

Emperor 4011

Chapter 4011: Secret Of The Grass Sword

Xu Yiyun was stunned to receive the sword. It was indeed very important but she never had a chance of making enough money to buy it, at least in a short period.

“Young Noble, my fee isn’t this high.” She didn’t dare to accept it.

Though the sword wasn’t a dao lord weapon, it was still worth 210,000 Golden Sovereign Refined Jades. She found it expensive despite being a member of the ten sword prodigies. She thought that she had done nothing warranting this payment.

In reality, this gift was just outrageous. Even the geniuses from Sea Emperor wouldn’t enjoy this treatment.

“Take it, consider it a fortune.” Li Qiye waved his hand.

She composed herself and bowed deeply: “I will not forget your kindness today, Young Noble.”

She was fully aware that this being “payment” was only an excuse. He simply wanted to give her the sword.

However, they didn’t know each other and their relationship was shallow at best. Thus, she was both grateful and confused regarding his generosity.

She gently touched the sword and felt a rough feeling. It wasn’t sharp either like in her imagination. All in all, she didn’t understand it yet but intuition told her that there were ties between the two.

“Do you know what’s special about this sword?” Li Qiye asked.

“I do not, it’s just that I was instantly captivated by it at first glance. I feel that there’s something similar between us.” She shook her head.

“That is indeed the case but to be exact, it has a similar source as your clan’s Eight-strike Sword Law.”

“Really?” She didn’t expect this. She attributed her strange feeling to fate, not something specific.

After all, this sword law was passed down by their matriarch. She left afterward and the descendants had no idea of where she went. Legend has it that she resided in an immortal realm.

“Your Eight-strike Sword Law is derived from the Grass Sword Attacking Immortal Law.” Li Qiye said: “Both belong to an ancient type of cultivation. In the present, techniques and merit laws along with mantras aren’t as distinctive. This wasn’t the case for the previous epoch. Techniques were techniques, mantras were mantras. There was no confusing them.”

“What your ancestor did was fusing a sword technique together with a mantra, resulting in the Eight-strike Sword Law.” He went on to say.

“In fact, this was rather clever. The fusion allowed for harmonization and simplicity, it’s a good merit law for cultivation.” He paused for a bit after the praise: “But, the flaws are obvious as well. Your ancestor’s

innate abilities were limited and couldn't fully reach the limit when deriving the sword technique. It couldn't take the next step forward and turn into an impressive sword dao. Or perhaps she had other reasons to not fully pass down the real version and changed it to the Eight-strike Sword Law instead."

"How are you so familiar with our technique, Young Noble?" She asked. As a member of the Xu, she practiced this technique before but didn't know as much about its origin as Li Qiye. He seemed to know it like the palm of his hand.

"Our ancestor, the matriarch, is a supreme fairy capable of injuring immortals. It's just that we descendants are foolish and can't even understand one-tenth of her legacy." She couldn't help but add.

For the Xu, their matriarch was virtually their founder. Without her guidance, they might have disappeared long ago. After all, a mortal clan didn't last that long. Several centuries were already impressive enough.

Thus, they had nothing but pride for their matriarch. Moreover, she was rumored to come from an immortal paradise as well. Therefore, Li Qiye's evaluation wasn't well-received. Yiyun had to defend the matriarch.

"Striker Heavenly Sovereign was unstoppable using the eight strikes." Lu Qi was more impressed with the Xu's technique than Li Qiye. The sovereign named Striker swept through Eight Desolaces in the past using this technique.

"We're so incapable." Yiyun smiled wryly. Putting the matriarch's abilities aside, just their Striker Heavenly Sovereign displayed the potential of the sword technique. It's just that no one else in the clan could do the same thing.

"If you can comprehend this grass sword, you'll be just like your matriarch, capable of using a supreme sword technique." Li Qiye smiled.

"What...?" Yiyun trembled after hearing this.

Their matriarch wasn't a dao lord but in their heart, she was a supreme character. Yiyun never thought about reaching the same height. Her greatest aspiration was simple - being strong enough to revitalize the clan.

"Are you saying that I can obtain the Grass Sword Attacking Immortal Law?" Yiyun said in disbelief.

"Everything is possible through effort." He said flatly.

She glanced down at the grass sword and didn't know where to start.

"Fine, I'll help you out again." Li Qiye shook his head and took the sword then peeled it.

It was made from individual blades of grass bundled together in a complex manner. However, the bundling method eluded Yiyun and even Lu Qi. They couldn't see where the knots were or how to start the process. The entire blade looked to be one piece. They couldn't disassemble it without cutting through the grass.

On the other hand, Li Qiye easily disassembled it in no time at all. Strangely enough, this didn't leave a tangled mess. The individual grass seemed to be alive and started floating in the air.

“Watch carefully now.” He then touched her forehead with one finger.

She felt her heavenly gaze being activated by him and her eyes became resplendent. Her awareness reached the next level and she was able to see something else.

She felt as if she was in the center of the universe, being as insignificant as a speck of dust. The stars around her flashed rhythmically, appearing to be characters of a grand dao.

A supreme chapter containing a supreme sword dao opened before her. She immediately became immersed in this learning process.

Chapter 4012: Practice Field

Xu Yiyun eventually regained her wits after a long while. As the visual phenomenon dispersed, she found herself to be next to Li Qiye and Lu Qi again on the busy street.

“Ho-how long have I been standing here?” She asked.

“Just a second.” Li Qiye smilingly answered.

Yiyun found this surprising because she thought that millions of years have passed in that universe. She then realized that Li Qiye had shown her the way to a supreme sword dao - a shortcut towards supremacy.

“How can I ever repay your kindness, Young Noble? Though I am incapable, I will do everything I can as your follower.” Yiyun took a deep breath, tidied her dress, then prostrated before Li Qiye.

He completely changed the direction of her life despite only being a stranger, giving her both the precious grass sword and starting her on the dao path.

Those from the same sect might not be so kind. A disciple needed to prove themselves for years and years before being treated as a serious prospect. This only amplified her gratitude for his kind deed.

“Rise.” Li Qiye accepted her grand gesture and nodded.

She got up while still being overwhelmed with emotions. Her life would go on a completely different trajectory as a result.

Meanwhile, Purification Street remained lively. At the end of this street was a building named Practice Field.

It was packed with people and carriage now, making it difficult to enter and leave.

When Li Qiye’s group arrived, there was virtually no place to stand.

“Young Noble, this building belongs to Archaic Style as well. It becomes hot each time the Preeminent Legacy is about to open. Cultivators come here in order to learn and practice, hoping to understand the rules and mysteries beforehand.” Yiyun explained.

“Archaic Style really knows how to make money. Having a pact with the dao lord while still trying to profit as well.” Li Qiye smiled while looking at the building.

The Preeminent Legacy was established by Omniscient Dao Lord. However, since this dao lord didn't have descendants and disciples, the legacy's administration was left to Archaic Style.

This trustee didn't let the dao lord down either. The wealth left behind didn't diminish but rather grew to a monstrous level.

Of course, Archaic Style also took advantage of this and profited in other manners.

"Young Noble, would you like to give it a shot?" A shop assistant came over and asked him: "Our manager said that it would be our honor to have you participate."

"So we don't need to pay?" Yiyun smiled.

"Fairy Xu, it would be in poor taste to talk about money with the young noble. Just his presence alone is all we need." The assistant happily said.

"Not bad, knowing propriety is one reason why your shop has lasted so long." Li Qiye praised.

The enthusiastic assistant guided the three into the building. They found that this was another independent realm in the form of a large field. There appeared to be numerous plates that were almost as deep as a pot. However, the main difference was these plates had little squares in them with various runes carved inside. The runes were complex and strange, easily causing people to become dizzy.

The plates imitated the Preeminent Legacy. The larger they were, the more similar.

Of course, it meant paying a higher price for access as well. As long as one had enough money, they could attempt repeatedly.

The field was also packed once Li Qiye's group entered. Each plate had one expert attempting to solve the puzzle. They hoped that with the knowledge gained here, they would be able to solve the Preeminent Legacy.

In this place, one could make some money back after an attempt. This wasn't the case for the Preeminent Legacy. The plate there was akin to a gluttonous devil that would devour everyone's resources. The only way to get anything back was to solve it.

Nonetheless, the minuscule chance of winning didn't diminish everyone's enthusiasm. The prize was just too tempting - winning meant becoming the richest in the world.

As time went on, the resources of the legacy grew and cultivators' greed grew as well. Their chance was virtually none given the historical precedent. Nonetheless, some could argue that this was more tempting than becoming a dao lord. Some lost everything in this game, becoming addicted gamblers.

Li Qiye took a look around and smiled: "Your group has done a good job copying the plate."

"Thank you, Young Noble, but they're mere imitations, nothing more." The assistant said: "Either way, they have to understand the plates here before solving the mysteries at the legacy."

Archaic Style merely copied the main plate, unable to duplicate it fully. Nonetheless, cultivators still came to increase their overall comprehension of this eternal puzzle.

“The plates are all unique, the same with the transformations and derivations. Everyone will find different possibilities and chances.” The assistant added.

“You’re trying to figure out the mystery of the legacy as well, that’s why you’re borrowing the mind of all cultivators while profiting on top of it. What a favorable transaction.” Li Qiye smiled and revealed.

“It would be foolish to not take advantage of this opportunity.” The assistant coughed awkwardly but didn’t deny the accusation.

Omniscient Dao Lord’s wealth was known by all. Moreover, he was even better at accumulation than his peers but most importantly, he had no descendants.

This meant that everything he got was stored in this treasury. With the help of Archaic Style, this legacy only grew more and more.

The problem for Archaic Style was that as the trustee, it couldn’t just take the legacy. Of course, this didn’t mean that they haven’t tried. In fact, the opposite happened across the years.

This field was the perfect example. They gained both precious data and money from these imitation plates. It would be foolish to stop.

Li Qiye casually glanced at the plates and saw cultivators tossing their money into the center. This was the way to start the process.

“The higher-level plates are more similar to the real thing, do you want to try, Young Noble?” The assistant asked.

“Mere imitations, there’s nothing worthwhile here.” Li Qiye responded.

“I see. It makes sense that our simple plates aren’t sufficient for someone of your stature, Young Noble.” The assistant was not offended.

Chapter 4013: Starshooter Prince

Excitement soared in the building as everyone tried to make the right guess with the plates.

On the other hand, Li Qiye seemed lackadaisical with his observation. Ultimately, these imitation plates had a long way to go compared to the actual legacy.

After all, Omniscient Dao Lord was the most knowledgeable out of them all. The special plate contained countless facets and wasn’t limited to just cultivation.

Thus, his peers couldn’t figure out the plate either. Archaic Style had a long history and plenty of capabilities. It studied the legacy for years now but was far from being close to solving it.

Unfortunately for the cultivators here, even solving these imitation plates wasn’t enough preparation for the real thing.

“Fellow Daoist Xu, it’s good to see you.” As Li Qiye was looking around, someone came up and greeted Xu Yiyun - a youth wearing a tightly-fitted robe.

He was in a good mood yet there was still a sharp aura to him. It was as if his body was a treasury of swords. He was none other than Chen Cangsheng whom Li Qiye met before back in Holy City.

“Fellow Daoist Chen.” Yiyun greeted him back.

The two of them were part of the ten sword prodigies. He came from Daoist Sword Ground, one of the strongest sects in the continent. It had weakened in recent years but was still far stronger than the Xu.

“Are you here to take a look at the imitation plates too?” His smile was a testament to his easy-going nature.

“I’m only accompanying the young noble.” She shook her head.

Cangsheng was surprised because he hadn’t heard of her having a master before. He took a look around and finally saw Li Qiye. This astounded him.

“Oh, it’s good to see you again.” He greeted Li Qiye.

It wasn’t that he purposely ignored Li Qiye. The latter was just too ordinary and forgettable in a large crowd.

Moreover, he was walking next to a sword prodigy. People would only pay attention to the beauty, not Li Qiye.

Yiyun managed to be so successful despite her fallen clan. This showed just how excellent she was. However, she still acted respectfully before Li Qiye. It wasn’t just for show either; it seemed to be coming from the heart. This truly surprised Cangsheng.

“May I have your name, Young Noble?” Cangsheng bowed, not daring to be careless after seeing Yiyun’s attitude.

“Young Noble Li will do.” Li Qiye casually responded.

“Yes, Sir.” Cangsheng said while being awfully curious. The third person, Lu Qi, only increased his confusion.

Her appearance and aura were hidden but Cangsheng felt that she was unfathomable. This mysterious woman was following Li Qiye as well?

“Young Noble Li, are you wanting to test your luck at the Preeminent Legacy?” He asked, thinking that they were connected by fate after meeting at Holy and now, Hallowed.

“No, I’ll just be taking it.” Li Qiye smiled.

“...” Cangsheng didn’t have any response since Li Qiye pretty much killed the conversation.

Anyone would think that he was being too arrogant and unreasonable. History told a different tale since no one has done it before.

A brief silence ensued before a young cultivator came over and pointed at Li Qiye: "That's him, Your Highness."

A group of disciples led by a handsome youth came over. This leader had a blue jade embedded on his forehead. This didn't affect his aesthetic in the slightest and actually boosted it.

"Starshooter Prince!" Those nearby paid attention to this newcomer right away.

Chen Cangsheng and Xu Yiyun had also attracted some attention a while ago. After all, they were members of the ten sword prodigies.

However, this youth took it to the next level. He wasn't only handsome but also led a group of disciples from Sea Emperor Sword Kingdom. Of course, he was another sword prodigy as well; it's just that his fame far exceeded the other two.

He hailed from Starshooter Country, a tributary of Sea Emperor. Most importantly, part of his bloodline was known as Blue Spirit - a noble lineage.

This country had a great character once - the fourth dao lord of Sea Emperor, Starshooter Dao Lord.

This prince also had this bloodline so others believed that he was the dao lord's descendant. Therefore, his status was superior to Yiyun and Cangsheng's.

"Sea Emperor has three out of the ten sword prodigies. This is expected though." One older spectator said.

Though the ten weren't the strongest among the young generation, it was still impressive for a single power to have three on the list. Other powers couldn't compare to Sea Emperor in this regard.

Starshooter Prince greeted his peers first before glaring at Li Qiye: "You killed our members."

"I believe so." Li Qiye chuckled.

"Then you're also aware that the punishment for murder is death!" The prince's eyes turned cold.

The spectators enjoyed this development. It seemed that the prince came for revenge.

"Who's gonna kill me? You?" Li Qiye stared at the prince with a smirk.

The prince didn't appreciate the disdainful retort; his face became hot with rage.

"Your Highness, he's provoking you!" A crowd member shouted, wanting to cause more trouble. They didn't give a damn about either side, only wanting to be entertained.

"Are you challenging me or the prestige of our kingdom?" The prince said coldly.

"Either or." Li Qiye lazily said: "Got a problem with this?"

This silenced the rowdy crowd right away. Challenging the prince was one thing because fights among the young generation were common enough.

However, challenging Sea Emperor's authority was an entirely different matter.

Chapter 4014: Gathering Of Enemies

Sea Emperor Sword Kingdom being provoked in public was a monumental event. That's why everyone paused and stared at Li Qiye.

The poor guy had offended Sea Emperor instead of just its members. The latter case was fine since it could be interpreted as youthful competition. It didn't warrant the actual sect's involvement; the seniors there wouldn't care enough to participate either.

After all, cultivation was a path filled with grudges and dangers. Death was a common outcome.

Not all sects wished to overly shelter their young disciples. However, their reputation and authority being challenged was a different matter. This could end with a fight until the very last man.

In this case, his opponent was Sea Emperor and worst of all, Sword Continent was their home turf. A good outcome would be him dying alone. The worst consequence would be dragging his sect and clan down with him.

Xu Yiyun smiled wryly after hearing Li Qiye. Few dared to oppose Sea Emperor in this manner. Chen Cangsheng was slack-jawed as well. He wanted to stop Li Qiye but it was already too late.

He has been around long enough to understand how serious this was. Unfortunately, the words have left Li Qiye's mouth. There was no take back now.

He didn't expect Li Qiye to be so fierce. He thought that the guy was special back during their first meeting but this still caught him by surprise.

"The brat is actually challenging Sea Emperor Sword King, he's insane." An older expert shook his head.

"He's ignorant of its true power. He'll be crying and regretting soon enough." A youth stared at Li Qiye with disdain.

"Where is he going to stay in Sword Continent now?" Another snorted.

The spectators didn't think highly of Li Qiye. They thought that his future was going to be grim.

"Haha, your audacity is actually impressive." Starshooter Prince laughed in response: "Fine, I'll play along with your suicidal tendency. How do you want to die?"

"Stand aside, I don't want others to think that I'm a bully." Li Qiye waved his hand dismissively as if he was swatting a fly.

This infuriated the prince who was already annoyed at Li Qiye's arrogant attitude thus far.

As a genius of the young generation, he was qualified to be arrogant. Whether he was or otherwise was a separate issue.

Moreover, being a member of Sea Emperor meant that he was superior to everyone else. One shouldn't forget his noble bloodline either.

Just his title and status alone demanded respect. Even the seniors needed to treat him with respect.

“Brat, I’ll teach you a lesson by sending you to the afterlife.” The prince became murderous, unable to accept being looked down upon by a junior.

Li Qiye scoffed and ignored the youth. Meanwhile, some crowd members could see the prince’s fury.

“He’s dead.” A young one commented.

The atmosphere became tense enough that a fight could break out at any moment.

“Stop, his life is mine.” Someone suddenly interjected.

Everyone looked over and saw a green-dress woman approach with an old man behind her.

“Calm Bamboo Princess?” They recognized her and whispered.

“Your Highness.” The members of Sword Sea bowed towards her right away.

“Your Highness.” Even the proud Starshooter Prince did the same.

These two had an even background. The only thing elevating her status above his was her engagement to Peace Ocean Sword King. Thus, she would be representing the main branch in the future. The prince had no choice but to assume inferiority.

She nodded her head before focusing on Li Qiye.

“Looks like quite a few people want my life. Time to team up then?” Li Qiye smiled at the princess.

“Don’t you know that insulting Sea Emperor Sword Kingdom is punishable by death?” She glared at him.

“Don’t you know that insulting me is punishable by nine-clan exterminations?” Li Qiye retorted.

The crowd erupted in laughter after hearing him.

“Does he think he’s a big shot or something? He must still be drowsy! There should be a limit to bragging.” A youth commented.

“He’s probably arrogant enough to think that it’s the truth.” Another female cultivator sneered.

Lu Qi didn’t share the same thought. Her lord could absolutely say something like this and they wouldn’t dare to utter a single word back.

Li Qiye was actually one step higher - a supreme overlord exceeding all imaginations. Lu Qi thought that Li Qiye’s comment was absolutely correct.

Insulting such a being would result in total annihilation. That’s just common sense.

Xu Yiyun pondered as well. A while ago, she would agree with the crowd but now, she thought about his background.

That line was apt when it came to cultivators similar to the five overlords. However, he wasn’t one of the five and she couldn’t come up with another identity.

Chen Cangsheng was left speechless by Li Qiye's audacity. This guy dared to talk to the future queen of Sea Emperor in this manner?

The guy's eccentric style wasn't an explanation for his haughtiness. Attributing it to insanity didn't seem right either. Cangsheng simply didn't get Li Qiye.

"I hope your ability is enough to warrant your confidence, and that it's not just all empty-talk." The princess became curious as she stared at Li Qiye.

"Right now?" Li Qiye stretched lazily and said: "Fine, I don't have anything to do anyway. I'll play with you for a bit, a little exercise can't hurt."

Chapter 4015: Jian Sanqiang

All eyes were on the princess. They wanted to know whether she would fight right now.

Yes, the thing propelling her to fame was her engagement with the king of Sea Emperor. However, let's not forget that she was one of the ten sword prodigies.

She was not just a beautiful vase solely meant for decoration. Her spot among the ten was earned by her brilliant prowess with the sword.

"Such impudence!" Starshooter Prince coldly shouted: "The princess does not need to dirty her hands against someone like you. I will cut you down myself."

Li Qiye didn't bother to look at him, showing further contempt.

"Brat, let's come outside and fight." The furious prince challenged. He had to exercise restraint because this area belonged to Archaic Style and Hallowed City. Otherwise, he wouldn't have been so wordy.

"No need to rush, we'll get our chance soon enough." The princess spoke before Li Qiye could answer.

"Whenever is fine." Li Qiye didn't mind.

This made it difficult for the prince since he had no way of venting. He wanted nothing more than to teach Li Qiye a lesson but had to listen to the princess.

"Yes, yes! I got it! Hahaha! I finally opened it!" Suddenly, someone shouted from another corner in a crazed manner: "Fuck! I finally understood. The goddamn Archaic Style really knows their stuff!"

His voice echoed across the entire field and garnered everyone's attention. They saw an old man standing in front of a plate.

He was rather thin as if only skin and bones were left. Nonetheless, this frame gave off a tough and unbreakable feeling.

His eyes were red from excitement, or perhaps that he had stayed up for too many nights so they were fully bloodshot. All in all, he appeared to be an addicted gambler who had just won big.

"Buzz." The plate in front of him lit up, the same with the squares inside.

“Crack! Crack! Crack!” The squares gradually disappeared, allowing the old man to take the refined jades out.

“Goddamn, this feels good. I can finally take them back the right way, no need for any under-the-table bullsh*t.” He heartily laughed.

“He solved this one too, incredible!” Someone else couldn’t believe it.

“Jian Sanqiang is something else, that plate is definitely among the top ten. It’s so complex yet he still opened it.” An older cultivator felt the same way.

“Senior Sanjiqng must know something, what a shame.” Others started regretting.

If they knew that he could successfully open the plate, they would have watched his process in order to apply it to the Preeminent Legacy.

Opening one here didn’t mean being able to open the legacy. However, it was the bare minimum - a qualification round of sorts. If they couldn’t open the plates here, they had no chance at the legacy.

Jian Sanqiang was a powerful and renowned vagabond cultivator. Many praised his talents and it seemed well-deserved after a successful opening.

“Senior, how did you do it?” Others surrounded him and asked, wanting to know every single little detail.

The princess took note of this; her eyes shifted ever so slightly. She then stared at Li Qiye and asked: “Do you dare try opening a plate? There are different challenges here with varying difficulties.”

“Challenge? They’re only basic sealing methods, not difficult in the slightest.” Li Qiye smiled and said.

“You clearly don’t know the mysteries contained in these plates. Very few cultivators managed to open the plates here, let alone someone like you. Stop daydreaming.” Starshooter Prince barked back.

“Most can’t because they’re foolish. The same goes for you.” Li Qiye glanced at the prince with disdain.

The prince turned red after being publicly insulted. However, others were also offended because he included them in his insult as well.

Ever since this field was created by Archaic Style, only a small number found success. This applied to the lowest level plates as well, let alone the tougher ones. This was the reason why Sanqiang’s success with a top-level one took everyone like a storm.

Nearly everyone present found this exceedingly difficult to the point of being impossible.

“Brat, mind your words.” One expert expressed his dissatisfaction.

Another person who disliked Li Qiye from the start shouted: “If you keep this up, I will slap you before the prince.”

Li Qiye simply ignored all of them.

“Seems like you got a card up your sleeve. Fine, show everyone your ability then, go open a plate.” The princess sneered.

“As easy as pie.” Li Qiye smiled: “But no point trying to egg me on, it doesn’t work.”

Chen Cangsheng became curious as well. He had spent a lot of time here but couldn’t open a single one.

“Young Noble, you should try.” He asked Li Qiye.

“Just give it a shot since you’re so confident. I will pay the fee so only worry about whether you can do it or not.” The princess fanned the fire.

“Do you know the consequence of provoking me?” Li Qiye stared at the princess with a smirk on his face.

“What are you going to do?” She arched her chest, completely unafraid.

“I’m suddenly in the mood for a bit of fun. Little girl, I am in need of a maid.” He stroked his chin and said.

“Ridiculous!” The old servant behind the princess let out a thunderous roar, letting everyone know his power.

“Stop shouting, Geezer Wang.” Jian Sanqiang suddenly joined the fun and told Li Qiye: “Brat, I like your style. Try the hardest plate then, show everyone what you can do. Being able to open it is a sign of your ability and this is a world where the strong prey on the weak. It’s fine for you to take that brat’s wife then.”

“Sanqiang, watch your mouth.” The old servant uttered.

Sanqiang ignored this and went on: “Geezer, you’re not my match. The brat puts up a better fight.”

“Hmph, you’re not His Highness’ match either.” The old servant retorted.

“True, the brat isn’t bad at all while I’m getting too old.” Sanqiang laughed.

The crowd exchanged glances after hearing this. It appeared that Jian Sanqiang had fought against Peace Ocean Sword King before.

Chapter 4016: Boasting Shamelessly

Jian Sanqiang was a powerful vagabond with an unknown background. He always traveled alone and had an eccentric personality, completely different from other big shots.

Thus, it wasn’t too strange for others to see him siding with Li Qiye right now. He had done weirder stuff in the past.

The thing piquing their interest was the fight between him and Peace Ocean Sword King. What was the result?

“We’ll see if you’re capable enough to make this happen.” Calm Bamboo Princess glared at Li Qiye.

“No, it is your honor to be my maid.” Li Qiye smiled, further astonishing the listeners.

Her status as a sword prodigy and being the princess of Wooden Sword were prestigious enough. Her future position as the queen could only be described as peerless.

Now, Li Qiye dared to make her his maid? His arrogance had no bounds.

“It would be strange if Sea Emperor Sword Kingdom doesn’t cut him down after this.” One expert murmured.

No sect would ever take this sitting down, let alone Sea Emperor Sword Kingdom. Humiliation would turn into relentless wrath only satiated with Li Qiye’s death.

“I’ve had enough of your disrespect towards our sect, brat!” The agitated Starshooter Prince stepped forward only to be ignored by Li Qiye again.

“Come out here, I will decapitate you and wash your dirty mouth with your own blood!” The prince bellowed.

“Stop shouting, little one, I’m waiting to see a fun show.” Jian Bajiang waved his hand.

He was very interested in Li Qiye as he said: “Young fella, come, come. Try to open any plates you want, I’m your backer now. I’ll smack whoever tries to do anything to you.”

Starshooter Prince’s face turned red but there was nothing he could do. Jian Sanqiang was someone who actually fought against their king.

If he forced the issue, the result would not be pretty for him.

“Go on, we’re all waiting.” Calm Bamboo Princess urged him on.

“That’s right, show us instead of just running your mouth!” Others started being rowdy.

Some wanted to side with the princess in order to please Sea Emperor. Of course, a few didn’t like Li Qiye either due to his attitude and wanted to see him embarrassed.

“A few sword prodigies have tried only to fail. A nobody like him has no idea what’s in store for him.” The other youths nodded in agreement.

“He can’t get out of this since he spoke so absolutely, leaving no room for take-back.” An older expert shook her head.

The majority had no confidence in him. Numerous geniuses and ancestors across the generations have tried numerous times to no avail. No one should bet on his success.

“Little girl, I shall be lenient on you out of respect for your ancestors. Fine, I will show you what I can do.” Li Qiye glanced at the princess and said.

"I can't wait to see." She said proudly.

"Young Noble Li, how many refined jades do you want?" Chen Cangsheng felt generous and said: "I have a bit here, feel free to use them."

"No need for refined jades to do these plates. Just regular coins are enough." Li Qiye smiled.

"Coins?" Cultivators nearby exchanged glances.

"What the hell is he saying? Using these lowly things to open a plate? Ridiculous." Someone added.

Coins made of silver and gold were currencies for mortals. However, they were nothing for cultivators.

The plates here contained wondrous transformations and mysteries. How could one use regular coins to open a plate? Everyone thought that this was impossible.

"He must be half-asleep." Another added: "Mortal coins can't activate any of the plates."

Cangsheng himself didn't expect this answer. He smiled wryly while checking his pockets: "I, I don't have any regular coins."

After all, why would cultivators carry this worthless currency?

"I actually have some." Xu Yiyun took out some silver coins and handed them to Li Qiye.

While working in Purification Street, she dealt with both cultivators and mortals. Thus, she had some coins on her right now.

"This will do, enough to open all the plates." Li Qiye looked at them and smiled.

"Open all of them?" The assistant accompanying him found this astonishing as well: "Young Noble, we have more than a hundred plates here."

He wasn't looking down on Li Qiye. It's just that this claim was virtually impossible.

For example, Jian Sanqiang came numerous times. After many attempts across a long period, he finally opened a high-level plate.

Thus, Li Qiye's claim should be impossible. There was no historical precedent either.

The crowd clamored right away after hearing this.

"Using coins to open all the plates? If he can do this, I'll eat all those coins." One of them shouted.

"What a joke. Even mighty and talented cultivators require ample time in order to open one plate after numerous speculations and calculations. This guy wants to do all of them with a few coins?" Someone else said.

"You must be joking." The princess herself didn't buy this: "This isn't a game."

"Stop this vulgar claptrap to rouse the crowd. You won't even get a single one." Starshooter Prince coldly added.

“Young fella, don’t be so sure about this. The plates here can’t compare to the real legacy since they’re rather simple, but Archaic Style is actually quite capable. They have fused the grand dao of several dao lords into these plates and are attempting to understand the legacy with them.” Jian Sanqiang himself thought that Li Qiye was being too much.

After all, he had opened these plates before and knew what it took.

Chapter 4017: Easy

Both the imitation plates and the Preeminent Legacy required refined jades. The actual amount didn’t matter.

It wasn’t impossible to use mortal coins for these plates. However, this seemed like a waste of time for most people.

The coins were just regular metals while refined jades contained chaos energy and worldly essences - all parts of the dao.

Using regular coins for these experiments was illogical and absurd. Even Jian Sanqiang, who was interested in Li Qiye, felt the same way.

On the other hand, the princess enjoyed this development. She suggested: “Go on, show us whether you are qualified to have me as a maid.”

“Watch carefully now.” Li Qiye smiled at the princess to the chagrin of his opponents: “You’ll learn soon enough the honor of being my maid.”

The old servant and Starshooter Prince glared angrily at Li Qiye after hearing this.

He ignored them and casually threw the coins forward without a care in the world. This was simply careless in the eyes of the spectators.

Any of them would pay attention to the smallest detail - from the flick of the wrist and the necessary power to toss the refined jades.

On the contrary, Li Qiye didn’t bother picking the plates. His eyes might as well have been closed.

“I’m keeping my word. If this actually works, I’ll eat the coins.” Someone snorted.

Strangely enough, the coins started dispersing while others were still mocking him. They spread in a perfect fashion - one coin for each plate.

A series of quiet clanks could be heard upon first contact. The coins then started jumping with insane speed. Everything happened too quickly, resulting in a rhythmic melody.

No one could react before all the plates lit up. “Creak.” The squares on the plate started shrinking and the bottom could be seen.

“They all opened!” A crowd member shouted in astonishment.

Everyone else remained frozen; their eyes nearly dropped to the floor after seeing this shocking development.

Lu Qi was prepared for this yet she still became emotional. She understood Li Qiye the best out of anyone here. She knew that he was fully capable of opening the plates.

Alas, this method was beyond her wildest dream. He didn't open just one but all of them by simply tossing mortal coins up in the air. One must be here in person in order to believe this story. This solidified his supreme position in her mind once more.

As for the others, they still couldn't come up with anything to say.

Xu Yiyun thought that Li Qiye could open one or two without a problem. This caught her off guard.

The members of Archaic Style have seen various scenarios before. Attempters in the past used incredible methods and found relative success. Unfortunately, these past exploits seemed like child's play now compared to Li Qiye.

After a long while, more cultivators calmed down. One of them asked their friend: "Hey, wake me up from this dream."

"Bam!" His friend slapped him and left behind a red print. The cultivator touched his burning cheek and murmured: "It's not a dream..."

"Goddamn!" Jian Sanqiang shouted as well: "What the hell is this... how can this be... I spent so much effort..."

He jumped around while holding his head, completely overwhelmed by this development despite his rich experiences in life.

"What sorcery is this..." The majority of the crowd quietly whispered different comments in disbelief.

Li Qiye had no intention of lingering around. He glanced at the frozen princess and chuckled: "Think about when you're ready to be my maid then come."

Having said that, he left with Lu Qi and Xu Yiyun right behind him.

"There must be something off about this! He cheated!" The scene erupted after his departure.

"Cheating? Do you actually think that's possible?" Another expert strongly disagreed.

"Assistant! Your plates are broken?!" One cultivation questioned.

No one thought that this was the case because one or two plates could break down but all of them at the same time? They were clearly working before.

Nonetheless, the workers started checking the plates. They confirmed that everything was working fine.

"How the hell did the brat do it? All of them?" A big shot wondered.

Each imitation plate had been carefully set up by Archaic Style. They contained their own profundity and transformation.

Because of this, defeating one plate was exceedingly difficult. It required understanding the plate. Li Qiye didn't seem to be operating under these limitations.

One expert calmed down and asked his friend: "Did you see the movement of the coins earlier? How did they hit the plate?"

Others heard him and began thinking as well. However, no one remembered because they never paid actual attention in the first place, having been too busy laughing and making fun of him.

A selected few watched attentively for entertainment reasons. However, the coins moved too quickly across the plates so they didn't see the patterns.

Chapter 4018: Let's Cooperate

Li Qiye's group didn't get far before Jian Sanqiang caught up to them. [1]

"Little Brother, where are you going?" He had a bright smile as he asked.

Due to his gaunt frame, his smile wasn't that attractive. Nonetheless, it appeared earnest and sincere.

"What?" Li Qiye glanced at him.

"My name is Jian Sanqiang." He continued: "I live near the river with no parents or children, no wives and concubines either..."

"Senior Jian, our young noble isn't interested in your family tree." Xu Yiyun didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

Jian Sanqiang was naturally more powerful than Xu Yiyun since he was from the previous generation. However, he was interesting in that he never pretended to be a wise master in front of the juniors. He traveled alone and did whatever he pleased without caring about conventions.

Due to his eccentric style, some truly despised him while others felt the opposite.

Of course, some vagabond cultivators took pride in him. It wasn't easy for a lone man to reach his level in the cultivation world.

Vagabonds had neither resources nor connections. The majority crawled at the lowest stratum; just surviving was difficult.

"It's okay, it's okay, I'm sincerely trying to befriend the young fella. I'm just letting him know that I'm not a bad person..." Sanqiang smiled.

"So what are your three good points?" Li Qiye smilingly asked. [2]

"Well..." Sanqiang let out a hollow laugh before answering: "I'm not too sure, my mother was the one who named me. It's not like I could have asked for the meaning while inside the womb."

He paused for a bit before continuing: "But I can certainly speculate. Hmm, one of them is definitely sincerity when working with others, that has to be my best point. Working with me means absolute victory, a win-win situation. So yes, I'm the perfect teammate."

His face didn't even turn red after the advertising spiel.

"Teaming up for what?" Li Qiye wasn't surprised by his response.

"Little Brother, I can see that you are peerlessly talented, blessed with incredible comprehension, capable of seeing the immortal dao at first sight, eyes bright enough to illuminate the ages, innately immaculate down to the bones, a once-in-an-eon genius..." Sanqiang was not ashamed to be a sycophant despite being strong enough to fight against the six kings.

Yiyun got goosebumps while listening to him, thinking that the guy was being too blatant and unnatural.

"Senior, you're making me shudder." Yiyun said: "What is your intention?"

"Miss, you're mistaken. I always tell it how it is and never flattered anyone once in my life. The young fella is indeed peerless. Dao lords and supreme geniuses can't compare to him..." Sanqiang felt no shame while currying favor with a junior.

"Fine, I'll accept your praise. State your intention already, no more bullsh*tting." Li Qiye nodded and smiled.

Sanqiang wasn't offended by Li Qiye's disrespectful cursing at all. He smiled and said: "Little Brother, are you interested in a business deal? When we succeed, we'll no longer have to worry about anything for the rest of our lives. Limitless money, beauties, treasures, all in your pocket..."

"And?" Li Qiye seemed immune to his poisoning.

"You know what I'm talking about, let's work together for the Preeminent Legacy?" Sanqiang finally revealed his goal after wasting half a day.

"So you want to use me to become the richest in the world." Li Qiye said.

"No, I want you to become the richest in the world." Sanqiang said righteously.

"Oh?" Li Qiye smirked.

"Little Brother, you are the most gifted in history so tomorrow right at the start, we'll go there together. You open the legacy and I'll be your guard on top of providing as many jades and coins as necessary..." Sanqiang said with vigor.

"What's in it for you?" Li Qiye asked.

"Hehe, my request is virtually nothing. I'll take care of the capital and security, you just need to open the legacy, then we'll split six to four. You six, me four, how about it? Keep in mind that after so many years, this legacy has reached an incalculable level. Even sixty percent is enough to make you the richest in the world." His eyes lit up at this point.

Sanqiang was somehow confident in Li Qiye's ability and was the first to request teaming up. This prompted Li Qiye to chuckle.

“What do you think? It’s not a bad deal at all, you get the majority.” Sanqiang smiled but Li Qiye didn’t respond.

“Okay, you get seven, I’ll just take three? This is as far as I’ll go.” He had no choice but to increase his offer.

The guy still didn’t respond. Sanqiang became nervous and gritted his teeth: “Little Brother, you win, you get eight and I’ll just get two parts. This is really as far as I’ll go, I can’t do any better. Think about it, you’re not spending anything out of pocket and will still be the richest, why would anyone not agree to this?”

He felt a sharp pain inside because the deal was becoming worse for him.

“What if I can’t open it?” Li Qiye smirked and stated: “I might waste all of your money only to fail. Have you thought of that?”

“Uhh...” Sanqiang felt as if someone had just poured cold water on him.

He thought extremely highly of Li Qiye and was willing to go all out. Just two parts of that legacy would be enough to make him richer than virtually all sects.

“So be it, if you can’t open it, I’ll accept my loss and attribute it to bad luck. I just have to start over, that’s all.” He said with determination, albeit a bit unwillingly.

“That’s a good mentality to have.” Li Qiye replied: “In the case of success, what if you kill me and take everything?”

“Absolutely not!” Sanqiang strongly refuted: “Who do you think I am? Sure, I’m a little greedy but you will not find a sliver of dishonesty and treachery in me! I value my word the most!”

“I suppose I can believe you.” Li Qiye replied.

“So you’ll team up with me? We can do it for sure.” Sanqiang became excited again.

“Haha, you’re overthinking this. I don’t need anyone else’s money to open that legacy. I’ll spare you a few coins after winning.” Li Qiye laughed and walked away.

Sanqiang could only watch the group’s departure in a daze.

Chapter 4019: The Preeminent Legacy

Jian Sanqiang wasn’t the only one with this idea. Several other big shots felt the same way but they weren’t as fast as him nor were they as shameless.

Thus, after Li Qiye returned to his temporary dwelling, others came and offered a similar deal.

Li Qiye didn’t see them; Xu Yiyun simply relayed their messages to him.

One particular sect was of note - Sword Temple.

“Sword Temple?” Li Qiye chuckled after hearing her message: “It wants to be the richest too?”

Sword Temple was created by Sword Queen. It had three dao lords and a current overlord - Everlasting Sword God.

“Sword Temple has an excellent offer, Young Noble. Its elder wishes to recruit you and let you train a peerless sword dao from there.” Yiyun elaborated.

“No one can resist money, it’s just that instead of coins, cultivators love refined jades.” Li Qiye chuckled.

Omniscient Dao Lord’s legacy had reached an insane level throughout the years, far exceeding any other power in Sword Continent.

Dao lords normally possessed great treasures and wealth. However, they spent it on creating a lineage.

Thus, though these lineages eventually prospered, they absolutely couldn’t compare to the Preeminent Legacy under the control of Archaic Style.

Sects had millions of disciples that consumed an inordinate amount of cultivation resources. Moreover, they needed offerings for their top ancestors as well.

Furthermore, not all dao lord sects improved in each subsequent generation. In fact, declination was more likely while the Preeminent Legacy continued to snowball.

Therefore, no sects could resist the temptation of owning this legacy, not even the behemoths. The big shots always came to attempt each opening, hoping for success.

That’s why it wasn’t surprising for Sword Temple to try and work together with Li Qiye. The latter had performed a miraculous feat back at the training ground. Many viewed him highly so he became a hot commodity.

Alas, he refused Sword Temple and everyone else.

He woke up quite early on the second day and went to the legacy with Lu Qi and Yiyun. However, the place was already packed with people.

The legacy was located in a valley in Hallowed City. The entire valley has been refined into a single plate. The dao lord used his ultimate technique and power along with countless resources for this goal.

It was unbreakable by brute force despite numerous attempts. For example, Starshooter Dao Lord of Sea Emperor and Darkfrost Dao Lord of Flame Valley have come in the past.

They said that it was difficult to break whether it be through the dao or by brute force. Thus, no one tried to use brute force against the legacy.

From a distance, the legacy resembled a funnel with a bottomless abyss at the bottom. The main difference was the existence of squares. At the top were 9,999 squares. As one went lower, there were less and less. The bottom level only had 99 squares. This was what gave the legacy a funnel shape.

The 9,999 squares at the top allowed for cultivators to stand. Each square had a unique and inscrutable symbol. There was no repetition.

Starting the process was simple. One just needed to pay an entry fee to Archaic Style then they would be allotted a position at the top for a limited time.

They would then need to throw their money into the funnel. When they hit the right squares, the squares would light up including their current position. This went on until they successfully solved the legacy. The dao lord's spirit would return and grant the winner all of his wealth.

Of course, losing meant abandoning the capital that has been thrown down there in the first place. Because of this, the legacy accumulated more money after millions of years. This trend wasn't slowing down.

Today wasn't the first day of the legacy opening. It has been several days but the scene was still packed with people from all over the world.

Eyes turned towards Li Qiye right away.

"That's the brat who opened all the plates in the practice field?" People talked about him right away.

"That's him, and he only used mortal coins too." Someone who was there in person confirmed.

"Mortal coins? This can't be real." Most listeners clamored.

In fact, Li Qiye's achievement caused quite a stir in Hallowed City yesterday. He became the biggest star right away.

"No, it's absolutely true, plenty of witnesses yesterday." Someone else swore.

"So there's a chance that the unbeatable legacy will be solved today?" Another took a deep breath.

"No way, if it were so easy, the dao lords would have done so long ago. It's not this junior's turn." One youth snorted.

"Knowing how to open the imitation plates doesn't mean he can do the same thing here. Just watch." Another was clearly jealous.

"Right, imitations can't compare to the real thing. Otherwise, Archaic Style would have opened the legacy long ago and monopolized it." One big shot mused.

Others agreed with this sentiment. If solving those imitation plates meant success here, then the creators of those plates should know the actual answer to the legacy.

"The Preeminent Legacy is at least ten million times more complex than those imitation plates." A high elder said: "Archaic Style only used those fields to make more money while taking advantage of everyone's greed."

"I refuse to believe it, just watch." No one among the crowd believed in Li Qiye.

Chapter 4020: Incredible Wealth

Nonetheless, a few individuals and sects actually remained optimistic about Li Qiye's odds. That's why someone came up to him and whispered: "Young Noble Li, do you have a plan? We have purchased a position from Archaic Style and prepared 600,000,000 refined jades if you need."

Another expert shrouded in a black robe sent a message from his sect: "Our elders will add more favorable conditions if you join us. For example, we'll prepare the perfect daoist companion and will help you with your cultivation..."

"Young Noble, as long as you team up with us, the sect master will take you in as his First Disciple regardless of the outcome. He will bestow upon you our ultimate sword law." A different high elder said.

"Young Noble, we'll satisfy all the previous conditions on top of making you our First Elder. Our Majesty's royal daughter will be engaged to you as well, the princess is the most beautiful of Foundation Country..." Another elder was more clandestine with this sensitive message.

They wanted to invest in Li Qiye due to the immense benefits and unlimited gains. After all, sects required more than just powerful merit laws, treasures, and disciples. Wealth and resources were a necessity in order to groom their members.

Li Qiye had shown an erudite understanding of these plates. Even if he were to fail this attempt, there was still potential in the future as long as they could get him to join their sect.

Of course, some big shots didn't show up and only sent their disciples to recruit him.

Alas, Li Qiye only smiled and refused all of them.

"Nothing but success awaits you today, Young Noble." Chen Cangsheng was here early and enthusiastically greeted Li Qiye. He also found a good spot for Li Qiye as well.

"The plate is opening soon, please get ready." The manager of Archaic Style sent this message after Li Qiye got to his spot.

The others hurriedly traveled to their position as well. The majority of the 9,999 upper plates had people occupying it.

Not far from Li Qiye was a familiar face - Calm Bamboo Princess.

She has been glaring at him ever since he got here. Her phantom protector was close by as well - the guardian elder of Sea Emperor Sword Kingdom.

"Good, I hope everyone is ready. I will once again introduce the Preeminent Legacy." The manager of Archaic Style announced: "It is a legacy of Omniscient Dao Lord and left in our care with a period fee of five percent interest. These are the current numbers: 8,900,000,000,000 Dao Lord Refined Jades; 176,500,000,000,000 Immortal Sovereign Refined Jades; 35,000,000,000,000 Supreme Sovereign Refined Jades... Thirteen dao lord weapons, twenty-four Immortal Sovereign weapons, thirty-one secret artifacts... 210,000 territories, sixty-seven large-scaled ore veins..."

The listeners quietly listened and gradually became shocked by the outrageous numbers. For many people, just having one Dao Lord Refined Jade could make them rich.

Now, the legacy possessed an insane amount. One couldn't visualize this treasury in the slightest.

“This has to be more than Sea Emperor Sword Kingdom’s treasury, right?” Someone calmed down and quietly asked.

“It’s the Preeminent Legacy, whoever gets it will obviously be the richest in the world. Your question is unnecessary. No lineage in Eight Desolaces can match the sheer number of refined jades. Maybe they have more precious treasures but to produce this sum? Impossible.” An expert gave him the side-eye.

This was a reasonable assessment. Some lineages might have priceless items but they couldn’t come up with this many refined jades. The legacy had simply accumulated too much- a snowball rolling for millions of years.

“How come no one tried to seize it before?” A newcomer couldn’t help but ask.

“Do you think Archaic Style will just sit there and watch? The business is extremely strong. Here’s why I know this, they can still access their resources all over Eight Desolaces despite the current seal. They might have secrets unavailable to us.” His senior elaborated.

This was no exaggeration. Doing business on such a large scale required a powerful backing which Archaic Style certainly had.

“What about a dao lord?” The newcomer boldly speculated: “Can a dao lord seize this legacy?”

The group exchanged glances and pondered about this situation. Maybe an invincible dao lord had a chance but they haven’t heard of any such thing in history.

“Dao lords won’t try.” An ancestor shook his head: “Omniscient Dao Lord put everything he had into the legacy so it’s not that easy to break. He’s not that far off from a supreme dao lord like Sword Sea, so any dao lord would need to give it everything they got. Plus, and this is the most important point, money and resources are external items, dao lords won’t think that this is worth it.”

“This is only one reason.” A high elder said: “Not all of the legacy is located here. The rest is guarded by Archaic Style. One might be able to break this grand plate but they’ll only lose their reputation instead of getting the whole thing.”

He paused for a bit before continuing: “It’s important to note that Archaic Style’s reputation is perfect, their words are worth as much as gold. Dao lords want to keep a good reputation and relationship with Archaic Style too just in case they need anything in the future. Plus, they have to think of their descendants once they’re gone.”

This conversation helped the crowd understand why certain dao lords came and couldn’t obtain the legacy.

“Alright, we’re starting soon. I won’t repeat the rules except for two things - no brute force lest you wish to be black listed forever and no limit on the capital invested.” The manager announced.

After buying a starting spot, one could drop anything into the plate, whether it be the cheapest refined jade or chaos stone. Low-level treasures and even mortal coins worked as well.