

Emperor 3611

Chapter 3611: Stone Chair Smash

Zhang Changyu immediately accused Li Qiye of a serious crime so that he would have the advantage.

“Zhang Changyu, what rubbish are you spewing?” Yang Ling wasn’t an idiot and could see that this would look quite bad for Li Qiye.

Yang Ling’s harsh comment in public embarrassed him. His expression turned to an unsightly shade of red.

He had a crush on her for a very long time now but she always picked Li Qiye’s side over him. This was too much to take.

“Regional Princess, I’m merely telling the truth. This guy is disrespecting our founder. Students like us have the responsibility to uphold the academy’s prestige. Why do you keep on protecting him? He’s not a student here.” He retorted.

A few students exchanged glances and started whispering. They obviously knew that Zhang Changyu had a hidden agenda. Li Qiye might have been haughty and ridiculous; disrespectful might be taking it too far.

They smiled since Zhang Changyu was being too obvious at assigning a crime to Li Qiye. Of course, they wouldn’t bother standing up for the guy.

They had no relationship with Li Qiye. Moreover, he wasn’t from Duality Academy while Zhang Changyu was a noble.

“The audacity!” Yang Ling’s expression soured as she shouted back: “If you wish to push the issue, then I’ll teach you a lesson. Let’s see if you have improved recently.” She took out her weapon.

Zhang Changyu staggered backward, not expecting the sudden eruption. His face turned redder since the situation became more awkward.

Many friends knew about his crush. Now, she even wanted to fight him in order to protect this savage. It made it difficult for him to look others in the eye.

He trembled with rage and glared at Li Qiye. All of his anger was directed towards him.

“Junior Sister, why are you angry? Changyu isn’t wrong.” A firm voice interrupted them.

People looked back and saw an older youth with many students following behind him.

He was handsome and had an innate air of nobility. His robe was outlined in gold, accentuating his aura. He was clearly born a noble.

“The young duke is here.” Others came forward to greet him. He clearly had a good social network at the academy.

“Senior Brother Yan.” Changyu also came over.

“Yan Jingxuan.” Yang Ling snorted, not giving him any face.

This newcomer was older and stronger than both Yang Ling and Yang Changyu. Most importantly, he was from the Yan.

His father contributed enough to the dynasty to earn the duke title. He was quite mighty as well.

Furthermore, their clan was on the side of the Grand Chancellor. Thus, their backing was quite influential.

Jingxuan came over and took a look at Li Qiye: "This must be Young Master Li from Myriad Beast Mountains. Since you're from the mountain range, you might not be familiar with certain rules. Just keep in mind that you do need to follow them while staying at Duality. Please show self-control."

"I am the rules." Li Qiye chuckled and said without a care.

The students thought that they were hearing things. Though Jingxuan was threatening Li Qiye and backing Changyu up, he kept it polite.

On the other hand, Li Qiye showed zero civility and retaliated with a verbal slap. Jingxuan's eyes turned cold as a result.

He was powerful and came from a prestigious clan. Few students from Duality dared to talk to him in this manner, let alone a woodchopper.

"This guy is insane. Duality isn't a place for him to rampage." One student shook his head.

"He is from the wilderness and doesn't understand the complicated political scene at Vajra. Being drawn in will end with death." An older student added.

Both the Zhang and the Yan were under the faction of the Grand Chancellor. That's why they supported each other.

"Who the hell do you think you are?! Keep running your mouth shamelessly and you'll see death-" Zhang Changyu shouted.

"Boom!" Unfortunately, the sky suddenly turned dark and he couldn't finish his words.

"Ah!" He couldn't dodge in time and was smashed by something. Numerous bones were broken.

People calmed down and saw the weapon employed by Li Qiye - the stone chair on top of the boulder.

It belonged to Duality Master so it had a special significance at the academy. Now, it was used earlier to smash Changyu in a merciless manner. Most students had no idea how Li Qiye even did it; they didn't see anything.

"What are you doing?!" Yan Jingxuan shouted and rushed forward.

"Slow down now." Li Qiye moved his foot on top of Changyu's head.

Jingxuan stopped right away, afraid that Li Qiye might stomp down and crush the guy's head.

The crowd became restless. Li Qiye attacked without any warning and his weapon of choice was the most surprising thing.

No one in the academy would dare to touch that stone chair. Li Qiye was an exception.

“Isn’t this brat too cruel? He needs to at least say something first before attacking. It’s despicable.” One student quietly said.

“It’s because you don’t understand him.” Another said: “His cultivation is weak but he’s definitely brutal. I saw him schemed an army to death without batting an eye. One hundred thousand men died and their blood flowed like rivers. Killing one Zhang Changyu is nothing in comparison.”

“You’re right, he’s a monster.” A different student smiled wryly: “But this isn’t Myriad Beast. I don’t think an escalation will end well for him.”

“What do you think you’re doing?!” Changyu was both afraid and furious since Li Qiye’s foot was on top of his head.

“This is only a warning. Run your mouth in front of me again and it’ll be death.” Li Qiye looked down at him.

“You-” Zhang Changyu wanted to speak but couldn’t since Li Qiye pressed his foot down on the guy’s mouth.

Changyu couldn’t handle this public humiliation and was as livid as can be.

“Enough! Your action is over the top, too arrogant! This is Duality Academy!” Jingxuan furiously roared.

“So what? The location doesn’t matter to me.” Li Qiye replied.

“...” Jingxuan wasn’t used to this type of treatment before, leaving him at a loss for words.

Li Qiye stopped caring and walked away. Yang Ling regained her wits and hurriedly followed him.

Jingxuan watched the two of them leave; his eyes flashed with murderous intent.

“That brat’s movement earlier... it looks like one of the diagrams...” An extremely talented student among the crowd murmured. The way Li Qiye lifted up that chair seemed familiar.

“Impossible, he didn’t even practice, how could he perform one?” Another shook his head.

“It’s just a coincidence. There’s no way a woodchopper like him can understand the diagrams.” No one accepted that Li Qiye’s move originated from the diagram.

Chapter 3612: Myriad Cauldron Peak

Yang Ling took Li Qiye to Myriad Cauldron Peak after they left Comprehension Peak.

Myriad Cauldron was the shortest and thickest among the nine, looking like a giant cauldron and a volcano from the distance. It spanned for a thousand miles; the pinnacle was the mouth of the volcano.

One could hear metallic clankings before arriving. It could mistake them for being in the wrong location. Why would there be blacksmithing at Duality Academy?

But this was indeed a main peak of Duality. It was also a favorite among the students. They could force and refine their weapons here.

The heat emanating from this peak was obvious. Though the temperature didn't seem particularly high, staying here for a long period would make people feel as if their body has been lit on fire. This magical fire somehow had penetrated them and wanted to burn everything from within.

This naturally resulted in an uncomfortable experience. Nonetheless, the students still went for the sake of improving their arsenal.

A coiling stone path started at the base with a considerable gap between each step. One could see the mouth of a cauldron sticking out of the peak. The cauldrons themselves were embedded into the peak. The color of the smoke varied as well - normal, yellow, colorless...

This formation extended all the way to the pinnacle. Perhaps there were more than ten thousand cauldrons. This might be the origin of the peak's name.

"We're at Myriad Cauldron Peak, a very famous place with an incredible background." Yang Ling explained: "Rumor has it that after starting Duality, our founder dragged a peak from a broken area of the past. He then ignited the divine flames within and added the cauldrons. This allowed future generations access to augmentation."

While standing at the base and sensing the heat, Li Qiye didn't need to use his eyes and still knew everything about it.

"It's a great cauldron." He smiled.

"Of course. A teacher told me that everyone wants to borrow this place for blacksmithing. Only a few are lucky enough such as Ancient Zen Dao Lord and Three-truth Dao Lord. They used the peak to create their dao lord weapons. Some stronger Heavenly Sovereigns had this privilege too."

In history, all the top masters sang praises about this peak after visiting. Virtually everyone desired to craft their artifacts here.

In fact, even the invincible Apricot Dao Lord took advantage of this for her weapon during Duality Master's era.

"It's understandable why everyone wants to use it." Li Qiye had sensed the peak and understood its magical properties.

The great cauldron was truly tempting but the top masters didn't dare to rob Duality Academy. They had no choice but to ask the academy for permission.

"So back then when Apricot Dao Lord used the peak to create her weapon, incredible visual phenomena emerged. Gods and immortal images manifested, even the legendary land of the immortal dao took form. This shocked all the big shots in Eight Desolaces." Yang Ling turned red with excitement while recalling the glory days of the cauldron as if she was there in person.

He smiled and eventually said: "Unfortunately, the glory days are long gone."

This was akin to pouring cold water on her head; her expression wilted like an eggplant struck by frost and winter.

"Can't you let me have a little fun?" She pouted.

“I’m just telling the truth.” He waved his hand.

“The teachers said that the peak has been borrowed by too many dao lords. The divine flame inside has been depleted and extinguished.” She revealed.

The creation of dao lord weapons required immense fuel and energy from divine flames, especially those capable of invoking visual phenomena. Thus, each attempt severely weakened the divine flame.

The main one was no longer around. Only the remnant sparks from the minor cauldrons remained.

Alas, ten thousand cauldrons weren’t comparable to the divine flame of the main cauldron. The latter was the thing capable of creating invincible weapons.

Because of this, the academy stopped letting others borrow the peak. Only the students had access from then on.

“Poof!” One cauldron sent out a wave of flame with a golden wheel visual phenomenon.

“Looks like an upperclassman has finished crafting.” Yang Ling enthusiastically said: “Young Master, let’s go take a look.” She then grabbed his hand again and ran up the steps.

Li Qiye smiled and played along. During the ascension, they saw that the cauldrons had varying affinities.

One cauldron was of the wood element; another was frost; then the next was draconic flame...

It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that one could create a weapon of any desired affinity. This was something only possible in Myriad Cauldron Peak.

The two heard metallic clankings - the students were diligently working.

One tried to craft something new completely with fresh materials. The more experienced ones were refining their old weapons. They utilized the various affinities from the cauldrons to remove impurities and increase power.

If one could add the right affinity to their previous weapon, this would truly increase its potential.

That’s why the students loved Myriad Cauldron Peak. Whenever they had idle time, they would come running for further improvements.

Yang Ling occasionally stopped to watch the senior brothers and sisters at work. Though what they did was quite simple, she still enjoyed watching unlike Li Qiye who had zero interest. He was more focused on the makeup of the peak.

Suddenly, they heard groups clamoring and rushing towards the ridge.

“We gotta hurry, Sampan Decapitator’s weapon is about to come out, I heard it’s amazing.” Someone shouted while running up the steps.

“What?! We can’t miss it then!” The other students couldn’t help running towards the ridge.

“That axe has been inside the cauldron by the ridge for half a month now. It’s about to finish soon.” Groups talked about it along the way.

“Senior Brother’s weapon is coming out?” Yang Ling’s eyes lit up after hearing this: “Young Master, let’s go take a look. Senior Brother’s blacksmithing skill is top-notch; everyone is jealous of his special flame.”

“We can go.” Li Qiye smiled since this was on the way anyway.

She grabbed his hand and the two of them rushed towards the ridge.

“Senior Brother also has an inborn fate palace, his cauldron of life possesses a special flame.” Yang Ling elaborated along the way.

Chapter 3613: Samban Furious Axe

One cauldron by the ridge looked like a well extending all the way into the core. Yellow smoke oozed from it with golden rays, looking like the crown of a fire prince.

Next to the cauldron was an anvil with a weapon being hammered. Each thunk echoed across the ridge.

The blacksmith was a tall and sturdy youth. His skin was coarse, seemingly from traveling too much and exposed to the elements. Thus, he looked older than his actual age.

His shirt was wrapped around his waist. His bulging muscles seemed to be brimming with strength, ready to erupt at any moment.

He had a broad axe hanging by his waist, crafted with precious metals. The rays reflected from the sun were frightening and gave off an immense feeling. One could easily imagine a mountain being split into two halves with one wave.

The youth currently held a hammer made of an unknown material, looking like iron. Each time he swung down, silvery sparks would scatter.

He was refining another great axe, albeit different from the one hanging by his waist. The new creation was larger and more exquisite.

The blade was still purple despite being refined, seemingly originating from an immortal realm.

“Clank! Clank! Clank!” The youth followed a very particular rhythm while adding the utmost strength to each smash. Fire of life would ooze out from both hands each time, eventually turning the axe red. The waves of light also intensified and spread three more inches after each smash.

“Senior Brother Lin is incredible, this weapon should be one level higher.” Many students sighed with admiration.

Yang Ling and Li Qiye have also arrived. She watched the youth going all-out with the refinement while introducing: “Young Master, this is one of the five heroes of our academy, Sanban Furious Axe or Senior Brother Lin Hao. He’s one of the strongest students here.” [1]

Li Qiye only smiled before glancing at the great axe on the anvil. Lin Hao was in a state of absolute focus. The process was near completion so he didn’t dare to be careless. After all, it took three years to gather firewood for one hour of burning. Failing meant wasting all of his time prior. He had already refined this axe twice.

The spectators watched him with bated breath.

Lin Hao was a famous character in Duality, a member of the Duality Five Heroes. It consisted of the most brilliant students, not limited to any class or age as long as they were still part of the academy.

Moreover, Lin Hao was considered a great role model because he was the only one with a mediocre upbringing.

Countless cultivators have excelled in history. However, the number of true masters who had a bad upbringing might be limited.

For example, a genius might have a lowly background relative to the rest. However, they might still be from a small sect or a declining clan.

On the other hand, Lin Hao actually came from a village in the holy ground. Not just his parents but even his ancestors were mere farmers.

He rose in a meteoric manner despite his background. His cultivation soared after joining Duality Academy and surpassed the senior brothers and sisters. He eventually became one of the five heroes.

"I think this refinement will take that axe's power to the next level." One student praised.

"He spent a lot of effort on it. This golden flame cauldron is used year-round, the waiting list is several years long. He used a lot of connections to skip the line for the sake of crafting this dao source true treasure." Another revealed.

"More than that, he borrowed a highest-grade hammer from a teacher. Its name is Violet Thunder, a famous treasure here. Everyone wants to borrow it."

"This is his third time refining it."

"Right, this weapon didn't come easily. When he came up with the materials back then, even the teachers helped him gather some of them. It's really valuable." One female student added.

A dao source true treasure was a big deal. Normally, at the samadhi level, a cultivator would be able to create a treasure to pair with their dao source.

They would only have one because this treasure would grow with their cultivation. The fate palaces carried it, the true fate embraced it, and the dao source encompassed it.

This could be considered a defensive weapon since it was tasked with protecting a cultivator's true fate and grand dao. Having it destroyed meant either being crippled or death.

Cultivators had numerous ways to gather other weapons including those at the dao lord level. However, it was impossible to take someone else's weapon and turn it into their dao source true treasure.

Thus, many chose to cultivate one after reaching the samadhi realm so that they could grow together.

Meanwhile, Lin Hao continued smashing the treasure with the special hammer. The materials didn't come easy, especially given his abilities and background back then. The teachers protected and supported him in his effort to gather them.

Thus, he truly valued this great axe. The refinement process was difficult but he persevered. This was the third time.

“Clank!” Eventually, the wave of light emanating from the blade had reached its limit.

“Good!” Lin Hao roared and after a loud explosion, the flames of life oozed out from his body. They seemed animated and brimming with life.

The flames wrapped around the axe and carried it into the cauldron. Now, the cauldron was being activated by the flames.

“Boom!” Flames erupted like a magnificent volcano.

“Return!” Lin Hao roared and the flames that went out returned back to the cauldron to refine his axe. This process was repeated numerous times.

The powerful flames were under his control, unable to leave the cauldron. Its power served to refine the great axe, imprinting the fire element into the blade.

“Amazing, these are the advantages of having an inborn fate palace and a special cauldron of life. So strong.” Everyone watched in awe.

There was a reason why a mortal like Lin Hao was able to join Duality. He had an inborn fate palace with a special symbol - his cauldron of life. His fire of life was different from everyone else’s. Thus, this made him a perfect blacksmith - among the top two at the very least when counting just the students.

Nonetheless, just relying on the fire of life wasn’t enough. This was common knowledge.

Thus, using the cauldrons here meant adding wings to a tiger. That’s why they all came to Myriad Cauldron Peak to refine their weapons. This place allowed everyone to become a blacksmith.

Chapter 3614: Weapon Refinement

The cauldron refined Furious Axe’s weapon continuously. The lights accumulated each time looked like visual phenomena to the astonishment of the spectators.

“Boom!” Finally, the scorching flames from the cauldron soared upward and struck the sky. Everyone took a deep breath in response.

“Those innate advantages are something else.” Some students had to admit. They were impressed by his blacksmithing skill and felt envious. No one else in the crowd had a special cauldron of life like him.

After the flames dispersed, the dao source true treasure landed on his hand. It was filled with auspicious purple energy, especially the blade. This made it hard to see its actual appearance.

This energy also felt attuned with the grand dao as if the two could fuse and release the strongest explosion. Moreover, there were faint crimson rays capable of piercing through space. They possessed extreme heat.

Thus, the axe had incomparable sharpness and a fire affinity capable of melting its foes.

“That’s a great weapon.” Even the older students became impressed.

“Activate!” He shouted with the axe in his grip.

“Boom!” A vast, crimson continent descended along with loud explosions.

The students looked up and felt as if space itself was being crushed. A few shuddered with fear.

“So this is a myriad-form sanctity weapon... That’s one of the five heroes for you.” Everyone was impressed.

“Right, Senior Lin Hao might not be the strongest but his blacksmithing is second to none.” Others nodded in agreement.

“Congratulations. Senior Brother Li has heard of this and wants to come in person to congratulate you.” One student walked closer and cupped his fist.

He wore full armor, looking gallant and fierce - always ready to fight. Just one glance was enough to know that he came from a military family.

“I appreciate his goodwill.” Lin Hao nodded in response.

“He wishes to prepare a banquet for you to celebrate your new weapon. I’m here to invite you...” The armored student’s name was Liu Jinsong.

The listeners exchanged glances after hearing this.

“Looks like Li Xiangquan wants to recruit Lin Hao.” An older student murmured.

“It’s understandable. Li Xiangquan is ambitious and wants to move up the court and inherit his father’s position of Grand Commander, under one man but above all.”

Li Xiangquan was also a member of the five heroes. His title was Cold-eyed Lightning Sword. His father was one of the most influential men in Vajra.

“It’s alright, no need to go to so much trouble.” Lin Hao declined.

Liu Jinsong became awkward and dropped the issue, quietly retreating. His father was a general under the Grand Commander. He was naturally under the banner of Li Xiangquan.

“Congratulations, Senior Brother, how about a drink tonight?” A different student came forward with a smile.

Lin Hao was the only hero with a humble background and enjoyed the least wealth and power. Thus, he was a great target. Everyone could see that his future was bright. Befriending him now meant gaining incredible benefits later on.

“Senior Brother, your dao source true treasure has returned to the original state. Once you reach the sacred level, it should completely dominate same-level treasures.” Another student praised while looking at the great axe.

“Your blacksmithing is already number one at our academy. If you refine this weapon again after reaching the sacred level, it’ll improve considerably.” One more said.

“Right, that’s my plan.” Lin Hao nodded: “I’ll use a stronger flame next time. If I can reach the refinement limit, it might be able to contend against Heavenly Sovereign weapons while I’m at the grand sacred stage.”

“You’re the only one among the five heroes who harbors such bold thoughts.” An older student praised him.

“That’s suicidal.” While the crowd and Lin Hao thought that this was a good idea, a nonchalant voice interrupted them.

This was a time for celebration but the comment immediately ruined the mood. The speaker seemed to be purposely antagonizing Lin Hao. No one would appreciate the untimely interruption.

People looked over and saw an ordinary youth - Li Qiye. He has been watching the refinement process as well.

Yang Ling became startled because it sounded like Li Qiye was cursing the guy.

“Who is this brat running his mouth?!” One student said seriously.

“That’s Li Qiye, a fierce guy who doesn’t hold back versus anyone.” Another recognized him.

“Hmph, he can’t compare to the five heroes.” A different peer snorted.

“Fellow Classmate, what did you mean by that?” Lin Hao’s brows furrowed, clearly unhappy.

He spent untold effort to craft his treasure and was ecstatic after succeeding. He was planning the next steps in order to maximize its potential.

Anyone with less self-restraint would have been furious at Li Qiye by now.

Yang Ling became worried because of all the unfriendly stares from Lin Hao’s fans. She tugged on Li Qiye’s sleeve, telling him not to speak.

“Your dao source true treasure has reached its limit in power and toughness. Using a stronger flame for another refinement will break it.” Li Qiye glanced at him and replied.

“Do you not know that Senior Brother Lin is the best blacksmith in our academy? A wild child like you knows nothing about blacksmithing, stop spewing bullshit.” One fan immediately retorted.

Lin Hao grimaced and said: “I don’t think this is a problem, on what basis do you claim this?”

How could anyone know his treasure more than him? He personally created and was too familiar. He didn’t notice anything wrong with it so he remained skeptical.

“Senior Brother Lin, don’t listen to him.” Liu Jinsong shook his head and laughed: “He’s just a woodchopper from Myriad Beast Mountains. How can he know anything about blacksmithing? A genius like you shouldn’t pay attention to a nameless junior.”

Jinsong tried to curry favor so he put down Li Qiye.

“The young master is knowledgeable and experienced in all domains. There’s a reason why he said it.” Yang Ling backed Li Qiye up with haste.

“Really? So I guess he probably read a few books and thinks that he’s a master now.” Jinsong snorted.

Chapter 3615: Difference

“You!” Yang Ling was livid but had no response.

On the other hand, Li Qiye was calm from start to finish. He smiled: “I’m a master indeed, there’s no other on my level.”

The crowd exchanged glances since they didn’t expect a haughty response. They thought that he was being ridiculous.

Lin Hao frowned again. He always chose humility even though others praised him as the top student blacksmith in Duality. He never claimed to be number one.

Now, Li Qiye showed no hesitation in declaring his supremacy. It sounded baseless and overly egotistical.

Some students started sneering and jeering at Li Qiye. The academy had plenty of blacksmiths. Though they might not be as talented as Lin Hao, they were brilliant in their own right.

Another student aware of this subject scowled: “Ignorant brat, there’s no other on your level? You probably haven’t even seen enough blacksmithing methods and processes.”

“Remember where you’re standing. This is Duality Academy, a place with countless geniuses. A country bumpkin like you still knows nothing after reading a few books.” Liu Jinsong had a look of disdain.

Li Qiye ignored all of them and told Lin Hao with an insipid tone: “Feel your dao source true treasure. Another refinement will destroy it.”

“Enough!” One fan shouted. They construed Li Qiye’s comments as bad luck.

“It’s not too late to apologize to Senior Brother Lin or I’ll teach you a lesson.” Another loudly threatened.

“That’s right.” Liu Jinsong took advantage of this in order to please Lin Hao. He went on: “Brat, you better have some evidence or this is just cursing Senior Brother Li. Hmph, he might be too nice to stoop down to your level but I won’t let this go.”

Li Qiye paid them no mind and started leaving.

“Hmph, running away after knowing you’re wrong.” One student sneered: “You’re better off going back to be a woodchopper, don’t come out and embarrass yourself.”

“At least he knows his place.” One more said with contempt.

However, Liu Jinsong didn’t want to let Li Qiye off so easily. He roared: “Brat, stop right there! You think you can leave after insulting Senior Brother Lin? Not that easy.”

Li Qiye still turned a deaf ear towards them and walked up the stone steps, heading for the pinnacle.

“That’s it, you’re the one asking for it.” Jinsong’s eyes flashed with chilling aggression. He walked forward, ready to attack.

Lin Hao raised his hand and stopped him. He said seriously: “This young noble is only expressing his opinion, there’s no ulterior motive and I’m not harmed, drop it.”

Jinsong stopped and smiled at Lin Hao: "You're too merciful and benevolent, I have nothing but admiration for you."

"Senior Brother, the brat clearly insulted and tried to give you bad luck, maybe he's jealous of your skill." Another student said with indignation.

Lin Hao didn't respond and started pondering.

"Senior Brother, don't worry about his bullshit." A different student saw his expression and hurriedly consoled: "That ignorant brat has no grounds to talk on this matter."

Lin Hao remained silent. He found the whole thing strange. After all, there was no feud between them; they didn't even know each other. Why would Li Qiye need to do this?

Meanwhile, Yang Ling was vexed while walking behind Li Qiye. "They don't appreciate your good intentions and even laughed at you, so out of line!"

Li Qiye chuckled and didn't really give a damn, unlike the angry girl. Eventually, Li Qiye stopped and started touching the wall of the peak.

"Do you notice anything different?" He asked.

Yang Ling found this question unexpected. She looked around before shaking her head: "No, it's still the same as always."

She has been here numerous times. Myriad Cauldron Peak didn't change at all.

"No, look carefully at the cauldron itself." Li Qiye shook his head.

Yang Ling focused up and tried to observe meticulously before answering: "I see, there's no embedded cauldron here. Wait, no cauldrons from the ridge to the top, all of them are at the bottom half."

"Anything else? For example, the rock right here." Li Qiye rubbed the wall.

Yang Ling stared at the wall and saw weed, dirt, and vines - nothing too peculiar.

"I don't know." She eventually gave up.

Li Qiye then wiped the wall clean, revealing its true appearance.

"Take a look." He smiled.

Yang Ling came closer and found that there was something strange. There were numerous layers stacking on each other. It seemed chaotic yet still adhering to an unknown order. She just couldn't grasp it.

She knocked on the wall and found it awfully tough. She took out a weapon and tried to dig. This proved futile.

Remember, her weapon was sharp enough to cut down steel like mud but this wall remained undamaged.

"Why is it so hard, is this still rock?" She stared at Li Qiye, surprised.

“That’s the difference.” Li Qiye smiled: “Now tell me where this new composition starts.”

“Above the midway point, why?” She murmured.

“Because a master has refined a weapon here before.” Li Qiye commented while looking upward.

“A dao lord?” She also looked up: “I heard a story from a teacher before. When Apricot Dao Lord refined her weapon, stars were dragged down from above. They were refined and forced into the cauldron. Since the heat wasn’t enough, the dao lord even pulled down several suns and extracted sunfire from them...”

She became lost in another legendary tale. This dao lord was incredible, capable of using the celestials for the refinement process.

That scene must have been magnificent. Witnessing it in person required the blessings of three lifetimes. Alas, she was born in the wrong era and couldn’t see Duality Master’s peerless style or Apricot Dao Lord’s invincibility.

Chapter 3616: Eruption

As Yang Ling was fantasizing about the resplendent past, a poof could be heard as flames appeared around Li Qiye’s hand.

“I’m about to refine a weapon.” He glanced at the flames with a smile.

“Really?” Yang Ling said: “Which cauldron are you picking? I’m afraid there are students waiting every day, you’ll have to line up.”

“No, the one at the peak will do.” He said.

“The master cauldron? Young Master, It has been extinguished for who knows how many years, not even a little spark or any trace of heat are left.”

“I’m here now, it’ll be there.” Li Qiye nonchalantly responded.

Yang Ling was at a loss for words from hearing this domineering response stated in such a casual manner. She felt that this was actually a possibility as if his words would definitely come true. The flames of the master cauldron would return. She didn’t need any reason to trust him.

“Zzz...” Vapor formed the moment he touched the wall. His dao truefire melted the rocks as if they were snow and ice. His hand started sinking deeper into the peak while she watched curiously.

“Poof!” Yang Ling also activated her own flames and copied his action. Unfortunately, there was no melting sound. The rocks had no reaction to her flames, let alone melting.

She didn’t give up and roared, adding more power to her flames. This still didn’t leave a single mark.

“Zzz...” As Li Qiye delved deeper without any resistance, white fog oozed out.

Yang Ling found this astonishing after her own experiment. Her cultivation was higher than Li Qiye but her flames couldn’t do a thing to the rocky wall.

“Young Master, why can’t my dao truefire do anything?” She asked, perplexed.

“Do you know what these rocks are?” Li Qiye chuckled.

“Just regular rocks, no?” She shook her head.

“No, they’re the waste products from the refinement processes of the dao lords and Heavenly Sovereigns.”

She was startled at first and started thinking. Eventually, she realized something: “Young Master, you’re saying that the walls starting at the ridge aren’t actually part of the peak. They’re just layers added by the historical refinements?”

“That’s right.” Li Qiye smiled.

She thought that this was quite plausible. The refinement processes of the great masters were certainly magnificent. It wasn’t easy creating an invincible weapon; it required beating all the challenges while needing immense materials.

Thus, the melted materials have accumulated on top of the peak.

“I see, I get it now.” She murmured. Though the rocks and stones forming the upper portion were nothing more than dregs, they were still extremely tough. After all, they used to be priceless materials.

That’s why her weapon and dao truefire couldn’t melt the rocks. The great masters must have utilized a terrible temperature in order to do so.

Of course, she had no explanation as to why Li Qiye was able to do so despite being weaker than her.

“Zzz...” By this point, it was as if Li Qiye’s hand could reach the deepest part of the peak, able to touch the core of the cauldron.

Yang Ling suddenly felt a heatwave rushing past her face. The most intense flames of the peak seemed to be oozing out.

“Rumble!” The entire peak started quaking.

“What?!” She stared at Li Qiye, slack-jawed. She absolutely knew that this had something to do with him.

“What’s going on?!” The other students were alarmed too. Perhaps that this was an earthquake?

“It’s not an earthquake.” They looked around and noticed that the other peaks were just fine. Only Myriad Cauldron Peak was shaking.

“This seems like a volcanic eruption. Can this peak erupt?” One student shouted.

“No way.” The others didn’t agree.

“Poof!” Amidst the speculations, the master cauldron that has been dormant for eras suddenly released a fiery strand.

This was noticed by the students sightseeing on the pinnacle.

“The master cauldron is on fire! There are flames there now!” This news spread extremely fast.

“What did you say?” Some couldn’t react after hearing this.

“The master cauldron has fire again!” Those who saw this in person repeated.

“How can this be? It has been extinguished for millions and millions of years.” Other classmates didn’t believe it.

“It’s absolutely true, I saw it with my own eyes along with others.” The person swore to the crowd.

“This might be right, the peak quaked earlier. Maybe something changed.” Another student said.

“I guess it’s possible, this might be an accumulation after so many years.” One more friend speculated.

“Come, let’s take a look up there.” Students started flying up the peak instead of walking.

The news spread across the entire academy. Many students lost their patience right away.

“We need to hurry and be in front of the line. This is the master cauldron, using its fire for refinement might boost our weapons by several levels.” One guy ran with all of his might towards the pinnacle. This could be seen all over the academy.

The teachers also caught wind of this. One ancestor-level teacher frowned and said: “What a strange development, the master cauldron had no reason to wake up.”

The other high-elder teachers began talking about this matter with a serious expression.

“Right, we should investigate it.” Another teacher said.

“Others might be salivating now too.” One was worried.

“In the holy ground, no one desires our legacies more than Vajra.” An older teacher smiled and said: “I actually want to see if their grandmaster dares to come here, it’ll be a good opportunity.”

Chapter 3617: Cauldron Fire

While others rushed towards the pinnacle, Li Qiye pulled his hand back from the peak.

He had a handful of dirt or rather, dregs from the peak. The dregs have turned into the toughest rocks after millions of years, unafraid of dao truefire. However, Li Qiye’s fire managed to melt them.

“Zzz...” What’s left started disintegrating in no time at all. What resembled a large rock became the size of a pinky. The rest turned into smoke instead of a molten form.

Yang Ling naturally found this impressive since her fire couldn’t damage the rocks at all, let alone disintegrating them completely.

Eventually, what’s left was only slightly thicker than a strand of hair. It rolled and coiled within his fiery hand, looking like a tiny dragon. The fire didn’t seem to affect it anymore.

Yang Ling took note of this and realized that this tiny piece might be extremely precious and tough.

“What is it, Young Master?” She became curious.

Li Qiye actually dropped the little thing into her hand. She instinctively caught it before thinking about the implication - Li Qiye's fire has already burned it red. It would definitely burn her hand.

Surprisingly enough, it didn't have a hint of heat at all. On the contrary, it felt rather cool and soft just like a tiny snake playing on her palm. She was surprised to see the dregs refined into something so magical.

"There's a saying - one hundred refinements to make fine steel. What about ten thousand refinements?" Li Qiye smiled.

"Ten thousand refinements?" Yang Ling had heard of this popular phrase before.

"This place is perfect for creating an excellent weapon." Li Qiye stared at the top and continued: "Duality Master had his reason for bringing this peak here, the same with letting dao lords and Heavenly Sovereigns borrow it."

"What is the reason?" Yang Ling became curious.

Li Qiye answered with a smile and continued moving up the steps.

"Young Master, you want to refine the weapon right now?" Yang Ling followed right along.

"No rush, the time isn't right yet. Let's just go take a look." Li Qiye chuckled.

Yang Ling stared at Li Qiye and thought that he was more and more mysterious and unfathomable.

Previously, she assumed that he was just a woodchopper. This was no longer the case. A woodchopper living in the wilderness wouldn't be so knowledgeable. The question became - who the hell is he?

Meanwhile, the pinnacle was filled with people. All the students came to see the show; of course, some wanted to grab the best spots to start early for potential refinement.

It wasn't as flat as expected and had the concave shape of a pot. As for viewing from a distance, it would resemble an inactive volcano.

For millions of years, the sovereigns and dao lords refined their weapons in this place. The dregs and impurities were left behind around the master cauldron, stacking up into piles.

These piles and layers gave the appearance of an iron pot at the top. They have turned into tough dirt and rocks by this point, acting as part of the peak.

The students had no idea what these layers were made of and assumed that this was the normal shape of the peak.

Some might have known about this history after listening to the teachers but they wouldn't care either. These dregs were useless at this point.

The center looked like the bottom of a pot with an opening serving at the cauldron's mouth. Next to it was a large stone anvil, extremely old with weeds growing on it. It was entirely black and didn't look special.

An iron hammer was placed on top. It had rust spots all over. The handle was made from some type of wood, as dirty as can be.

All eyes were staring at the mouth of the cauldron since there was a fire, only a little brighter than a candle.

“It’s true, the master cauldron has fire again.” The spectators were astonished.

This little fire was far from enough to start refining. However, it carried special significance.

“Seems like the master cauldron is awakening.” An older student said: “I wonder how much time is required for a full awakening.”

“We can start refining our weapons when it’s strong enough.” Another student became eager.

“We need to line up. I’m the first here so I’m up first.” One more said loudly.

Everyone followed the voice and saw that it was Liu Jinsong.

The rules of the peak required people to sign up in an orderly fashion, first-come-first-serve.

“You’re not the first here.” One unhappy student said.

He wasn’t afraid of anyone and retorted: “I’m the first to sign up, plus, this spot is reserved for Senior Brother Li. If anyone disagrees, then you can compete with him for it. I’ll gladly hand it over when you win.”

“Then when and how long? So that we can register.” A different student asked.

“We’ll start once the fire is strong enough and after we gather our materials.” Jinsong said.

“So you just want to keep it for yourself.” The response wasn’t well-received. Who knows when this fire would be truly ready?

“That’s not my intention, I’m just following the rule since I’m the first to start the list.” Jinsong said.

The others had nothing to say since this did make sense.

“It’s useless to be hasty, that much fire is far from enough.” Another friend glanced at the candle-like fire.

Everyone agreed. The fire was weak enough and might actually go out at any moment. They didn’t need to compete with Jinsong for now.

“What about the hammer? Can we take it?” The attention turned towards the iron hammer on top of the anvil.

“It’s the hammer used by the dao lords back then. I’m afraid we can’t pick it up.” One upperclassman answered.

Chapter 3618: Iron Hammer

Rumor has it that this hammer has always been on top of the anvil after being used by the peerless masters.

The loss of the fire meant that no one else came to refine weapons so the hammer was abandoned and forgotten.

“Have to at least give it a shot.” One student said: “Maybe it’s different now. The master cauldron is ablaze again so perhaps someone else can raise the hammer again.”

“We don’t lose anything from trying.” A decisive soul said before coming forward and grabbing the hilt. “Up!!!”

Unfortunately, the hammer didn’t even move an inch regardless of how much strength he mustered.

“Boom!” He released his vitality and chaos true energy. This was everything he got but the hammer still didn’t move.

“Can’t, its weight is immeasurable. Plus, it seemed to have taken roots and became one with the entire peak.” He smiled wryly while shaking his head.

“Let me try.” Another didn’t buy it and came forward.

He grabbed the hilt and let out a roar resembling a bull. He became shrouded in a golden light and transformed into a massive bull brimming with energy.

“Senior Brother Chen’s divine bull bloodline is impressive indeed.” Other students nodded approvingly.

He was a demon with a divine bull bloodline. Because of this, he was known for his physical prowess and had the nickname of “behemoth”.

“Up!” He thunderously cried out but all of his strength wasn’t enough. His bulging muscles couldn’t move the hammer at all.

“This hammer is so weird, it’s probably heavier than this peak.” He eventually gave up and dispiritedly said. He was capable of lifting a dozen mountains, just not this hammer.

Other powerful students came to give it a shot; all naturally failed.

“Senior Brother Lin, your turn?” One student standing next to Lin Hao asked with a smile.

Lin Hao also rushed to this place after hearing about the news. However, he was disappointed after seeing the weak flame. It would have been a great chance for him to take advantage of his blacksmithing skill and refine his weapon using the divine flame.

“Forget it, I can’t.” He shook his head after seeing so many failures: “Maybe only dao lords can lift it.”

“Just try, you won’t lose anything.” A senior sister revealed a pretty smile and urged.

“Yes, what if you can actually lift it? You’ll be the main topic of the academy!” Others persuaded.

“Fine, I’ll try.” Lin Hao couldn’t refuse so many and begrudgingly walked forward.

He grabbed the hilt with both hands and took a deep breath before shouting: “Up!”

His vitality was as vast as an ocean, brimming with chaos true energy. His muscles bulged while he became resplendent just like a bottle containing the grand dao.

This naturally impressed the spectators. One senior sister commented: "The body becomes the vessel of the grand dao while the grand dao becomes the treasury of the body. This phrase is exemplified by Junior Brother Lin. His foundation is among the best in the academy."

The students were envious of his current state. This was a testament to his indomitable dao foundation.

As a regular mortal, he didn't have the best mantras and merit laws to start with. Nonetheless, his body and grand dao have been refined numerous times through training. His average cultivation laws didn't hold him back.

The same scene happened. He tried his best to pull up but this was only an ant struggling to pull up a tree.

"Let's go!" He roared and released his ten fate palaces. "Boom!"

The palaces hovered above, looking intimidating with loud explosions. They lined up and formed their own firmament.

"Ten palaces forming a grand avatar." One student shouted.

It was impressive for such a young student to be in the Myriad-form Sanctity realm. That's why he was deserving of his spot among the five heroes.

"Poof!" The palaces poured down an endless amount of life fire, looking like an ocean amassing in the firmament.

"Boom!" The flames then came together to form a visual phenomenon - a fire god pulsing with flames capable of incinerating everything.

Lin Hao was no longer there; it seemed that he and fire god were one now.

Many became startled to see this new development. This fire god phenomenon was clearly the manifestation of his special cauldron of life.

"Rumble!" The fire god used all of its power to lift up the hammer.

The entire peak quaked once as a result. Everyone felt that even the earth could be pulled up, not just the hammer.

Alas, this wasn't the case. Lin Hao's mighty technique was proven ineffective. He had no choice but to give up.

"Looks like I don't have the ability to lift it." He recalled his technique and assumed his original form, albeit covered in sweat from top to bottom.

"No one can move it." The classmates present wanted to give up.

As one of the five heroes, Lin Hao was one of the strongest students in Duality Academy. The rest didn't have a chance.

"Maybe call First Sister? She might be interested." Someone thought about their best student - Dugu Lan, one of the four greatest geniuses in the holy ground.

"It's useless, she actually tried several years ago." An older student shook his head.

"Then only dao lords and top Heavenly Sovereigns can lift it." The first speaker concluded.

"Not necessarily." Another joined the conversation.

"Teacher." People followed the voice and saw Teacher Du standing there since who knows when.

Teacher Du heard about the awakening and came to take a look.

"Teacher, who else can lift it?" One student asked.

"The hammer was brought back by Duality Progenitor, it's special. Top masters are capable but also the fateful ones." Teacher Du smiled.

"Fateful ones? Who?" The students exchanged glances, thinking that this response was too vague.

What were the criteria? Power? Talents? Or something else?

Chapter 3619: Challenge

Fate was an intangible concept for the students. This didn't explain who would be able to grasp the hammer.

Teacher Du only smiled and instead focused on one person who just got here.

"Young Master Li, you're here too." He smiled.

Li Qiye and Yang Ling finally arrived and saw the massive crowd. Yang Ling had to pull him through them to make it to the cauldron's mouth.

Other students naturally glanced at Li Qiye since a teacher took the initiative to greet him. Moreover, Li Qiye had some fame right now in Duality.

Of course, this was strictly limited to his strange style with the boar. The majority hasn't met him before and merely became curious.

Some also disliked him and showed it on their face, such as Lin Hao's fans.

"Young Master, will you give it a shot?" Teacher Du waved at him and said: "This hammer is a treasure of our academy, only the dao lords and a few sovereigns can pick it up."

This request surprised the students right away.

"Teacher, you're playing with us, right?" One student regained his wits and laughed: "Senior Brother Lin Hao is one thing, even First Sister couldn't do it, let alone a woodchopper."

Others started laughing as well. Another said: "Teacher Du is trying to be partial and letting everyone have a shot regardless of who they are."

"Such shallow opinions." The usually hot-headed teacher was in a good mood today. He smiled and shook his head, not annoyed in the slightest.

The students became bolder after seeing this and didn't hold back.

“Teacher, the geniuses of our academy can’t do it, let alone someone at the conqueror level.” Another student stated his skepticism.

“That’s right, a person who can wield this hammer can’t be at the conqueror level and definitely not an ignorant woodchopper.” Those who didn’t like Li Qiye took advantage of this opportunity to insult him.

“If he can lift the hammer, then I’ll swallow all the dregs here.” One more took it to the next level.

Not all of them actually looked down on Li Qiye since the hammer was only used by the top masters. Putting aside the past, Dugu Lan in recent times couldn’t pick it up.

However, Teacher Du ignored them and smiled at Li Qiye: “Young Master, feel free to try.”

“Do it, Young Master, teach those dog eyes a lesson, stop them from looking down on others.” Yang Ling felt indignation for Li Qiye and urged him.

“Junior Sister Yang, don’t be so naive.” An older female classmate shook her head and said: “How could someone at his cultivation lift this hammer? Trying will only invite embarrassment.”

“Our young master’s methods and ace cards are beyond your imagination.” Yang Ling retorted.

“That’s useless, only absolute power matters here. Princess, you don’t understand. To be frank, one needs to be at the Myriad Dao Heavenly Physique to even try, this is the starting point.” One student disagreed.

“Just let him do it so that we all can watch. I guess some are better at inviting humiliation and embarrassment than others.” Someone who didn’t like Li Qiye snorted.

Teacher Du didn’t bother correcting these students and waited for Li Qiye’s choice.

The latter’s eyes were fixated on the cauldron fire. It was weak enough to go out from a gust of wind. He frowned and walked closer.

“Stop right there, you can’t come closer!” Liu Jinsong immediately shouted at Li Qiye.

“What, there’s an order?” Li Qiye glanced at him.

“Yes, and I’m first in line. No one should think about cutting before I finish.” Jinsong coldly stared at Li Qiye.

Others became annoyed but didn’t bother contesting him. After all, the fire was still too small right now. They would be wasting their effort.

“Oh? So are you refining one now?” Li Qiye chuckled.

Jinsong considered this disrespectful. His expression soured as he uttered: “A junior like you shouldn’t worry about what I do. Scram to the side while I still have some patience or don’t blame me for being impolite.”

Teacher Du furrowed his brows after seeing Jinsong’s attitude but continued to observe. He wasn’t worried about Li Qiye’s safety.

“That’s my line. Be smart and run away or I’ll make mincemeat out of you.” Li Qiye’s smile turned into a smirk.

The audience was stunned to hear this. They didn’t expect Li Qiye to be so haughty.

Jinsong’s father was a general in Vajra but he didn’t need a strong backer. He wasn’t a piece of trash needing his clan to back him up. In Duality, he was considered an excellent student, maybe not comparable to the five heroes but far stronger than most.

“Make mincemeat out of me?” Jinsong wildly laughed from being too angry: “Hahaha, this is the funniest thing I’ve heard recently.”

He then glared at Li Qiye and sneered: “You’re only at the conqueror level yet you dare to run your mouth before me? I can kill you within three moves and offer your dog head to the cauldron.”

“I see.” Li Qiye casually responded: “I just need one swing to get rid of you.”

“Hahaha!” Jinsong’s anger reached its limit. How could he let a conqueror-level junior speak to him in this manner?

“Let’s see what you got then.” Jinsong waved his hand to challenge: “We’ll do it right here. Just know that when we start, I’ll definitely kill you. It’s not too late to get on your knees and beg for forgiveness.”

“No need.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Senior Brother, don’t kill him so fast, teach him a lesson first, show him how vast this world is!” One student shouted.

“Yes, this is what he gets for booking down on Duality! Beat him into submission, knock his teeth out and make him roll around in pain, asking for mercy!” Another shouted.

Many started clamoring and jeering. In their eyes, Li Qiye stood no chance against Jinsong.

Chapter 3620: Kingslayer

The majority urged Liu Jinsong to teach Li Qiye a lesson. His power should be more than enough to crush someone like Li Qiye, perhaps within two or three moves.

Some even thought that just killing Li Qiye would be doing the guy a favor. He was too haughty and even insulted Duality.

Ultimately, he was still an outsider who wasn’t welcome here. His arrogant attitude was considered a direct provocation to the academy.

That’s why even the neutral crowd couldn’t help wanting to see him taken down a notch.

“Li, make your move. I just need three, no, two moves to crush you.” Liu Jinsong stood forward and stared at Li Qiye with murderous intent.

“I advise you to utilize your best merit laws and treasures, prepare the best defense too. Otherwise, you won’t have the chance to even resist one swing.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Hahaha, your mouth is the most impressive part about you.” Jinsong was livid. He had met people stronger than him but none ever looked down on him like this. His chest was about to explode from anger.

“I can’t wait to see how he’ll smash Senior Brother Liu when he has to rely on his own skills.” Another student didn’t believe it.

“Hmph, he can’t beat Senior Brother Liu without some sorcery or trickery. Not even Senior Brother Li can do it.” Another student shook his head.

“Just let him brag all he wants, we’ll see the result soon enough and it won’t be pretty. If it were me, I would take my time while stomping on him, no rush in killing him.” One more sneered.

“Boom!” Liu Jinsong roared and gathered his power. His vitality and chaos true energy rushed out like a tsunami.

Many students staggered backward after feeling his momentum.

“Poof!” Samadhi flames oozed out and surrounded him. He turned into a fire domain that could burn everything.

“Buzz.” He activated his fate palaces as well - a total of eight floating above his head. The true fate was located in the center, assuming complete control. It had three dao rings rotating around it, looking holy and mystical.

“Eight palaces, he’s at the grand level of samadhi.” One student commented.

Each realm allowed the formation of one fate palace. However, this process was only truly completed at the grand level when the particular fate palace became available for use - a full opening. The realms were divided into the grand, intermediate, and minor level.

The minor levels focused on using energy to strengthen the body, resulting in an external radiance. On the other hand, the true fate utilized chaos true energy and the body to power up.

As the true fate grew larger and stronger, it would be able to open the fate palace and enter the grand level.

The new palace also absorbed the previous affinities and powers along with the mysteries of the grand dao. Thus, the body, true fate, and fate palaces all supported and matured in harmony.

Since Jinsong had eight palaces, it meant that he had reached the grand level of samadhi, not far away from breaking through to the yin yang realm.

As for the three rings around his true fate, this showed that he cultivated three mantras at the yellow, black, and earth level.

“Clank! Clank! Clank!” Crimson armor plates latched onto him with fiery symbols on them. This was obviously a powerful defensive treasure refined from a powerful truefire.

“The Crimson Marquis’ Fiery Aegis.” Everyone was surprised to see this.

“Isn’t he taking this brat too seriously to put on the general’s armor?” Another added.

This treasure was given to him by his father. It could easily stop an attack from other treasures at the same level.

"Hmph, that Li guy has no chance of injuring Junior Brother Liu when he has that armor on." A senior sister snorted: "Remember, the general wore that to numerous battlefields. It's extremely tough."

Jinsong also took out a sword and a shield and clanked them together. Fiery sparks and sonic waves emanated; the latter was rather unbearable.

"Kingslayer Sword and Unsurpassable Shield, his favorite treasures." Another student commented.

"Junior Brother Liu is using a butcher's knife to kill a chicken." One senior brother laughed after seeing this: "He can easily decapitate that guy now."

"Isn't he being too careful? Does a conqueror brat require all of this effort? What a waste." The other friends snorted.

Most thought that just the sword alone was enough, no need for the shield and armor. This was akin to using a sledgehammer to crack a nut.

"Right, just one slash and that guy's head would be rolling on the ground, no need to bother putting up a defense." A different student agreed.

"Brat, I'm waiting, how are you going to turn me into mincemeat?" Jinsong prepared well enough and said.

Of course, he didn't think Li Qiye was actually a threat. He merely wanted to make fun of Li Qiye while showing off his treasures.

"Senior Brother Liu, I don't think he can even tickle you right now." A student joked and the crowd laughed with him.

The disparity in power was too obvious. Jinsong was in the samadhi realm while Li Qiye was in the conqueror realm - a gap of two full realms.

This was before taking Jinsong's treasures into account. Li Qiye could try everything and it would still be meaningless.

"Brat, take out your weapon, show everyone what incredible artifact you got." Jinsong haughtily looked down on Li Qiye.

"A brat from the mountains can't have anything impressive. Just a high-level black one would be too much for him, truly shocking." A student laughed.

"Hey now, he might have one but he can't use it anyway. Probably can't even lift it up." Another shook his head. Though this was an unpleasant insult, it did have a shade of truth to it.

"Young Master, do you want to borrow my weapon?" Yang Ling wanted to help Li Qiye after seeing the crowd against him.