

Emperor 3861

Chapter 3861: A Gift From Heavenly Dragon Temple

On the same night, an unexpected guest visited the ancestral peak - Golden Cicada Buddhist Child.

He bowed then took out a treasure box with both hands, presenting it to Li Qiye: "Under the instruction of my master and the other ancestors, I am here to respectfully give you this dao bone. We have been keeping it all this time and hope that you will find it acceptable."

The box's tattered nature made its old age apparent. Numerous Buddhist seals covered the surface. It seemed as if many high monks had personally performed a blessing of protection - this was indicative of its value.

The blessings weren't to stop thieves and robbers, only to keep the thing inside at bay. As time passed, there was a chance that it could escape, hence the need for continuous augmentation.

The old servant stared at it in admiration: "An incredible base, an heirloom of Sangharama Buddha. I didn't expect Heavenly Dragon Temple to have this old relic."

Golden Cicada glanced at the old man then cupped his fist and said: "How perceptive you are, Senior. Yes, Buddha Dao Lord gave it to our founder."

Sangharama Buddha was the founder of Heavenly Dragon Temple. He was the dao lord's direct disciple and served as a general.

It has been years since the dao lord's era but the temple still had kept this relic around.

Li Qiye had talked about wanting this dao bone previously so Golden Cicada reported this to his sect.

Outsiders all thought that the temple had a top-grade dao bone. Some believed that it was a king-level dao bone. Some disagreed and took it to the next level, a priceless emperor-level dao bone.

The temple didn't try to trick Li Qiye either. They offered their very best dao bone to him. It was harvested by Buddha Dao Lord from a top chaos primal beast. It was then bestowed to Sangharama Buddha as a reward for his military contribution.

Sangharama didn't refine it into a weapon and kept it in his temple. The future descendants did the same because this dao bone was just too precious.

Nonetheless, the temple was decisive enough to make the decision of giving it to Li Qiye.

He glanced at the box and smiled, not intending on taking it.

"This dao bone is precious but I can't use it." He said.

"Young Master?" Golden Cicada became confused due to Li Qiye's change of heart.

"I'm not someone who takes treasures from others. I was just playing with you that day." Li Qiye shook his head.

Golden Cicada had an awkward smile. He was an open-minded person but Li Qiye's joke really caused him a lot of trouble.

This priceless dao bone was the jewel and the legacy of their temple. Nonetheless, he still asked for it. They had a terrible time making this decision. The ancestors nearly went crazy during the deliberation. Now, he refused the dao bone?

Others would be furious for his inconsiderate frivolity. Alas, Golden Cicada remained cool.

“I thought you wanted to craft a weapon.” He asked.

Li Qiye smiled and revealed: “I am. This dao bone is good but it’s far from being able to meet my requirements.”

“...” He naturally wouldn’t say that Li Qiye was putting up an act.

He wouldn’t claim that this dao bone was the best. However, it came from a mighty beast. Using it for crafting would result in something comparable to a dao lord weapon.

“If I use it for my weapon. How do you think it compares to a dao lord weapon?” Li Qiye asked.

“It will definitely be just as good.” Golden Cicada pondered for a bit before seriously answering.

“Flattery sounds even better when done in a deadpan and earnest manner.” Li Qiye seemed amused.

Golden Cicada chuckled awkwardly after hearing this.

Li Qiye then continued: “This would be too much trouble for a dao lord weapon. If I wanted one of this level, I could just grab some from Sacred Mountain or Righteous Sect.”

Dao lord weapons were considered to be the apex of weaponry. Any sect would treat one as their ultimate treasure. Now, Li Qiye revealed how he thought nothing of them.

What moved the monk was Li Qiye’s intention of creating something even greater. Who could possibly do something like this?

Nonetheless, he knew that Li Qiye wasn’t messing around. It’s just that he had a hard time imagining the end product.

He was aware of Li Qiye’s refinement on top of Myriad Cauldron Peak. This made him even more curious about the crafting process.

“Amitabha, I hope you will find success, Young Master.” He lowered his head and placed his palms together.

Li Qiye nodded and said: “Heavenly Dragon Temple has always been a staunch pillar of the holy ground. The holy ground will do just fine without Vajra or Divine Ghost Division, but if there’s no Heavenly Dragon, there’s no Buddha Holy Ground.”

“Amitabha, it is an honor to be praised by you, Young Master. Heavenly Dragon Temple will stand with the holy ground, always.” The monk replied.

The changes in the holy ground and the leading dynasty didn’t matter. The monks of Heavenly Dragon always supported Sacred Mountain and served as the pillar of this system.

Naturally, Sacred Mountain also trusted Heavenly Dragon Temple. Because of this, it bestowed numerous dao lord merit laws and weapons to the temple, allowing it to have the second greatest treasury in the holy ground.

“Your sect’s old geezer is here too?” Li Qiye said.

“Young Master, my master is here but he doesn’t wish to offend you by coming uninvited.” The monk said.

“Please.” Li Qiye waved his hand: “He’s probably busy looking for that immortal weapon.”

The monk smiled without responding.

“Tell the old monk that the future holy ground requires capable supporters.” Li Qiye ordered.

“I will, Young Master.” The monk didn’t expect this serious comment from Li Qiye but still bowed.

Chapter 3862: Treasures Appearing

Cultivators were drawn to the treasures in Black Tides, especially the young ones who became impatient.

“Gogo, the treasures are buried beneath the seabed, finders keepers!” A young one rushed into the ocean.

Some others formed groups before going. They remained wary of the dangers and rather picked a safe option.

Of course, the older cultivators did the same. The only difference was that they kept a low profile instead of being rowdy like the young ones. Some took their juniors there with the greatest speed.

They knew that showing off wealth was a quick way to die in these circumstances. Being too arrogant and showing off might result in death.

The ones who traveled the most quietly were the ancestors and reclusive masters. They rarely came out and didn’t want to be reckless. They needed reliable intelligence before taking action, unlike the youths who started digging everywhere.

These old beings’ goal wasn’t the regular treasures. They had their eyes set on the immortal weapon in the legends.

Throughout history, many ancient ancestors and supremes have been looking for this weapon. They never showed themselves to the public and always kept a vigilant eye out for any changes in Black Tides. This was their opportunity.

In just a short time, people from all over the world arrived and strutted into Black Tides.

In the beginning, they came under the mission of helping Black Cliff. But now, before the incoming battle, they wanted to test their luck and see if they could obtain some incredible weapons.

They wouldn’t dare to do this when the black water was still around. That would be a swift death. But now, the place has become safer in the water’s absence.

It was true that this place contained numerous treasures. They came from two sources - the masters that have died here and the naturally-formed ones. This abundance birthed a plethora of good news.

“Clank!” Everyone saw a radiance shooting outward. Some rushed over but it was too late.

“Young Noble Qi of Black Wood found a regalia left behind by a dao lord. I think half of it is torn off but its defensive capabilities are still impressive.” News of this nature traveled far.

“A dao lord regalia, huh?” Most sighed with admiration. Even a damaged regalia was still extremely precious and rare.

As more lights emerged in Black Tides, more adventurers found treasures in the seabed or the deep trenches...

“Oddcloud Elder found a strange conch in the trench. After an appraisal from the Biandu, it turns out to be a Soundless Night Conch. This species is only found in Black Tides. If he refines it, it can put the opponents to sleep.”

“The young lord of Stallion Pagoda caught a fish too, as white as snow from top to bottom. The Biandu identified it as a Dark Loachdragon, a species transformed by the water here. Using its blood for medicine can increase one’s cultivation by a huge margin.”

“The princess of Lianshan got a tiny golden pagoda of unknown origin. People actually say that it has the same origin as Young Lord Biandu’s saber.”

News kept on coming back about treasures, some of which were incredible. This only emboldened cultivators to take more risks.

“We need to dig and excavate all the treasures underground!” One excited soul exclaimed.

Of course, not all were lucky. Some screams happened where the lights appeared along with the sounds of battles.

This resulted in bad news. For example, disciples from Spirit Monastery were ambushed by a monster in the trench; their seniors came to help but all were massacred. The young lord of Journey School dug out an evil treasure and instantly lost his life. As for Star-rain Princess, she was pursued by an eight-legged insect for thousands of miles...

The listeners became more careful. Of course, some knew that they needed to be vigilant after obtaining the treasures.

Monsters weren’t the only problem. Other cultivators might covet their possessions and view them as prey.

Strangely enough, the Biandu who was the most familiar with this region remained passive.

In the previous tidal recessions, they always sent out forces to find treasures. It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to call them the bigger winner each time due to their knowledge. Some even called them the harvesters of Black Tides.

According to the rumors, they had a detailed map of this ocean - a treasure map of sorts. This was a difficult feat considering the ocean's size. Nonetheless, the clan denied the map's existence.

Thus, their lack of movement this time was rather strange. All they did was acting as appraisers for others' treasures.

Only a few perceptive cultivators took note of this. Most adventurers were too preoccupied with finding treasures to worry about the Biandu.

For example, the ancient ancestors and Heavenly Sovereigns paid attention to the clan's actions. They speculated that the clan might know something about the legendary immortal weapon.

These powerful beings believed that the Biandu had the biggest shot of finding it because they have lived here for generations.

In reality, right after the tidal recession, the Biandu had secretly sent a group into the ocean. Alas, due to the size of the ocean, even those who spotted this group would lose them eventually.

"Clank! Clank! Clank!" The adventurers' task was suddenly interrupted by a weapon resonance.

This both frightened and excited them. They thought that a treasure was causing this harmonization.

However, it was just because of a youth crossing through the sky.

"Wild Child of the East!" People looked up and became startled after seeing him.

He wore leather; his long hair draped down his shoulders in a messy manner. He gave off the impression of being a savage living in the wilderness.

The most conspicuous part about him was the saber hanging on his back. It was covered by leather as well and lacked decoration. It exuded a wild and domineering aura.

This aura ravaged the air without holding back. The crowd found this similar to the aura of a beast out of its cage.

Chapter 3863: Wild Child Of The East

The wild child's appearance caused quite a stir. The younger geniuses took a deep breath while staring at him.

"The wild child is here, now if Righteous Scion comes too, then all three great geniuses will be here." One youth became emotional.

Wild Child of the East, Righteous Scion, and Three Slashes were considered supreme geniuses. However, the wild child rarely showed his face in the holy ground or Righteous Sect.

Because of this, he wasn't as famous as his peers. Nonetheless, his power was definitely on the same level. His saber skill wasn't inferior to Three Slashes.

He had a prestigious background as well, being the son of the Praetor who was currently in charge of the eastern coalition armies.

This was impressive enough but he had another earth-shattering status.

The spectators stared at his saber and its rampant energy waves. It demanded attention so they focused more on the saber than its master.

“You know, I’ve heard that the wild child is the disciple of Mad Blade Guan Batian. Is this true?”
Someone asked softly.

Those nearby shuddered after hearing this title. Ancestor-level characters would definitely have the same reaction as well.

Mad Blade Guan Batian was known in all of Eight Desolaces, not just the southern West King.

The current southern region had plenty of hidden dragons and crouching tigers. Some sects had ancient existences that are slumbering.

Currently, Buddha Supreme and Righteous Supreme were at the apex. The slumbering existence wouldn’t challenge their authority without a good reason due to the risk.

However, Mad Blade Guan Batian was known as “The Third”. For a long period of time, people believed that he was as strong as the two supremes.

He dominated with his saber during his youth, sweeping through West King uncontested. Though he never fought the two supremes before, most believed that he had an equal chance of victory.

Some took it further and even referred to him as the third supreme after the era of Eight Stallion Dao Lord.

Alas, at the peak of his notoriety, he suddenly disappeared from the public. No one had a clue of his whereabouts.

Thus, they gradually forgot about him. Nonetheless, the wild child potentially being his disciple was still startling.

For example, Righteous Scion has been taught by Righteous Supreme before, but they weren’t master-disciple.

Therefore, the wild child would have the biggest advantage in terms of background versus his two rivals.

“Are you sure?” A skeptical genius asked.

“It would be foolish to make this claim, it has to be true. Who would dare pretend to be Mad Blade’s disciple?” An expert replied.

This was indeed the case. Mad Blade was known to be arrogant and aggressive. Pretending to be his disciple might result in clan extermination.

The wild child might be the Praetor’s son but his father wouldn’t be able to protect him from Mad Blade. Moreover, his background was already prestigious enough. There was no point in lying.

“It’s plausible. There was a rumor about Mad Blade entering the eight kingdoms during his prime. That’s when he disappeared so he might have chosen to live there in seclusion.” A big shot from the last generation joined the conversation.

“No way, why would Mad Blade pick that place? It’s desolate and barbaric.” Someone from the holy ground disagreed.

“That’s right, our supreme genius wouldn’t go there.” Even older cultivators shared this thought.

This was understandable because Mad Blade came from the holy ground. To be more specific - Metropolis Division and Duality Academy.

Why did regular people care about Mad Blade’s choice? Because if he was still around, it meant that the holy ground would have two supremes. This would automatically put the holy ground above Righteous Sect.

That’s why the claim of him being in the eight kingdoms instead made it sound as if he had changed his allegiance. No one from the holy ground would be happy to hear this.

“Mad Blade really went to the east. However, his goal was to find the Ancient Immortal Kingdom.” A big shot from the east said with absolute confidence. [1]

“Why? Did he want to challenge Worldly Immortal?” Hushed discussions sprung up right away.

There was a misconception about the Ancient Immortal Kingdom. The general public assumed that this was one of the eight kingdoms to the east.

This was actually not the case. Only those from the east knew otherwise. This kingdom was definitely located to the east. However, its actual location remained a mystery.

The eight kingdoms treated it as their leader and that their mission was to protect it. This mirrored the position of Sacred Mountain for the holy ground.

As for the legendary Worldly Immortal, few had the privilege of meeting this being. Even dao lords weren’t always qualified.

The wild child never stopped after entering the ocean, eventually disappearing from sight.

“Does he have a clear target?” Some tried to follow him but couldn’t keep up.

All in all, it was an exciting period for the adventurers in Black Tides. Today, Li Qiye’s group came as well.

Of course, he didn’t care for the treasures here. Unfortunately, Yang Ling kept on blabbering about wanting to find some treasures. He had some free time and decided to entertain her.

They saw adventurers successfully digging up treasure. The excited Yang Ling pulled Li Qiye around, loudly demanding that they must find some too before leaving.

“Is Wild Child of the East really Senior Guan’s disciple?” She also saw this genius crossing through the sky and heard the gossip: “I don’t believe he would pick an eastern barbarian for his disciple.”

Her prejudice in this case was normal. Guan Batian came from Metropolis and the academy just like her.

She took pride in having him as a member of the community and would be vexed by his change of allegiance.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn't respond. The old servant chuckled: "There are always people who toot their own horn. Learning just the basics yet claiming to be someone else's disciple, wanting the entire world to know about it. This is rather common."

"Wait, so he learned the legendary Mad Blade techniques?" Yang Ling found this surprising.

Guan Tianba's saber technique was known as Mad Blade, hence his title.

Chapter 3864: Entering Black Tides

"Just to a superficial level." The old servant smiled.

"That's still pretty amazing already, Senior Guan's Mad Blade is a supreme technique that was considered the best in the world once..." Yang Ling replied.

"Best in the world? Maybe to the frogs under the well." He shook his head.

"But he really defeated all of his opponents." She retorted since Guan Batian was the pride of Metropolis and Duality.

"It's only because the true masters didn't bother to take action. Otherwise, his insignificant cultivation wouldn't be considered number one. A firefly can't compete with the bright moon." He said.

"That's an overstatement. Senior Guan is still the current third supreme, definitely on the same level as Buddha and Righteous Supreme. He might not be truly unbeatable but still an apex existence, not a firefly. If he's a firefly, then all others are mere specks of dust." She insisted.

The old man smiled and stopped arguing. Yang Ling also dropped the issue since she was merely curious.

"Young Master, where are we going now?" She asked Li Qiye.

He glanced ahead at the seabed and said: "Wherever."

"Let's go find some treasures then." She excitedly said: "Let's hope we don't meet anything dangerous though..."

"Boom!" The ground quaked before she could finish. More rumbling ensued afterward and dirt splashed everywhere as if an earth dragon was coming out.

"What's this?!" She became startled.

"Boom!" Dirt shot upward as a gigantic creature drilled out of the ground. Its shadow engulfed the group as they looked up.

It slightly resembled a worm, only that it had a head without eyes, only a mouth as large as its body.

"Raa!" It opened its mouth and revealed its frightening teeth, long and sharp on top of rotating deeper into its mouth cavity. They actually moved around like gears, capable of grinding anything unfortunate enough to be caught.

It also spewed out a black liquid, enough to intimidate the most courageous adventurers.

"What is this monster?" The quiet Fan Bai immediately hid behind Li Qiye, horrified.

Girls usually had a tough time dealing with worms and insects.

“So nasty...” Yang Ling was disgusted.

“Just a tidal worm.” Li Qiye glanced at it and smiled.

“Raa!” The tidal worm immediately lunged forward to try and swallow the group. “Clank! Clank! Clank!” Its teeth were grinding and clunking.

“Watch it!” Yang Ling’s first reaction was to hide behind Li Qiye as well.

He, on the other hand, didn’t bother to look at the worm.

“Whoosh!” The old man took action instead. A saber slash flashed for a moment before disappearing.

The two girls didn’t even see him move at all, only hearing a saber hymn then seeing a bright flash.

The slash was simply too fast. It didn’t have accompanying saber energy or a bloodthirsty aura. Nonetheless, time seemed to come to a halt. Everything became slow enough to spot.

Once the flow of time became normal again, the worm was cut into two halves. Black liquid and its organs spilled on the ground.

“Boom!” Its massive body slammed into the ground.

The old servant only needed one move to kill this monster. It didn’t even see his swinging motion, let alone resisting the attack.

“So fast...” Yang Ling forgot about fear and the nastiness of the worm after seeing the slash.

She wasn’t a top master or anything but still understood how mighty that attack was just now. She glanced at the old man - he didn’t have a saber in his grasp.

“Senior, you-your attack earlier, what is its name?” She couldn’t help but ask, aware that the old man was a hidden master.

“Just a casual swing, there’s no name.” He smiled.

“Your casual attack is so strong already, so how incredible would an actual technique be? Which saber art do you train in?” She was lost in admiration.

Though she knew that asking for someone’s merit law was potentially rude or even offensive, she still couldn’t help herself.

“Hmm.” The old man glanced at the horizon and shook his head: “It’s too long ago, I’m old now and can’t remember much of it.”

“Even in that case, can your saber art compare to Senior Guan’s Mad Blade?” She became bolder.

He smiled and didn’t answer her.

Li Qiye decided to interject: “Mad Blade is a decent saber technique but it doesn’t compare to his current art. When comparing the two, he would only need three moves to kill Mad Blade.”

“Really?!” Yang Ling wouldn’t accept this if it came from anyone other than Li Qiye.

After all, Mad Blade and his saber art were strong enough for him to be potentially classified as the third supreme.

Who could kill Mad Blade in three moves? Not even Buddha and Righteous Supreme.

She thought that Li Qiye was most likely correct. Her exclamation was out of shock rather than skepticism.

“Of course.” He smiled.

“Th-that’s amazing.” She glanced at the old man, still looking a little doubtful.

“Just three slashes to cut the dao.” The old man didn’t look complacent in the slightest and seemed to be thinking about something.

She didn’t understand what he was talking about. Alas, these two seemed quite confident in the unbelievable assessment.

She stood there in a daze, shocked.

“Don’t you want to look for treasures? One’s right here.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“Treasures? Where?!” She regained her wits and started looking around excitedly.

“Out.” Li Qiye roared.

There was a pit filled with mud on the seabed in front of them. “Splash!” A round stone hopped out of it as if it had legs.

Chapter 3865: Round Stone

The stone was perfectly round with alternating black and white lines. It didn’t have eyes yet Yang Ling felt as if it was staring at her with cute, round eyes.

“This is a treasure?” Her eyes became brighter.

“Little one, come to me.” She reached for it right away.

A crack appeared on the stone and a smaller pebble shot out, successfully hitting her forehead. She started seeing stars and nearly tumbled on the ground. Her forehead became swollen afterward.

She groaned and grabbed her forehead, finding this astonishing. She was still a capable cultivator with commendable agility. Ordinary experts couldn’t hit her forehead like that.

The injury was far from severe yet she couldn’t dodge it. She didn’t know what happened before getting hit.

“What is this thing?” She asked while holding her puffed-up forehead.

The stone started rolling away with impressive speed, issuing clicking noises.

“Go after it, it’ll lead you somewhere nice.” Li Qiye said and followed it.

“A treasury, yeah?” She became enthusiastic.

He smiled without answering. The group hurriedly followed the stone.

It seemed to be aware of the pursuers and increased its speed, rolling with the speed of a star and causing dust to fly everywhere.

Unfortunately, no matter how fast it was, it couldn't lose Li Qiye. It was as slow as a crawling baby to him.

In reality, its escape attempt was doomed from the start. Even if it could lose the group, it still left behind a faint trail for the group to follow.

It rolled farther into the ocean until it reached a mountain range. Normally, these mountains would not be visible due to the black water.

Strangely enough, once entering this area, the group saw that there were clouds and mist shrouding the mountains. It was akin to entering a different world.

There were no lush vegetation and trees covering the hills. Nonetheless, one could still get lost due to the lowered visibility once getting higher. It resembled an illusory labyrinth.

They traveled through the hills and peaks by following the stone, eventually getting to the valley in the center. In the middle of this valley was a mound, looking like a natural platform of heaven and earth.

The two girls were amazed to see the scene inside. The entire valley was filled with round stones just like the one prior. They came from all over the place and were packed like seals. It seemed that there was something important for them to do here.

They lined up in a neat order from the entrance all the way to the mound. Each had its own position and wouldn't roll in an incorrect path. This was a rather cute and funny scene.

There were other cultivators waiting outside the valley too since they followed different stones here.

Yang Ling's focus fell on the highest spot of the mound. A treasure levitated there - around the size of a face-washing basin, maybe one-third bigger.

It had a slightly oval shape with one end being long and narrow. The material seemed to be made of semitransparent jade. Nonetheless, it lacked the coldness that a jade piece would have.

It issued brilliant particles that flew around like little spirits. They eventually scattered downward and touched the round stones, akin to flower petals hitting the water in a lake and issuing ripples.

These golden ripples were immediately absorbed by the stones. They seemed to be enjoying the process just like seals enjoying the sun rays, looking lazy and comfortable.

Everyone then understood the stones rolled to this place. Their targets were the particles from this treasure.

“What treasure is this?” People started wondering about this jade-like thing.

Even the knowledgeable members of the crowd had no idea. Nonetheless, even a fool could tell that it was amazing.

“It’s mine!” Someone from the last generation leaped forward and landed on the mound, reaching for the treasure.

However, a stone retaliated by shooting off a smaller piece right away.

The expert waved his other hand and created a gale. His sleeve aimed to block the incoming pebble.

“Bang!” Unfortunately, his forehead still got hit somehow. The spectators didn’t see it clearly.

He shouted in pain before falling off the mound.

“Bang! Bang! Bang!” The other stones didn’t show any mercy and shot more pebbles at his head.

“Shit!” He couldn’t block any of them.

The truth was that resistance was futile. The stones had impeccable accuracy and always struck the right spot.

He moaned in agony while rolling on the ground, trying his best to cover his head. Once he made it out of the valley, he got into the fetal position and sobbed. His face became swollen like a pig head, completely unrecognizable.

Others wanted to laugh but felt bad for him. Some friends came over to put ointment on his face.

Unfortunately, he still screamed in pain as if he had been stung by a thousand bees.

Chapter 3866: Impossible To Enter

“I wonder what these things are.” The crowd shifted their attention back to the valley.

When they lined up in this cute and harmless manner, no one could see their offensive potential. They were mere stones that shouldn’t be able to damage cultivators.

Alas, once they started spewing smaller pebbles, they never missed the mark as if evasion was futile.

“Let me give it a shot.” A younger cultivator activated his armor. Thick plates surrounded him for an impregnable defense.

“Sierra Guard. That’s Young Noble Chongshan from Metropolis.” Someone recognized the armor set and the person right away.

“This armor is extremely thick and unyielding.” Another expert thought that this armored youth would be able to stop the pebbles.

After activating his defense, the youth became bolder and slowly walked into the valley.

The moment he set one foot inside, one stone immediately attacked. “Whoosh!”

“Activate!” The youth shouted. The armor became resplendent and numerous layers of mountains appeared before him. This seemed enough to block anything.

“Boom!” Unfortunately, the flying pebble still struck his forehead. All of the defensive aspects of the armor were nullified.

“Ah!” He fell backward and was horrified. Nonetheless, he endured the pain and started crawling out of the valley.

Nonetheless, he ate another two or three shots and was still screaming after he made it out. His head was swollen, albeit not as much as the first cultivator.

“Got any idea?” The spectators exchanged glances, thinking that this made no sense. How could the pebble still hit him through the layers of mountains?

They thought that both defense and evasion were useless here.

“This doesn’t make any sense.” Yang Ling said. A pebble shouldn’t inflict any pain to a cultivator.

Li Qiye only smiled since he wasn’t interested in this treasure.

“Spatial evasion.” The old man’s eyes became profound while staring at the jade piece on top of the mound. He clearly saw some clues.

“My turn.” Another youth with pulsing flames on his body stepped forward.

“Young Lord Tuhuo.” The locals naturally recognized him.

He stood in front of the valley and roared: “Terra Lava!”

He formed a mudra and activated his merit law. The flames around him surged to the air.

“Rumble!” Magma from underground rose up and became meteors, shooting straight towards the valley while leaving fiery trails behind.

Many spectators took a deep breath while watching the apocalyptic attack.

“Young Lord Tuhuo lives up to his reputation as a top genius in Black Wood.” Even visitors praised the prodigy.

He took the initiative to go on the offensive instead of worrying about defense, wanting to obliterate the stones inside with lava meteors.

In this split second, the jade on the mound became blindingly bright and created a barrier protecting the valley.

“Rumble!” The meteors slammed into the barrier and stopped in their tracks. The devastating impact and the scorching heat couldn’t break this barrier.

“We’ll see about that!” An ancestor nearby lost his patience and shouted: “Galaxy Storm!”

Having said that, he summoned a treasure. Its sovereign aura immediately ravaged the area. A galaxy emerged above and its stars immediately rained down on the barrier.

“He’s the prime minister of Celestial Country!” A spectator cried out: “His Galaxy Storm took down an army of one hundred thousand before!”

This ancestor served as a prime minister for a powerful country in the holy ground. His attack horrified the crowd.

‘Boom!’ Alas, this was far from being enough to destroy the barrier.

“Buzz.” Space suddenly trembled and another ancestor instantly appeared in front of the jade.

He wore a black outfit while appearing ethereal like a flickering flame on the verge of extinguishing.

“Specter Ancestor of Divine Ghost Division!” An expert shouted, not expecting so many big shots to be here.

“You’re mine!” Specter reached forward and firmly grabbed the jade piece.

“He got it!” The crowd clamored after seeing this.

Strangely enough, he couldn’t move the floating jade at all as if it had deep roots somewhere.

He mustered his strength and his vitality erupted brightly. This was proven futile.

The stones on the ground launched their onslaught so this ancestor darted outward with godlike speed.

“Boom!” The first pebble struck his head, making him scream and fall to the ground. As he was making his way out, he ate several more.

Blood spilled from his head; the pain was bad enough for him to sob.

“This valley is so bizarre.” A spectator said since two ancestors have failed thus far.

“That jade piece is unreal, it resisted Galaxy Storm with its own power.” A big shot murmured.

The prime minister said: “This barrier is absolutely at the dao lord level, completely unharmed after my attack.”

“!!!” Everyone felt their heart beating faster.

This jade, in and of itself, was already so impressive. Once refined, it would become an invincible defensive treasure.

The crowd exchanged glances. Everyone wanted the jade but none had the ability to take it out of the valley.

Chapter 3867: This Is Difficult?

The treasure taunted them by simply being there yet none could grab it. In its natural form, it could already stop an attack from a sovereign without suffering any damage. Once refined, it would reach an unimaginable level of power.

People couldn’t hide the greed in their eyes while gazing at it.

“We should work together.” Young Lord Tuhuo suggested this to the big shots and the ancestors earlier.

This older group started speculating. One ancestor said: “There’s only one treasure.”

In terms of seniority, Young Lord Tuhuo was not qualified to negotiate with the ancestors and especially with the real big shots from the last generation. However, there was a high elder from the clan standing behind him right now. It meant that he could represent their clan in public matters. In this region, outsiders needed to give face to the Tuhuo.

“Focus on working together first or none of us will be able to get the treasure. Save the splitting for later.” The young lord said.

The older cultivators found this logical. Under these circumstances, no one would be able to grab that jade alone. It required numerous powerful ancestors working together to break through the barrier and stopping the attacks from the stones.

“That’s fine.” The previous prime minister nodded: “Let’s do our best to take this treasure jade.”

Many of his peers nodded in agreement. This was still better than doing nothing at all. The talk about who gets it could wait until later.

“Those who aren’t in our team should leave to avoid needless complications.” The young lord suggested. It would be a shame if someone else were to take advantage of their work and effort.

The ancestors and high elders looked around with a cold gaze, obviously insinuating for everyone else to leave. If they were too weak to join the group, there was no point in them sticking around.

Others became annoyed right away. They murmured with indignation under their breath, not daring to bark back.

Li Qiye lost all interest at this point. He stretched and said: “All of this effort for a piece of crap?”

This naturally offended all the ancestors and high elders. They turned around and saw that it was him.

“Li Qiye.” A big shot took a deep breath.

Those who came from Buddha Emperor Plateau became startled. One asked: “Since when did he get here? He’s joining the fun too?”

Li Qiye was notorious back in the central region for killing Phantom and Hu Ben. Moreover, he sent Sword Hero flying with one hammer smash.

The latter deed frightened the top experts. They all knew that he was a monster, unlike his harmless appearance.

Of course, the locals or those from the eight kingdoms haven’t heard of Li Qiye’s exploits.

“Is he strong?” One cultivator from the east saw the expression of the big shots and wondered.

No one answered right away so an awkward silence ensued. After a while, a big shot quietly said: “Strong, no, but bizarre to the point of being sorcerous.”

Those lacking information didn’t see anything special about this average-looking cultivator.

“You speak as if you can easily obtain this jade piece.” Young Lord Tuhuo already disliked Li Qiye from the previous meeting.

“Of course, but it’s not worth my time.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Bullcrap, this jade is an emperor-level material yet you have the gall to call it crap. I’m sure you’re just trying to hide the fact that you can’t get it.” The young lord snorted in response.

Unfortunately, his team members didn’t share the same sentiment. The ones from the central region stared at him as if he was an idiot.

Not to mention his meager power, even that high elder behind him was far from enough.

He was an exceptional genius in Black Wood Cliff but far from being comparable to Hu Ben and Phantom. Li Qiye would have zero problems killing him.

“Young Master, I want this jade.” Yang Ling noticed the young lord’s disdain for Li Qiye so she interjected while winking at Li Qiye. Her purpose was to toy with this young lord.

“So be it.” Li Qiye glanced at the jade.

Young Lord Tuhuo simply didn’t buy it. Some ancestors have tried before only to fail. He sneered: “The only thing that will happen is you pissing in your pants when those stones hit you. Stop daydreaming.”

Li Qiye ignored him and walked towards the valley.

“Can he do it?” The locals and the eastern cultivators had little confidence in him. The ancestors who attempted earlier ran for their lives and even cried from the pain.

“This brat is about to do something crazy again.” On the other hand, the big shots from the central region felt the opposite.

“We have no business here any longer, this jade has a master now.” Another high elder said helplessly.

They saw Li Qiye doing even more devilish things before. This was nothing in comparison, definitely not a miracle.

He walked forward while being empty-handed and unprepared.

“Just like that?” Some spectators became confused at his frivolity.

“He’s not afraid of the stones?” The older experts from Black Wood found this strange. They attributed it to him being arrogant and careless.

“Haha, just wait, he’ll have a pig head soon enough on top of pissing his pants, gonna look as sorry as possible.” Young Lord Tuhuo smirked and couldn’t wait to watch the show. He had personal experience of how strong these stones were.

Unfortunately, his smirk turned into sheer astonishment. Others had their mouth and eyes wide open as well.

Li Qiye sauntered into the dangerous valley as if it was just another street. The stones didn’t react or move at all as if they didn’t see him. It finally made sense since they didn’t have eyes.

Chapter 3868: Easily Taking It Out

Silence took over and stupor struck the crowd. Earlier, the powerful ancestors have failed to the barrier and the stones, eventually fleeing in embarrassment.

As for Li Qiye, he had zero defense and preparation as if he was unaware of the life-threatening danger. Nonetheless, the stones didn't try to attack him at all.

"What the hell are those stones doing? Are they asleep? Did he hypnotize them?" One expert regained his wits and quietly said.

He then quietly stepped into the valley, wanting to follow Li Qiye.

"Ah!" Unfortunately, he screamed the moment his foot touched the soil, having been struck by a pebble. He pulled his leg back right away and retreated.

It became obvious that the stones weren't sleeping. It's just that for some unknown reason, they didn't want to attack Li Qiye.

"Why does he get to enter?" One cultivator questioned.

"Maybe he has a stealth technique stopping the stones from spotting him." Another youth boldly speculated.

It didn't win the crowd over because earlier, Specter Ancestor had infiltrated the valley. As a member of the ghost race, his stealth technique was superior to most in the world. This still wasn't enough.

"Because he's Li Qiye." An expert from the last generation who came from Buddha Emperor Plateau said: "He has done more bizarre things before, this is nothing."

Others exchanged glances, not agreeing with him either. This didn't offer a real reason or explanation.

"Why don't the stones attack the young master?" Yang Ling didn't have any idea either. She expected Li Qiye to come unhindered but it was still surprising for the stones to leave him alone.

"Intimidation." The old man stared at the valley while speaking.

"Intimidation? They're afraid of the young master?" She asked for elaboration.

"No." He pointed at the jade on top of the mound: "Afraid of that."

She stared at the jade again and realized that the light on the jade became dimmer. It was pulsing and releasing particles earlier. This was no longer the case as if the light was a frightened little animal hiding in its cave, only daring to peek its head out every once in a while.

It didn't take long before Li Qiye walked up the mound and stood in front of the jade piece.

"He's about to get it!" One spectator shouted.

Others did the same; some of them deliberately yelled in order to wake the stones up and stop him.

Unfortunately, the stones didn't react and they gave up.

"I don't think he can move that stone, even Specter Ancestor couldn't earlier." A local expert murmured.

Specter Ancestor made it in with his speed and actually had his hand on the jade. Unfortunately, he didn't have enough strength to move it. They thought that Li Qiye wouldn't be able to do it either due to his shallow cultivation.

"Nah, Li Qiye got this." An expert from Buddha Emperor Plateau shook his head and said: "You'll see, there's nothing he can't do."

Li Qiye reached forward and grabbed the stone.

"Don't let him take you!" One local started praying.

"Buzz." The jade became resplendent, seemingly wanting to resist.

"See, he won't get it." Young Lord Tuhuo happily sneered.

Alas, this light was beautiful but short-lived. It extinguished in the next second akin to a clam with a bright pearl inside opening and closing its mouth immediately.

Thus, Li Qiye easily pulled it back before the astonished spectators.

"I told you, he got this." The expert earlier wasn't surprised in the slightest.

The locals couldn't believe how easily he obtained the jade. They naturally disliked this result.

"Zzz-" The quiet stones suddenly began to jump up and made noises, seemingly unhappy at Li Qiye.

"That's more like it!" The crowd became excited, especially Young Lord Tuhuo.

"He's finished now, those stones will beat him mercilessly. There's no way he can last given his cultivation, hmph. He won't be able to get up afterward." The young lord gloated.

Li Qiye simply smiled and raised the jade up in the air.

"Buzz." It exuded a radiance akin to the explosion of a thousand suns, enough to temporarily blind the spectators.

Once it dispersed, they opened their eyes and saw the stones seemingly being drunk. They have absorbed a high amount of light and couldn't take in any more. They decided to drill into the ground and disappear.

The whole thing was so bizarre and most spectators didn't know what happened. Anyone would find these developments sorcerous. Li Qiye seemed to be able to do anything.

The ancestors and big shots from the central region started talking about how this is expected of Li Qiye. The locals didn't buy it before but now, their confidence wavered.

Once Li Qiye left the valley, Young Lord Tuhuo came forward and said: "Congratulations, Fellow Daoist."

Li Qiye glanced at him without replying.

The young lord didn't mind the silent treatment and smiled: "This jade is absolutely an incredible treasure. How about taking it out and showing us what it can do?"

He then turned towards the crowd and continued: "Am I right, gentlemen? Don't we all want to take a closer look at it?"

Chapter 3869: Dragonraise Cauldron

Most understood his insinuation right away. This was an indirect attempt of seizing Li Qiye's treasure.

Of course, they were all tempted, whether it be the youths or the powerful ancestors from the last generation.

However, the ancestors couldn't be so blatant. To take Li Qiye's treasure in public like this could ruin their reputation.

"Right, take it out and broaden our horizon." The locals supported him.

"In fact, just touching that peerless treasure might increase longevity. Share the luck and let us touch it once." Another youth smiled.

It was easy to imagine that when the young lord got a hold on this jade piece, he wouldn't return it to Li Qiye.

"See? Everyone is so enthusiastic, just entertain them a little bit..." The young lord enjoyed the support of the crowd and smiled at Li Qiye.

"If you're capable enough to take it from me, it's yours. If not, you'll lose your dog life." Li Qiye also smiled and interrupted him.

The young lord tried to go around in a circle while Li Qiye was as direct as can be.

The young lord's expression darkened. Everyone else took a deep breath.

"Capture him, Young Lord." A local expert urged him on: "You'll take him down in less than five moves and the treasure will be yours."

Two different groups existed among the crowd. One group just wanted to watch the show. As for the other group, they wanted to take advantage of this situation.

The young lord was now riding a tiger and couldn't get off. Not attacking Li Qiye meant being afraid. As a genius only second to Three Slashes, at least in his mind, this was something he couldn't accept.

"Very well, but remember, you're the one suggesting this!" He took a deep breath and shouted.

"You're wasting my time, come already." Li Qiye waved his hand dismissively.

The young master's expression became unsightly. He considered himself only second to Three Slashes so this public disdain was unacceptable. He would knock Li Qiye's teeth out even if the guy didn't have a treasure.

"You pick hell instead of heaven, I hope you can back it up!" The young lord uttered coldly.

"Buzz." He summoned a golden treasure resembling an incense burner. As one looked closer at the inside, they saw tiny pieces of fuelwood and embers.

The moment he took it out, it was akin to the opening of a new realm. The aura of a supreme rushed out along with a majestic grand dao. Its three legs were in the form of golden dragons, ready to soar and roar.

Many experts staggered backward after feeling its oppressive pressure.

“Dragonraise Cauldron! The heirloom of the Tuhuo!” A local immediately recognized the cauldron and became frightened.

Even the outsiders were startled after hearing the name of the cauldron. They didn’t expect this youth to bring such a powerful treasure here.

“This Li guy is finished.” Many locals snorted after seeing this.

“Dragonraise is mighty indeed. It can refine a sovereign right away. Defensive treasures aren’t effective against it.” An outsider said.

“The famous cauldron of the Tuhuo is worthy of its fame. Unfortunately, it’s facing Li Qiye.” A big shot from the plateau disagreed.

“Brat, take this!” The young lord didn’t give Li Qiye a chance to prepare.

“Boom!” His vitality soared to the sky and turned into a scorching inferno. This instantly empowered the cauldron.

“Raa! Raa! Raa!” Three draconic cries could be heard. The cauldron opened its mouth and poured out an endless torrent of flames. It swept through the sky and could take down the celestials.

“Rumble!” The three dragons holding up the cauldron suddenly flew out of the cauldron and surrounded Li Qiye in the center. Their own flames melted the ground beneath them, turning it into lava.

“Perish!” The young lord chanted and commanded the dragons.

They opened their mouth and spewed out draconic flames. It engulfed the area and drowned Li Qiye. A lake of lava was the only thing left of Li Qiye’s area.

The spectators shuddered after seeing this attack.

“That’s an heirloom treasure for you.” One of them said.

“The Tuhuo isn’t bad, that was quite impressive.” A high elder nodded approvingly.

Li Qiye was surrounded by flames above and lava beneath him. Both started surging towards him, wanting to reduce him to ashes.

“There’s no place to run!” A local shouted.

“That’s what he gets for overestimating himself and offending Young Lord Tuhuo.” Another genius said.

Young Lord Tuhuo had a smile on his face after hearing these comments.

“Idiots.” A big shot from the plateau murmured.

“Buzz.” The target area of the lava and flames suddenly became resplendent.

The source of this light came from the jade piece in Li Qiye's hand. It served as a shield against all attacks.

The scorching flames and unbearable lava couldn't do a thing to this barrier.

Many spectators gasped after seeing the easy block.

"Are you forgetting that this jade piece stopped an attack from the prime minister earlier?" A crowd member reminded them.

Young Lord Tuhuo also didn't expect this result; his expression soured right away.

"That's it? My turn then." Li Qiye smiled.

"Buzz." A mouth-like crack showed up on the jade piece. It then crazily absorbed the flames and lava.

Chapter 3870: Play With Fire And Get Burnt

The flames from the dragons and the cauldron itself have been swallowed by the jade piece. Their power - though mighty - was useless in this case.

"Poof!" The jade piece didn't stop there. Its sucking force intensified and it forcefully dragged out the flames inside the cauldron itself.

"Damn!" Young Lord Tuhuo noticed that something was wrong and immediately recalled the flames.

Alas, the suction force was too much and the young lord couldn't stop the transfer.

"This jade treasure can do more than just defend." Some ancestors and high elders became astonished.

They assumed that this jade was only a defensive treasure. Nonetheless, they were utterly impressed by its potential since it was at the dao lord level. Now, it had this absorbing property as well? This took it to the next level. What kind of weapon would come from refining this wonderful material?

"Sever!" The young lord decisively cut off his own vitality from empowering the cauldron and halted the absorbing process. He staggered backward from the backlash.

"Boom!" The moment he stabilized and looked up, he saw an inferno rushing out from the jade.

This inferno consisted of the flames and lava absorbed earlier. However, they looked far stronger than before.

It became an all-penetrating beam with a heat capable of refining everything. Though it was far away, the spectators felt pain from the heat so they started running away.

"Go!" The horrified young lord chanted a mantra and laws emerged.

The three fiery dragons immediately got in front of him and spewed out three waves of flames. They gathered together, hoping to stop the incoming beam.

"Boom!" The two sides collided and the jade's beam had the upper hand, continuously pushing back the other side.

Eventually, the dragons' flames lost completely and the creatures started melting. Meanwhile, the young lord carried his cauldron and had to activate it again for defensive purposes.

He was drenched in sweat, on the verge of being fully exhausted.

This reversal caught the crowd off guard. They thought that Li Qiye was a dead man due to the cauldron's flames. No one expected that the young lord would be the one on the verge of death.

"Brat, this is enough. Anyone can make mistakes, forgive when possible." An elder from the Tuhuo shouted.

Several more released their vitality, ready to attack Li Qiye.

"The young master is busy, scram." The old servant glared at him.

The elders became furious. Though they didn't have the same authority as the Biandu, they were still prestigious and wouldn't accept being talked down to by a mere servant.

"Who are you, old man?!" One elder shouted.

"Just a servant." He didn't bat an eye while answering.

"Get the hell out of our way!" The elders wanted to save the young lord and didn't want to waste their time with a servant. One of them unleashed a palm strike.

"Clank!" A saber slash could be heard then blood splashed in the air.

Heads could be seen flying in the air. They belonged to the elders of the Tuhuo; the eyes were still wide open.

The spectators' mouth became agape right away at this sight. They had no words to describe their current emotions. This was the same for the victims as well. They didn't expect to die in less than a second.

They didn't see how the old man used his saber. It was too late to scream once they saw their body falling down.

Normally, the old servant followed behind Li Qiye and kept a reserved attitude. No one noticed anything special about his aura. They thought that he was only a servant attending to Li Qiye's daily life. This made the killing extremely shocking.

The powerful ancestors and high elders couldn't see the saber technique either. It was simply too fast.

"What a monster..." One ancestor took a deep breath.

"Ahh!" By this point, the flames of the jade finally burned the young lord. He no longer had any energy to fight back.

"No!!!" His scream was filled with indignation and unwillingness. It didn't take long before only ashes were left.

It became difficult for the spectators to comment. They exchanged glances of confusion.

At the start, they thought that Li Qiye had no chance of obtaining the jade piece. Not only did he get it, but he was also able to display its power.

From the start to finish, he didn't use his own merit law and merely held the jade piece up high. This victory was because of the jade alone.

"Who is he?" However, the ancestors and the prime minister focused on the old servant instead.

He had his eyes closed and wore a cheap gray robe. There was no saber on him; he didn't have a sharp aura either.

"Who else is as fast as him with the blade?" A sect elder wondered.

Those elders from the Tuhuo weren't top masters or anything. Nonetheless, they were quite capable and relatively famous.

The fact that they were killed before being able to resist was a testament to the slash's power.

The ancestors and high elders thought about the current saber masters in this region. They only came up with one name.

However, this old servant didn't look like this person at all. The latter was always arrogant and overbearing. On the other hand, the old servant looked humble and accepting of his role.