did spot him several times but he was always one step ahead of us. Seems like we're really old now, our vision is gone, can't even find someone."

He was referring to the unicorn that managed to elude them for so long. Alas, Li Qiye managed to not only find but also kill him.

[Chapter 3229: Source Of The Darkness](#)

"I can't take all the credits since I had the help of an item. He hid very well, it wouldn't have been easy." Li Qiye shook his head and smiled before taking out a box to hand it to Emperor Sui.

The box was left behind by Fire Ancestor. It contained the unicorn's hair and fingernail. This made it easy for Li Qiye to calculate its position.

"This child, always so intelligent. He had his own plan going on." Emperor Nong let out a deep sigh.

It didn't matter what Fire Ancestor did. None could change the fact that many progenitors have been killed by him.

"Forget about the past." Emperor Sui summoned a flame in his palm.

"Poof!" The flame instantly turned the box into ashes that scatter to the wind.

"War is always cruel, at least Three Immortals is lucky enough to survive." Emperor Xi stared at the scattering ashes and said.

"We can't escape responsibility for this." Emperor Nong became serious.

“Right, our damned mistake started all of this.” Emperor Xi didn’t deny.

“Well, struggling is a part of life. Otherwise, might as well just be a rock.” Emperor Sui smiled and said.

“Right, overcoming struggles gives meaning to life. It makes us more than walking corpses.” Li Qiye added.

“Yes, you’re one of us, one of us.” The three immortals clapped their hands and laughed.

“Alas, we’re inferior compared to you.” Emperor Xi said: “The struggle back then got the best of us which is why we ran back to Three Immortals. We stopped struggling.”

“It’s not easy returning alive from that place.” Li Qiye said with a profound gaze: “Very few have managed to do so.”

“We didn’t do much in the ultimate battles compared to you and the wise sages. We just messed around and eventually knew when to give up and leave. Our accomplishments are exaggerated by the unaware, that’s all. We don’t deserve any praise.” Emperor Sui put on a forced smile.

The three immortals were survivors of an expedition. Theirs was much earlier compared to Li Qiye’s group.

“As if the villainous heaven would allow for people to mess around in its domain.” Li Qiye chuckled. No one incapable could have survived in that place.

“Well, in the end, we realized our limits and left with dejection. The truth is that we tasted a lot of bitterness there.” Emperor Xi added.

The inhabitants of this world probably viewed the three immortals as unbeatable figures. How could they ever be defeated?

On the other hand, the three immortal themselves had no problem accepting their defeat. This was already a peerless deed.

“No, what you three have done is magnificent, immortalized in history.” Li Qiye still praised.

“Let’s not dwell on the past. We gave up after that attempt while you’re still as spirited as before, still having the confidence to try again. Our dao heart is not as strong.” Emperor Nong replied.

“Yes. We gave up on this idea after returning and decided to stay in our nest until now.” Emperor Xi said: “We’re old now, the same with our fire.”

“It’s because I’m only eighteen that I have the energy and hotbloodedness to keep on struggling. That’s the only way to get rid of my youthful restlessness.” Li Qiye joked.

The three immortals chuckled in response. He was indeed young compared to them. Alas, his grand dao had surpassed them at this point, which was why they addressed him as “Brother”. [1]

“Buzz.” A very, very tiny strand of darkness suddenly emerged inside the group of stars. The naked eyes couldn’t tell where it came from.

It shouldn’t be underestimated despite its size. This power immediately contaminated the stars.

This place used to have a gorgeous glow. Each ray was pure and immaculate.

Now, more than half of the stars have been tainted. More dark rays oozed out and continued spreading. Darkness took over the area in no time at all.

“It’s here again.” Emperor Sui’s eyes glinted coldly. Even a progenitor would shudder at this sight.

He raised his palm and unleashed a flame large enough to cover the stars. The darkness was burnt to a crisp before a complete manifestation.

It didn’t look or feel that impressive yet it was one of the strongest types of fire. Just one spark would be enough to instantly kill a progenitor. After the darkness was gone, he gathered the flame back into his palm before lowering it.

The stars regained their beauty and luster afterward.

Li Qiye noticed that at the deepest region of the stars was a tiny crack the size of a feather. This spatial crack was insignificant but it seemed to be an eternal scar. There was no curing or destroying it regardless of the methods.

“Looks man-made.” Li Qiye concluded.

The three had an awkward expression after hearing this. One of them admitted: “Yes, we did it.”

“Curiosity kills the cat.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“More than that, we almost brought the entire world down with us. Thus, we have to stay here forever to deal with it, this is karma.” Emperor Nong said.

“You definitely need this.” Li Qiye smiled and took out an item.

He held it near his chest as if he was holding three thousand worlds.

“Three Immortals Tree.” The item stole the trio’s attention.

“It’s finally back, after so many years.” Emperor Xi became emotional.

“Indeed.” Emperor Nong reached forward to gently rub it.

“I feel like it’s hard to put a price on something so priceless.” Li Qiye smirked.

The trio exchanged glances, contemplating.

“Do we have a choice?” Emperor Nong spoke first since he was the one who made a deal with Li Qiye.

“No, but you can choose not to get it.” Li Qiye shook his head.

“So we don’t have a choice. Just state your conditions, we only need the tree.” Emperor Xi smiled.

“Well, I need to think about it very carefully.” Li Qiye rubbed his chin, looking as if he was about to make an outrageous demand.

Alas, the trio couldn’t do anything about it. They needed to obediently accept all of his demands since they were fish on the chopping board.

They wouldn't have waited until now if they didn't need the tree. To switch it up, they themselves didn't need it but Three Immortals did. That's why they didn't have a choice.

[Chapter 3230: Asking For Trouble](#)

The helpless expression from the trio amused Li Qiye.

"Don't worry, I have a great sense of propriety and won't ask for anything out of line." Li Qiye smiled.

Of course, the trio's eyes said it all, that they thought he was anything but!

"Here, back to its masters, wait, no, back to its home." Li Qiye handed the tree to them without asking for the payments just yet.

"Finally." Emperor Nong accepted the tree and became emotional, the same as the other two.

"No more disasters after this." Emperor Sui stared at the stars and heaved a sigh of relief.

"Creating a rift there mustn't have been easy." Li Qiye glanced over at the crack.

The three became awkward again with a forced smile on their face.

"We really brought this upon ourselves and it has been tormenting us ever since." Emperor Xi sighed in response.

"So first, you three found this place." Li Qiye had a pretty good guess at this point.

"Yes, that's a story from long ago. When we returned from that place, we went into a long cultivation session. Once we came out, we entered the expanse for a full exploration..."

Those as powerful as the trio wouldn't linger around in Three Immortals. They naturally desired to reach a bigger and more colorful world.

There was no secret left in Three Immortals for them since they were the ones who created the order and cultivation system here. Their reign has lasted for many generations so they knew all there was to know.

Only the expanse had some mysteries left and they couldn't resist the temptation.

"The expanse is massive. We went there several times and still didn't see the whole thing. Thus, it became our goal..." Emperor Sui stopped here.

"We found this place and the tree. We immediately knew that it had special meanings to this world, hence its name. We stayed here for a while to figure it out." Emperor Nong continued. He glanced over at the stars, seemingly recalling the past.

"You soon found that there was more to it than that." Li Qiye smiled. He had kept the tree long enough to figure it out.

"Yes, curiosity also kills people." The three exchanged glances.

"I assumed there was only one path, who would have thought that there was a rift here." Li Qiye said.

“We didn’t know in the beginning.” Emperor Xi shook his head: “We figured out that the tree is a dimensional type, breaking this barrier might take us to a world unknown to us.”

“We naturally became curious. This was irresistible.” Emperor Nong smiled wryly.

They have lived in this world for too long so this revelation regarding a new world became their main focus.

“You started working towards this goal with wanton regards. After all, you three considered yourselves unbeatable.” Li Qiye could understand why they did it. Anyone in their shoes would have done the same thing.

The three smiled, agreeing with Li Qiye. They lost patience once they found out about another world.

In fact, they have calculated the potential dangers and possibilities before attempting this. The problem was their overconfidence due to their strength. They believed that they could deal with any complications.

After all, they were survivors from that place. Though they pulled a fast one to flee, this was still a historically great feat. And furthermore, what place could be more dangerous in comparison?

“We spent countless efforts to uproot the tree...” Emperor Sui said softly.

The tree was connected to Three Immortals; its roots coiled deep in this dimension. Uprooting it was easier said than done. Of course, the trio was powerful enough to do so.

“We then opened a rift, wanting to see what lies beyond...” He had a serious expression at this point.

“That’s when it all begins.” Emperor Xi joined in: “We underestimated that world and didn’t prepare sufficiently.”

“The darkness came.” Li Qiye knew where the rift was connected to.

“Right.” Emperor Xi nodded: “As we were about to explore that world, we suddenly got ambushed by darkness. We realized that this was far from good.”

The sudden ambush still managed to catch these three masters off guard.

“We knew that the first thing we must do was close the rift. Unfortunately, the enemies were too strong so we didn’t have enough time.” He sighed and said.

“How many of them got through?” Li Qiye asked.

“Should be three, as far as we know.” Emperor Nong mused for a bit before answering: “The leader was the strongest and kept us preoccupied. Then two more ambushed us a while later. We tried to stop them but they didn’t care about fighting. It took all of our efforts to stop the leader.”

He paused for a bit before continuing: “We were fighting while trying to close the rift. The shockwaves blew the tree away into another dimension. It took us a long time to kill this leader so the other two escaped to Uncrossable Expanse. More darkness was still coming from the other world but we couldn’t close it without the tree. Thus, we had to use our power to forcefully reduce it to a tiny rift.”

The situation back then must have been perilous. Anyone else would have panicked and lost control of the situation.

“By the time we stabilized the situation, one of the two has accomplished his goals in the expanse. He recruited a powerful alliance, many fell to the darkness.” Emperor Xi elaborated.

“We were still injured, unfortunately.” Emperor Sui joined in: “Moreover, the fallen ones were all over the expanse.”

“We started launching an offense against this overlord.” Emperor Xi continued: “But remember that this place was still open. Thus, we couldn’t go all out.”

During this period, dark existences had occasionally tried to sneak in through the rift.

“One of us had to stay here to avoid letting more of them in. The other two focused on offense and defense against the overlord.” Emperor Xi said.

“Fortunately, this overlord hasn’t recovered back to his peak state and chose to avoid a direct confrontation against us. He sent the fallen combatants to their death instead.” He had a sad expression after finishing.