

Emperor 3281

[Chapter 3281: Unacceptable](#)

Li Qiye's insipid attitude infuriated Zhan Hu since he hated the guy acting cool the most as if nothing in this world could move him. It exuded contempt and disdain as if all others were mere ants.

In a sense, this would be acceptable if Li Qiye was an amazing genius or a supreme character.

Unfortunately, the guy had the worst talents possible for cultivation. He had nothing to back up his attitude. This made Zhan Hu truly want to slap or stomp on the guy, forcing him to see reality and how insignificant he was.

The guy was courting death for acting haughty in front of Zhan Hu.

"I'm under the order of the peak lord to bring them back to the hall. They'll stay there and train from now on. Also, instructing without permission is now forbidden in Jade Bird. Anyone who tries to go against this will be punished."

The children stopped and stared at Li Qiye. They rather stayed here with him because they could feel something different while training Tortoise Fist.

"Ask them if they want to go back with you." Li Qiye said.

Zhan Hu stared at the children and saw them shaking their head repeatedly.

"No, we want to study Tortoise Fist with the young master." One frightened child said.

"Yes, we rather stay here to learn Tortoise Fist." The others claimed.

Zhan Hu's expression soured. This was akin to slapping him on the face.

"Idiots." An outsider saw this and found it inconceivable.

"Hmph, the peak lord's good intentions are viewed as malice. So blind." One demon uttered coldly: "Just forget about them, let them do whatever."

"It's not up to you, the peak lord has ordered for you all to return or face severe punishment in accordance with the sect's guideline." Zhan Hu said coldly.

The children became startled and stared at Li Qiye.

"They will stay here. Don't make me repeat myself." Li Qiye stated his intention, ready for some suicidal dissenters.

"So haughty! You're a nobody here in Jade Bird, it's not up to you to make orders. You're not the young master here but even if you are, you'll need to follow my order in Jade Bird!" Zhan Hu's eyes turned cold.

Li Qiye got tired of wasting his breath on this guy and didn't respond.

"Take them away, punish anyone who stands in the way." Zhan Hu glared at Li Qiye.

He was eager to teach Li Qiye a lesson and show him the cruel reality of this world. Of course, his goal was different from Zhang Yue.

Zhang Yue simply wanted the children to not waste their time but Zhan Hu was fixated on dealing with Li Qiye.

The two had no real grievances but as the First Brother of Jade Bird, Zhan Hu couldn't tolerate his authority being challenged repeatedly by a piece of trash like Li Qiye.

The disciples from the disciplinary group surrounded the children. One member uttered: "Don't make us force you now."

"Stop!" A thunderous roar erupted as Fuyou entered the scene.

"Hmph!" Zhan Hu didn't like this at all. He believed that Li Qiye's backer was Liu Fuyou. If Fuyou wasn't a senior, he would definitely challenge the guy to a fight.

"Junior Uncle Liu, you're right on time. Unfortunately, there is nothing you can say to change this. Don't worry about the business of Jade Bird." He said.

The listeners nearby exchanged glances. This has become another conflict between humans and demons.

Zhan Hu was the First Brother of Jade Bird on top of being Iron Rod Demon King's son. On the other hand, Fuyou was a disciple of Mountainbearer King.

Ordinary disciples wouldn't dare to get involved in this mess so some of them quietly retreated.

"Of course Senior Brother Zhang can take care of Jade Bird's matters. However, from today on, the children from Liu are no longer disciples of Jade Bird. They have been chosen by Eight Zhang." Fuyou said flatly.

The listeners didn't expect this. The four other peaks would always pick members of Jade Bird since the latter served as the starting place for newcomers.

Jade Bird would have their own picks while the rest was up for grab. The ones not chosen would continue to stay in Jade Bird.

However, the four peaks had a high standard when selecting disciples in this manner. Normally, it would only take place after the examination.

That's why this sudden selection took everyone by surprise. Nonetheless, the older ones found it reasonable.

The children from Liu should be together. Solidarity could help their future cultivation path. Plus, Fuyou would naturally take them there in due time, being from the same village and all.

"Words alone aren't enough evidence for this matter, Junior Uncle Liu." Zhan Hu scowled, no longer showing respect to a senior, only pride.

"This is a decision from our peak lord, feel free to report it to Senior Brother Zhang." Fuyou calmly took out a scroll and handed it to Zhan Hu.

Zhang Hu opened the scroll and sure enough, this was an order from Mountainbearer King. He couldn't stop this any longer, not even Zhang Yue. This was in accordance with the rules of Divine Black.

The only exception would have been if Zhang Yue had already chosen the children as official disciples of Jade Bird.

"Hmph!" Zhang Hu gestured for the disciplinary members to leave. He glared at the children then at Li Qiye.

"So what if they're chosen by Eight Zhang? They still won't amount to anything while training this Tortoise Fist. Trash will be trash." He sneered.

The children naturally didn't take this public humiliation in stride. Alas, he was the First Brother on top of being far stronger. There was nothing they could do.

"Give them a few years and they'll be able to knock your teeth out with just Tortoise Fist." Li Qiye finally looked at him for the first time.

"What did he just say?" The listeners became astounded.

"We misheard him, right?" Another murmured.

"Arrogant fool, who do you think you are to run your mouth like this?!" A demon disciple immediately shouted.

Liu Fuyou himself smiled wryly, speechless.

"Hahahaha!" Zhan Hu's anger turned into laughter. This was the most hilarious thing he had ever heard: "Them using the Tortoise Fist can knock out my teeth?"

How could he not be angry? He might not be the most talented in Divine Black but was still among the top three. Moreover, his bloodline was exceptional, certainly superior to these brats. This was before mentioning his cultivation at the conqueror level.

How could these brats use Tortoise First and take him down? Thus, Li Qiye's statement could only be construed as utter disrespect.

[Chapter 3282: I Am Number One](#)

Nearly everyone here thought that his comment was too arrogant and ludicrous.

They knew that Zhan Hu was very close to becoming an Enlightened Being. Several more years after that and he would be at the materialization level.

At that stage, how could these children and their Tortoise Fist defeat him? Simply impossible.

First, Zhan Hu would have access to mightier and more profound merit laws in the future. Second, his demon tiger lineage was quite powerful as well and had its fair shares of amazing techniques not inferior to the sect's merit laws. That's why his father had such an imposing title, Iron Rod Demon King.

"Ignorant fool." One demon snorted: "Senior Brother Zhan Hu's inherited iron rod is peerless. Even a black Dao Lord merit law can't stop it."

“Hahaha, I see, Tortoise Fist must be the best, hahaha...” Zhan Hu’s eyes became murderous while laughing.

“You must think that you have the greatest talents, enough to be an ultimate teacher? Coming here and recklessly teaching disciples... They can train for another one hundred years with Tortoise Fist and I can still destroy them with a single finger.” He added.

“The first part is true.” Li Qiye said: “Even the weakest student of mine will be countless times stronger than you.”

“Are you listening to yourself?!” Zhan Hu finally erupted with fury: “If you’re really talented, then you wouldn’t be a Mortal Shell right now. Oh wait, my mistake, our young master is at the Iron Skin realm now, so miraculous, the best in our sect with matchless dao comprehension, the number one in all of northern West King...”

His sarcasm was as clear as day. Some of the crowd bought it too and laughed while staring at Li Qiye with disdain.

“He’s nothing without his protectors.” One disciple quietly said.

Of course, they wouldn’t dare to name Fuyou and Huang Jie. Nonetheless, they thought that this was the case. Li Qiye wasn’t worth a single coin; even the terrible disciples in their sect were superior to him.

Li Qiye ignored the sarcasm and leisurely said: “Seems like you finally know your place and recognize greatness. Yes, I am indeed number one in the world when it comes to talents and comprehension.”

He blew his own trumpet hard enough to stun the crowd. It was as if he took Zhan Hu’s sarcastic comment seriously.

Fuyou smiled wryly; he didn’t know what Li Qiye wanted to do by playing along with the guy.

“He’s stupid enough to misinterpret it?” One disciple stared at Li Qiye.

“Maybe, there is no limit to stupidity and ego in this world.” One demon added.

“In the world? You’re not even the number one in Divine Black.” Zhan Hu had a tough time.

Others would be embarrassed by all the criticisms and mockery. They wouldn’t be able to keep their head up high but this Li Qiye didn’t give a damn at all.

“Just Divine Black? No, I’m definitely number one here, no big deal.” Li Qiye smiled.

“You’re the number one from the bottom up!” One disciple immediately became annoyed and shouted: “Senior Sister Qianyue is our number one!”

“Oh? Far inferior compared to me.” Li Qiye chuckled before sitting down in his chair, closing his eyes.

“Hmph!” How could a scowl sound so pleasant?

A beauty appeared out of nowhere. She commanded everyone’s attention.

“Senior Sister!” A furor erupted because of her.

“She’s visiting our Jade Bird!” So many became overwhelmed with excitement.

“Look, she’s definitely the prettiest in the sect.” The older ones were enamored with her.

Someone like Gong Qianyue would have this response wherever she went due to her talents and beauty.

She wore a light-green dress, looking like a forest fairy. It accentuated her perfect figure, stealing the soul of men and the confidence of women.

A faint flame could be seen around her. It didn’t exude any heat but people couldn’t help feeling respect. This was the sign of the Samadhi Materialization realm.

Zhan Hu’s expression changed as well. They were both geniuses and he was older than her. Moreover, he was born in a prestigious clan so he had access to more resources. Alas, she still surpassed him.

Her flame could annihilate his weapons and turn him to ashes right now.

“Junior Sister.” He revealed a wide smile and came up to greet her.

Unfortunately, she only had eyes for Li Qiye - ones filled with coldness.

This animosity had nothing to do with Li Qiye’s comment earlier. It was due to their first meeting back in the pond when he saw her naked.

She tried to find him after the pillar pushed him out but failed. From that point, she swore that if she were to meet this jerk again, she would teach him a lesson. She slowly walked towards Li Qiye.

A few spectators snorted and gloated: “Hmph, the boasting idiot is about to get it, let’s see how Senior Sister will deal with him.”

“Bah, she can take him down with one finger. Can’t believe he bragged about having superior talents to her. He should take a look at himself in a puddle of piss to see what he really is.” Another said with disdain.

“Senior Sister shouldn’t waste her time on a piece of trash like him. I’m more than happy to make him stay in bed for a month or so.” An admirer of Qianyue sneered.

Meanwhile, Zhan Hu watched this scene with a smirk. He was more than happy to see Qianyue take care of Li Qiye.

In this case, even Huang Jie and Liu Fuyou wouldn’t be able to protect him because her backer was the sect master himself.

Li Qiye was still laying in his chair with his eyes closed, completely ignoring her.

“Still acting haughty in front of Senior Sister?” Many disciples didn’t like this.

She stood in front of him and didn’t make a move just yet.

“And here I thought you would hide forever.” Li Qiye finally opened his eyes.

“Hmph.” Her cultivation was strong enough to intimidate others with just a single scowl. They no longer dared to look straight at her outside of Li Qiye.

“You’re very confident.” She spoke coldly. Nonetheless, her voice was still pleasant enough.

Though many in the sect admired her, they didn’t dare to get close due to her cold and distant nature.

[Chapter 3283: A Challenge?](#)

She had no interest in competing with him in terms of talents or anything else. She simply felt annoyed after being seen by him the previous time.

“Mmm, that’s how I have always been, unreasonably confident.” Li Qiye casually responded.

The spectators glared at him, not liking how he was speaking to their goddess.

“So? Here to teach me a lesson?” He smirked at her.

Qianyue got the urge to stomp on him after seeing his smirk. She didn’t know why but there was just something infuriating about it.

However, she knew that he was neither stupid nor insane. Why was he so confident?

The young generation in Divine Black always treated her with reverence. Some didn’t even dare to look at her eye-to-eye or keep their head up straight. Now, this guy seemed completely unaffected; her presence was no different than air. This perplexed her.

Such calmness didn’t belong to a weak disciple.

“Correct, I want to break your annoying face.” She said without holding back despite being in public.

The others became even more excited, thinking that Li Qiye was really done for this time.

“Junior Sister, no need to dirty your hand hitting this worm.” An older disciple came forward and said: “I’ll make him a little bloody...”

He wanted to curry favor but Qianyue showed no appreciation, only a cold glare.

This made him very awkward, needing to swallow his words and turning red. He tried to be clever and ended up with eggs on his face. Strangely enough, he didn’t get mad at her and directed his anger towards Li Qiye instead.

“Feel free to try but I’m afraid you won’t be able to do it.” Li Qiye lazily said.

“Are you asking for a fight?” Qianyue coldly uttered while giving him a death stare.

She was unbeatable among the young generation by this point. Not even Zhan Hu or Huang Ning could take her on. Those two used to be the strongest but a big gap existed now.

Thus, challenging her was asking for humiliation.

“Sure, if you want. I can entertain you a little bit, just don’t cry when you lose.” Li Qiye spoke, seemingly disinterested.

“Asshole, take a look at yourself first and realize your insignificance before talking to Junior Sister Qianyue like this!” The previous admirer lost his cool and started yelling.

“That’s right, Senior Sister can beat you with just one move! Pah!”

Numerous disciples said foul words while glaring at Li Qiye. How could they let him act in this manner before their goddess?

“Silence!” Qianyue frowned and shouted due to the noises.

The group became surprised and immediately shut their mouth. Once again, they diverted their anger towards Li Qiye who was still smiling and lazily lying in his chair.

Qianyue had plenty of questions in her head. This man was certainly clear-headed. Why would he want to fight her?

He was only an Iron Skin at best. This cultivation realm was nothing in Divine Black. She could randomly find plenty of them in the sect.

Everyone knew the gap between Iron Skin and Samadhi Materialization - the difference between heaven and earth. Just comparing the two was silly.

“As you wish then.” She eventually uttered without understanding where he was coming from.

The spectators were stunned. They exchanged glances and had no idea how it got to this point.

The power disparity was simply unfair. Nothing could change the fact that she would be able to annihilate him with one move.

“Good, but just a fight is a little boring. Let’s make it interesting.” He smiled.

“What do you suggest?” Her eyes narrowed.

“If I lose, you can do whatever.” He rubbed his chin and said: “But what if you lose?” He ended with a grin while looking at her up and down in a suggestive manner.

Qianyue instinctively took one step back because she felt naked for some reason. This made her shudder.

She had never felt something like this before because her peers didn’t dare to look straight at her.

“Go on.” She calmed her mind and took a deep breath while feeling something dangerous. Intuition told her so but this didn’t make any sense.

How could an Iron Skin cultivator threaten her in any way?

“If you were to lose...” He continued rubbing his chin while smirking.

Everyone viewed this smile as wretched and nauseating. If gazes could kill, he would have died a thousand times over.

“Pah! A frog wanting to eat swan meat.” One of them mocked.

“As if he can win, maybe in his dream.” Another snorted.

“How dare he have these perverted thoughts? Senior Sister Qianyue can show mercy but I’ll kill him later.” One admirer had murderous thoughts.

They would never forgive Li Qiye for disrespecting their beloved goddess. This was an intolerable offense.

[Chapter 3284: If You Lose](#)

Gong Qianyue, contrary to the furious crowd, remained calm. She simply stared at him who was just sitting leisurely in his chair.

She found him to be an impossible-to-solve riddle. Everything was hidden behind a fog.

“So what do you want in case I lose?” She uttered.

The ones laughing at Li Qiye closed their mouth. They didn’t forget to throw aggressive glares and gestures at him.

“If you lose, I do need a maid to wash my feet right now. That’ll be your job.” Li Qiye looked at her with a smile.

The crowd couldn’t believe the words that have come out of his mouth. Once they regained their wits, their eyes became filled with anger. This was doubly true for her admirers who wanted nothing more than to tear him apart.

Qianyue was surprised. She thought that because of her stare, he would force her to marry him or something of that sort.

She wasn’t being egoistic in this case. After all, so many men in all of northern West King would love to marry her. Thus, her first reaction to Li Qiye’s answer was astonishment.

“Bastard, I’ll make mincemeat out of you!” The guy who stood up for Qianyue earlier had a twisted expression due to rage.

“Senior Brother Liu, he’s really asking for it, break him!” Others who were interested in her voiced their support.

The male disciples didn’t hold back on showing their distaste towards Li Qiye. Asking their goddess to be a feet-washing maid? They nearly exploded from anger after hearing this.

“Quiet down!” Qianyue had to yell at them again.

Her voice contained authority and power, successfully stopping the rowdiness. She kept on wondering about the source of his confidence.

He seemed to be certain of victory as if he could overcome the insurmountable cultivation gap. Yes, he believed that victory was within his grasp before the start of the battle.

She thought that he wasn’t putting up an act. This was his natural demeanor. She would have been able to see through him if he was only relying on his backers.

The crowd watched with bated breath, thinking that no one would be able to stop Qianyue from killing him.

Unfortunately, she didn't make a move and simply glared at him and uttered: "Fine, I will give you time. I'll be waiting at the examination."

She started leaving and everyone made way for her. They lingered around for a bit; some still glared at Li Qiye, seemingly wanting to eat him alive.

Li Qiye naturally didn't give a damn and continued to rest on his chair.

"An ant trying to take down a cultivator, can't be more ignorant than this." One disciple snorted.

"Haha, just wait, Senior Sister Qianyue will kill him then. She won't need more than a second to take down an Iron Skin." His friend added.

The guy called Senior Brother Liu had the most animosity towards Li Qiye. He got yelled at by Qianyue several times because of him.

"Junior Sister might be too merciful to kill you but I, Liu Wenyong, will finish you off eventually." He threatened before leaving.

Meanwhile, Zhan Hu has been watching the entire time. He snorted at Li Qiye and said: "Better enjoy your remaining days because just one flame from Junior Sister is enough to turn you to ashes."

He left, no longer wanting to cause trouble because the guy was already dead in his eyes. He knew just how terrible the samadhi flame was. Those with lower cultivation wouldn't be able to stop her at all. Just one spark was more than enough to kill someone like Li Qiye, no need for an actual flame technique.

Others started leaving too. They hated Li Qiye more than at the start.

Prior to this, some only wanted to watch the show between him and Zhan Hu. Now, since he opposed Gong Qianyue, even the humans no longer sympathized with him.

He became the young generation's number one enemy just like that.

The young ones from Liu Village quietly talked among themselves as Li Qiye was sleeping, unable to contain the urge to gossip.

"Who will win between Young Master and Senior Sister?" One kid asked.

"You serious? The young master will win, obviously." A girl who adored Li Qiye beyond cure immediately answered.

"But people say that Senior Sister is the number one genius in Divine Black." An older child who knew more became worried.

"So? The young master can do anything. He can answer all of our questions too, didn't you hear the instructor? Nothing is difficult for him." The girl repeated while trying to copy Fuyou's rugged tone and gesture.

This embarrassed Fuyou standing not far away. He cleared his throat and left.

“Wait, Senior Sister will become our lady if the young master wins, right?” A cute, naive boy asked.

“You still sleepy? The young master clearly said that he only wants her as a maid to wash his feet, not his wife, okay?” The girl glared at him while emphasizing the word “maid”.

The other children nodded in agreement. People in Divine Black might make fun and look down on Li Qiye but not these kids since he had done so much for their village.

“Alright, stop chatting. Go train.” Li Qiye opened his eyes and playfully scolded them.

The group listened and immediately returned to their position.

[Chapter 3285: Prelude](#)

The children began training their fist technique again in spite of the taunts and sneers. They had their own opinion of this merit law as well as an unconditional trust in Li Qiye. Whatever he taught them should be the best.

“Young Master, we can really knock Senior Brother Zhan Hu’s teeth out?” One older child stopped and said with hesitation.

Due to his age, he knew more about Zhan Hu’s strength. This sapped his confidence.

“The you right now will lose but keep on training. It won’t be a problem later.” Li Qiye gave him a quick glance.

The boy became ecstatic and focused again, paying full attention to the smallest movements.

Li Qiye couldn’t help but smile after seeing the sincere expression on their faces. Pure ones like them had an easy time cultivating the dao since they didn’t have other distractions. This type of dao heart bred greater comprehension.

On the other hand, the ones from the powerful clans or those who have been in the sect longer, they had more on their mind with less focus on the grand dao.

For example, they wouldn’t cultivate Tortoise Fist because others would laugh at them. Or, they couldn’t resist the temptation of better merit laws.

The Liu children didn’t have this distraction. They immersed themselves at a high level during this training session to learn the three actions.

One’s innate talents didn’t matter as much with the help of a wise teacher. They only needed patience and perseverance to succeed. That’s why Li Qiye was bullish about their future.

Li Qiye’s challenge was known across the sect. Many certainly considered him to be ignorant and having an exaggerated opinion of his own abilities.

What would be the result of an Iron Skin versus a Sadmahi Materialization cultivator? The former wouldn’t last a single second.

“I can’t wait to see that guy lament before death.” Her fans were outraged after hearing his unreasonable demand.

“I’m sure Junior Sister will spare him but he’ll have no place to go in Divine Black. Someone else will take care of him.” Another snorted.

Normally, a fight between regular disciples wouldn’t earn the attention of the peak lords. However, Gong Qianyue wasn’t a regular disciple. All five peak lords heard about it right away.

South Conch Peak.

“There’s something wrong with this Li Qiye’s brain, daring to challenge Qianyue.” The messenger said while reporting this to Ping Suoweng.

“Don’t be so hasty to jump to conclusions. Anything is possible in this world.” Suoweng said while stared at the horizon.

The messenger couldn’t imagine anything different. How could an Iron Skin defeat someone in the materialization realm? How ridiculous.

“What is he trying to do? Do you think he can beat the girl?” Mountainbearer King asked his disciple.

He wasn’t looking down on Li Qiye but the circumstances demanded doubts.

“Well...” Fuyou didn’t know how to respond and took a while before replying: “The answer should be obvious but in the case of the young master, I don’t know.”

“A miracle will happen?” The king shook his head: “One realm is possible by using treasures, techniques, or some external schemes. We’re talking about six realms here, nothing can overcome this.”

“Plus, the girl cultivates one of our strongest merit laws, Black Tortoise Imperial Art. Need I say more about her treasures?” He smiled wryly and added.

“True, even our generation is feeling the pressure. Very few are stronger than her.” Fuyou admitted. Fuyou before his dao problem wasn’t that much stronger than her.

Zhang Yue was the oldest in their generation and joined the sect the earliest. He was also talented as well, not as great as Su Xu but still superior to most of his peers.

He was only at the yin yang realm right now. It wouldn’t be long until she caught up and surpassed him.

That’s why it was inconceivable for Li Qiye to defeat such an amazing genius. It went against all conventional wisdom.

“The path towards the dao is extremely long so some miracles will happen along the way.”

Mountainbearer King said: “But, one can’t always rely on miracles and luck, only true strength. Not adhering to this rule is why so many geniuses die young.”

“Young Master is different from the rest. This is what makes him special.” Fuyou agreed with the king’s point of view but still added.

“We’ll see soon enough.” The king chuckled.

“Such nonsense.” Iron Rod Demon King snorted after hearing this news.

“I can’t believe how dumb this Li Qiye is.” The messenger hurriedly added.

“It’ll be clear then. Now, arrange to recruit talented disciples after the examination. Don’t let Thousand Demons get ahead of us.” The king narrowed his eyes.

The four peaks would always pick disciples after each examination at Jade Bird.

“Junior Brother Zhan Hu had prepared a list. He knows all the talented ones there.” The messenger handed a list over.

Furious Tiger had a great advantage because Zhan Hu was the current First Brother in Jade Bird. He knew many disciples there, especially the demons. This made it easy for him to pick the right ones for Furious Tiger.

As for the bodhi king, his eyes became profound and said: “The son of miracles, maybe another one this time?”

“I highly doubt it.” The disciple nearby replied: “His power is insignificant compared to Qianyue’s.”

“Don’t forget, Qianyue only activated five while he activated thirteen.” The king glanced over.

“Hmm, well, I can’t attribute this to anything other than sheer luck, just a coincidence.” The disciple paused for a moment.

“A coincidence?” The king said flatly: “If you were to go right now, how many can you activate? I’ll let you try a thousand times. How many thirteen activated blocks will you get?”

The disciple remained silent since he had no confidence.

“The show is only beginning. It’ll be lively here soon.” The king put on a wide smile.

As for Li Qiye, he was preoccupied with his own merit laws while training the children. These sessions happened every single day without fail.

During this period, many disciples from Divine Black considered this a waste of time and talents. Those who passed by would express their disdain.

However, one disciple became interested in Tortoise Fist and watched from a distance during the last several days. He didn’t want to bother them.

He became enthralled during this observation and didn’t share the same contempt towards Tortoise Fist like his peers.

[Chapter 3286: Another Wants To Learn](#)

This observer was none other than Lu Daowei, the one with the antlers. He attentively came early in the morning every day during this period to watch the group.

Today, Li Qiye gestured for him to come over.

Daowei became awkward, turning slightly red while barely managing to respond: "Young Master, I, I wasn't trying to spy on you guys and steal the merit law..."

He lowered his head, not feeling very confident because he really did observe them every day. What else could it be but trying to learn their merit law?

Remember, in the cultivation world, secretly learning merit law without permission was a serious offense.

A light punishment would be banishment. On the other side of the spectrum was death.

Since he was here every day, no one would believe his claim of innocence.

On one hand, Tortoise Fist was available to all in Divine Black. However, Li Qiye was teaching the children, not him.

Since he was watching their cultivation session, he was indeed stealing from them, strictly speaking.

Of course, Li Qiye had no intention of scolding him. He smiled and said: "Looks like you're interested in Tortoise Fist."

Daowei heaved a sigh of relief after seeing Li Qiye's friendliness. He smiled wryly and said: "Your Tortoise Fist is different from what I have learned and read."

As an avid reader, he had read enough books for entertainment including the manual for Tortoise Fist. He actually found it interesting and had theories about it. Albeit, nothing came from this endeavor.

As people have said, Tortoise Fist only contained three movements. It looked like an old man doing light aerobics in the morning. Because of this, he lost interest in actually training it.

He heard about this group and his curiosity was rekindled. Thus, he came to take a look.

In the beginning, he didn't notice anything special. What drew him in was Li Qiye's mysteriousness. That's why he didn't make fun of them like the rest.

Since Li Qiye took the instruction seriously, so did he with observing. He became the only one in Divine Black who saw the entire session outside of the group themselves, and multiple times at that.

After several days, he eventually realized that this Tortoise Fist from Li Qiye was somehow different.

"Elaborate." Li Qiye chuckled and stared at the guy.

"I'm not sure if I'm right or not, so please don't laugh at me." Daowei scratched his head, thinking that he was displaying his slight knowledge before an expert.

Li Qiye encouraged him with a smile and nodded.

He mustered enough courage and contemplated for a bit before answering: "From what I've seen, I feel that your Tortoise Fist isn't about the forms but rather the intent. Each breath and movement have their own dao rhythm, allowing for harmonization with heaven and earth..."

Daowei said everything that was on his mind. His eyes lit up during the exciting part.

Other disciples would definitely laugh at him, thinking that he was spewing much fuss about nothing. It was all in his imagination; there was no way Turtle Fist could be so amazing.

Li Qiye nodded approvingly after listening to him.

"That, that's all I know. I don't think I've gotten the essence of your teaching." Daowei humbly said.

"You've done a decent job already." Li Qiye said: "Your comprehension is good, the same with your concentration. What have you learned from training it?"

"..." Daowei had an awkward expression since he had really started learning Tortoise Fist after seeing Li Qiye's instruction.

This revelation was hard on him because stealing someone else's merit laws was rather unsavory.

Nonetheless, he could see that Li Qiye wasn't mad and decided to tell the truth: "After starting the merit law, I feel my true chaos energy becoming purer as if tempered a thousand times. My own rhythm becomes similar to the world's..."

"Hmm, then you're doing it correctly." Li Qiye nodded: "There might be some differences here and there but this is more than adequate. Do you wish to learn?"

Daowei didn't expect this. He started reading about it out of mere curiosity. After seeing Li Qiye's lessons, he found that this fist was completely different so he started training it.

He hesitated for a bit because actually learning it would mean suffering the jeers of others. Even his master would yell at him.

"I'll do it as long as you teach me, Young Master." He eventually made up his mind and took a deep breath.

Sure, others would laugh at him and his master might scold him. He still felt that this was worth the risk due to the potential benefits.

"We'll start today, you need to fix the mistakes." Li Qiye said and began teaching him.

Daowei carefully listened and memorized each word. He contemplated and realized that he had messed up in several places.

The fixes connected the entire merit law into one, causing it to be far better than before. He felt nothing but respect for Li Qiye and thought that the others were utterly wrong.

"Young Master, how powerful is this version?" Daowei became increasingly curious.

“Power lies with the user, not the merit law.” Li Qiye elaborated: “Everything can reach the dao as long as your grand dao is firm. Just one wave of the hand can annihilate the land. Focus on the mind and heart, less so on the techniques...”

He casually explained the profundity of the grand dao to Daowei’s benefit. The latter found Li Qiye to be a hidden master; his admiration gradually increased.

“Thank you, Young Master.” Daowei bowed deeply to show his gratitude. He started learning Tortoise Fist with the children from this point on.

As he expected, the disciples from Jade Bird started making fun of him for doing so.

“Look, another idiot here to learn Tortoise Fist.” One passerby laughed at him.

He didn’t respond since he was confident in his choice.

[Chapter 3287: Betting](#)

A year flew by and it was almost time for the examination at Divine Black.

The disciples in all the peaks were preparing for this day; so many trained instead of eating and sleeping.

This was especially true for most in Jade Bird Peak. Diligence could be seen everywhere as the disciples tried to perfect their merit laws for greater strength.

They needed to stand out during the examination in order to be chosen by the other peaks. Failure to do so would force them to stay in Jade Bird - this was not something many wanted to see.

Joining the other peaks meant obtaining access to better merit laws and resources. This wasn’t to say that Jade Bird offered nothing to them. Jade Bird would also keep excellent disciples behind. It’s just that the prospects weren’t as great.

Many disciples have already made up their mind about the potential peak choice before the examination.

“Which main peak do you want to join?” Someone asked his tree demon friend.

“Thousand Demons.” The tree demon naturally picked this peak because of the bodhi king. All tree demons wanted to go there.

“I’m picking Furious Tiger.” A bull demon said.

“I’m thinking about staying in Jade Bird, it’s not bad plus less competition.” An average disciple joined in.

“I will definitely go to South Conch if chosen...” A human was full of ambition.

During these big examinations, both the seniors from the main peaks and the disciples could choose.

At the examination, as long as they met the requirements, they could join their desired peak.

In the case of being chosen by two peaks at the same time, the disciple would have the final say.

Of course, humans wanted to go to South Conch the most. It was the strongest one due to their sect master being in charge there. Alas, it also had the strictest requirements.

Meanwhile, the disciples outside of Jade Bird were hard at work as well. They wanted to do well in the examination in order to earn rewards later.

Those in the top three would earn the best rewards. They would also receive more attention and training from the seniors.

“It’s obvious that the top three will be Senior Sister Qianyue, Senior Brother Zhan Hu, and Senior Brother Huang Ning. Others stand no chance against them.” Some had dreams about placing among the top three but they knew that it wasn’t very realistic. No one currently in the young generation could take on these three.

“Right, it’s clear that the senior sister will get first place.” One disciple said: “She has been number one in every examination since she got here with the exception of the first since she was still new then.”

The other talented prodigies had nothing to say. They weren’t confident in the slightest against Qianyue despite being very powerful.

She was certainly strong but most importantly, her cultivation speed was faster than the wind. Her cultivation improved by two realms since the previous examination. Those who used to be stronger than her have finally given up.

“Yes, she’ll be at the top.” Everyone understood that the number one spot was taken.

“So the second and third spot will be between Senior Brother Huang Ning and Senior Brother Zhan Hu.” They began speculating about the result.

These two had such results in the past. Their power level was similar as well. There were fluctuations here or there but all in all, they remained an even match. Whenever one fell behind, they would catch up a little later.

Zhan Hu had access to the best merit laws since youth due to his fortunate background. Huang Ning was the most talented in Thousand Demons Peak, the youngest disciple of the bodhi king. Half of his bloodline belonged to the Luminous Vine Demon King. This made him special compared to others.

“I bet Senior Brother Huang Ning will get second place.” Many felt the urge to bet on the result.

“My money’s on Senior Brother Zhan Hu.” Another picked Zhan Hu.

Both of them had a fair amount of supporters. In fact, some seniors joined in too.

“The son of miracles? What the heck is this...” Someone noticed a strange betting line from the organizer: “If Li Qiye is chosen by Eight Zhang, win triple. Top one hundred, fifty times. Chosen by South Conch, five hundred times. Top ten, five thousand times. Top three, fifty thousand times. These payouts are something...”

The other betters couldn’t believe it.

“We’re talking about Li Qiye, that guy who trains Tortoise Fist, right? Is this a joke, who would bet on this bottom feeder?” One disciple sneered.

“It doesn’t make any sense. I won’t do it despite the high payout.” A few laughed and shook their head.

Everyone knew that Li Qiye was at Iron Skin and wouldn't be able to carry out any of these feats. Betting on him was akin to throwing a meat bun at a dog.

"But that payout is fifty thousand times, why don't we just bet a little bit, who knows?" One became tempted.

"You're insane. Getting to the top three? That's not possible. Plus, this Li Qiye challenged Senior Sister Qianyue too. She'll probably take him down before his turn, so the high payout is meaningless."

Those who wanted to gamble on Li Qiye gave up after hearing this. They remembered the duel between Li Qiye and Qianyue. She would certainly destroy him then, rendering some of those conditions impossible.

"Well, just one or two coins is fine." A couple of disciples were bored enough to make the bet anyway despite knowing the impossible odds. This was a case of what-if. Winning would make them rich right away.

Li Qiye also heard about these gambling lines and smirked.

"What about first place?" He asked Lu Daowei who was standing nearby.

"I heard that it's five hundred thousand." Daowei scratched his head, also wanting to bet on Li Qiye.

This payout was insanity because the gambling organizers thought that Li Qiye had zero chance of getting first place. They would profit from this anyway.

"Can they actually pay?" Li Qiye chuckled.

"I heard the organizers are big shots in Divine Black with ample resources. These bets happen every examination, they should be trustworthy." Daowei looked around before answering quietly.

"What did you bet?" Li Qiye asked.

"I, I bet for you to get top one hundred, not too much though." Daowei smiled wryly.

No one in Divine Black had any hope for Li Qiye. Thus, very few actually betted on these lines and only with tiny amounts.

Lu Daowei showed a lot of confidence in Li Qiye for even making this bet. After all, there were thousands of disciples here. Getting to the top one hundred was incredible enough.

"Bet on first place, all of your money, do it." Li Qiye nonchalantly said.

"First-?" Daowei became stunned. This would include Li Qiye beating Gong Qianyue. He began thinking about the potential battle between the two.

[Chapter 3288: Huang Ning](#)

"Buzz..." Radiant lights accompanied by impressive divinity shot towards the sky.

A portal seemed to be opening on the ancestral peak. This descending force was akin to their patriarch returning.

The radiance illuminated the entire region, signaling the start of the examination.

“Pass the five gates for a chance at the treasures.” The disciples became overwhelmed with excitement.

“I will definitely make it to the grave of weapons this year and get something.” One confident fella declared.

“I’ll be happy making it through just three gates, that should be enough to enter Thousand Demons.” A different one hesitated and had a conservative approach.

“We need to go grab the best spots now before it starts.” Some went on their way, hoping to garner any advantage possible for the best placement.

The ancestral peak rarely had visitors, let alone those trying to climb it. The place itself was a test.

Below was a training field capable of accommodating ten thousand people. Next to it were beautiful stone steps that eventually led to an ancient hall and courtyard. The gate to this hall was normally shut tight until today.

As one looked up towards the ridge, they would only see clouds and fog, nothing above. These served as a veil to cover up a beauty. This mysteriousness made people want to take a peek even more.

Today, disciples were already waiting below by the field. They looked up the steps in reparation for the trials.

Some began talking about the variations of the trials and started grouping up.

“Poof!” A flame appeared on a certain peak and started crossing through the sky like a long silk ribbon of a red hue. It eventually landed on the field.

“It’s Junior Sister Qianyue!” The ones present immediately knew who it was just from the flame.

Qianyue’s samadhi flame could burn the world and refine any weapons. She had enough mastery to use it as a flying tool, something similar to a red cloud. She looked just like a fairy of the fire affinity.

“She’s worthy of her reputation, so pretty.” Many disciples voiced their admiration.

“The number one spot is hers this year.” A young one said.

Some came up to greet her. She simply nodded in response without uttering a single word and took up a corner. No one else got close. Her admirers could only glance in a distance, not daring to come forward.

Of course, just getting a nod or a glance from her was more than enough for more, definitely an honor.

Today was the start of the examination so the disciples from all five peaks came in droves.

The desolate place became filled with words and laughter from the socializing disciples.

“Senior Brother Bai Mu from South Conch is so much stronger now.” An excellent disciple had great improvements in the last two years and earned many praises.

“Senior Sister Feng from Thousand demons has awakened her demonic spirit, moving up a full realm in just one year. That should be enough to get in the top ten.”

“We have several amazing seniors too in Jade Bird, they have a chance of getting there too.”

Discussions sprung all over the place.

“Rustle...” Turnip vines suddenly drilled out of the ground near the examination field. Each was covered in flame, seemingly gestated by this affinity. It wouldn’t be out of place for these vines to grow inside a volcano and absorb the essences of lava.

“Poof!” The vines twisted together and turned into a youth in a blue robe, looking handsome and gallant.

“Senior Brother Huang Ning! He’s really handsome!” Many female disciples started shouting.

“Of course, he’s the most handsome in our sect.” One girl’s eyes turned into two hearts. She touched her heart with both hands, looking infatuated.

“I love you!” A bold one even screamed.

“And I love everyone too.” Huang Ning revealed a charming smile as he answered.

“He looked at me! He looked at me just now!” One of them nearly fainted.

He was the disciple of the bodhi king and had the title, Plain Dominator.

Several years ago, Huang Ning battled against disciples from Three Truths on top of a flat mound. He defeated ten exceptional disciples from that sect so people gave him this title.

“Buzz.” A radiant aura flashed and circled around him like a defensive moon.

“Enlightened Being Manifestation.” A disciple took a deep breath.

“He actually made it to the next realm.” Others became startled.

“So young too!” Envy and jealousy surfaced among the crowd.

After all, Huang Ning was very popular in Divine Black - handsome, talented, and powerful.

He was a key disciple in Thousand Demons, enjoying numerous privileges. He was a mix-blood under the lineage of Luminous Vine Demon King. This was a noble line.

These things contributed to why the girls loved him and the boys were jealous of him.

Huang Ning walked over to Gong Qianyue’s corner and bowed deeply: “Your cultivation puts me to shame. Another ten years and I still won’t reach your level.”

He stared deeply at her; his eyes inadvertently showed his crush.

Of course, his crush was no secret to anyone in Divine Black. On the other hand, no one knew if Qianyue had someone on her mind.

Qianyue acted normally and nodded: “You’re too humble, Senior Brother. I will keep trying my best.”

“Your talents are the best in Divine Black, everyone knows this...” He smiled and made small talk.

Very few dared to get this close to Qianyue and Huang Ning was one of them.

The spectators became even more jealous as these two stood together. Alas, Huang Ning was powerful enough to deserve this privilege.

Both the girls who liked Huang Ning and the boys who liked Qianyue were equally annoyed.

“Those two would make a great pair.” They had no choice but to admit this.

Unfortunately for Huang Ning, Qianyue didn’t show any sign of reciprocation.

“Looks like I messed up, should have betted on Senior Brother Huang Ning.” One disciple regretted his choice after seeing Huang Ning’s current realm.

Many thought that he was at the conqueror level just like Zhan Hu. This was no longer the case so Zhan Hu should lose their fight.

“Raa!” Everyone’s attention became stolen by a giant tiger from above.

It landed on the field and exuded its beastly aura. It was the size of a small mountain and had an intimidating pair of eyes along with a white patch on its forehead.

“So powerful.” Many retreated after sensing its aura.

Zhan Hu was riding this white tiger. He jumped down and walked over towards Huang Ning and Qianyue in a confident fashion.

“I think this tiger is Iron Rod Demon King’s mount.” A few shuddered while staring at the tiger.

This demon tiger was immensely powerful. If Zhan Hu could use it on stage, he wouldn’t lose to anyone here.

“You’re one step faster than me, looks like I’m losing this time.” Zhan Hu laughed, not surprised.

“Senior Brother Zhan Hu, I simply pulled a fast one so you’ll catch up to me in no time.” Huang Ning smiled and said.

The two have fought multiple times in the past. Their record was relatively even.

[Chapter 3289: Let’s Team Up](#)

The sun rose high as more disciples entered the field. Groups began forming consisting of friends or teammates.

“Oooo-” An imposing horn sounded, akin to a call of the gathering of troops on the battlefield.

The disciples stopped talking and looked over towards the direction of the horn.

“Rumble!” They saw numerous carriages traversing through the sky and landed below the ancestral peak. Numerous old men got off the carriages.

“The elders are here.” Many bowed towards them.

These elders rarely showed up because they were either busy with cultivation or traveling the realms.

They were here today to represent the five peaks of Divine Black.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” A middle-aged man walked on the sky; each step detonated thunderously. He left behind footprints in the sky.

He immediately climbed up the platform after reaching the area. He had a wolf head and a human body, wearing a fur cloak. He seemed to be the leader of the wolves. His blue eyes contained a soul-stealing power.

“Peak Lord!” Many bowed their head to greet him.

“Sorry for the wait, Junior and Senior Uncles.” The man bowed before entering the center of the platform.

“We’ve only got here. You’re busy with work, Virtuous Nephew. Being a little late is fine.” One elder smiled.

The middle-aged man was Zhang Yue, the peak lord of Jade Bird. His title was Flame Wolf King. He exuded a cosmic light as if numerous stars were hidden in his body.

Though the majority of the elders on the platform were older than him, a few of them were only as strong as him. Some were even weaker.

He was a Yin Yang Celestial, one of the strongest among the second generation of Divine Black, only second to the late Su Xu.

As a peak lord, his status was the same as these older elders. Moreover, Jade Bird was in charge of these examinations so it was proper for him to take the middle seat.

“It’s almost time so those who aren’t here need to hurry up.” Zhang Yue sat down and glanced at the sun.

His voice wasn’t especially loud but everyone in Divine Black could hear him. This was a warning for the tardy disciples.

Many exchanged glances and found that the field was packed. This examination was extremely important for their future so who would dare to be late?

Even Gong Qianyue got here early, the same for Zhan Hu and Huang Ning. They all made it here before the seniors.

“Mmm, just in time. Perfect.” A lazy voice sounded.

Due to the presence of the elders and the peak lord, the disciples here have been keeping quiet. That’s why everyone heard him.

They looked over and saw the children from Liu Village. Some kids were carrying a sedan chair with Li Qiye just laying there. He looked like a young master that was still drowsy since noon was too early for him. He acted as if being on time was an abnormal feat for him.

The disciples saw Li Qiye and began whispering. The guy was treating Divine Black like his personal property.

The elders and the peak lord didn't put up as much of an act while getting here. The latter even came without a carriage. Now, a regular disciple was being carried here with what seems to be an entourage?

"Utterly ridiculous." One disciple shook his head and murmured.

"Do you think you're a real young master?!" Another couldn't help speaking up. It was Liu Wenyong, the fan of Gong Qianyue who embarrassed himself last time.

He wanted to impress the seniors by being the first to yell at Li Qiye.

"We're here to cultivate, not to act like young masters." Others chimed in, voicing their displeasure.

Li Qiye didn't bother responding. He still didn't get out of his carriage, causing the others to grit their teeth.

The elders and Zhang Yue up higher in the platform only raised their brows. They didn't become angry because there was no rule stating that disciples couldn't come here on carriages. Plus, this group wasn't late either.

"Clang." A gong silenced the crowd.

"Okay, the examination begins now." Zhang Yue stared at the crowd and said: "I don't need to repeat the rules since everyone should know already. Five trials total, each trial is twenty points. Now, the first one begins, go!"

"We're starting." The disciples exchanged glances while excitement built up.

"Come register. Pick an opponent or the sect will pick for you. There are only two chances, be sure to make the most of it." An elder announced.

The crowd immediately came over for the registration.

The first trial was very simple - a fight taking place in the thirty-six steps ahead.

It wouldn't be a one-on-one situation either. The disciples were allowed to form groups to fight because the examination was more than just checking their cultivation. The sect also wanted to push solidarity and teamwork.

Many came prepared already. Most groups consisted of friends. Even the lone wolves needed to team up right now.

"Go." Li Qiye told the children and let them team up with each other.

They went to sign up together. Since they grew up in the same village on top of having the same instructors, their comradery was impeccable - a perfect recipe for a good team.

The registration didn't take too long. Very few people didn't have a team by this point - only the outsiders or those who were hated by this point were left alone.

Gong Qianyue didn't have a team, still standing in the corner by herself. This was actually expected because no one else in this generation was qualified to be her teammate. She alone could defeat the others.

Eventually, only she and Li Qiye were left teamless.

On one hand, Qianyue was alone because she was peerless. On the other hand, Li Qiye was alone because no one liked him.

“Haha, look, someone’s forgotten.” Liu Wenyong laughed at Li Qiye.

“Well, who would want to team up with him? Doing that will probably result in failing the first trial.” Another disciple sneered.

“You don’t know that. Maybe his Tortoise Fist is actually unbeatable, he’ll beat everyone here.” One more sarcastically said.

The majority of the crowd was making fun of him by this point.

“You’re teaming up with me.” Qianyue was also staring at him before suggesting.

“What?!” Everyone became astounded, thinking that they have misheard her.

Their eyes shifted repeatedly between Li Qiye and Qianyue.

[Chapter 3290: Shamelessness](#)

Gong Qianyue asking to team up with Li Qiye left everyone in astonishment. Even Huang Ning and Zhan Hu couldn’t believe it.

She was strong enough to beat everyone here alone. There was no need for her to team up with anyone so why Li Qiye?

Everyone knew that he was a lazy piece of trash still stuck at Iron Skin. His three aptitudes were also at the mortal level. Moreover, he didn’t cultivate any powerful merit law and mantra, only All-things and Society. Wait, there was also the worthless Tortoise Fist. Thus, he was at the very bottom of Divine Black’s power level.

Furthermore, he wasn’t the one asking Qianyue to team up either. It was the stunning opposite. If he had taken the initiative, then people could laugh at him for being a frog wanting to eat swan meat.

But now, the strongest genius invited the weakest fool. No one could make heads or tails out of this while staring at Gong Qianyue.

Some also stared at Li Qiye with jealousy in their eyes, especially those who liked Qianyue. He would have been cut to pieces if jealous gazes could kill.

They wanted nothing more than to join her group. That would be a great chance to make a good impression. Alas, no one dared to invite her to their group for a multitude of reasons.

Moreover, having her in the group meant passing the first trial was a sure thing, certainly full marks. Alas, this could be misconstrued as taking an opportune shortcut. They didn’t want to be looked down by Qianyue.

Another reason was due to her strength. This made most feel insecure, losing the confidence and courage to ask her.

A few started regretting their inaction after seeing her wanting to join Li Qiye. Perhaps it would have worked for them too.

"It's probably not good for masters like us to team up because we'll look like big bullies then. Our fellow classmates won't stand a chance." Li Qiye looked at her and chuckled.

The others naturally didn't take this comment in stride, to say the least. Sure, Gong Qianyue could be considered a master. But Li Qiye?

They have never seen such a shameless person who has such a big ego before.

"Don't flatter yourself, Junior Sister Qianyue is just kind enough to help you out." Huang Ning nearby immediately retorted.

Li Qiye's comment would work if it was Huang Ning instead. The latter didn't wish to work together with Qianyue because others might make unsavory comments.

Plus, he didn't need to do so. He was strong enough to surpass this trial himself. In fact, he could help out some fellow disciples in his team too.

He came to not like Li Qiye at all, thinking that the guy has no sense of propriety.

"Senior Brother Huang is correct." The other disciples jumped in: "Senior Sister Qianyue is our role model unlike a certain someone else who is shameless to the point of being nauseating."

They decided to vent their jealousy with sarcastic and indirect comments.

"No need for this nonsense, yes or no?" She glared at Li Qiye in response.

"Of course we're teaming up. Why would I refuse to have a cute little Senior Sister opening the way for me?" Li Qiye lazily stretched and said: "Oh right, I didn't sleep well last night, little Senior Sister, come rub my feet for a bit."

Qianyue's eyes turned sharper just like a blade but Li Qiye wasn't affected.

The listeners couldn't believe his attitude. He was blatantly teasing her, something that no one else in the sect would dare to do unless they were tired of living.

"Asshole!" Huang Ning became intimidating with a hint of bloodlust: "Show some respect towards the seniors or be punished in accordance with the sect's rules."

His interest in Qianyue was no secret. That's why he became furious at this sight. Unfortunately, he still cared about his status and reputation so he refrained from teaching Li Qiye a lesson.

"We should expel someone like him." Liu Wenyong, another courter, demanded.

"Come, just for a bit." Li Qiye ignored them and gestured at his feet with a smile.

Annoyance actually turned into slight admiration for some members of the crowd. It wasn't that easy to be such a big jerk with no regard for the situation.

"I'll cut them off when I'm over there." She glared again.

“Don’t be so serious, people say that smiling makes one ten years younger. But don’t worry, it’ll happen soon because you will be my maid after today.” Li Qiye shrugged.

“Say this again once you actually win.” She retorted.

“I will.” He smiled, being as nonchalant and carefree as ever.

Qianyue still felt the same way as she did during their previous meeting. It was impossible to see through this man.

The strongest and most excellent disciples in Divine Black never dared to disrespect her, always talking to her while being nervous and reserved.

On the other hand, this seemingly-normal disciple did and said whatever he wanted. She simply couldn’t understand why.

“Ignorant fool. Junior Sister Qianyue can destroy you with one finger.” Liu Wenyong snorted.

No one bothered responding to him, much to his chagrin. He scowled again and quietly backed away.

Meanwhile, Zhan Hu had a smile on his face the entire time. In his opinion, a fight between Li Qiye and Qianyue would be good since it would be an internal conflict between the humans. Of course, Li Qiye would have zero chance. His death was only a matter of time.

He wanted the issue to escalate as much as possible so that there would be a rift between Eight Zhang and South Conch - something very favorable for Furious Tiger.

As for Huang Ning, he only had a gaze of animosity towards Li Qiye and didn’t get involved any further.

“Clank.” Another gong sounded.

“The first trial starts here. Groups, feel free to find your opponents or let the sect do it. The only rule is that the two sides must have the same realm. The captain of each group gets to pick and choose. A win, twenty points, zero for a loss, a draw is ten.” An elder announced.

The disciples became serious again and looked around to check out their potential foes.

They knew that the first trial was very important and had reaching consequences for the latter parts, especially with the points. Picking the right opponents mattered a lot right now.

“We’ll start first.” Gong Qianyue stood up and told Li Qiye.

“Very well.” He stretched and moved forward. The two of them were standing on the path now.

If some challengers came forward, they could either choose to defeat the challengers or just keep on retreating. If the opponents were to fail to defeat them before they reach the highest point, it would be a draw.