

Emperor 4051

Chapter 4051: Ancestors Of The Tang

Ning Zhu followed Li Qiye as he scouted the entire plain. They eventually came across broken walls and bricks as well. These pieces have been here for who knows how many years?

She could tell that there used to be a metropolis here due to the high-quality and luxurious tiles.

Furthermore, they also found statues everywhere underground. Only some had minor parts exposed.

It must have been an incredible city. As time passed, it fell into a decline and lost its population. Everything else crumbled from a lack of upkeep.

“The plains of the Tang. I have heard about how rich this clan used to be before.” Ning Zhu commented then glanced at Li Qiye: “Armament Mountain wasn’t a thing back then. The forefather of the Tang was renowned because of his miraculous success.”

“Yes, quite rich, Tang Ben.” Li Qiye smiled.

“You’ve heard stories about him, Young Noble?” Ning Zhu found this surprising.

She only knew a little bit about the legends of the Tang. This was her first time in the plain despite having visited Armament Mountain before. After all, the Tang had fallen so there was no need for her to visit.

“Just coincidentally heard a few things about them. For example, their moneyfall method is wonderful.”

“Yes, Young Noble, I’ve also read about this method from an ancient scroll before.” Ning Zhu replied.

The forefather of the Tang had mediocre cultivation but plenty of money. His “moneyfall” method was unique and incredible.

It wasn’t an unstoppable merit law or anything - just a way to use money. This method channeled the chaos energy and laws inside refined jades. When these jades fell to the ground, they would erupt with an immense force capable of pushing back mighty enemies.

Thus, Tang Ben defeated famous cultivators with his crafty invention. In fact, some in the present day believed that the classifications of refined jades were established by him.

He was a mysterious character. No one knew where he came from, only that he was extremely rich from the very start.

During his clan’s prosperous era, this plain served as the largest financial center in Sword Continent.

Unfortunately, there were no capable successors after his departure. The clan fell into ruins along with the plain. It eventually became a tributary to the newly-risen Armament Mountain.

Ning Zhu found this character interesting because there were many similarities between him and Li Qiye. Both had meager cultivation yet plenty of money.

The difference was that Li Qiye's source of wealth was known by all. This wasn't the case for Tang Ben.

Nonetheless, she thought that this might be the reason why Li Qiye chose to visit the plain first instead of Armament Mountain.

"You think I'm a descendant of the Tang?" Li Qiye noticed her gaze and smiled.

"Not necessarily but I'm sure your future will just be as glorious as their golden age." She shook her head in response.

"I myself don't know what I will accomplish in the future, so don't be so confident in me." He said.

"I trust in you along with my vision and intuition. You're not one of us, you're a dragon soaring above the firmament. This is only a temporary stay for you." She said earnestly with no hint of flattery.

"I've told you before, being too smart can cause trouble." He smiled.

"I understand and will keep this in mind." She bowed.

"Seems like you know how to deal with me." He said.

"Of course not, a little girl such as myself can't hope to control your greatness. Everything is happening according to your plan, I am merely a follower that hopes to ride your coattails." She humbly articulated.

He only smiled in response.

They eventually reached the center of the plain. There existed an old building, one of the few standing structures of the great city. The surrounding was filled with bricks covered in dirt and weed.

This building clearly belonged to a rich family. It had dozens of individual houses, enough to house several hundred servants.

Now, it looked on the verge of collapsing. Most surprisingly, there were still people living here - not cultivators, only servants.

"Great Immortal, what is the reason for your arrival?" They hurriedly bowed towards Li Qiye and Zhu Ning.

In their eyes, cultivators were immortals capable of traversing the world freely. Moreover, Ning Zhu's appearance and aura matched one perfectly.

"You own this building?" Li Qiye looked around and saw no one else.

"Great Immortal, it belongs to our master, a member of the Tang. Our branch has inherited everything here." The oldest servant respectfully responded.

"Do you wish to buy this place, Immortal?" Another clever one asked.

"Oh, it's for sale?" Li Qiye appeared amused and interested.

"Yes, our master has been trying to sell it." The oldest servant replied.

To be exact, the descendants of the Tang attempted to sell for a long time now, not just this place but the entire plain.

They wanted to sell to Armament Mountain the most. In their mind, this sect could afford the asking price.

On the other hand, Armament Mountain thought that this plain was not valuable, especially not for that high price.

“Where is your master? The young noble will buy your plain.” The princess said.

“Fairy, the master is at Armament City on business right now. If you wish to buy, please go find the master there.” One servant answered.

The rest became anxious because, despite the low salary, they were still allowed to live here. The new master, on the contrary, might kick them out the door.

Chapter 4052: Changes At The Ancestral Peak

“Let’s take a look in the city then.” Li Qiye smiled after finding out the situation from the servants.

Ning Zhu followed Li Qiye while the servants felt unrest about their future. They didn’t dare to say a thing when the two were still around.

Cultivators were immortals in their eyes. They were nothing more than insects that could be crushed at any moment. Just a whim of these beings could change all of their fate.

They heaved a sigh of relief when the two finally left and quietly talked among themselves.

As Li Qiye and Ning Zhu stood not far from the gate, the ground suddenly quaked violently with no end in sight.

“Hmm?” Ning Zhu was surprised.

Li Qiye immediately gazed at the core peak of Armament Mountain. It was trembling hard enough to affect the entire sect and more.

“Rumble!” There seemed to be something in there wanting to break out.

Its peak exuded waves of light, not overly blinding but enough to cause spatial ripples. The light waves harmonized perfectly with each quake, as seamless as a master calligrapher writing a dao chapter.

The quaking was tolerable but still alerted all the members of Armament Mountain. The disciples, elders, and ancestors paid full attention.

The tiny peak had enough pull to affect everything about it, perhaps even all of Sword Continent. People got the illusion that it was the foundation of the continent.

“What’s happening with the ancestral peak?” Even an elderly ancestor became startled.

“Nothing like this had ever happened before.” A friend of his felt the same way.

The slumbering ancestor buried deep underground also woke up and took a deep breath.

This peak has always been calm and peaceful. This was completely unprecedented.

“How ominous.” One of them let their imagination run wild.

For the regular disciples, they were panic-stricken, unaware of what was going on.

“Boom!” The light waves came together above. The pressure alone nearly crushed the sky vault, resulting in a portal materialization.

However, the radiant scene didn’t last long. The light eventually dispersed and disappeared from sight. The quaking stopped as well.

Everything returned to normal while people exchanged glances of confusion. One thing was for certain - this was no illusion or dream.

“It’s over?” One disciple didn’t expect the abrupt ending.

The majority thought that something monumental was about to happen, not a return to normalcy. Alas, the ancestors and elders didn’t think so.

They initiated a conference to talk about the possibilities and potential countermeasures.

“Could this be a reaction from the recent problem?” One ancestor worriedly said.

The kidnapping of disciples recently has been plaguing these ancestors even though no one had died yet. The material losses weren’t substantial either.

Thus, they connected the two recent events together.

“Maybe the ancestors are warning us about the future?” One of them boldly guessed.

The group thought that this was also possible. After all, the peak was brought here by their dao lord for the sake of protection. It could be warning them about an incoming disaster.

“Maybe it has nothing to do with our sect and is coming from the forbidden zone.” An erudite elder said.

“What do you mean?” A different ancestor asked.

“Don’t forget that our ancestral peak originated from the Sword Burial Zone, so in a sense, they’re from the same vein. Sword Burial has been missing for a long time now, its reappearance might be soon.” The elder analyzed.

They didn’t know how their progenitor obtained this peak nor the exact location, only that it came from Sword Burial.

“But nothing happened during its last appearance, there was no harmonization.” An elder said.

This went on for a while and no one drew a definite conclusion.

“We need to talk to the sect master.” An elder suggested.

Some of them looked around. One ancestor eventually replied: “It’s not the right time. Wait until the sect master’s matter is done first before bringing this up.”

No one answered. A few thought that it wouldn’t be easy for the sect master to deal with her problems.

“What’s going on?” Ning Zhu saw the disturbance at the ancestral peak and became startled. She knew that this was historically unprecedented despite not being a member of Armament Mountain.

“As I’ve said, it’s only a matter of time.” Li Qiye smilingly stared at the peak.

“This doesn’t look good for Armament.” She replied after considering the recent troubling events here: “Young Noble, do you think this is connected to the kidnapping?”

“You’re mixing the crux of the issue.” He said.

“You’re saying that the true problem lies in the ancestral peak, Young Noble?” She said.

“Yes, but be patient because the fun is just beginning. Just wait and see.” He said.

She was certain that this so-called “fun” wasn’t going to be fun for anyone.

“Do you wish to help the sect master?” She brought up a different matter.

“We’ll see if she can deal with her own problems first.” He responded indifferently before turning towards the plain of the Tang: “Plus, there’s something more interesting here anyway. Armament Mountain can wait.”

She also gazed in the same direction. Though the tiny fortresses were strange and old, she didn’t understand why Li Qiye was so interested in this area.

“Let’s go to the city, we have to buy it.” He smiled and moved on.

Chapter 4053: Bladerain Young Noble

If the actual sect of Armament was the vantage point, then Armament City would be to the left and the Tang’s plain would be to the right.

They were strikingly different - desolate versus prosperous.

The city had verdant hills, beautiful peaks with waterfalls occupied by animals and birds. Buildings scattered on the rolling terrains, from the base to the peak.

Streets paved the peaks then bridges connected them together. From a distance, it looked rather lively and populated - a combination of a large city yet still maintaining a touch of nature. It truly put the plain of the Tang to shame.

It belonged to Armament Mountain, unlike the Tang's plain. Its importance might be second only to the actual sect. In other words, it was part of the main branch while the plain played the part of a bastard.

Cultivators from all over the continent came here for business or just sightseeing. Humans and demons made up the majority of the diverse locals and visitors.

Why were there so many demons here? This was due to the second dao lord of Armament - God Ape Dao Lord.

He used to be an ape that gained enlightenment through the dao. He then joined Armament Mountain to learn more about cultivation.

After becoming a dao lord, he didn't forget his roots and frequently had dao lectures for other demons. Random animals and vegetation were also enlightened by him and turned into demons.

During his generation, the demon population in Armament reached around fifty percent or so. This trend persisted to the present day, albeit not on the same level.

Li Qiye and Ning Zhu's arrival in the city attracted ample attention. Of course, people paid attention to Ning Zhu.

Li Qiye's ordinary appearance was inconspicuous. On the other hand, Ning Zhu was gorgeous but most importantly, her aura always made her stand out like a crane among a flock of chickens.

It was impossible for her to keep a low profile. After all, everyone enjoyed staring at beautiful things.

Some recognized her and came forward. Among them was a youth who was ecstatic to see her. He ran over and loudly greeted: "Your Highness!"

He wore a white robe that was tightly wrapped, revealing his powerful muscles. He was quite spirited, not in an arrogant and haughty manner but simply brimming with power like a wild leopard. An old-looking saber was hanging by his waist.

Its shine seemed to be a sign of love. Its master must have been diligent in polishing and keeping it clean. This saber user was full of youthful energy, akin to the rising sun at dawn.

His joy after seeing Ning Zhu was written on his face.

"It's been three years since our last meeting, Your Highness. It is an honor to see you again." He said.

"Young Noble Liu, long time no see. Your cultivation has improved again." She nodded.

"You're too kind." He couldn't avert his eyes from her, looking completely infatuated. He tried his best to stay calm and praised her without holding back: "You're still as pretty as a fairy, so unforgettable."

"Thank you, Young Noble Liu." She calmly answered while still following Li Qiye.

"Why are you here, Your Highness? Is it because of the commotion at the ancestral peak? I've heard that many experts have arrived because it has something to do with Sword Burial. It might appear near here in this generation..." He then looked around first - looking mysterious - and lowered his voice: "Many geniuses have come too, they want to be the first to get to the zone if it actually shows up."

He wanted to divulge everything possible to her, wanting to both curry favor and show off his knowledge.

“Your Highness, are you here alone? If you’re interested in Sword Burial, how about we go together? Teaming up will make things easier since it’ll be very competitive. Everyone wants the divine sword.” He added.

“I appreciate your invitation.” She nodded politely and said: “But I am here on business with the young noble.” She then walked closer and stood behind Li Qiye.

The youth finally noticed Li Qiye after hearing this. In fact, ever since he got here, his eyes didn’t move an inch from Ning Zhu. Plus, even if he had seen Li Qiye, he wouldn’t have thought that these two were together.

“This gentleman is...” The youth found it surprising. Why was this junior accompanying the princess?

“This is Young Noble Li.” She introduced briefly: “Young Noble, he is one of the four Weapon Heroes, Bladerain Young Noble Liu Yushang.”

Li Qiye smiled and nodded at the youth.

The four Weapon Heroes were famous alongside the ten Sword Prodigies. They just used different weapons instead of swords.

Ten to four - this was another sign of the sword’s supremacy in this continent.

Liu Yushang was well-liked by the young generation, especially those from weaker sects or vagabonds. The latter viewed him as an idol.

The reason was very simple - he was one of the few geniuses with no background to speak of. For example, Princess Ning Zhu, Pendant Sword Lady, Starshooter Prince... They were all from prestigious clans and sects.

He came from a weak sect near Wooden Sword that no one had heard of before. People would only talk about him, not his sect.

However, he was gifted enough to learn a top saber art, enough to let him roam freely around the world. This was the reason why those with humble beginnings thought so highly of him.

Due to their locations, Liu Yushang had met the princess long ago. He fell in love at first sight, unable to control himself whenever they met.

“You’re that Li Qiye?” He immediately asked. Everyone knew about this legendary guy, the luckiest in the world.

“That’s my name.” Li Qiye smiled.

Yushang had no interest in Li Qiye. He stared at the princess and hesitated: “Your Highness...”

He had heard of the bet before but didn't pay it any attention. How could a parvenu compare to the princess of Wooden Sword?

Chapter 4054: Nothing But Money

Liu Yushang thought that Wooden Sword was more than enough to take care of Li Qiye. This was before mentioning their other ally, Sea Emperor.

Thus, this bet should have been inconsequential and Li Qiye should have been smart enough to never bring it up. No one expected the princess to lose on top of carrying out the bet.

Though he felt great sadness and even jealousy due to her engagement with Peace Ocean Sword King, he knew that he couldn't compare to the king in any aspect. The two were indeed a perfect match. It was impossible to criticize the engagement.

This wasn't the case here. Li Qiye was a nobody that got rich overnight. He had no power to speak of, no background and no talent - only dirty money.

The guy was not suitable for the princess, let alone making her his maid. This was truly insulting. Yushang couldn't accept this reality after seeing the duo together.

"Your Highness, there were thousands of methods to take care of this bet, you didn't have to do this to yourself." He took a deep breath and said.

He viewed her as a damsel in distress and wanted nothing more than to be the hero in this story.

"I appreciate your kind intentions, but I am doing perfectly fine." She nodded and said.

"Your Highness, you are a jewel of nobility who doesn't deserve to suffer by being with this commoner. If you require help, I will do anything to get you out of this." He hurriedly responded, seemingly willing to go as far as killing Li Qiye to save her.

"Then who is a good match for the princess?" Li Qiye didn't become angry and asked.

Yushang despised Li Qiye for putting the princess through this and did everything he could to refrain from unsheathing his weapon.

He glared at Li Qiye and said: "She is a phoenix among men, an immortal from above. You're definitely not worthy since you have nothing beyond dirty money."

He spoke directly and harshly, not afraid of offending Li Qiye.

The latter clapped while laughing: "You're perfectly right. I love to hear that I have nothing outside of dirty money since it's so true. I'm just so busy with all of this money, how am I going to spend all of it?"

Yushang didn't expect this and thought that Li Qiye would have become angry. This would give him an opportunity to teach Li Qiye a lesson and potentially take the princess away.

This was his first time seeing such a strange man. Who would enjoy being insulted like this?

Ning Zhu couldn't help but chuckle after seeing Li Qiye's playful laughter. Yushang was captivated by her beautiful smile.

He focused up and glared at Li Qiye: "It's good that you're aware. Now, you should know what to do. Keep on troubling the princess is unwise, it might be the cause of your death..."

"Don't preach now." Li Qiye waved his hand: "My dirty money can take your dog life whenever. I just need to give a three hundred million reward and your head would be in front of my door the next day. It's that simple."

"You!" Yushang turned red from rage.

Normally, the newly rich really had nothing but money. The issue here was that Li Qiye's wealth was on the highest level, resulting in immense influence and authority.

He admitted that given that sum, someone would really kill him for Li Qiye. After all, his sect was weak so the big shots would have no qualms in killing him. He felt humiliated by being inferior to dirty money.

"The path of cultivation was not easy for you. Return from whence you came and keep on doing your best." Li Qiye said.

However, Yushang viewed the piece of advice as utter contempt.

"You think too highly of yourself. I, Liu Yushang, will not be beaten by your dirty money..." He gripped the hilt of his saber and uttered coldly.

Alas, he was clearly lacking confidence and conviction due to the grim reality of the situation.

"Young Noble Liu, I appreciate your intent." Ning Zhu bowed towards him then said: "But you don't need to worry about me, I am content." Having said that, she left with Li Qiye.

Yushang was left behind; his complexion and expression kept on changing. This feeling resembled a man seeing his lover follow a useless yet wealthy young master.

Words couldn't describe the intolerable pain inflicted upon him. He stood there for a long time, as white as can be.

After they got farther away, Ning Zhu bowed and apologized: "I'm sorry for causing trouble, Young noble."

"It's not your fault, it's not a big deal either." Li Qiye smiled. He never cared about this matter and it wasn't her fault anyway.

The two of them entered the auction house responsible for the Tang's plain. The servant had explained it to them prior.

In fact, everything belonging to the Tang was listed for sale here. They didn't have much outside of a few buildings and the plain. It was simpler to sell as a complete package.

The descendants of the Tang have left the plain long ago. Even the current master and his family chose to live in Armament City instead.

They weren't trying to get rich, only to gain a little money for their descendants.

This happened quite often in every sect. When a sect or clan declined, they would no longer be able to protect and grow their inherited businesses and territories. They would then sell it to others instead. In this region, Armament Mountain was the usual buyer.

Unfortunately, Armament Mountain thought that the Tang was asking too much for a desolate and barren plain.

The Tang didn't feel the same way. It would be disrespectful to sell their ancestral land for a meager sum. Thus, they chose to sell it via consignment.

It has been unsuccessful thus far due to the lackluster nature of the plain.

"Ten million? Is it worth it?" Ning Zhu murmured after seeing the asking price. She had personally seen the state of the plain and thought that it was too expensive.

Chapter 4055: Bidding

This was expensive for sects, let alone an individual. Not everyone was as rich as Li Qiye and could spend millions and millions like a few bucks.

This would be acceptable if the item was worth it. This was not the case for the Tang's plain.

"Fellow Daoists, are you interested in our clan's properties?" An old man ran over while Li Qiye and Ning Zhu were looking at the listing.

"I am the 586th clan master of the Tang. Do you wish to buy the complete package or just parts of it?" He smiled enthusiastically. His gray outfit was well-fitted and tidied but not luxurious in the slightest. This must be due to his clan's current state.

He had heard the report from the servants and immediately ran over to the auction house, hence his heavy breathing.

This was understandable since this listing has been around for years. People rarely inquired about it either, so he didn't want to miss this chance.

"Yes, our young noble is indeed interested in your estate." Ning Zhu began negotiating in Li Qiye's stead: "However, your infertile plain is not worth ten million even with everything else attached."

"It's negotiable." The clan master put on a bright smile and said: "We can take our time coming to a fair price for everyone. Plus, the entire package is not bad at all, we'll even give you a dozen servants or so."

Of course, mortal servants were worthless in the eyes of cultivators. They were as significant as insects.

The clan master had no deep attachment to the servants in their ancestral home. The clan had moved to the city for several generations now so gifting them away wasn't a big deal.

“Clan Master, you already know the right price.” Ning Zhu said.

She wasn't a princess that has been pampered since youth. Thus, her tough experiences during her impressionable days and her intelligence made her quite capable.

“Sir and Madam, if you are earnest in this purchase, I'll acquiesce and lower the price by two million. Just eight million then, how about it?” The clan master asked,

He spoke as if he was giving them a good deal. In reality, he had offered everything to Armament Mountain for five million previously and was ignored.

Li Qiye had a smile on his face while Ning Zhu shook her head.

“If, if you really want it, then we'll do five million, that's as low as we can go. We're only selling it due to our clan's anemic state, I don't even know how I'll face our members after doing this.” The clan master put on a bitter expression as if he was forced to have a fire sale.

“It would be gone already if five million was a realistic price. Our young noble is willing to do one million.” Ning Zhu smiled.

“One m-illi-o-n?!” The clan master shouted and stretched it out like a rooster in the morning: “Is this a joke?! Our plain stretches for thousands of miles and you want to pay just one million for it?! Impossible, no, impossible!” He shook his head repeatedly afterward.

“How about two million from Starshooter Country?” A cold and prideful voice interjected.

A youth parted the crowd and approached the group. His expression showed how much disdain he had for those beneath him. He was none other than Starshooter Prince.

Back in Hallowed City, he had tasted numerous setbacks in Li Qiye's hand. This was especially true during the last exchange where he was sent flying by Jian Sanqiang, suffering serious injuries and broken teeth.

How could he swallow this anger? Impossible. He looked at the two before cupping his fist towards the princess: “Long time no see, Princess Ning Zhu.”

His attitude changed tremendously compared to last time. Previously, he referred to her as “Your Highness” even though they were in the same group of ten prodigies. After all, she was going to be the future queen of Sea Emperor.

Now, the engagement was terminated and she became Li Qiye's maid. He no longer needed to show reverence.

“Long time no see.” Ning Zhu wasn't angry to see this and simply nodded.

“Clan Master Tang, our country is interested in your land. We'll pay you right now.” The prince ignored the two and focused on the transaction.

It was obvious to those nearby that he wanted to trouble Li Qiye.

“You, you're that legendary magnate, Li Qiye!” The clan master's eyes lit up after realizing Li Qiye's identity and didn't hear a thing the prince said.

He had heard of the rumors before regarding Li Qiye's generosity. He had thought about searching for Li Qiye to give him an offer. It turned out that Li Qiye found him first.

"Yes, that's our young noble." Ning Zhu replied.

Starshooter Prince didn't appreciate being ignored. He clearly offered a higher bid yet the clan master dared to treat him like this?

"Clan Master, we will offer two and a half million, what do you think?" He took a deep breath. He didn't shout but still added energy into his words. They resonated like bells and echoed in the listeners' ears.

"You should drop the idea of competing against our young noble for this land." Ning Zhu said flatly with no intention of insulting the prince.

This would only result in embarrassment for him so she tried to get him to stop. Alas, he found it annoying and uttered coldly: "Princess, you no longer have anything to do with Sea Emperor Sword Kingdom so buzz off, keep your mouth shut."

She only chuckled in response and didn't say anything else.

"A pleb like you should think twice before comparing wealth with me. Go find some shade and cool off because if I start, you won't even dare to bid again." Li Qiye lazily stretched and glanced at him dismissively.

The prince couldn't handle being called a "pleb" due to his prestigious status and talent. He was a big shot wherever he went in Sword Continent.

"How unreasonable!" A friend of the prince shouted.

"Then bid then, don't think you're the only one with money!" The furious prince barked back.

"I bid one hundred million." Li Qiye raised one finger and said: "Still want to play?"

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The prince couldn’t handle being called a “pleb” due to his prestigious status and talent. He was a big shot wherever he went in Sword Continent.

“How unreasonable!” A friend of the prince shouted.

“Then bid then, don’t think you’re the only one with money!” The furious prince barked back.

“I bid one hundred million.” Li Qiye raised one finger and said: “Still want to play?”

Chapter 4057: Eight-armed Prince

The prince felt stifled by the ridiculous bid.

“One hundred million...” Everyone gasped and exchanged glances.

Everyone knew that ten million was an illogical price already, hence its availability until now.

The clan master himself knew that his terrible plain wouldn't sell for ten million, let alone one hundred million.

“Does he really want to buy that crappy plain?” A spectator had no idea of Li Qiye's wealth.

“Don't you know he's the richest in the world? He has billions of Dao Lord Refined Jades, this amount is nothing to him, akin to a grain of sand in the desert.” Someone else smiled wryly.

The clan master was trembling with excitement. He didn't care about his image and loudly asked: “One hundred million, really?”

This was the same as having a pie fall down from the sky and knocking him unconscious. He started seeing stars from this crazy development.

“That depends. He might go even higher.” Li Qiye smiled.

The clan master calmed down and asked Starshooter Prince: “Your Highness, Young Noble Li bid one hundred million. Do you wish to continue?”

The prince was livid and unlike the clan master, he trembled with rage while feeling suffocated. He simply wanted to cause trouble for Li Qiye and the princess without thinking it through.

There was no chance of retaliation. Anyone else might be going overboard and wouldn't be able to produce one hundred million.

The problem was Li Qiye had no problem in doing so. It was him who had difficulties.

A few million was fine with him. He could grit his teeth and afford it since he was still the prince of Starshooter.

As for one hundred million, if he risked everything in order to vent and buy this crappy plain, the royal ancestors would be the first to punish him.

“Sigh, don't try to be a hero when you're broke.” Li Qiye smiled and said: “Take a look in the mirror first and realize how poor you and your country are. Stop wasting my time.”

“You... You...” The prince nearly vomited blood from anger but couldn't come up with a retort.

As for the observers, they thought that Li Qiye was being too arrogant. Unfortunately, he had enough money to smash people to death. No one could do a thing to take him down a notch.

“Young Noble Li, is your bid still effective?” The clan master stopped paying attention to the prince and asked Li Qiye.

Normally, he would try to curry favor with the prestigious prince. This was no longer the case since a sky-high bid was waiting for him. It was best to make Li Qiye happy first.

“I’m a man of my words.” Li Qiye smiled: “It’s just one hundred million, if anyone else wants to play, let’s do it.”

“You’re right, Young Noble. Your words are worth more than gold and jade.” The clan master was more than willing to be Li Qiye’s grandson at this point. Nothing was more tempting than money.

“Gentlemen, would anyone else want to bid?” He still hoped that someone would want to play against Li Qiye.

However, he was disappointed since only silence answered him. No one wanted to take a risk of Li Qiye suddenly quitting because this plain was worthless. Most importantly, the majority didn’t have this much money in the first place.

“Young Noble Li, since no one else is bidding, the estates of the Tang belong to you. From now on, it is the Li’s Plain. I will go prepare the transfer paperwork right now.” His smile was as bright as a blooming flower.

This was akin to a dream manifesting into reality for him, hence his unrestrained jubilation.

“How can a territory in Armament Mountain be sold to an outsider?” However, a youthful voice interrupted his celebration. This newcomer had an ape head while everything else was normal. He wore a golden armor made out of silk and had eight arms, looking majestic and gallant like a hardened warrior. Each of his steps carried great momentum.

“Eight-armed Prince!” Someone shouted after seeing him.

“The prince of Armament Mountain!” Other youths were in awe to see him.

Thus, the members of the tributaries came to greet him.

“That’s a main branch’s member.” One of them commented from a distance.

A senior nodded in response: “Yes, he’s from God Ape Kingdom which is definitely part of the main branch. He’s a descendant of God Ape Dao Lord too, that bloodline is prestigious.”

“I think he’ll become the next successor since he has many elders and ancestors supporting him.” Another expert from the sect gossiped.

Currently, God Ape Kingdom was the leader of the demon branch in Armament Mountain. It had immense influence and authority there.

On the other hand, the current sect master was from another main branch belonging to Armament Dao Lord.

The former enjoyed great support from the seniors. Thus, the consensus was that he would become the next successor.

“He cultivates God Ape Dao Lord’s invincible merit law, Eight Treasures Splitting The Heaven. It’s understandable for him to inherit the sect.” One more cultivator commented.

This merit law was one of the top techniques in Armament Mountain so he would be a worthy successor.

“Your Highness.” The clan master of the Tang calmed down and bowed towards the prince.

“Sect Master Tang, this transaction is not allowed because the Tang’s plain is under the jurisdiction of Armament Mountain.” The prince said seriously.

“Your Highness, my impression is that there is no such law in Armament Mountain. If it does exist, please show me which ancestral teaching it is from.” The clan master was unwilling to give up.

The prince’s expression soured after hearing this. This clan master dared to go against him?

Of course, the clan master didn’t care at this point. No one else would buy his plain at such a ridiculous price. He would die trying to get this deal finished, let alone offending the prince. Moreover, he wasn’t violating any rule either.

They might have been under the jurisdiction of Armament Mountain but this didn’t mean that they were actual members.

At the very worst, they would just move to another place and start over again with their newly-acquired wealth. They had no deep attachment to Armament Mountain anyway. Hallowed City was one potential destination.

“There’s no law but it pertains to public safety. You alone can’t make this decision.” The prince retorted.

Chapter 4058: Want To Sell

The clan master’s expression soured in a similar manner. As the saying goes - stopping someone from making money is akin to killing their parents.

Plus, to be perfectly frank, the prince couldn’t decide for them either. It had to be the sect master of Armament.

Meanwhile, the spectators started talking about this development.

“I don’t think such a law exists either.” Someone from another sect said.

Armament Mountain had ten million miles or so of territories under their jurisdiction. This consisted of thousands and thousands of sects - both strong and weak.

This didn't mean that these sects belonged to Armament Mountain. To a certain extent, they were allies with less status.

Armament Mountain didn't directly interfere with their affairs. They were free to do whatever they wanted with their properties. Thus, the prince was being unreasonable in this case.

"I think there's more to it." An expert murmured.

"If you think selling to an outsider can be a security threat, there's one way to solve this. Armament Mountain just needs to pay the agreed sum. We have no problem with that, Your Highness." The clan master retorted.

Under other circumstances, he might act subservient and pitiful towards this prince. This wasn't the case right now. There was substantial wealth to be had, enough for them to live extremely well for generations.

The prince naturally couldn't muster one hundred million to buy the plain. Even if he could, he wouldn't do so anyway. They had offered the plain to the sect for a much smaller amount yet the sect still refused. To do so now might make him look crazy to others.

However, he didn't like the clan master's attitude. The Tang had fallen and this clan master was no different than a worm in his eyes.

These tributaries normally treated Armament Mountain with respect. After all, Armament Mountain protected them and gave them peace.

As for him, he was part of the main branch and wielded considerable authority. Some even considered him the future successor.

Many gave him gifts and treated him with the utmost respect. Now, this sect master dared to talk back to him in public?

He scowled and said: "Clan Master, this matter is serious and you need to think carefully about your action."

The clan master had no intention of backing down. The succulent meal was ready to be served so he was willing to do anything to keep the deal.

"Your Highness, are you representing Armament Mountain or just yourself?" He said: "If you wish to represent Armament Mountain, then show me a resolution decided by the elders or a rule written in the ancestral scrolls. I will then follow their decision and stop selling the estate. However, if it's just your own decision, I appreciate that you're trying to keep Armament Mountain safe. However, the plain belongs to the Tang, not Armament Mountain. We can do whatever we please with it without needing to explain to anyone."

The crowd thought that the response was logical and neither supercilious nor obsequious.

"I agree, we should be able to have control over our properties." Another expert said.

After all, smaller sects didn't want Armament Mountain to mess with their things. This would be a terrible precedent.

"Yes, as long as it doesn't violate any ancestral teachings." An elder spoke.

This put the prince in a tough position. He was being humiliated in front of many sects despite being known as the future successor?

Alas, there was nothing he could do to the clan master. He didn't have total authority in Armament Mountain yet.

"Young Noble, this is all the paperwork." The clan master didn't want to waste time. He had offended the prince already so might as well end it. He would just need to move afterward.

"After you pay, Young Noble, all the estates will belong to you along with the servants in the ancestral home." He added.

"Good, I like decisive people." Li Qiye smiled and paid right away.

The clan master became happy again and said: "You deserve to be the richest man in the world, so generous too. I don't think anyone can compare to you or your wealth..."

He wasn't stingy with his praises after receiving the large sum from Li Qiye. This was akin to winning the lottery. He wouldn't mind calling Li Qiye "daddy" right now.

"I hope you will find more success with business in the future and always be the richest." He continued on.

Those nearby were envious and jealous of him. There was one exception - the prince.

He glared at Li Qiye and said: "I don't care which land you buy, it'll be under Armament Mountain's territory..."

"Enough of your drivel." Li Qiye interrupted him with a hand wave: "I will buy whatever the hell I want. A poor brat like you should know your places, don't speak unless spoken to."

"You!" The prince turned red, livid. He wanted to warn Li Qiye by bringing up Armament Mountain, not expecting to be insulted instead.

Li Qiye thought that he wasn't qualified to speak? He was the future successor of Armament Mountain, the prince of God Ape Kingdom, and one of the four Weapon Heroes. This made him tremble with rage.

Chapter 4059: Starshooter Sword Dao

Eight-armed Prince took a deep breath to regain his composure. He successfully calmed down and glared at Li Qiye: "Li, you're too arrogant. There is always a higher sky and a better man..."

"Nonsense, there is no sky higher than mine and no one richer either." Li Qiye laughed.

His haughtiness couldn't be contested since it was indeed the truth. Not to mention Sword Continent, perhaps no one in Eight Desolaces could compare to Li Qiye in terms of wealth.

Though this frustrated the crowd, Li Qiye was indeed qualified to make this statement.

“Spending is just a part of my life. In your eyes, it appears to be arrogance. The problem here is due to your wretched, penniless state, thinking that anyone with money is automatically arrogant. Child, stop feeling so insecure, try harder and become more open-minded. Just because someone is better and richer doesn’t mean that they’re arrogant...”

The latter part made Li Qiye sound like a senior sincerely guiding a junior. However, he added with a contemptuous expression: “But in this case, I am indeed arrogant, that’s just my style. You got a problem?”

“!!!” The prince trembled with rage, feeling blood rising up his throat.

The listeners were speechless, not knowing whether to laugh or cry. They put themselves in his shoes and thought that they might act even more arrogant and buy whatever they wanted. Thus, he was actually making sense about how they were mistaking his normal life for haughtiness.

“Li, your dirty money is not omnipotent.” Starshooter Prince stepped forward to support Eight-armed Prince, his ally with a common enemy: “This world is beyond your imagination, money is not enough to flatten everything. One day, you’ll pay for all of this...” He threatened with a menacing expression.

“False, I can do whatever I want because of my money. At the very least, there’s nothing you can do about it.” Li Qiye calmly stated.

“I’ll make you see how mistaken you are soon enough.” Starshooter didn’t hide his murderous intent.

“Why wait for later when today will do?” Li Qiye laughed and said: “You’ll see how powerless you are before me right now.”

Having said that, he patted Ning Zhu’s shoulder and ordered: “Teach him a lesson about the result of those who dare to offend me.”

“Li! Fight me if you dare instead of hiding behind a woman!” Starshooter shouted.

“A pleb like you is not qualified to challenge me, the world’s richest. You think a dao lord would take a second glance at you when you challenge one?” Li Qiye shook his head.

“You!” Starshooter turned red with rage.

The listeners found logic in Li Qiye’s harsh responses. A being with his wealth didn’t need to do anything himself. A challenger like Starshooter was utterly insignificant; others would be more than willing to take care of this issue for him.

The princess walked forward, looking calm yet aggressive: “Your Highness, let’s get started.”

“Princess, you wish to be his hound?” The prince uttered coldly.

Spectators found this fascinating and entertaining. Not long ago, Starshooter Prince was extremely respectful of the princess due to her engagement with Peace Ocean Sword King.

Now, she was just Li Qiye’s maid. The shift in her status was matched by his attitude towards her.

Nonetheless, she was also one of the Ten Sword Prodigies. Her background and power were comparable to him. Thus, he showed caution before the battle.

“You need not worry about my personal life. Your Starshooter Sword Dao is brilliant and I wish to learn from it.” The princess remained calm.

The spectators couldn’t wait to see the fight.

“Who’s stronger between these two prodigies?” One expert brought this up.

The Ten Sword Prodigies were the top sword cultivators of the current generation. However, there wasn’t a clear ranking among them. Thus, this fight could give insight into their abilities and battle prowess.

Starshooter Prince was not qualified to cultivate Sea Emperor’s best sword dao such as Abyss or Vastsea.

However, he cultivated the Starshooter Sword Dao. This was still created by a dao lord so it had plenty of potentials.

“Starshooter Sword Dao versus Wooden Sword’s techniques, this is absolutely worth watching.” Others clamored.

“Which sword dao does the princess know?” A curious youth asked.

“I don’t think it’s Jade Bamboo Dao Lord’s sword dao but their progenitor, Wooden Sword Holy Devil’s technique.” Someone with a strong understanding of Ning Zhu answered.

“So which will be stronger?!” Excitement soared among the crowd.

“Since you wish to fight, so be it!” Starshooter Prince stepped forward.

He was in a tough position and couldn’t back down in public. After all, they had the same status so he needed to save face by fighting.

“Clank!” He unsheathed his sword, releasing resplendent light of the celestial affinity.

“Boom!” He channeled his energy and opened his fate palaces. The sky became replaced by a boundless galaxy filled with stars, looking like diamonds embedded on a black flannel sheet.

The starry lights were gorgeous but within them was a murderous intent. Each strand could pierce through his opponents with ease.

Chapter 4060: Who’s Stronger?

The starry rays were no different than swords. This meant that the entire area became a net of swords, capable of killing gods if they were inside.

The spectators felt a permeating sword dao in front of them.

“So this is the Starshooter Sword Dao.” A spectator murmured.

The prince has yet to attack but the sword rays were ready to make a sieve out of his opponent. Cold air would infiltrate the soles of the feet before spreading upward, causing people to shudder.

He was indeed impressive and worthy of being one of the ten. His power and talents were exceptional for his age.

“Would the princess’ technique be able to contend against this?” A youth wondered.

In their opinion, the art of Wooden Sword Holy Devil should be inferior to Starshooter Dao Lord’s.

“You probably don’t know this. Wooden Sword Holy Devil had beaten War God Dao Lord in the past.” Someone from the last generation shook his head.

This anecdote of the past stirred the listeners. War God Dao Lord’s generation was long ago so people only had a shallow understanding of him.

He wasn’t the strongest nor the most brilliant dao lord. He stood out for his love of battle, never giving up despite facing stronger enemies. The challenges would continue until his victory.

Rumor has it that he originated from a fallen temple. He eventually obtained the heavenly sword named War God along with the matching sword dao. Thus, he was definitely no slouch in battle.

As for Wooden Sword Holy Devil, his origin was far more mysterious. He seemed to appear out of nowhere overnight and was already powerful.

Cultivators tried so hard their whole lives and didn’t get close to the dao lord’s level. However, Wooden Sword Holy Devil shocked the world by defeating the dao lord after his debut.

This miraculous tale lived on to the present even though he died in a forbidden zone. It was considered one of the most memorable battles in history. It also built a strong foundation for his kingdom afterward.

Thus, those in the know were interested to see which sword dao was stronger.

Ning Zhu readied her sword and gently rotated her wrist so the tip nearly touched the ground. She didn’t have rampant sword energy and an oppressive aura.

It seemed rather ordinary compared to the prince’s impressive display.

“Your Highness, you may start.” She said.

The prince didn’t appreciate this and uttered coldly: “Princess, do you think you can defeat me?”

Though she didn’t say anything, her attitude made it seem as if she was far stronger than him, that she didn’t want to be a bully. The prince fully disagreed.

“We’ll see the outcome soon enough.” She calmly replied.

The crowd thought that she had changed. Previously, she has always been prideful to the point of being overbearing. They didn’t think much of it before because she was qualified to act in this manner.

Now, she became as serene as a well or as deep as an abyss. This was something unusual for those her age. The big shots in the crowd sensed something dangerous coming from her.

“Let’s see your sword art then.” The prince became annoyed by her indifference.

“Buzz.” He roared and buzzes could be heard.

The crowd felt ripples appearing in the air along with a cold breeze.

The stars up above were immediately replaced by sharp rays. Just one could pierce through anyone. The chilling energy coming from them began sealing the air.

Ning Zhu became trapped in this ocean of swords. A single movement might activate the trap and it wouldn’t end well for her.

“Die!” The prince pointed his sword forward and the sword rays went straight for her.

The attack was truly magnificent. The spectators felt as if space had been pierced a million times; they had the illusion that they were the victims of this attack.

“What an attack of the sword dao!” One youth shouted while trembling.

Ning Zhu didn’t bat an eye. Her sword let out a hymn and became resplendent with a green hue. It was as if she was holding a bamboo stick that exudes an incredible life force.

She finally swung her sword. It lacked malice and murder, only an endless life force.

“Boom!” The majestic power of life crushed the incoming sword rays into particles.

Though they were sharp, swift, and numerous, they couldn’t oppose the princess’ destructive swing.

Numbers didn’t matter when it came to the sword dao.

Everyone gasped after seeing this. Ning Zhu lacked a domineering aura yet her first attack was the embodiment of this word - far fiercer than the prince’s celestial rays.

“The princess is far stronger?” Many youths were in awe of her.

“No, they haven’t gone all out yet.” An older expert shook his head and said calmly.

“Your Highness, don’t hold back now.” Ning Zhu told her opponent.