#### Emperor 3651

# **Chapter 3651: Extremely Mysterious**

"Take it out." Li Qiye glanced at the chest and said.

The eight ancestors exchanged glances before shouting. "Buzz." Waves of light emanated from their body.

Their strength left no room for doubt. However, they still took this unsealing process quite seriously.

"Open!" They shouted in unison before forming a mudra.

"Pop!" The treasure chest became resplendent. Runes appeared in the light - these made up the seal of the trunk.

They then placed their hand on the chest. The runes began to twist and turn, coming together to form a character.

"Crack!" A sound akin to a lock being opened could be heard and the chest was open.

The item inside still couldn't be seen. A strand of immortal light became exposed. Though it was faint, it seemed to be coming from an ancient era. The ravage of time couldn't destroy it.

The eight ancestors formed another mudra and created a lotus flower. It began lifting up the item inside. They didn't dare to touch it with their hands.

So the item inside happened to be a small box, long and narrow. It was made from extremely tough metals and looked quite old. Just one piece of metal had an insane value.

More sealing runes were engraved on the surface. They looked like thick chains locking around the box.

Moreover, numerous ancient talismans originating from powerful Heavenly Sovereigns were attached. They nearly covered the box, almost like a layer of clothing.

The box itself was tough enough. Now, the runes and talismans added more protection. Alas, this wasn't enough to fully seal the thing inside. Some immortal light was still leaking out.

The light was faint and on the verge of extinguishing. Nonetheless, they still give off an immense feeling.

The spectators felt that an unimaginable power was contained inside, something to an invincible true dragon in the legends.

Li Qiye actually got up from his seat. His eyes narrowed and became bright.

"What is in there?" Yang Ling could tell that the thing inside the box was definitely incredible. Its power was palpable.

"We don't know." The first ancestor of the Xiong smiled wryly: "The ancestors sealed it right away and no one else saw it. They did say that it was an immortal whisk."

"You really didn't take it out for a look?" Yang Ling asked.

"Easier said than done." The ancestor shook his head: "First, putting aside whether we can even open it, the thing inside is too frightening. Our hands probably can't handle direct contact. Only a disaster will come..."

However, he couldn't finish because Li Qiye grabbed the box with his bare hand. He didn't prepare a defensive formation or separation method.

Remember, the eight ancestors didn't dare to grab the box due to the power within. They needed to use a special technique just to move it.

Li Qiye didn't bother with such things. He seemed unafraid of this power.

The ancestors were lost in disbelief and stared at each other in a daze.

Li Qiye didn't open the box. He gently caressed it, letting the immortal light touch his hand. He closed his eyes and took his time feeling it.

He became immersed in this process. By this point, he knew what was inside without needing to open the box.

Meanwhile, the ancestors were sweating for him. They were also afraid that something unexpected might happen.

Alas, the immortal light played nice. Li Qiye didn't suffer any negative setbacks.

The ancestors heaved a sigh of relief and became ecstatic. This proved that Li Qiye was capable. There was still a chance for their clan to rise again.

"I want this thing." Li Qiye wrapped the box and put it away without needing permission from the ancestors.

The curious Yang Ling really wanted to see the item inside. Unfortunately, Li Qiye was fast in storing it.

"Well, Young Master, what about our matter?" The first ancestor asked Li Qiye.

"Since I have taken your item, I will assist you." Li Qiye said flatly before staring at them: "You should have eight golden dragon pillars."

"Golden dragon pillars?" The ancestors were confused.

"We have something like that?" One ancestor murmured. They had no impression of these pillars.

"Your ancestor is really an idiot. He obtained this great land yet didn't take the time to learn it, no wonder why it sank." Li Qiye said.

The ancestors didn't dare to retort. They talked among themselves before ordering the manager to go check.

"Yes, we do." The first ancestor smiled after the manager came back and told them: "We've been using them to support an old temple."

"Destroy it, bring them here." Li Qiye casually said.

"?" The ancestors were flabbergasted. To destroy their clan's temple? This wasn't good because their forefather was the one who built it.

"Don't be dumb enough to use these pillars as mere support. Only idiots would do so." Li Qiye didn't hold back at all.

The ancestors became embarrassed after hearing this. Since the temple was built by their forefather, Li Qiye was calling him an idiot.

Alas, they couldn't bark back at Li Qiye right now. In fact, they had no idea that even if their forefather was around, he wouldn't dare to utter a single noise after being called an idiot by Li Qiye.

## **Chapter 3652: Total Control**

After long deliberation, the ancestors finally made a decision. One of them said: "Do it, that's all we can do."

They had no other choice because in just a few years, their clan would turn to ashes. Nothing would be left including that temple. Thus, even if the temple could survive, what would be the point when all the clan members were gone?

A revitalization was absolutely essential and such a chance was right in front of them.

The clan moved quite fast and the pillars were brought here in no time at all.

"Boom!" Though the disciples let them down as gently as possible, the impact of each pillar hitting the ground was still loud due to their immense weight.

All of them were now inside this palace, towering in front of Li Qiye. Their golden color has faded away, leaving behind faint yellow inlays depicting aggressive dragons. The golden dragons were looking up, seemingly wanting to fly out of the pillars.

It would take three people with their hands stretched and connected to fully wrap around a pillar.

It was made from unknown materials - looking like stone and wood but definitely neither. The shade resembled flax.

"Young Master, these are the ones you mentioned?" The first ancestor asked Li Qiye.

Li Qiye stood up and walked around the hall once before nodding: "Yes. If you wish to pull up your territory and keep it stable, they will be essential. It's good that your ancestor wasn't dumb enough to throw them away. Otherwise, this would be futile."

The ancestors exchanged glances, not knowing the importance of the pillars previously. They have been around for a long time to support an old temple. Plus, their ancestors never talked about them either.

So many geniuses in future generations have come to the old temple to pay respect. None noticed anything peculiar about the pillars.

"Are they really that important? Our forefather has never talked or written anything about them." One ancestor was skeptical.

"Because your forefather didn't have a damn clue. The land was bestowed to him." Li Qiye said.

"Young Master, you know this too?!" The ancestor jolted after hearing this.

Their clan once had massive territories. During their peak, the land under their jurisdiction could match the present-day Buddha Holy Ground.

Unfortunately, the great calamity changed everything. Even their land started sinking.

There was one particular fact very few Xiong descendants knew about. Their initial territory was given to their forefather by someone else.

According to the old tales, this being was a supreme existence. However, this seemed to be a taboo subject so even the forefather refrained from commenting on this topic.

In the present, only ancestors like those present knew about this secret. That's why they were shocked that Li Qiye knew about it.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn't comment either.

"I shall help you with this after taking your item. The future is up to you all." He said flatly.

"Thank you, Young Master, thank you!" The jubilated ancestors bowed towards him.

He began chanting a mantra while forming supreme laws. His movements were too fast and profound. Yang Ling and the ancestors didn't even see them clearly, let alone understanding them.

"Up!" Li Qiye roared and his mantra struck the pillars.

They were answered by loud dragon roars and blinding flashes emanating from the pillars.

"Clank! Clank! Clank!" The eight dragons suddenly returned to life and their movement issued pleasant metallic clanks due to their scales.

Finally, sharp gales manifested as the dragons readied their claws. Golden dragons had nine claws; each was extremely sharp. Just the glints alone could cut through everything.

"What...?" The ancestors were astounded.

The pillars have been around for millions and millions of years. They had no idea that these pillars could be activated in this manner.

"Raaa!" The dragons opened their eyes around the size of a small bell. Draconic auras erupted in the air.

The ancestors staggered backward from this terrible force while taking a deep breath. They didn't expect these normal pillars to be so powerful. These things were clearly incredible artifacts.

"Go!" Li Qiye shouted, resulting in a loud blast. The eight pillars suddenly turned into dragons. They leaped into the vast ocean.

"They're gone." The ancestors became startled.

'Rumble!" Next came violent quakes. It felt as if a colossal ox was turning its body, resulting in terrible earthquakes.

"What's going on?!" The ancestors became frightened.

A tsunami suddenly took form. The waves were high enough to smash into the sky vault. This naturally scared the hell out of everyone. Their knees trembled as they dropped to the ground.

The waves swept through thousands of miles in an unstoppable manner. It seemed to be another great calamity. The members of the Xiong started cursing their fate.

The event only lasted the time it takes to drink a cup of tea. Once it calmed down, the members glanced at each other in confusion. The ancestors in Li Qiye's palace did the same thing.

"Okay, my task is finished, time to go." Li Qiye stretched and said.

"Just like that?" Yang Ling was frightened earlier as well from the commotion.

Li Qiye didn't say anything else and started leaving.

"Ancestor!" A disciple from the Xiong ran in and excitedly reported the current situation.

"Really?!" The ancestors jubilated after hearing the new information.

"Absolutely, Ancestor." The disciple felt the same joy.

These ancestors started tearing up. One of them said: "The ancestors are watching over us."

"No, we should be thanking the young master." The first ancestor responded. Unfortunately, Li Qiye was already long gone.

"Let's go!" The ancestors regained their wits and gave chase.

"Young Master, please wait..." The first ancestor shouted.

Alas, Li Qiye had no intention of stopping. Yang Ling said softly: "Young Master, they're calling for you."

Li Qiye ignored them and kept moving.

"Young Master, we haven't shown you our gratitude!" The ancestor shouted, only to be ignored one more time.

They realized that Li Qiye didn't care for them. The fateful connection has ended with this.

They then hurriedly summoned the other clan members. The entire clan got on their knees and bowed in Li Qiye's direction: "The Xiong Clan will forever remember your kindness."

Li Qiye didn't bother looking back.

## Chapter 3653: Broken Rock

Li Qiye left the seafood store with Yang Ling right behind him.

She couldn't help looking back at the inconspicuous entrance. No one expected an ocean hidden inside this tiny place. It was an eye-opening miracle.

She also found it strange that Li Qiye was in such a hurry to leave.

"Young Master, is it an invincible immortal weapon?" She thought about the item in the box, wanting to know how strong it was.

"No, just an everyday item." Li Qiye shook his head.

"Everyday item?! How can that be?" She raised her voice in disbelief.

The Xiong lost so many people including Heavenly Sovereigns for this item. Plus, the immortal light from it was immensely frightening. It should be a legendary weapon, not an everyday item.

"As old as the sun and moon." Li Qiye said: "With enough time, there will be a mark and intent left behind. The owner of this item is more powerful than you can imagine."

"How powerful?" She couldn't come up with an existence capable of making their everyday items so strong.

Li Qiye didn't answer since this was beyond her station.

"Find a place to rest for a bit." He said instead.

"Our clan has a small courtyard in Wish Ward. We can go there if you don't mind, Young Master." She contemplated before answering.

He agreed so she led the way.

The Yang wasn't considered a big clan in Metropolis. Nonetheless, Yang Ling's father was still a marquis with decent influence. Thus, he had a small place in this expensive region which was a testament to his success.

The two arrived and Li Qiye took a look. Though it lacked in size, it made up for it with refinement and tranquility.

Yang Ling then ordered the servants to prepare the daily essentials for Li Qiye.

However, he didn't rest after entering his room. He sealed the area and opened a deep dimension.

While inside, he created a grand formation to separate the yin and yang along with the five elements. He then assumed the meditative pose before taking out the broken rock.

No one would take a second look at this ordinary rock while walking on the street. They could be found anywhere and weren't worth a single coin.

Only a few knew what it represented. Of course, it wasn't a treasure or weapon. Li Qiye focused on the cracks and layers, seemingly made from molten lava cooling in different periods.

With his heavenly gaze, the cracks and gaps became infinitely longer and larger. They looked like three thousand worlds. No, to be exact, three thousand epochs.

Each imperfection represented one epoch, a broken river of time that spanned for millions and millions of years.

They served as projections for the respective epoch. The timeline of these epochs seemed to be compressed inside.

Those capable of understanding this would be in awe. This wasn't a rock but rather, a spatio-temporal compression - fragmentations of the epochs.

Li Qiye began reversing the regular cycles in order to trace the source.

"Buzz." He pulled out one particular epoch. Particles of time splashed all around him. He found himself in a majestic world in the next second.

This epoch was one of machinery. Explosions and metallic clanks could be heard from the armored giants. Each possessed boundless power and mighty life force...

Anyone would be astounded while observing this world.

"Buzz." Li Qiye pulled out another crack. Different particles surrounded him and took him to another epoch.

This one had a primal aura. He heard dragon roars and phoenix screeches. Sure enough, these magnificent creatures were flying in the air. After long eras, it was able to produce extremely strong creatures.

"Buzz." He went to another one. The particles this time consisted of sparks that engulf him.

Powers seemed to be so pure. All existences had the most simple form - some virtually indiscernible. This pure power could be found everywhere and took on a form resembling mercury. Anyone here would find themselves melting down, becoming a part of this world.

Epochs passed by in the blink of an eye. In these endless rivers, the power of one seemed less significant than a speck of dust.

Numerous brilliant overlords and supremes turned to ashes with nothing left behind.

Li Qiye took his time studying and appreciating this broken rock. Eventually, he looked up at the sky.

"Villainous heaven, what are you doing? This isn't your style." His eyes shifted in contemplation.

No one answered him; he didn't wish for an answer either.

"Looks like it's not looking good for you either." He chuckled and said: "What a precarious situation, enemies inside and out for the inevitable pincer attack."

He fell into silence next. Though the current momentum looked bad for the villainous heaven, this wasn't good news for him either.

This was absolutely not a case of the enemy of my enemy is my friend. The situation grew dire for all sides.

"Let's see who'll be the last one smiling." He stroked his chin and said.

Eyes were always observing this world. Not only the ones above but also those hidden in unknown regions.

He put the rock away. It didn't matter how the rock got here; it was now an important record of history.

He pondered for a while before taking out the treasure box taken from the Xiong. The leaking immortal light was weak yet all-penetrating.

He gently touched the box and said: "An irrefutable piece of evidence."

Powerful masters and sects disappeared in the river of time. Nothing was left of them.

Nonetheless, a few things were eternal and untouched by the withering of time. Whether this item was purposely left behind or fallen down by accident, its power was clear because it continued to exist.

#### Chapter 3654: Whisk

Li Qiye eventually formed a mudra and chanted, activating a powerful mantra in order to remove the seal on the box.

This mighty seal had no chance of stopping Li Qiye's mantra. It gradually crumbled until a buzz could be heard. The runes and lights dispersed from sight.

This allowed the immortal light from within to become brighter.

"Click." Li Qiye opened the box and looked at the item inside.

Numerous resplendent rays oozed out afterward. Particles scattered downward, enough to engulf Eight Desolaces.

Strangely enough, the holy rays weren't blinding. They were rather gentle and comforting. They didn't prick Li Qiye either despite being quite powerful.

Nothing in the world should be able to stop them. The offensive affinity here had nothing to do with their sharpness but rather, an unyielding momentum.

The source of the rays turned out to be a horsetail whisk and its threads.

As Li Qiye said previously, this wasn't a weapon, just an ordinary item for wiping dust or chasing mosquitoes.

The handle was as white as snow, made from a single piece of white jade. Of course, this wasn't a regular piece of jade but rather, a wondrous treasure.

It was exceedingly rare; even dao lords would have a difficult time finding one. Shaping it into a cauldron would be perfect for alchemy. However, it was chosen to be the hilt of this whisk out of its beautiful nature.

It looked like melted snow, still flowing despite being solid. The flowing lines derived obscured profundities, enough to mesmerize any spectator.

As for the threads, they were made from draconic empress threads. The world certainly had no idea of this name or what they were.

Li Qiye was one exception. Though he has lived through eras and traveled across the realms, he only saw this thing two or three times.

Without taking the materials into account, the only thing special about the whisk was its radiance. Nothing else was of note. People would think that the Xiong's ancestors wasted their time and effort to seal this whisk.

Li Qiye continued staring at the whisk and began to ponder.

The hand holding the handle should be that of an immortal - pure white or possessing the glow of the stars, or perhaps possessing the flow of time...

All in all, a mortal had no chance of wielding this whisk. It seemed reserved for immortals and was only used as a decorative item.

Only great beings were a match for this whisk. Of course, its actual master didn't think much of it.

As for the world, they would naturally see it as a peerless weapon.

Li Qiye immediately formulated the profile of its master after seeing the handle. Only two or three beings in existence were worthy of this whisk.

It wasn't him nor was it the villainous heaven. Who else?

Li Qiye didn't care about its power or materials, only what had transpired.

"An eternity is nothing more than the blink of an eye." He said: "Maybe it's just a long wait until the right moment."

The master of the whisk, the villainous heaven, and Li Qiye were the only ones understanding the significance of these hidden secrets.

He then took a deep breath and slowly reached forward to grab the handle.

"Boom!" A terrible flame swept through the myriad realms, more than enough to reduce invincible supremes to ashes.

Top grand dao, peerless merit laws, untouchable treasures wouldn't be able to stop it. Everything was as brittle as dried branches.

If this flame were to hit Eight Desolaces, all existences and landmasses would cease to exist. Though Li Qiye was in a deep dimension, numerous dimensions nearby were instantly melted. If some gods or emperors were unfortunate to be traveling through these dimensions, they would fall as well.

Li Qiye disappeared in this split second, replaced by an indomitable will lasting for an eternity. One thought of his could turn into three thousand worlds and all things within.

This one thought represented everything. Its power stemmed from the indomitable dao heart.

The flame could certainly take down all defenses. However, only the indomitable dao heart could survive under the harsh circumstances.

The destructive flame eventually subsided and Li Qiye returned once more with the whisk in his grasp.

His hand was ordinary. It wasn't eternal and didn't have the flow of time, lacking special laws. It wasn't the hand of the high heaven either. Nonetheless, it belonged to Li Qiye. This made it possible for it to grasp anything.

It didn't look out of place holding the wondrous whisk. In fact, the two seemed to be a perfect match. The whisk could have been misunderstood as being created solely for him.

Li Qiye was another being capable of wielding this whisk. Regular cultivators would have been reduced to dust the moment they made contact with the handle.

A hush fell over as both the handle and Li Qiye seemingly ceased to exist. The newfound peace and void could calm all unrest hearts.

Here, there was no beauty or ugliness, no light and darkness, no dao laws or any specks of existence.

This seemed to be the original source of all. Li Qiye sat there, unsurprised.

By this point, someone sat directly in front of him. There was only a faint figure and the gender couldn't be assessed.

They were only inches away yet the distance seemed like billions and billions of years. This seemed to be a past version of this figure gazing at the present-day Li Qiye. Or, it might be a future Li Qiye looking at the figure's present self.

All in all, it was impossible to tell the temporal period of these two.

They gazed at each other, aware of their own current powers and ace cards. Both didn't wish to attack carelessly because due to the current circumstances, they had no knowledge of their opponent's state and form.

Perhaps this was the opponent's weakest state, but it might be their strongest as well. Perhaps these were their future selves meeting in this unique area.

Of course, this wasn't a coincidental meeting. The two knew that this day would come. It was only a matter of time.

They knew each other's story and tale but as for their exact thoughts, this remained a mystery. Perhaps they themselves didn't know of their future selves' plans and thoughts.

## **Chapter 3655: I Am Waiting**

The staredown happened in a dimension devoid of time and space. Thus, the process could be lasting as short as a blink or long enough until the withering of heaven and earth.

The two had no idea of their current state. This could be the past or the future.

They remained composed, not startled nor agitated in the slightest. This was their first meeting, or maybe it couldn't be counted as one because this wasn't their true form. Their thoughts have manifested, resulting in this bizarre phenomenon. The stillness made the atmosphere eerie.

The world had no idea that just one meeting could change the direction of history.

"I have arrived." The other figure finally broke the silence after an unknown amount of time.

This person's voice was dull like water, lacking emotional expression. Nonetheless, it had a natural feeling as if everything was perfectly fitted, completely in tune with other rhythmic affinities.

The three words could be interpreted in different ways. Did the figure accept an invitation to see Li Qiye? Or did the figure come specifically to see Li Qiye? From the past, the present, or the future? Where from?

Or perhaps this figure didn't arrive in this place but rather, Eight Desolaces or the nine worlds or an even older epoch.

This form could also be an intent, an illusion, or a projection. Nonetheless, the figure has finally shown up, no longer hiding in the legends or the words of the overlords.

"I am waiting." Li Qiye's voice also had no sign of emotional fluctuation.

The two of them might be similar, just with different paths. One day, the paths would collide and a battle was inevitable. Maybe by "waiting", he meant he was waiting for a battle.

Only they themselves understood their intent. Words weren't necessary; they continued gazing at each other while speculating.

It felt as if they were just two statues placed in front of each other. There was no emotion and sentiment.

The two eventually dispersed, leaving not a single clue behind. The length of the meeting couldn't be calculated since time didn't exist.

Li Qiye emerged again in the meditative pose; the treasure box was in front of him with the whisk placed on top.

The entire thing felt like a dream or an illusion. Of course, this meant that the two would have shared this experience.

Li Qiye stared silently at the whisk. His thoughts remained unknown.

He eventually closed the box and released the seal before walking out of the room.

"Are you okay, Young Master?" Yang Ling has been waiting outside. She heaved a sigh of relief after seeing him.

He locked himself in the room ever since they got here. Several days have passed already so Yang Ling thought something had happened to Li Qiye.

She thought that he looked a little weird after obtaining the box, definitely different from his normal demeanor. She speculated that it must have something to do with the item inside the box. That's why she guarded outside, just in case.

"It's fine." Li Qive stretched and smiled.

"That's good to hear." Yang Ling gently patted her bosom, thinking that the young master has returned to his normal self.

"Young Master, we still haven't seen all of Wish Ward. Do you want to go?" She thought that he must be feeling stuffy after being in the room for so long: "You came out at the perfect time, I heard the golden spring is back again."

"I see." Li Qiye chuckled.

"You know about the golden spring? It's another old legend in this place." Yang Ling said.

"A little bit." It would be harder to come up with something Li Qiye didn't know about.

"Many have gone already to test their luck, we have to get going too. This golden spring is more mysterious than Sacred Mountain, or so they say." She became excited.

"Let's go then." Li Qiye naturally wanted to go see this golden spring. That's his purpose in coming here in the first place.

"Yay!" She gestured excitedly before speaking: "Your luck has always been good, Young Master, maybe you'll get an unmatched fortune there."

Li Qiye smiled. Did he need to search for luck at the golden spring? Of course, there was no need to divulge this information to Yang Ling.

People have crowded up at the location of the golden spring before the two got there.

"This is a legend of Wish Ward, even more mysterious than the hug mouse." One spectator said.

"The mouse can appear every generation but the golden spring, only a few times throughout history." Another excitedly said.

"We're already extremely lucky to be experiencing this." One older expert became emotional.

In fact, according to Wish Ward's record, the spring has only shown up three times so far.

"So what is this place?" A youth had no idea. This was the case for many of his peers.

"This is most likely the greatest legend in Wish Ward. It's normally hidden here but no one can find it. It has to show up on its own." An old man explained.

"It might be useless because we can only look, can't enter anyway." Another old cultivator shook his head.

"Don't be so sure, rumor has it that the founder of Wish Ward had entered. Remember, winning the favor of the hug mouse is a lifetime of riches but to be able to enter the golden spring? All of your future descendants will stay rich." The old man replied.

"Rich for generations? Really?" The young ones were skeptical.

"Look at Wish Ward right now? It has been around for so long." The old man added.

People agreed with this statement after a brief muse.

The spring was elusive. Some said that it didn't actually exist. Others believed that it was always here in Wish Ward. It's just that people couldn't find it.

The likeliest proof was the found of Wish Ward. According to the tale, this person was able to grab a key out of the spring. With that, the person was able to enter the spring. Later on, Wish Ward was founded.

## **Chapter 3656: Untethered Monk**

This time, the golden spring appeared in a public square. People were packed with sardines.

They had different goals in coming here, either to test their luck or just to watch the fun. Only a little room was left by the entrance for more to enter.

Of course, workers from Wish Ward were present in mass in order to maintain order.

A while ago, the square was completely empty. Now, a spring could be seen. The spouting water wasn't too high.

Nonetheless, people were interested right away due to the colors of the spring - golden, cornelian, halcyon...

People couldn't avert their gaze from the colorful spectacle. It was as if numerous treasures were hidden beneath, too many pearls and jewels to count.

That's why the water was dyed with various colors. The individual beads of water resembled rolling pearls.

Deeper inside was an old room from an archaic era. The wooden door shut tightly, seemingly from inside. Nonetheless, it looked feeble enough to be broken with a little force.

Who knows what was behind the door? Alas, it was definitely something incredible to be paired alongside the golden spring.

"So the spring does exist." One cultivator watched in awe.

"Just one touch might give us all the wealth in the world." The experts were salivating, wanting to give it a shot.

Unfortunately, the workers of Wish Ward stopped them.

"What's the meaning of this? Does Wish Ward want to monopolize the spring? It doesn't belong to them!" Someone became furious.

"This might be your territory but it doesn't mean the spring belongs to you? Why are you stopping people from trying?!" Another shouted.

A crowd clamored, unhappy with this treatment.

"Amitabha, Merciful Buddha." A dignified chant suddenly echoed. Everyone clearly heard it in their ears.

This lasted for a long time and gave the impression of a thousand Buddhas present in the crowd.

A monk emerged and astonished the crowd. First, the holy chants alone made people know that a great monk was coming.

Unfortunately, this person had nothing to do with the word "great". He was overweight and with each step, his fat would shake. He wasn't wearing a regular kasaya either but a robe with all colors - red, yellow, violet, green...

Though he looked anything but a monk, his bright smile immediately made everyone like him. In fact, he could slap someone on one side then again on the other side; their anger would still subside after seeing his smile.

"That's Untethered Monk, the Chief Manager of Wish Ward." Those who knew him shouted.

In fact, many big shots from the previous generations came forward to greet him.

The monk smiled and greeted everyone. The atmosphere became jubilant right away. The unhappy crowd was infected with a joyous mood.

"He's a legend." One big shot said.

"Is he famous?" A youth asked curiously.

The big shot nodded: "Extremely, most likely peerless in his generation."

"Really? How does he compare to the four grandmasters?" The youth was skeptical.

"He is the senior brother of Wisdom Sacred Monk, the favorite disciple of Samantabhadra Elder." The big shot gave him the side-eye.

"What?!" The juniors nearby couldn't believe it. One stammered: "He, he's the monk of wisdom's senior brother?"

"Yes." The big shot nodded to everyone's astonishment.

The monk of wisdom was one of the four grandmasters. His cultivation was one thing but most importantly, his Buddhist attainment has reached an incredible level. Even Buddha Supreme praised him for his achievements.

Many thought that the student has surpassed the teacher - an indication of his wisdom. On the other hand, his senior brother looked so different.

"I thought Samantabhadra Elder's favorite disciple is the monk of wisdom?" One youth asked directly.

"No, it's actually Untethered Monk. No one could beat him when it came to dao arguments, not even the monk of wisdom." The big shot shook his head.

"What?" The youths couldn't believe it. This fat monk actually bested the monk of wisdom regarding Buddhism?

"The monk of wisdom's talent was top-notch too. Not to mention ordinary people like us, the four grandmasters can't match Untethered Monk." Another older cultivator smiled and revealed.

So this fat monk turned out to be superior to the four grandmasters in terms of Buddhism and cultivation talent? The young ones were stunned.

"How did he turn out like this?" One youth asked.

"He has always been like this." The old cultivator smiled: "This genius went out dining, wining, whoring, and gambling."

This line shook the youths even more. A monk from Heavenly Dragon Temple with boundless potential chose to be a young master?

Just think about it, top geniuses were usually transcending and flawless. Now, this monk seemed more vulgar than regular mortals. The flaws most mortals didn't have; he possessed them all. The old monks at Heavenly Dragon Temple must be exasperated with this genius.

Rumor has it that his Buddhist title was given to him by his master. The latter hoped that he would eventually surpass Buddha Supreme, also known as Ruleless Monk.

Others refuted this speculation. They thought that he himself chose his title because he wanted to follow the footsteps of Ruleless Monk.

No one knew the actual answer. However, later on, he decided to leave Heavenly Dragon Temple and became a waiter in Wish Ward.

Now, his role was the Chief Manager of Wish Ward in charge of its resources and finance. This was another interesting development.

Moreover, Heavenly Dragon Temple didn't consider him a traitor either. They didn't banish him from their doctrine, seemingly giving him permission to do what he pleases.

All of this culminated in a peculiar legend - Untethered Monk.

#### Chapter 3657: Bizarre

At this point, the crowd surrounding the square wanted to enter. Shoulders and heads were bumping everywhere.

"Monk, not letting us in can't be the right choice." The joyous mood has dissipated so one crowd member shouted.

No one else would dare to talk like this to a great master. For example, the four grandmasters.

However, this wasn't the case for Untethered Monk. His cultivation might be unfathomable but people didn't view him as a top master. He was known as a merchant who didn't put up an act, allowing leeway with disrespect. He would turn the other cheek after being slapped.

"Hehehe, Amitabha, no one is stopping you from coming in. Everyone will have a turn, don't rush it." Untethered Monk placed his palms together.

His Buddhist lines sounded holy and magnificent. Alas, people just couldn't take him seriously after seeing his appearance.

"When are you letting us in?" One expert shouted.

"Okay, okay, we're opening it now." The monk smiled and raised his hand. The members of Wish Ward prepared four separate entrances.

"However, there's a fee for touching the spring, 30 Yin Yang Coins. As for the wooden door, 50 Yin Yang Coins." The monk added.

"What, there's a fee?!" Some shouted.

"Of course." The monk nodded with a smile.

"Why is there a fee when the golden spring doesn't belong to you?" One person said.

"Amitabha. Benefactor, you're mistaken. The golden spring doesn't belong to us but maintaining order is not easy, requiring both resources and manpower. Look, we're working hard under the harsh sun just so that everyone can have a good experience. Just think about it, without us, the place will be chaotic. People might be fighting already and many will lose their lives. Now, just 30 Yin Yang Coins will keep everyone safe, there's no reason to not do it. Is your life not worth 30 Yin Yang Coins?" The monk elaborated.

The crowd exchanged glances after hearing his response. Some actually agreed because the monk was right. This place would be a mess without Wish Ward taking control. Plus, their lives were naturally worth more than the fee.

"The price is too high, I think using Conqueror Coins is more acceptable." One vagabond said with indignation.

For the members of powerful sects, 30 Yin Yang Coins weren't much. Unfortunately, the poorer cultivators had a hard time accepting this fee. Some might not be able to pay.

"It's not high at all." The monk said: "30 Yin Yang Coins can't buy treasures and manual scrolls but now, it can buy you a chance to soar to the sky, to become rich beyond imagination. There's no better deal than this in the world. As long as you're the fateful one, you'll become the overlord of this generation."

The monk had a way with words. Even the poor cultivators became tempted.

"Really?" Some remained skeptical.

"Absolutely." The monk placed his palms together and chanted: "Oh Merciful Buddha, Buddhists do not lie. Our founder was poor all his life, a defeated man who couldn't afford rice on the table. However, during his old age, he came across the golden spring and took out a key. This key opened the wooden door so he went inside, finding a supreme fortune. He then started Wish Ward, obtaining both longevity and strength. He ate whatever he wanted and lived for so long..."

People enjoyed hearing the tale of the founder.

"Is this true?" Someone asked after the monk finished the story.

"Who knows? But I think the golden spring really played a part in the founding of Wish Ward." One old cultivator said softly.

While some hesitated, the big shots have come forward and paid the fee.

"Monk, we're giving it a shot." One big shot took a group of juniors along. He tossed a coin pouch at the monk, looking quite ostentatious.

All eyes were on this group now. The big shot and his juniors began searching for things in the spring. Alas, they couldn't' find anything.

"What's happening?" The spectators outside were awfully curious.

"It's deep beyond belief." The big shot used a special technique that could grasp the stars above. Alas, he reached down the spring and didn't find anything.

"Monk, can we use force?" One junior asked while standing in front of the wooden house. He thought that this door could be forced open with a single kick.

"Sure, sure. You only have one chance though so make good use of it, do your best." The monk smiled.

"Break!" The junior lunged forward like a divine bull. His sprint issued loud explosions.

"Bam!" Finally, he slammed into the wooden door but couldn't break it.

In fact, it was completely untouched. Not a single hint of damage could be found.

"How?!" The junior couldn't believe it.

"Watch me!" His friend took out a hatchet and began swinging.

"Boom!" The same thing happened. No mark could be found on this seemingly feeble door.

Several more juniors gave it a shot but none knew how to force the door open.

"Open!" Even the big shot wanted to give it a shot. He summoned an energy mass in the form of a true dragon.

Its draconic aura pushed forward, capable of toppling oceans and mountains. The spectators took a deep breath after sensing this.

"Boom!" The newcomers thought that he had a good chance of breaking the door.

Unfortunately, this powerful blast didn't do a thing to the immovable door. The crowd exchanged glances, thinking that others didn't have a chance.

"Elder Shi, your Dragonforce Technique is at perfect mastery." Untethered Monk praised.

"What an embarrassment." The big shot shook his head: "This wooden door has been empowered by a peerless supreme. Using force is impossible. The only way is to find a key from the golden spring."

"You're completely right." The monk smiled: "There are two methods. One being finding the key, two, being the fateful one. Maybe there are some other methods that we don't know about as well."

"Our turn." An influential clan master from Metropolis and his members paid the fee and gave it a shot. These people had no problem paying the fees to test their luck.

What if they could actually do it? They would become extremely rich after spending so little.

"We'll try ten times each." The clan master was quite generous and bought his juniors ten chances each.

"Amitabha, I wish you the best of luck." The monk smiled brightly after taking their money.

The clan spent a lot of effort on both the spring and the door. They employed various methods and techniques. In the end, they didn't find anything.

"Deep beyond imagination." The clan master concluded.

#### **Chapter 3658: The Second Princess**

The crowd eventually got their turn in checking the spring and the wooden door. This all resulted in failure, whether it be the common cultivators or famous lords and high elders. Their techniques and methods were of no use.

Those who have tried knew that the golden spring was more than meets the eyes. It looked small but was actually bottomless.

Their strongest ability capable of extending their hand far enough to reach the stars couldn't touch the bottom. It seemed that the spring was connected to the deepest inner core.

As for the wooden door, people thought of it as nothing at the start. People have tried to use true flames or direct slashes with their weapons. Some tried a spatial leap. None of these methods worked.

Thus, they had no choice but to give up.

"How bizarre." One guy shook his head and said: "No one can get anything from this."

Even if the spring had the most precious treasures and the wooden house had the greatest artifacts, it was all meaningless. They could only watch and sigh.

"That's why the workers aren't even trying. They just want to rake in money from the fee. This is impossible anyway, they're tricking us." One person murmured.

"Maybe the whole thing is a farce, they just want to make some money." Someone else spent enough money to try dozens of times and became angry.

"It's not like that." One expert disagreed: "This is an ultimate technique available to the supremes. Wish Ward might not be able to create something like this. Plus, someone capable of doing it doesn't care for tiny benefits."

Others thought that he was right after seeing the phenomenon for themselves. A supreme naturally wouldn't care about a few coins.

"Hmph, Wish Ward clearly knows that no one can open the door, that's why they started this." People were still annoyed. After all, this was understandable after the repeated failure and not gaining anything from it.

"Amitabha." Untethered Monk had good hearing and noticed the hushed complaints. He said: "Gentlemen, we can't be blamed for this. The rules are laid out, it is up to the participant whether they want to try or not. Plus, this is only a labor fee, several hundred members are here to serve."

Only a few among the crowd voiced their complaints. After all, most were rich enough to not care about the sum.

"Monk, so what kind of person can actually get something from this?" A big shot couldn't help but ask.

No one showed the same politeness and reverence to the monk as they would to another master. After all, he was a businessman and didn't mind needless formalities. However, he was definitely a figure of authority.

He had more knowledge and insight than anyone else here. Even the big shots had to ask him for advice.

"Merciful Buddha, that's hard to say." The monk placed his palms together and said: "In order to find something from the golden spring or the wooden house, perhaps one needs to be a dao lord."

"Dao lord? What's the point of saying this then? None of us can grab a damn thing." The crowd clamored.

"No, no. Remember what I said earlier, there's another type." The monk shook his head.

"What?" Someone else became impatient.

"The fateful ones." The monk said.

"What constitutes one?" Another asked.

"Who knows? Well, our founder was one." The monk laughed.

The crowd thought about it and agreed. At the very least, some people have gotten a fortune from here before.

In the end, most no longer wanted to try. They still stuck around in order to see if someone else could get the fortune.

By the time Li Qiye and Yang Ling got there, the majority had given it a shot.

They squeezed through the crowd and Yang Ling became excited. She loudly said: "Look over there, Young Master, whoever can get the key from the golden spring will gain generational wealth."

Li Qiye stared at the place with a smile on his face. He thought that though the world had changed, certain things still remained the same.

"You should drop this fantasy." Li Qiye shook his head.

"Well, the founder of WIsh Ward did it, maybe it's my turn to be the chosen one." Yang Ling's enthusiasm didn't diminish.

Of course, she was only fantasizing and knew that she had no chance. On the other hand, the young master might be able to do it.

"The founder, he's an old man, right?" Li Qiye smiled.

"Yes, I heard that the old man was poor his entire life, to be able to switch everything around at the last moment, how enviable." Yang Ling chuckled.

"Poor old man, huh." Li Qiye smiled and didn't say anything. A few things continued to exist, albeit with a change in form and method.

"We meet again, Brother." Someone came up to greet them - the crown prince of Vajra.

He was different from others since despite being a crown prince, he never put up an act and normally wore simple clothes.

Li Qiye smiled as a greeting. On the other hand, Yang Ling bowed towards him: "Your Highness."

"We're outside, no need for formality." The crown prince exempted her.

Li Qiye didn't say anything else and continued staring at the spring and the wooden house. The crown prince stood next to him and did the same.

"Your Highness, are you going to take a look?" Yang Ling became curious.

He smiled wryly and shook his head: "Spare me, my cultivation is mediocre and I'm not the heaven's favorite. I'll only make a fool out of myself."

Yang Ling didn't reply because she had heard of some rumors. The crown prince didn't have many supporters. In a sense, his title was empty because he might be replaced in the future. Thus, he kept a low profile, more so than nyone else.

"A princess!" Someone shouted. The crowd became rowdy and youths ran over.

A girl has arrived with many powerful followers. She wore a phoenix robe; her features were exquisite and gorgeous while still maintaining a regal aura. Guys certainly became infatuated at first sight.

"The second princess of Vajra." Others recognized her.

"The most talented and beloved princess." People bowed while the young ones tried to curry favor. After all, everyone wanted to be the king's son-in-law.

"It's the second princess. What do you think? She's the king's favorite." Yang Ling elbowed Li Qiye while having an amused expression.

She knew that since Li Qiye had that special saber, he could pick any princess from Vajra.

#### Chapter 3659: On A Whim

Li Qiye chuckled and didn't bother to look at the second princess.

She received a warm welcome from the crowd, especially from the male cultivators.

She had a companion, one of the five heroes of Duality - Stallion Silver Spear, Zhang Yunzi.

He adorned full silver armor and had an impressive presence, looking like a crane among a flock of chickens.

People's eyes were bright with admiration, thinking that this was a pair made in heaven. The man was gallant and imposing; the lady was gorgeous and regal - truly a dragon and phoenix.

The two seemed to be quite close and knew each other's thoughts. Their relationship seemed special, looking like a lovely young couple.

"Your Highness, do you want to go in?" Zhang Yunzi was elegant, the perfect image in many maidens' heart.

"I'll go with you." She glanced at the spring and the wooden house and revealed a gentle smile.

There was an obvious intimacy between the two so the crowd started gossiping.

"Are the two of them together?" Someone speculated.

"I think so, I heard that the second princess was very close with him during her time at Duality, more so than with any other students." A Duality student answered his friend.

This naturally invited jealousy but they also thought that this was natural and understandable.

"The Zhang is a prestigious clan who has worked with dynasties before Vajra. Now, they're still the leader in the court." One expert with deep knowledge of Vajra said: "Eight out of ten civil officials are most likely under the Zhang's banner. If Zhang Yunzhi were to marry the second princess, it'll consolidate their status more. This is the same for the royal clan."

Many nodded, agreeing with this analysis.

The second princess was well-loved by the royal clan because she was the most gifted out of the princesses. Zhang Yunzhi was a good match for her.

"Hmph, who knows if they will actually get married?" A few fans expressed their bitterness.

"Brother, let me introduce you to my younger sister." Meanwhile, the crown prince smiled at Li Qiye and had good intentions since Li Qiye had the golden saber of Vajra.

"Sister, come over here." He then waved at the second princess.

She was in the middle of a conversation with Zhang Yunzhi before noticing the crown prince. She begrudgingly came over.

"The crown prince of Vajra." Few recognized him in comparison. The third prince was far more popular.

"Brother, what is it?" She came over and bowed.

"This is Brother Li from Myriad Beast Mountains. Get acquainted with him since he might need your help in the court later." The crown prince smiled.

"I understand, Brother. I have other matters to attend to, I'll take my leave." She glanced at Li Qiye, clearly knowing who he was beforehand. She then bowed to the prince.

The crown prince frowned after seeing this: "Sister, this attitude is unbecoming for a royal member."

He didn't wish to scold his sister but this attitude was unsuitable.

"Brother, I won't interfere with the friends you choose to make, but I don't want to get acquainted with some randoms." The princess had an expression of distaste. With that, she turned and left.

His expression soured but this wasn't the right time to become angry so he dropped the issue.

"Our Young Master is no random." Yang Ling felt indignation and glared at the departing princess.

On the other hand, Li Qiye didn't seem to smile.

"Brother, my sister is uninhibited, please forgive her. She has never given me any face." The crown prince tried to mediate.

"Hmph, don't pick someone with that personality." Yang Ling murmured.

"No, I'm definitely picking her." Li Qiye smirked.

"Her?" Yang Ling became surprised.

"Brother? Do you mean that you like my sister..." The crown prince felt the same way and didn't know what to say.

"I'm not allowed? Go tell her." Li Qiye chuckled.

"My sister is prideful and arrogant, she'll be unhappy with this." The prince glanced at the princess and shook his head.

"Unhappy? Is it up to her?" Li Qiye nonchalantly said: "What do you think this saber is? Your dynasty gave it to me only for wood chopping?"

The crown prince pondered. His father, the current king, wasn't qualified to have this saber. The only one was their strongest ancestor - the true ruler of Vajra.

In reality, many knew that the current king was searching for immortality while abandoning his duty. Some criticized his ability.

Nonetheless, Vajra remained strong because it had powerful existences behind it. This ancestor must have had a reason for giving the golden saber to Li Qiye.

"It's up to me to decide, yes?" Li Qiye concluded.

"You're right, Brother." The prince admitted. He had no idea why the ancestor gave this outsider the saber. Alas, the truth of the matter was that Li Qiye was in possession of the blade.

"What if I use it to decapitate some royal members?" Li Qiye's smile grew wider.

The prince felt suffocated and was rendered speechless.

"You can do that?" Yang Ling said.

This saber could definitely kill officials and regular citizens. But what about the royal members?

"Well..." The crown prince stammered and didn't dare to directly answer the questioN: "Well, this is the ancestral saber, the user represents the ancestor so in theory, in theory, it's possible."

The right to kill was there but for the majority of the time, the ancestral saber was left in the court or bestowed to a royal member. An outsider possessing it was unprecedented, let alone using it to kill royal members.

However, this didn't mean that it was impossible since the saber represented the highest ancestor.

"So whether she agrees or not is up to me." Li Qiye added: "How much do you think your ancestor cares about you bunch?"

The prince had no response again. There was no lack of princes and princesses in the dynasty. Moreover, if his father's branch proved to be incapable, the next successor could be someone else from the royal clan.

The ancestors who have lived for generations didn't give a damn about them. Killing one or two wouldn't be a big deal.

Vajra Dynasty had countless descendants during its long history. How many were actually viewed highly by the ancestors?

The one exception might be a brilliant prince or princess determined to be the successor. As for the rest? They meant nothing.

## Chapter 3660: Feet-washing Maid

The crown prince regained his composure and took a deep breath. He stared at Li Qiye and asked: "Brother Li, do you really wish to marry my younger sister?"

"Marry? No, I only want to give her a chance to be a maid specialized in washing my feet." Li Qiye shook his head.

"What?!" Yang Ling blurted out before covering her mouth. She calmed down and said: "Fe-feet washing maid? Young Master, I, I don't think that's a good idea."

She was truly startled because the second princess was pampered by the royal clan. Thus, Li Qiye's idea was nothing short of ludicrous.

No one would dare to think about this matter. It was suicidal. The princess might take it in stride but not the royal clan. This offense could result in a clan extermination.

The crown prince became frozen. His young sister wasn't polite but Li Qiye's idea was out of line.

"Brother, you're going too far." The crown prince shook his head. In fact, a lack of anger showed his patience and character.

"What do you think is a better choice between death and being a maid?" Li Qiye smiled.

The crown prince couldn't answer right away. He put on a forced smile and stammered: "Well..."

"I simply want to know the line." Li Qiye smirked: "How many people from the royal clan can I kill before they take it back." His smirk grew wider after finishing.

The crown prince was lost; he had no idea what Li Qiye wanted.

The ancestral saber represented authority. Anyone else would use it for a life of wealth and glory. This wasn't the case here. Li Qiye seemed to be toying with it. It's impossible to understand this person.

Now, the prince thought about the actual question. The ancestor had given Li Qiye the saber for some unknown reason. What would it take for the ancestor to become unhappy and get the saber back?

Would the death of some royal clan members be enough?

If the ancestor didn't take the saber back fast enough, then the theoretical victims would die for nothing. The royal clan wouldn't try to avenge them due to the special circumstances.

For example, the crown prince thought about himself. What if he was the first victim or maybe the second princess? Would the ancestor do anything about it?

He had no idea where the line was drawn. Perhaps his father, the king?

This saber was given to such a crazy person. Maybe this was part of the reason why the ancestor gave him the saber?

"Who do you think I should cut first with this saber?" Li Qiye stared at the dazed prince and tapped on his shoulder.

The prince kept to himself but this didn't mean that he was a fool. In fact, being alive for this long was a sign of his intelligence.

The comment had plenty of implications. Li Qiye's first victims in the royal clan, whoever they might be, would change the current political landscape.

"I don't know, I don't know what's on your mind, Brother." The prince smiled wryly.

"Call me Young Master." Li Qiye said.

"Deference is no substitute for obedience." The prince bowed.

"I like smart people." Li Qiye smiled and said: "Go, have a talk with your sister."

"I will but I can't guarantee anything." The prince smiled wryly, accepting his fate.

"That's fine, just send the message." Li Qiye actually didn't care about this matter. This was only a whimsical decision to make things more interesting.

However, this casual choice of his was going to decide the fate of many, even that of a dynasty.

The prince had no choice but to walk towards the second princess.

"Young Master, do you really want the second princess as a feet-washing maid?" Yang Ling quietly asked.

"Why not? I'm merciful enough to give her a chance to live." Li Qiye said.

"What do you mean?" Yang Ling asked for elaboration.

"Look at this saber again, is it only for wood chopping?" Li Qiye smiled.

Yang Ling was a simple and innocent girl, not interested in political intricacies. Alas, she was born in an official's family and still heard a few things.

Her father told her that by this point, many powers and officials have chosen either the crown prince or the third prince.

Now, why did the ancestor of Vajra give Li Qiye the golden saber? And what if he started using it on the royal clan?

"The second princess has a better relationship with the third prince." Yang Ling thought about it then asked Li Qiye: "If she refuses, will you kill her?"

"Who knows? But my rule is, don't mess with me and I won't mess with them." Li Qiye smirked.

Yang Ling shook her head, not wanting to think more about this. She didn't understand nor care for the constant strife in the dynasty.

By this point, the crown prince was next to the princess and began a quiet conversation.

Of course, the prince tried to pick his words carefully, never directly stating Li Qiye's intent about the whole maid thing.

Unfortunately, his tactful choice didn't matter. A while later, the second princess glared sharply at Li Qiye as if wanting to cut off pieces of his flesh. This was also the case for Zhang Yunzhi; his eyes brimmed with murderous intent. He didn't try to hide his bloodthirst in the slightest.

The crown prince never said anything about wanting her to be his feet-washing maid. However, just his expressed interest in her alone was intolerable for the princess. This went double for Zhang Yunzhi.

The two of them have nearly confirmed their lover status. Their marriage would be supported by both the royal clan and the Zhang as well.

Thus, Li Qiye clearly wanted to steal his woman. Just imagine the fire of anger rampaging in his mind right now.

If it wasn't for the crown prince, he would have jumped out to kill the guy before the princess needed to do anything.

The crown prince went back to Li Qiye alone and smiled wryly. He waved his hand and said: "My sister is still young and unrestrained."

Li Qiye smiled and continued to stare at the golden spring.

"Are you interested in this spring?" The crown prince was glad to change the subject.

Li Qiye nodded.

"Young Master, you should test your luck, maybe you'll find eternal wealth." Yang Ling urged him: "After all, you were the chosen one with the hammer."

Little did she know that someone else had very good hearings - Untethered Monk.

He walked over at Li Qiye with a grin on his face. He placed his palms together and asked: "Amitabha, Benefactor, do you want to try? Perhaps you'll be the chosen one."

This attracted the attention of the crowd.

"Our young master is blessed by fate." Yang Ling said with pride, having total confidence in Li Qiye.