

Emperor 3631

Chapter 3631: Going Too Far

True or not, there were plenty of rumors and stories regarding this Foredoomed Star. Many students believed in them so they viewed her as something to avoid.

“Look, they’re coming out now.” One student shouted and all eyes turned towards the entrance.

Li Qiye walked out first with Yang Ling and Fan Bai behind him.

Though Fan Bai walked with confidence due to Li Qiye’s encouragement, her eyes still avoided others. Her expression remained timid. It became worse once she noticed herself being the focus of everyone. She hid behind Li Qiye right away.

“That’s her.” Another pointed it out.

“She’s the Foredoomed Star?” One student had seen her back in Myriad Beast Mountains and became surprised.

It was hard to connect her to the symbol of bad luck since she looked just like an ordinary girl.

“Why would misfortunes linger around her?” A female student sympathized after seeing the delicate and frail girl.

“Perhaps it is a curse from the high heaven, a predetermined fate.” One student speculated.

“It’s that serious?” Most felt dread after hearing this.

Cultivators certainly had impressive abilities, able to soar in the sky and enter the earth. They weren’t afraid of anything. Well, there was one exception - the high heaven.

Even the strongest cultivator feared the heavenly tribulations. Most believed that the high heaven had eyes, meaning that it was real and could affect the mortal realms. A curse from the high heaven was nothing short of horrific.

“She’s the Foredoomed Star!” A member of Zhang Changyu’s group pointed at Fan Bai.

“So?” Li Qiye lazily stared at the crowd and smiled.

“Hand her over, this is for the sake of the academy!” Zhang Changyu roared. He still remembered how Li Qiye stomped his face a while ago and wanted to drink the guy’s blood. He gathered powerful students in order to deal with Li Qiye this time.

“You must be tired of living, no need for the young master, I alone can teach you a lesson!” Yang Ling barked back.

Zhang Changyu found it exasperating that Yang Ling would always stand up for Li Qiye against him.

“Princess, this is not my opinion alone but rather, the will of the academy. Must you go against the tides?” Zhang Changyu actually retorted this time.

“Who cares what others want, I just know that I’m more than enough to deal with you, someone who wants to bully a little girl. You’re throwing the academy’s reputation away along with your manhood.” She answered with disdain.

Changyu turned red, unable to answer because she was indeed stronger than him.

“Junior Brother, you’re incorrect.” Yan Jingxuan standing next to him replied: “This pertains to the safety of everyone at the academy, we need to be prudent. This has nothing to do with bullying.”

“Bah! Look at how aggressive you are. I thought students of Duality are dragons and phoenixes among men. Why are you all so afraid of this ominous legend? How are you going to go outside and make a name out of yourself? Might as well just run back to your mother.” Yang Ling snorted.

She naturally offended the majority of students. They didn’t take it in stride.

“I agree with Senior Sister Yang.” One student nodded. The female students seemed more prone to support her.

“Well said, I like how straightforward you are.” Li Qiye clapped and said: “As for you lot, look at how afraid you are despite being students of Duality. It can’t be the number one academy of West King like this.”

“Li, watch your mouth! You only got here recently yet have caused so much trouble, is it still not enough?!” One student roared at Li Qiye.

It was none other than Huang Qibing. His divine bull was roasted by the old servant. Though Li Xiangquan compensated him later, he was still annoyed.

Of course, this was rather understandable. Most would feel the same way.

“I agree that there has been so much trouble since he got here. It’s not a good sign.” One student said.

The others thought about it and sure enough, Li Qiye was the source of many events recently.

“Maybe a Heavenly Tribulation will be next.” One student said: “I was there at Myriad Beast Mountains. Li Qiye tricked one hundred thousand men. Corpses piled up and blood flowed like rivers. A tribulation might be possible.”

“True.” Most have heard about this horrific event by this point.

“So now he’s together with the Foredoomed Star, it’s a terrible sign. If it’s an actual curse from the high heaven, anyone who made contact with them is probably going to be very unlucky.” Students started talking among themselves.

Zhang Changyu’s group was glad to see this shift in narrative.

“Li, did you hear that? You can’t stay here out of consideration for Duality Academy.” He declared.

“Have you forgotten about the previous lesson and my words? Still so stupid. I can only assume that you’re tired of living. It’ll be a miracle if you can walk out of this place.” Li Qiye lazily glanced at him.

This was pouring salt on the wound. Li Qiye specifically brought up this humiliating event so Changyu was furious.

“Li, if you don’t give us a reasonable explanation, it won’t end well for you and that unlucky girl! You can’t do whatever you want at the academy!” He shouted.

“As if your bunch can stop me from doing what I want here.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“Fellow Student, you’re being too arrogant and inconsiderate of others.” A calm voice answered. The speaker landed from above, not far from the temple.

He had an impressive momentum - akin to an awe-inspiring rainbow.

Though he didn’t have a silver spear and a stallion, people could easily see the scene of him riding one into battle. He seemed ready to rush into an enemy’s camp and sweep through his foes uncontested.

“Stallion Silver Spear!” Many shouted after seeing him. The girls were especially loud, completely taken by his heroic style.

“Senior Brother Zhang.” The older male students put on a serious expression.

Stallion Silver Spear - Zhang Yunzhi, one of the five heroes. Some considered him to be on the same level as Li Xiangquan; both were from Vajra.

His father was the current Grand Chancellor in Vajra; this was about even with Li Xiangquan’s father. One was in charge of the officials; the other was in charge of the generals.

Coincidentally enough, the two of them were excellent students in Duality, also evenly matched.

The most interesting part was that Li Xiangquan looked like a scholar despite having a military background. On the other hand, Zhang Yunzhi looked like a young general. This contrast made the rivals quite interesting.

Moreover, the Zhang was actually quite ancient. They have been supporting previous dynasties way before Vajra.

Thus, this clan was more than just a cultivation clan. They were also versed in education and administration.

Chapter 3632: Ignorantly Fearless

“Senior Brother!” Stallion Silver Spear Zhang Yunzhi’s arrival made Zhang Changyu ecstatic. [1]

Changyu got himself another backer so he became bolder. After all, just Yan Jingxuan wasn’t enough.

Zhang Yunzhi’s status at the academy and his clan’s influence in the holy ground were enough to deal with anyone. People would need to think twice before opposing him.

“Our Duality Academy has plenty of hidden dragons and crouching tigers.” Zhang Yunzhi told Li Qiye: “Your words showed a lack of respect for Duality.”

"I don't see any true dragon and white tiger here, only a bunch of frightened idiots. Please don't flatter yourselves as such but in the case that you actually believe it, then I'm afraid that you have a deep misunderstanding of what dragons and tigers are." Li Qiye started laughing.

His arrogant laughter made the crowd quite unhappy. They believed that just being a student here was a testament to their exceptionalism. Thus, Li Qiye's assessment was viewed as a blatant provocation. Their wrathful eyes fixated on him said it all.

"You're out of line." Zhang Yunzhi furrowed his brows and solemnly said.

"Is that so? The students here claim to be the heaven's favorites yet they want to chase away a little girl over some rumors. How is this appropriate for members of the famous academy? Only a bunch of frightened children." Li Qiye replied.

Though many students didn't outwardly state their concern, most wanted to banish Fan Bai out of the academy. It was better to be safe than sorry.

"She's not a little girl, just the embodiment of bad luck!" Zhang Changyu coldly uttered: "Why should the school keep someone who is cursed by the heaven around?"

Fan Bai lowered her head again from the pain. This was not the first time she heard it and it still truly affected her each time.

"Oh? You're not the heaven, how do you know she's cursed?" Li Qiye snorted.

"Facts proved that she's cursed. Anyone who helped her all died a terrible death. Even their sects and clans went down. That's all the proof one needs." Yan Jingxuan said.

"Right, I personally know two sects that have been reduced to nothingness after being involved with her, that's why she can't stay here!" Huang Qibing shouted.

Fan Bai listened to the whole thing and became increasingly distressed. She tried her best to not cry behind Li Qiye.

The students agreed with this notion more. Earlier, they felt bad after listening to Li Qiye since Fan Bai was indeed just a young lady.

Alas, this so-called Foredoomed Star was followed by numerous calamities. No one would be at ease knowing that she was here in Duality.

"That's right, we can't let her stay here! Chase her out of Duality, this is for the greater good!" One student shouted.

"I support this decision, misfortunes will come to both the academy and us." Another friend yelled.

"We're being nice enough by just asking her to leave. Do it or we'll teach her a lesson." One more said furiously.

An overwhelming majority wanted Fan Bai to leave. The neutral party was fewer in number.

Fan Bai who had just gained some confidence quickly lost it. This feeling of helplessness was present every time people chased her away.

She didn't dare to face the crowd while hiding behind Li Qiye. Meanwhile, Yang Ling was furious.

Unfortunately, she couldn't say anything because too many others were yelling. The mass was against them.

"We shouldn't let this source of disaster linger in this world. We should burn her to stop her from inflicting further destruction." Zhang Changyu shouted with a twisted and fierce expression.

"Bah, you're not a man, you only pick on people weaker than you!" Yang Ling retorted.

"I'm only thinking for everyone else and the holy ground. She is nothing but trouble, burning her is the only way to get rid of the problem!" Zhang Changyu's face turned red but he was emboldened by the supporting students.

Fan Bai trembled in horror and leaned closer to Li Qiye.

"All of you, come then, let's see if your skills are as formidable as your mouths." Li Qiye smiled at them.

"You're the one suggesting this." Zhang Changyu glared at Li Qiye in response.

"Yes, come and do your best now." Li Qiye gestured provocatively with his hand.

"So bold!" The other side was furious at this total contempt.

"Junior Brother Changyu, teach him a lesson now." An upperclassman said.

"Senior Brother." Changyu stared at Zhang Yunzhi, waiting for instruction.

"A competition is fine, so that outsiders can't say we're afraid of a fight." Zhang Yunzhi smiled.

"Good!" Changyu became confident and shouted: "Li, I'm taking your dog head today!"

"You alone? Seems like a scar is not enough to forget about the pain. You didn't learn the lesson from last time." Li Qiye taunted.

"And if I join?" Yan Jingxuan said: "Since you're challenging all students from Duality, I can't just stand and watch."

"Count me in too." Huang Qibing stood up, ready to avenge his divine bull.

The three of them walked forward and exchanged glances. All three clearly wanted to kill Li Qiye judging by the murderous glint in their eyes.

"Anyone else? Remember, this is to the death." Li Qiye smiled.

"Hmph." Some students scowled in response. They also stared at Yunzhi, clearly waiting for his instruction.

Yunzhi gazed at Li Qiye and said: "Just our three friends here are enough. Fellow Daoist, go all out now, don't blame them if you were to die from holding back."

"We're more than enough to kill you." Huang Qibing said.

Though he has heard of various rumors about Li Qiye, he didn't buy that a woodchopper at the conqueror level could be that strong. Moreover, there were three of them. This should be more than enough to kill him.

Chapter 3633: Breakthrough

Zhang Changyu, Yan Jingxuan, and Huang Qibing surrounded Li Qiye.

"Clank!" Zhang Changyu unsheathed his sword. Its glint erupted like a vast ocean. The sword seemed to be containing a torrential power.

Yan Jingxuan summoned a violet sledgehammer, seemingly made from lightning. It had currents surging along with the occasional thunderous explosions.

Huang Qibing chose dual-wielding short halberds made from high earth-level dao bones. It had runes depicting dragons and phoenixes. Thus, one halberd was draconic and the other of the phoenix affinity; it consisted of both offense and defense.

"Today is your last day! I will decapitate you!" Zhang Changyu gritted his teeth and threatened. Killing Li Qiye was the only way to wash away the previous humiliation.

The other students began commenting. One of them murmured: "There's a clear difference in power, not to mention three on one. Senior Brother Jingxuan is far stronger too. The outcome is obvious to anyone."

"Not necessarily, their foe is Li Qiye, the son of miracles. His cultivation doesn't prevent him from beating stronger people, don't forget about the hammer." Another shook his head.

The students took a moment to think. In history, only dao lords and top sovereigns were able to lift the hammer off the anvil.

Generations of students in Duality have tried and failed. This was definitely a miracle.

"True, don't use common sense to judge Li Qiye." One more added: "Teacher Du said that he is extremely devilish, no one else can match him in this regard. The impossible becomes possible with him around."

"You can attribute the hammer thing to luck, he might not be that strong. This is an actual fight, luck isn't enough. Just losing one move can result in death." Someone else didn't buy it.

"Senior Brother Yan, teach him a good lesson!" One spectator shouted.

"Let him know that the academy's prestige isn't to be trifled with!" His friends did the same.

The majority was annoyed by Li Qiye's attitude so they hoped that the three would be able to take him down a notch. They became quite excited at the prospect.

"Li, since it's three against one, you start first with whatever moves you want." Changyu pointed his sword at Li Qiye.

"Seems like there's a misunderstanding." Li Qiye shook his head and smiled: "I won't be the one fighting. She is." He slowly stepped back and revealed Fan Bai who was hiding behind him.

Fan Bai didn't know what to do after hearing that she would be up to fight these three.

"I... I..." She stammered and stared at him: "Young Master..."

Just facing the crowd was an ordeal to her, let alone actually fighting. She trembled with fear.

"What?!" Yang Ling became startled and stopped Li Qiye: "No, she has only cultivated for a few days, how can you let her fight? She has no chance."

The rest didn't expect Fan Bai to fight instead of Li Qiye either. The whole thing made little sense.

"Is this a joke? One finger is enough to crush someone of her cultivation. This isn't a fight." One student loudly said.

"Is the brat crazy? Letting a new cultivator fight against those three? Ridiculous." Everyone stared at Li Qiye and Fan Bai.

"He must be trying to kill her." A student with a darker mindset speculated: "Hmph, maybe he knows that he can't win, that's why he's letting her die instead. This coincidentally ends the whole debacle with him not doing anything."

"So despicable and shameless, he wants to use Zhang Changyu's group to eliminate the Foredoomed Star. He's selling her and betraying her trust." Some began looking down on Li Qiye.

"Scummy traitor." Another insulted him.

"Is this a joke?" Zhang Changyu didn't expect this development either.

"No need to use a butcher blade to kill chickens, this young miss here will do. Just one move is enough." Li Qiye smiled and confirmed.

"What did he just say?" Both Yan Jingxuan and Huang Qibing couldn't believe their own ears.

"She will kill us with one move? More like the opposite." Jingxuan stared at her and said.

"Hahaha, I've never heard something funnier than this!" Huang Qibing laughed and said: "A new cultivator wants to kill us with one move? You must be dreaming."

Other students certainly agreed with this statement.

"This Li guy is crazy, to even say something like this..." One student said.

Everyone could tell that Fan Bai had only started cultivating recently. Her cultivation was shallow and insignificant. Even the weakest student in Duality could beat her in one move.

"Young Master..." Fan Bai didn't know how to deal with this and was about to cry.

"You can't let her go to her death!" Yang Ling shouted.

Li Qiye ignored her and stared at Fan Bai: "If you can't take the next step today, you will never be able to. You'll always be branded as an unlucky star. Remember, your life is in your hand, no one else. You don't need charity or pity from anyone."

Each word of his had a special rhythm striking deep into her mind. They kept on echoing inside - reaching her dao heart and ocean of consciousness. The words washed away her unnecessary emotions such as fear and self-abasement...

She became affected by his rhythm and began to calm down. This put her into a magical state.

“Go now.” He ordered. These two words alone instilled endless courage into Fan Bai.

She had unconditional trust in him so she walked towards her three opponents. Her cute and frail appearance has disappeared; she became an entirely new person.

Negative emotions were nowhere to be found. She threw away the past in order to face this tribulation and welcome her new life. She wanted to use actions to prove it, that her fate was her own. She didn't need pity and charity from anyone else.

She closed her eyes and relaxed, looking dignified. This wasn't because she was afraid of looking at others. No, it was because she didn't need to look at them anymore. She only needed to look at herself and truly reflect.

“Buddha Bowing.” His voice echoed in her head: “All Buddhas shall bow before my supremacy...”

The mantra began affecting her vitality.

Chapter 3634: Buddha Bowing, Supremacy

Fan Bai reached the profound mysteries and dispelled all confusions at this moment.

There was only one phrase in her mind - Buddha Bowing.

All Buddhas shall bow before my supremacy...” She became immersed in an ocean of knowledge and fused with the boundless Buddhist dao.

“Start.” She spoke softly as if mumbling. However, everyone clearly heard her; the word continued to echo in their ears.

She closed her eyes and lowered her head, akin to a supreme Buddhist Lord ready to chant a great mantra. The gods and devils were instantly purified.

The students of Duality suddenly saw the scene changing, that Fan Bai was no longer a frightened girl or the Foredoomed Star. She was now an ancient Buddha from the past.

Just one word alone transformed her into this ultimate state. She could become the lord of a great domain, becoming part of the holy ground and an eternal Buddhist dao.

Yang Ling watched in astonishment. She had seen Fan Bai cultivating the simple movement before numerous times.

She thought that Fan Bai was wasting time and energy in doing so, going as far as wanting to teach her some merit laws from Duality.

The movement was considered simple and meaningless. It couldn't be viewed as a technique. Even the simplest martial art from the mortal world was a hundred times better. Of course, this all changed once Fan Bai assumed her sacred state.

"Is this magic? We're seeing things, right?" Some students composed themselves and shook their head.

"We'll see about that! This is nothing but trickery, you can't scare us. Let's go!" Zhang Changyu shouted and glanced at his teammates.

He was the first to attack with a horizontal slash unleashing torrential waves of a dark green shade. They wanted to swallow Fan Bai and pierce her heart.

Yan Jingxuan also made his move by taking one powerful step forward to slam his sledgehammer downward: "Break!"

He released explosive sound waves with unstoppable momentum. The terrains in front were decimated.

"My turn!" Huang Qibing also attacked with haste, using both halberds at the same time. The right halberd resembled a black dragon with sharp claws capable of lacerating everything. The left halberd assumed the shape of a phoenix. It flapped its wings and shot out gales and feathers - all aiming at Fan Bai's weak spots.

These three weren't the best students in Duality. However, they were far stronger than cultivators at the same age.

On the other hand, Fan Bai was a junior who had only started cultivating recently. She absolutely stood zero chance.

Normally, just Changyu alone was more than enough to deal with someone like her. It was shocking to see the three working together. People would have made fun of them for doing so.

"How could a little girl stop their combined attack?" One student said: "Li Qiye is so despicable, offering the girl to them..."

As the three moves were soaring towards her, she finally lifted her hand in what seems to be slow motion.

However, she wasn't that slow. It's just that time and space seemed to be freezing from her hand movement. A new momentum was rising along with Buddhist mantra and grand dao.

This new affinity was firmly within her grasp. It felt so natural and voluntary. Fan Bai had a new aura but there was also a hint of Li Qiye's presence.

"Buzz." A Buddhist radiance engulfed her. Laws of this doctrine accumulated around her and mantras could be heard. Each could flatten 100,000 miles of land.

Her true fate emerged as she turned into the lord of Buddhism. The laws and dao of this belief seemed to be originating from her.

The students had no idea that in the holy land right now, the power of this affinity was gushing out just like an endless ocean. It continued flowing and entered her body, allowing her to use it freely.

In this blink of an eye on White Deer Peak, an old man opened his eyes and became startled: “Who is using this Buddhist power?”

He activated his heavenly gaze and instantly saw Fan Bai’s hand movement since he was the closest there.

In an old shrine in Heavenly Dragon Temple, an aged monk felt this power and couldn’t sit still. He stared towards the horizon and placed his palms together: “Amitabha, a fortune for Buddhism.”

In a pavilion inside Divine Ghost Division, one old man stood up. His blood eyes could see through the samsara. He became startled and said: “Who is it? To have such high attainment in Buddhism, a high monk from Heavenly Dragon Temple?”

Deep in the royal palace of Vajra, two people became alarmed. One of them looked around, shocked. “There are only two people in the holy ground that can channel this much power, the donkey from Heavenly Dragon and that man, how can he be alive?”

The other smiled wryly and shook his head: “Another potential unrest, what a shame.”

Alas, these great masters failed to see one thing, even the old man in Duality didn’t notice it despite being so close.

They only saw how Fan Bai was channeling Buddhist energy from the holy ground, not that she has taken root in the ocean of Buddhism. There was a sliver of a different power emanating from her. It was murderous and contained the might of the high heaven.

However, its murderous affinity has been purified. Even those who could sense it wouldn’t think of it as aggressive, only that it was one of the purest forces in existence - the force of life.

This unique power was fusing perfectly with Fan Bai. The holy ground of Buddhism began serving to gestate this power along with Fan Bai.

On the other hand, this power also gave back to the holy ground. It refined worldly energies and essences then sent some back. Thus, the two affinities complemented each other in an immaculate manner.

Unfortunately, no one understood this wondrous process and that when Li Qiye changed Fan Bai’s fate, he also established a foundation for her to utilize these energies. Fan Bai herself had no idea.

“Boom!” The three opponents were confident of their sure-kill moves. Alas, they were blown flying and started vomiting blood. They then smashed into the ground, bloodied.

The spectators became astounded; some didn't believe their own eyes at this battle that had just abruptly ended.

Chapter 3635: My Fate Is My Own

The spectators thought that this might be the strangest thing they have ever seen in their life. A new cultivator actually defeated top students from Duality Academy.

The gap in cultivation should have been insurmountable so this was an impossibility. Just think about it, trying to defeat someone one level higher was tough enough, let alone a whole realm. This required powerful treasures or special methods.

Beating someone a whole realm higher could be considered miraculous. The victor would have to pay a huge price, most of the time.

But what about two, three, or even more realms? Everyone would consider this suicidal right away. That's why they thought Li Qiye was pushing Fan Bai towards her death. Even a fool knew that this was hopeless since the current disparity went beyond three realms.

One was a new cultivator while the other side was at the samadhi realm. This was akin to an ant trying to fight three giants at the same time.

Because of this, Li Qiye was reviled by the students. They thought that he was despicable for choosing this option.

Now, their mouth was wide open while their mind was empty. They couldn't accept this development. Even the defeated party had no idea what was going on.

They were certain that their moves would kill Fan Bai. However, the boundless Buddhist power descended and they saw a supreme lord instead of a little girl. This ancient Buddhist lord could easily take anyone down.

Even the top talents such as Zhang Yunzhi were lost. They didn't see everything clearly. Fan Bai simply pressed her hand down; this wasn't a technique at all. Nonetheless, the simple move managed to defeat three geniuses.

Yang Ling was the most affected one out of them all. She saw this simple movement many times previously and even wanted to teach Fan Bai something better. This shocked and embarrassed her.

The technique was fine; the problem was her lack of knowledge and inability to see through the mysteries. This merit law was created by Li Qiye so she began staring at him. She found him to be unfathomable despite his ordinary appearance.

"It's that simple, defeat your heart devil first then subdue your foes." Li Qiye said.

Fan Bai eventually regained control. She had no words to describe her current emotions. She stared at her hands and saw the light of dawn leading her to untold possibilities.

She was no longer the rat who needed to hide. There was no need to feel inferior to anyone. Fear and weakness were no longer necessary.

She has done nothing wrong in the past and still suffered greatly. Her fate did a number on her but now, she could finally change and control it.

She didn't need to wander aimlessly and lament her own situation. Now, she can be herself, a new Fan Bai instead of the Foredoomed Star.

"My fate is up for me to decide." She murmured while looking at her hands. Tears inadvertently streamed down her cheeks.

When she was being reviled and chased, she always held them back. Tears would only flow once she became alone. Staying tough mentally was crucial in order to survive.

Now, the tears had nothing to do with fear and pain. This was because her life has completely shifted direction.

"Kill them." Li Qiye interrupted her emotional reflection.

"I..." She stared at the three opponents, unable to answer. She had never killed anyone in the past. Plus, this would be a serious offense in Duality.

The students heard this and exchanged glances. No one told her to stop because the winner had the right to do whatever they wanted.

This was a fight to the death in the first place, not a friendly spar. The three would have killed Fan Bai in the case of her defeat. It was a matter of course for her to return the favor.

"Go!" Zhang Changyu's group heard this and was horrified. They wanted to run while Fan Bai was still lost.

Unfortunately, a black shadow got in front of them and stopped them from escaping after several steps.

"Boom!" They got sent flying by the aggressive shadow, smashing into the ground once more while vomiting blood.

People finally got a good look at the shadow - it was Li Qiye's boar that somehow got behind and hit them just now.

It grumbled a couple of times before returning to its place. Everyone became speechless.

"Ah..." The trio moaned and groaned. The boar hit their chest and broke bones all over. They couldn't even move now, let alone trying to escape.

"Do it." Li Qiye didn't bother to look at the three squirming on the ground.

"Young Noble, help us!" They had to ask Zhang Yunzhi for help.

Yunzhi grimaced since he didn't expect the trio to lose. He thought that they would actually be able to capture Li Qiye.

"Fellow Daoist Li, the outcome is decided. They have lost and admitted defeat, how about sparing them?" Yunzhi asked Li Qiye.

All eyes turned towards Li Qiye. Most would give Yunzhi some face because opposing him was unwise.

“Hmph, forget about it, they wouldn’t have spared the young girl if she had lost.” Someone scowled and answered before Li Qiye could.

Chapter 3636: Kill

The crowd followed the voice and saw that the speaker was none other than one of the five heroes - Samban Furious Axe, Lin Hao.

No one retorted because this was an obvious truth. In fact, the trio would have killed Fan Bai then moved on to kill Li Qiye as well. It was understandable for Fan Bai to kill them now after winning.

In reality, Zhang Yunzhi was wasting his breath. Li Qiye didn’t give a damn about him and Fan Bai only listened to Li Qiye.

“This will ruin the atmosphere of Duality.” Zhang Yunzhi frowned and said.

Lin Hao snorted in response: “Three top students attacking a new cultivator, that’s what Duality is about? Nothing is worse than this in the first place, they’ve embarrassed themselves; it’s their fault for being weaker.”

Lin Hao was as direct as can be. Zhang Yunzhi’s expression soured but still kept his cool

The students thought about it and some agreed with Lin Hao. Nothing was more humiliating than three grown men losing to a little girl. This wasn’t the spirit of Duality Academy.

Of course, none of them said anything because they had wanted to chase Fan Bai out.

“Do it.” Li Qiye told Fan Bai, ignoring the plea.

Fan Bai took a deep breath and walked slowly forward. She was in the best state of mind, no longer a frightened girl.

“Don’t, don’t be insane!” Zhang Changyu turned pale with fear as he shouted: “This is a serio-serious offense in Duality..”

Fan Bai ignored him; she only had ears for Li Qiye.

Yan Jingxuan was overwhelmed with dread as death was approaching. He shouted: “I am a prince! Touch a hair of mine and there will be no place, for you in the holy ground...”

“Li Qiye! Tell her to stop!” Huang Qibing bellowed.

Unfortunately, Li Qiye didn’t listen. Fan Bai moved her hand and brimmed with Buddhist energy.

No one saw how she did it but the technique was already underway.

“Boom!” It smashed onto the three, reducing them to particles before they could scream. The particles then scattered with the wind; nothing was left behind.

The crowd couldn’t believe it. The trio was so confident at the start and now they no longer existed.

Zhang Yunzhi's expression became ugly. These three were his henchmen or little brothers. Now, they died because of Li Qiye in spite of his pleading. Li Qiye didn't give him any face at all. He scowled and left, not wanting to linger behind.

He arrived in a cool manner while leaving in the opposite way. This was quite embarrassing but all he could do right now was to hold a grudge.

"Anyone else wants to chase her away?" Li Qiye smiled and asked the crowd.

Meanwhile, Fan Bai calmly stood still like an entirely different person. She could finally stare straight at the crowd and meet their eyes without hesitation.

It didn't matter if they thought of her as the Foredoomed Star. This was no longer important since she knew that she was just herself.

Those shouting earlier for her banishment kept their mouth shut this time after seeing the demise of the trio.

"Leave if there's nothing else." Lin Hao laughed and told them.

They exchanged glances and started dispersing. As they were leaving, one student murmured: "How could a new cultivator defeat those three? Magic or sorcery?"

"Who knows? I didn't even see how she did it." His friend shook his head.

Everyone saw her move her hand up and down but that's it. They didn't notice anything peculiar yet it was enough to defeat three powerful cultivators.

"Are you forgetting that she's the Foredoomed Star? Maybe she used this ominous power. Well, we just don't know anything about this evil power." A smart student speculated.

Many found this to be a logical explanation.

"No, I feel that her power is very close to Buddhism. It's similar to Heavenly Dragon Temple." A stronger student mused.

"No way, Heavenly Dragon Temple is a system of our holy ground. Its power comes from the blessing of the Buddhist dao lords. She has a cursed fate, how can she use Buddhist power?" Someone disagreed.

Most thought that Fan Bai couldn't possess an orthodox power of the Buddhist doctrine. They assumed that she had access to an evil and ominous force.

The old man on top of White Deer Peak stopped watching. He sat back down on his chair and sighed while feeling pretty good: "I'm so lucky... truly unfathomable..."

Fan Bai was just a regular girl yet Li Qiye immediately taught her how to borrow the power of the holy ground. This was terrifying.

He was shocked to see the process because very few in this world could do so. Just the little girl was dreadful, what about the master?

He shivered and thought that he was wise for being subservient.

After the students were gone, Lin Hao came closer and bowed towards Li Qiye: "Dao Brother, I was blind back then and didn't know that you are a master blacksmith. Please forgive me."

A while ago when Li Qiye criticized his weapon refinement, he didn't agree and thought that Li Qiye was spouting nonsense.

However, he was smart enough to change his mind after seeing the guy lift the hammer on top of the pinnacle.

He came back and carefully thought about his own weapon and other possibilities within the refinement process. Eventually, he chose to believe Li Qiye and came here specifically to seek advice.

"What is it?" Li Qiye said flatly to the polite guest.

He smiled wryly and rubbed his head: "Dao Brother, I took my time to consider your comment last time and I think there are problems with my refinement process. I come here to respectfully ask for guidance." Lin Hao got straight to the point.

Li Qiye glanced at him and responded: "Your stupidity is still salvageable, able to change your mind."

Lin Hao coughed awkwardly after hearing this comment. He then sincerely asked: "Dao Brother, what are the flaws with my technique?"

"The problem isn't your technique." Li Qiye said: "It's that you're too persistent, brittleness comes with toughness, think about it." He then entered the temple again.

"Brittleness..." Lin Hao took his time pondering.

Chapter 3637: Teach You One Move

While inside the temple, Yang Ling stared at Fan Bai with curious flashes in her eyes. She asked: "How did you do it? It has to be magic, right? Just one hand wave and you defeated those three. I think only First Sister can do it out of all the students right now."

"Just like this." Fan Bai waved her hand. She didn't have a good grasp on her own power.

"Like that?" Yang Ling copied Fan Bai's action. In reality, she has seen this numerous times before and was relatively familiar.

Alas, she tried and tried but nothing happened. On the other hand, Fan Bai could instantly control a majestic Buddhist power to eliminate her foes.

"There must be something I'm missing." Yang Ling concluded. This movement looked extremely simple and useless in battle. Even a weaker foe would easily strike her down if she were to do something like this.

"I don't know." Fan Bai shook her head. She didn't know the innate mysteries right now because she hasn't reached the right height. Once at that level, she would have full mastery over it.

Li Qiye told the old servant that she would be able to stand at the apex. Understanding this power was essential.

"Mmm, Young Master, what is this peerless merit law?" Yang Ling had no choice but to ask Li Qiye.

"Buddha Bowing, it's useless to tell you anyway since you don't know." Li Qiye flatly responded.

"Young Master, how about teaching me? Just a little bit is okay." Her eyes turned bright as she smiled.

"It's not suitable for you, I can try and you still won't be able to learn it. Everyone has a suitable merit law. That combined with perseverance is the only way to reach the apex." Li Qiye elaborated.

"Then what do you think is a suitable merit law for me?" Yang Ling was smart enough to go down this route while acting cute with her eyes.

"How do I know?" Li Qiye chuckled and ignored her request.

"Young Master, just teach me one or two merit laws?" She was also thick-skinned today and started acting coquettish: "No, even half a technique is fine, Young Master."

She realized that this could be a great opportunity, especially today due to the current mood.

"Fine, I guess this is fate." Li Qiye smiled and said: "How about Sword Point?"

"Sword Point?" Yang Ling became excited: "Are you talking about the technique left behind by Sword Emperor on Comprehension Peak?"

"Yes." Li Qiye nodded.

"You actually understood this?" Yang Ling was startled at first but then again, she thought that this wasn't strange. Li Qiye had a penchant for surprising people.

"What about the technique left behind by Duality Master?" Yang Ling became curious.

Li Qiye smiled without responding.

"You understood that too?!" This time, she was truly astonished. Anyone else wouldn't believe Li Qiye but she had absolute confidence in him.

"Young Master, can I learn that technique then?" She composed herself and blinked cutely.

"Hmm..." Li Qiye stared at her.

"Please, Young Master, I will work hard, harder than ever before, a hundred times harder." She hurriedly convinced him.

"Seems like you're smarter than you appear." Li Qiye shook his head and said: "Fine, I'll teach you Duality Master's technique, Palm Spread."

"Yes!" Yang Ling shouted excitedly after hearing this.

"Why do you want to learn this instead of Sword Point?" Li Qiye asked.

“Because Duality Master’s technique is unique. No one has been able to understand it or cultivate it.” Yang Ling revealed her thoughts: “This isn’t the case for Sword Emperor’s technique. He has plenty of descendants so this technique must have been learned by countless people in history. It lacks the same cool distinction.”

“Go, come at the right time tomorrow to train.” Li Qiye waved his hand.

Yang Ling cheered and ran out of the temple.

The old servant watched her leave with a rare smile on his face. He said: “The girl isn’t a bad person. She just has a shallow perspective.”

Yang Ling didn’t know that she had given up on the better opportunity in Sword Point versus Duality Master’s technique.

“Everyone has their own fortune.” Li Qiye said: “Two sides to everything, good and bad. A sharp sword is a great weapon but it can also easily cut the user. Palm Spread to gather the ocean is a stable merit law, good for mental tranquility. Of course, if she were to go far enough, Sword Point would have been more suitable. She’ll be able to make a name for herself with regard to the sword dao. Unfortunately, this dao has a sharp sword and a cold heart, not necessarily a good thing.”

“True.” The old servant nodded: “All paths are different. There have been plenty of masters in history but none can truly claim perfection.”

“A heart without regret is a type of perfection, something worth cultivating. Being number one at cultivation doesn’t equate a perfect dao.” Li Qiye replied.

The old servant paused for a moment before nodding his head, agreeing with the comment. He then took his leave to perform his duties.

On the next day, the old man came to visit again. He was more respectful and nervous this time while standing before Li Qiye.

He brought a long list and handed it to Li Qiye: “Young Master, these are all the ores and metals in our reserve, do you need any of them?”

The long list contained extremely precious metals and ores. Some were coveted by all. Just this list alone was indicative of Duality’s immense foundation and resources, no need to even bring up the treasures and artifacts.

Li Qiye took a gander at the list before glancing at the old man: “There are a lot of decent items but as for the real good stuff? Looks like their number is diminishing.”

“We descendants are unfilial.” The old man smiled wryly: “The reserve and treasuries have been increasing in size, just not anything truly valuable.”

There was a reason for this. The academy might have produced plenty of dao lords and sovereigns but they eventually created their own sects. They left behind gifts to pay the academy back but certainly not their best items.

“There are a few decent ones, just not suitable for me, it’s a shame.” Li Qiye shook his head and returned the list to the old man.

“I apologize for my uselessness.” The old man accepted the list and told Li Qiye: “I think two places might have what you’re looking for.”

“Oh? Go on.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“You certainly have heard of the first place.” The old man said: “Sacred Mountain.” He stopped here without elaborating.

“I know what you’re trying to say.” Li Qiye shook his head: “It’s not hard for me to go up there, it’s just that I don’t want to bother with the long trip.”

The old man thought that it was strange but didn’t pursue the issue.

“The other place is closer to Duality, Wish Ward.” The old man continued: “It’s the biggest market in the holy ground, might be all of southern West King too. You might be able to find what you need there. If not, they’ll be able to help you procure the items.”

He paused for a bit before finishing: “I heard that some top-level artifacts are there right now, many big shots will be coming to take a look. You should too, Young Master.”

“A bit interesting.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Would you like me to go make preparation?” He asked.

“No need, I can go take a look myself.” Li Qiye waved his hand.

Chapter 3638: Chi Xiaoyue

“The branch here of Wish Ward is the largest one in the southern West King, you can spend three days and three nights there and it still won’t be enough. I’ve been there several times so let me guide you, Young Master.” Yang Ling also wanted to follow along after hearing Li Qiye’s intent on visiting Wish Ward.

Li Qiye agreed and told the old servant and Fan Bai to stay in Duality. He packed lightly before embarking.

Yang Ling was ecstatic to be able to tag along. She prepared in a jiffy and waited for Li Qiye.

The two of them only got out of the entrance for a bit before a carriage slowly stopped near them.

“Creak.” The carriage door opened and a gorgeous girl walked out, brightening the scene in the process with her presence.

She had a special characteristic - a half-moon mark on her forehead. It didn’t hinder her beauty in the slightest and actually made her even more visually interesting.

She had a light touch-up of umber-black dye for her eyebrows; bright eyes and white teeth and a perfectly oval face. Her features were perfectly balanced, meaning that it was beautiful from all angles. One would never get tired of looking at her.

She wore a simple, light yellow dress - elegant yet vivacious. A pendant with a few gems was chosen. They made her look both youthful and noble. This was quite suiting for her aura - refined yet still amicable, hidden yet still prestigious. People wouldn't view her as being superior or conceited.

This was akin to having a noble or a big sister for a neighbor - something quite pleasant to enjoy.

She also had an air of auspicious clouds around her. They didn't originate from a merit law or cultivation but rather innate. It made her look mysterious.

"Princess Ling, Young Noble Li, where are you going? Would you want a ride?" Her voice was pleasant like an oriole chirping.

"Senior Sister Xiaoyue, we're going to Wish Ward." Yang Ling seemed excited to see this girl.

"What a coincidence, me too. Let's go together?" Her reserved smile resembled a blossoming apricot.

"Young Master, is that okay?" Yang Ling stared at Li Qiye, awaiting his decision.

Duality Academy was far away from Buddha Emperor Division. Moving on feet would take a considerable amount of time regardless of their speed.

"It's fine." Li Qiye smiled and carefully judged the girl without holding back, checking her inside and out.

She seemed free-spirited and at ease, not offended by his prying eyes.

The group entered the carriage and their journey began. From the outside, it resembled an ordinary carriage but inside was an independent dimension looking like a palace. Thus, this was a mobile palace.

"Senior Sister Xiaoyue, you travel with style." Yang Ling judged the carriage and praised. She was a regional princess of Vajra but didn't have a mobile palace.

"A senior in the clan lent it to me since my house is far from Duality." The girl smiled.

Possessing this artifact meant having a prestigious background. However, her pleasant words showed no sign of arrogance.

In the middle of the palace was a master chair. Li Qiye walked there and lay down without any hesitation. He seemed to be at home.

The girl usually rested there but she didn't mind Li Qiye taking her spot.

"Young Master, Senior Sister is one of the five heroes of Duality." Yang Ling introduced the two since she thought that Li Qiye didn't know.

"My name is Chi Xiaoyue, though this is our first meeting, I have heard of your name before since you're quite famous." Chi Xiaoyue bowed slightly.

Her title was Exquisite Pagoda. She usually kept to herself the most out of the five heroes. Moreover, she was the only one not from the holy ground.

Her clan was an ancient one located at the end of Righteous Sect. A mortal would never be able to traverse this distance, hence her comment earlier about the far journey.

“Call me Young Master.” Li Qiye chuckled.

Yang Ling shrugged, having grown used to his attitude.

Xiaoyue was surprised but she didn’t find this off-putting. She bowed and said: “Deference is no substitute for obedience. Nice to meet you, Young Master.”

“You’re smarter than that lightning sword or whatever, way stronger than them too.” Li Qiye nodded approvingly.

“Thank you, Young Master, for your generous praise.” She bowed again in a humble manner.

“From the Chi?” Li Qiye asked.

“Yes, do you know our clan?” She asked, curious.

She was surprised because she heard that Li Qiye grew up in Myriad Beast Mountains and didn’t interact with outsiders. Moreover, they were so far away from the holy ground.

“I’ve read about your clan before.” He smiled before pausing a bit and adding: “Time flies by so fast, things have changed.” He seemed to be ruminating after saying this.

“Young Master, Senior Sister’s clan had a dao lord before.” Yang Ling was afraid that Li Qiye didn’t know.

“The ancestor didn’t accept this title.” Xiaoyue sighed and said: “Something happened back then and the ancestor left early, not comparable to the other dao lords.”

“That aside, your ancestor really became a dao lord. It’s just that something unfortunate happened.” Yang Ling replied.

The holy ground wasn’t around when the Chi had a dao lord. Unfortunately, this dao lord entered the Life Forbidden Zone and never came out. This was a tragedy for their clan.

Since the start of the Myriad Dao Era, dao lords rarely disappeared without a cause. An exception was their dao lord - Scarlet Moon.

Back in the Chaos Era, many dao lords died or disappeared for a multitude of reasons. However, after numerous expeditions from Duck Egg Dao Lord, Azure Ancestor, Space Dragon Emperor, Golem Ancestor, Sword Queen, and many others, Eight Desolaces stabilized.

That’s why the case of Scarlet Moon Dao Lord from the Myriad Dao Era was considered aberrant.

Xiaoyue smiled and didn’t say anything. She didn’t take it too seriously.

“Your blood is quite pure.” Li Qiye suddenly changed the topic: “Two different bloodlines, I see, half from Pure and half from Half-moon. Two in the same body yet still pure, extremely rare.”

“You can see it?” Chi Xiaoyue became startled.

Her bloodlines weren’t considered a secret or anything but she never told outsiders. Moreover, her clan was reclusive as well. Only a few outsiders actually knew about her two grand bloodlines. Now, Li Qiye whom she had never met before was privy to this information.

“Yes. Half-moon and Pure Blood Tribe, so long ago.” He looked to be pondering again after saying this.

It was because he had nearly forgotten due to the passage of time.

“Young Master, how do you know so much about the Chi?” Yang Ling was surprised too.

She only knew that Xiaoyue was from the Chi. However, her knowledge was limited to general information. For example, the dao lord who had an unknown fate.

“I’ve read enough books.” Li Qiye smirked.

“Really?” Yang Ling was skeptical. She didn’t think that the bloodline thing would be written down.

“Then do you know the most famous story about the Chi? The one that is admired by all?” She wanted to test Li Qiye.

“What story?” Li Qiye smiled.

“You don’t know then, it’s a story envied by all future generations.” Yang Ling was happy to have the upper hand.

Chapter 3639: Beautiful Legend

“Go on.” Li Qiye didn’t mind the gloating girl.

“You know about their bloodline but not their legend? This is one of the most famous stories in all of West King. It’s very romantic.” Yang Ling rolled her eyes.

“Do tell.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“So it pertains to the progenitor of the Chi.” Yang Ling began: “Rumor has it that a very long time ago, well, too long for anyone to know when. The progenitor was only a mortal yet he was in love with a fairy from a big sect. Everyone thought that he was a frog trying to eat swan meat. No one expected him to actually be loved by the fairy. The two eventually got together. A mortal and a prestigious cultivator? How unbelievable.”

Her eyes brimmed with enthusiasm as she went on: “The most incredible thing was that their love stood strong and they grew old together as husband and wife, becoming a subject of envy...”

She had nothing but admiration and envy when talking about this famous legend. The story was indeed special.

After all, cultivators were virtually immortals in the eyes of regular mortals. They lived long and could travel freely with wondrous abilities.

Sadly, cultivators never cared about mortals. The latter was nothing more than ants.

Thus, a mortal and a fairy weren’t from the same world. The two shouldn’t even have the chance to meet.

Just imagine, a fairy of a sect had limitless potential. She could go on to become the sect master and be in charge of millions of lives. Moreover, she certainly had no lack of suitors. Prodigies from the other sects tried to court her.

Why did she fall in love with a mortal? Any listener would think that this was only a romantic fairy tale. Alas, these were the facts.

In the end, she chose to grow old with him. Remember, a cultivator could live for thousands of years or far longer. This was quite normal.

As for someone of her status and talents, she would have been able to live for tens of thousands of years without needing hibernation.

Therefore, her sacrifice became a song for future generations detailing the greatest love.

The Chi Clan became famous due to this story. They were founded by the two lovers and had always been reclusive.

Later on, it became more well-known due to Scarlet Moon Dao Lord. The talented cultivator brought the clan back into Eight Desolaces. Otherwise, it would have been more forgotten.

"It's just a false interpretation by future descendants." Chi Xiaoyue sighed after seeing the excited Yang Ling.

Yang Ling calmed down and asked: "Senior Sister, is the story not true? Your progenitor wasn't a mortal?"

"Our progenitor is indeed a mortal and his wife was a cultivator. However, a few things were exaggerated." Xiaoyue had to reveal.

"So the story is still true." Yang Ling let out a sigh of relief. The romantic tale was still grounded in reality.

"A mortal marrying a fairy must have been difficult." Li Qiye smiled and said.

"You really haven't heard of it, Young Master? This tale is widespread in West King, there are many leisure books and plays about it." Yang Ling was surprised.

"I see. It is worthy of being praised." Li Qiye looked outside and chuckled.

This story amused him. People always wanted to embellish certain tales and legends. Alas, the truth was usually hidden. Plus, there was no point in digging it out.

Thus, Li Qiye himself also didn't bother mentioning the minor details surfacing from his memories. It has been too long and he had almost forgotten about these people and events. This beautiful story and the perfect ending were better left alone.

"The inheritance of a bloodline, a sign of existence." Li Qiye said sentimentally.

A dead person would eventually be forgotten. However, their bloodline could pass down for millions of years. At the very least, a piece of them continued to exist. Maybe in a sense, this was another reason for reproduction.

As Yang Ling was lost in appreciating the story, Chi Xiaoyue noticed Li Qiye's strange expression.

Though she couldn't read him, she could see that he was thinking about something profound.

“What are you thinking about, Young Master?” She asked softly.

“I’m naturally appreciating the beautiful love, it’s not easy to be that dedicated to someone, very grand and admirable. A great outcome from a questionable beginning, a grand fortune after a potential disaster. This culminated into a perfect tale, few are as lucky.” Li Qiye stopped looking outside and said.

“Right, the ending is really perfect.” Yang Ling added.

“That’s what people say.” Xiaoyue nodded. Though exaggerated, this tale was still the beginning of her clan.

“Your progenitor’s wife is an amazing woman.” Li Qiye suddenly gave this opinion.

“You know more about the story?” Xiaoyue could tell that he knew something special. Today wasn’t the first time he heard of it.

“No, first time hearing this version.” Li Qiye chuckled, not worrying about the accuracies of the story.

“You’ve heard other versions before?” Yang Ling became curious, wanting to know everything possible about this perfect love.

Li Qiye didn’t answer. He rather left future descendants with a perfect love story.

“Seems like my heart has grown soft with old age.” Li Qiye sighed and said.

“Old? Young Master, when we first met, I actually thought that you were younger than me.” Yang Ling stared at him and said.

Li Qiye smiled because Yang Ling couldn’t see through him.

On the other hand, Xiaoyue tilted her head while pondering. She thought that this guy was unfathomable.

Prior to this, she had heard about his experiences back in Myriad Beasts Mountain. Nonetheless, the students of Duality still talked about him with a touch of contempt.

Now, after actually meeting him, she thought that he wasn’t just a simple woodchopper.

Chapter 3640: Wish Ward

The five divisions were located in Buddha Emperor Plateau. Among them, Metropolis and Buddha Emperor were in the same region.

In reality, Necropolis was rather loosely defined. The border areas, in particular, weren’t strictly allocated to a single division.

Here, dozens of cities or more were connected, hence the name Necropolis.

As for the floating one in the center, this was considered the core of Buddha Emperor Division, home to the court of Vajra Dynasty.

Beneath this giant one were numerous cities connected together - a true example of prosperity.

Officials and nobles from the court lived here along with other clans and sects.

All in all, Necropolis was definitely the most complex division in terms of inhabitants. Cultivators from all over the world came each day, not to mention the billions of mortals currently living here.

Duality Academy seemed quiet compared to this lively place. Plus, it was farther away from the Buddha Emperor Division.

In summary, Necropolis had the highest population, prosperity, and rowdiness out of the five. People usually compared it to the capital of Righteous Sect with regards to the factors above.

Chi Xiaoyue's carriage slowly stopped on a crowded street.

"Wish Ward is right here, would you like to get out now?" She opened the door for Li Qiye.

"Here is fine." Li Qiye walked down.

"Goodbye for now, Young Master, see you later." Chi Xiaoyue remained polite during the departure.

Li Qiye acted nonchalantly but Yang Ling kept on thanking Chi Xiaoyue until the latter told her to stop.

"Senior Sister Xiaoyue is definitely the friendliest person I've met. She doesn't put on an act so everyone in the academy likes her." Yang Ling commented while looking at the departing carriage.

Yang Ling was right. When talking about the five heroes, even Lin Hao with a humble background was prideful. He wouldn't talk to just anyone.

As for Li Xiangquan and Zhang Yunzhi? Nobles like them were even prouder and more arrogant.

This wasn't the case for Chi Xiaoyue. She was the easiest person to talk to and always treated people with respect.

In fact, her background might be nobler than the others. After all, the Chi was an ancient clan. All of this made her attitude even more amazing.

"She's a smart girl, who doesn't like a smart girl?" Li Qiye chuckled.

"You do too?" Yang Ling blinked at him.

Li Qiye smiled and didn't respond. His focus shifted to the arched door ahead.

The street they were on had a sea of people coming and going. People's feet were virtually touching; one could easily get lost.

The arched door in front of them had an ancient character carved at the center top - Wish. [1]

This stone door was massive and seemed suitable to be the gate of a city.

"This is the main branch of Wish, I love this place." Yang Ling spun happily around once and took a deep breath to bask in the lively atmosphere.

Duality was lively as well, just not when compared to this place. Cultivators from all over the world came in large quantities. Even mortals visited. The diversity here was incredible.

Li Qiye also smiled while observing the street.

“This main branch is probably the biggest market in the south, you can buy anything here.” She added, eager to come in.

This was far from being her first time here. However, as a girl, going shopping was quite exciting. There was plenty of merchandise here as long as one had enough money. She had prepared plenty of spending money before leaving.

“Anything?” Li Qiye chuckled. Other famous auction houses or markets in the past suddenly emerged in his mind. Now, they no longer existed.

“Yes!” Her eyes brimmed with excitement: “As long as you can pay the initial price, even dao lord merit laws are available for purchase. Well, I don’t know if this is true or not since I can’t afford them.”

“Let’s go take a look then.” Li Qiye smiled and entered the front gate with Yang Ling right behind him.

Wish Ward wasn’t just a simple store since it resembled a city more. It occupied more than half of the area of the actual city. All the stores here belonged to Wish Ward.

One had to admit that the atmosphere was impressive - the accumulation of thousands of stores ready to sell. There was an archaic atmosphere wafting about as well.

The streets were paved with granite. After millions of years and constant visitors, the initially coarse granite pebbles became glossy and smooth.

The architectural styles were showing their age as well. The green and white tiles have lost their colors, assuming a state of gray.

From a distance, the ward resembled an old castle that has witnessed generations of lives.

“Young Master, did you know that Wish Ward is actually older than our holy ground? It’s already here before...” Yang Ling told Li Qiye about its history.

Li Qiye quietly listened with a smile while looking at the surroundings.

The founding year of the ward was impossible to figure out. People only knew that it was here way before the holy ground. It had thousands of branches all over the south as well.

In a sense, Wish Ward was an extremely powerful faction, albeit hidden. Some believed that it was equal to or even stronger than Buddha Holy Ground and Righteous Sect.

“Impressive resolution.” Li Qiye nodded and praised during the trip.

One could easily guess the power of Wish Ward just by the fact that it existed inside the territories of Buddha Holy Ground. After all, no one wanted to share a bed with someone else.

“Wish Ward actually has many fun places and interesting stories. For example, the most mythical one is the hug mouse.” She introduced the place.

“Hug mouse?” Li Qiye stopped looking around and asked.

“You haven’t heard of it, it’s a legend here. Anyone who meets it will become rich right away.” She became excited since this was another thing Li Qiye didn’t know.

“Looks like you want to see it.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“Of course.” She instantly responded: “I’ll be a wealthy lady right away and then I can buy whatever I want at the ward.” She clenched her fists, seemingly fantasizing.

“Okay, stop daydreaming.” Li Qiye pinched her nose and woke her out of it.

“But the legend is true, the mouse really exists.” Yang Ling said: “I think a student from our academy met it before and became rich afterward.”

“I know.” Li Qiye naturally knew this story.

“What? How?” Yang Ling didn’t expect this since he hasn’t heard of the mouse.

“From the books.” Li Qiye smiled.