

Emperor 4441

Chapter 4441: Hidden Secret

“Cursed by fate and tormented by fiends forever.” Li Qiye said.

The demon trembled and took a deep breath since he had higher access than most to this type of information.

Immortality and revival were coveted by top masters. Immortal was for the self; revival was for others.

After all, a being living for eras would certainly come across people that are worthy of remembrance and love.

Once reaching the shore of immortality, perhaps they would think about reviving their lover and family members...

Of course, Nine-tailed God knew the astronomical price required to revive someone. Perhaps even a legendary immortal would need to pay the piper. Moreover, it seemed that the revived wouldn't be put in a favorable situation either. They might not be the same as before and could even become an abomination.

“Sir, which are you doing?” Nine-tailed God calmed down and asked about Li Qiye's intention. It seemed like a revival wouldn't be possible due to the accursed nature of the feat.

“What is rebirth? It requires a true death first.” Li Qiye didn't answer directly.

“So that's not the case here?” Nine-tailed God's mood became better.

“Indeed, this is withered trees meeting spring again.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“I see...” The demon god murmured and became startled: “Sir, are you saying that Jiu Bian and Feng Qi aren't completely dead? They're still around in this world, but how can this be?”

As the strongest ancestor of Demon, he had observed the battlefield and thought about this legend before. His conclusion was that both combatants have been reduced to ashes in the present day. In other words, both were as dead as can be. Many other sages before him came to this conclusion as well.

“Why not?” Li Qiye stared at him and said: “It's just that their existence is different from everyone else. Their race is special and has unique advantages, far superior to anything else. That's why their secret domains are around so long in your sect.”

“I see.” Nine-tailed God understood.

“It's more than that too. This place is very special, a big reason why they fought to the death.” Li Qiye revealed a mysterious smile.

Nine-tailed God knew that this battlefield was special, albeit nothing exact. Now, he became excited right away after hearing the topic.

“So they really gave it everything just to take this land? Is there a peerless treasure hidden here?” He became emotional.

The legend did say that they fought over something peerless, necessitating an ultimate battle.

Numerous thoughts coursed through the demon's head. Feng Qi was considered the youngest dao lord, completely matchless. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that there was no one like her in the past and no one like her in the future.

Jiu Bian was another invincible character, as mysterious as can be. Either of them was definitely on the apex of Eight Desolaces.

They had seen all types of treasures before. In fact, most treasures in the world were nothing more than trash to them. However, their death was due to a potential item.

The thought of such an item made the demon god shudder because even a paragon treasure might not be worth risking their lives over.

"It might not be here, just an opportunity." Li Qiye smiled.

"Please elaborate, Sir." The demon bowed and sincerely asked but then thought about something: "Wait, is, is it about immortality?"

Whatever was here tempted top masters including dao lords. Immortality would be one answer.

"If you become unbeatable, what will be the next pursuit?" Li Qiye asked.

"Immortality." The demon said right away.

Currently, there were still those stronger than him. However, the biggest pursuit for him would still be immortality. Reputation and honor for the lineage didn't matter. Those things were external and couldn't tie him down.

The only thing worth spending the rest of his life for was immortality. This was a common path for many masters later on.

"What do you think Feng Qi and Jiu Bian pursued?" Li Qiye asked again.

The demon became emotional after hearing this information. These two beings were certainly unbeatable. Thus, his guess was right. The only answer seemed to be immortality!

"A secret to immortality is hidden here, or at least an opportunity for it." The demon said. This conclusion easily explained why Feng Qi and Jiu Bian fought bitterly, and why dao lords had never given up learning about Ravaged Land.

Chapter 4442: As Long As Heaven Itself

Juniors weren't in a rush to obtain immortality and lacked the same desire. Furthermore, they weren't at the level of reaching it either.

But as for someone like Nine-tailed God or even stronger beings, their desire for immortality burned intensely. Top masters only cared about immortality.

At the apex, everything else was either within their grasp or no longer mattered to them. Alas, none has been able to reach immortality, not the dao lords or other brilliant cultivators.

If others were to know about Ravaged Land's secret, they would definitely go crazy. The reclusive beings would come out of their slumber and lair.

There must have been a reason why the dao lords were so interested in this place despite not necessarily knowing the truth. They must have noticed some clues.

The demon believed Li Qiye without a doubt. He didn't know why, only that this man in front of him far exceeded his current attainment.

"Is immortality possible?" He asked.

"Have you heard of anyone like that?" Li Qiye answered with a question instead.

Given his knowledge and experience, he has never thought of anyone before. The most legendary beings were the duck egg buyer, Puresun Dao Lord, and Blessed Dao Lord later on...

They were unparalleled but none had reached immortality. This question might not have an answer.

"Well.." He replied: "I don't believe so."

"It's not that no one has done it, just not the true meaning of immortality." Li Qiye smiled.

"So it's impossible?" The demon didn't want to give up.

Masters like him hoped that it would be possible to reach immortality via cultivation. They prayed that a path was possible, just not figured out yet.

"There are levels to this." Li Qiye elaborated: "If living for longer than an epoch is the first, then there are several."

His eyes then gazed towards the sky, piercing through the myriad dimensions into a deep region filled with darkness.

"What about the next level? True immortality?" The demon inquired.

"One will live as long as heaven itself." Li Qiye casually revealed.

"As long as heaven itself? Just how many years..." The demon murmured.

"Impossible to calculate." Li Qiye smiled and turned his sight upward in another direction. The end of the sky seemed to have the answer.

"I see. So is it reachable for regular people?" The demon asked about this eternal question for cultivators.

"From a cursory glance, there are two nearly at the final level." Li Qiye looked back down at the demon.

"Two?" The demon became frozen. Being as old as heaven itself?

"How, how powerful are they?" He asked.

"If you want to measure their cultivation, then let's just say that they can rush you like an ant. You will be as helpless as a speck of dust before their destructive power." Li Qiye smiled.

“An ant or a speck of dust.” He felt his hands becoming sweaty.

If there were other listeners, they would immediately jump in to defend him. After all, the great demon was an invincible existence in the eyes of regular cultivators. There was no way someone else could take him down with such ease.

Alas, the demon knew that if Li Qiye was telling the truth, people who had lived that long would have reached an unimaginable level. They should have enough force to obliterate Eight Desolaces in one blow.

“It’s time to go.” Li Qiye changed the topic and gazed at Ravaged Land.

“I’ll be right behind you, Sir. Please lead the way.” He calmed down and bowed.

“Indeed.” Li Qiye stopped wasting time and jumped down.

He also did the same and jumped into the clouds.

The two of them didn’t perform merit laws to stop the free fall. They could hear winds howling in their ears due to the speed of the drop.

Alas, as they moved through the gales and layers of clouds, they found Ravaged Land to be a bottomless abyss. This freefall could last forever.

In the demon’s previous experiences, he knew that freefalling like this would not be enough to reach the bottom.

Some had experimented with this before to find the safest route. Just letting oneself go might be the answer.

Once landed, they would often find themselves not far from their original position. Doing this prevented death or disappearance.

The reason for this was due to Feng Qi and Jiu Bian’s destructive battle. Their attacks severed space and time, turning Ravaged Land into a bizarre and isolated dimension. Outsiders would be automatically pushed out by the land.

Therefore, simply jumping like the duo shouldn’t work. They would just be pushed back onto the cliff.

Many did this before and after landing, they thought that they had entered Ravaged Land. However, a while later, after a turn or another step, they would be teleported to the City of Demons.

“Walk forward!” After a while, Li Qiye suddenly shouted.

He took one step forward and his foot landed on a particular coordinate. This made him disappear from sight.

The demon didn’t think much and stepped in that exact spot, disappearing just like Li Qiye. This was possible due to his great speed so he hit the same coordinate.

“Boom!” Once he did it, he was greeted by a scorching heatwave.

Chapter 4443: Dangerous Area

“Boom!” This heatwave incinerated all in its path.

The duo had entered a different area with countless volcanos. They spewed out lava and created a fiery ocean.

The temperature here was naturally unbearable to mortals. Even cultivators had a hard time resisting.

The lava here was different from the lava seen in the mortal realm. They had long trails of flames with a violet color, capable of piercing the earth. One would get the impression that they were once the hardest metals before being melted into this form.

Nonetheless, the demon god could still withstand this temperature. He certainly lived up to his fame.

He didn't dare to underestimate it and activated his energy. “Buzz.” A radiance pulsed around him and numerous halos appeared. Nine fluffy fox tails could also be seen.

Each of them had a different color. Upon closer inspection, instead of fur, they were made of tiny strings of dao chains. They were brimming with power and resembled nine supreme grand dao.

As they fluttered in the air, they seemed like nine spirit veins. Each smashing down could destroy a kingdom.

He created multiple layers of dao protection in no time at all. This wasn't an attempt to show off his power in front of Li Qiye. He knew that he was merely displaying his slight skill before an expert.

He has been here several times and experienced the broken spatial structure. Thus, he knew better than to be careless even though Li Qiye was here.

As for Li Qiye, he instantly crossed through a large region and then jumped into a surging volcano.

“Boom!” The lava rushed out, seemingly agitated by the intruders, and roared like a primal beast.

The two immediately delved deeper into the volcano. Li Qiye raised his hand and activated his grand dao, fixating the right time and space. Coordinates were forced to show themselves.

He stepped onto the right node and was teleported away. The demon also copied his movement.

When the latter took note of his new location, he saw that they were floating in a boundless space with stars. He couldn't see the end in sight despite activating his heavenly gaze.

A deathly silence existed as if it was a stationary world. Of course, this wasn't the case.

From a distance were galaxies flowing and bright starry lights. This flow resembled the changes of a grand dao.

Li Qiye stopped moving, looking like a statue and becoming one with this area. The god observed carefully and noted that Li Qiye was waiting for the right time.

Alas, time didn't wait for them because after a loud explosion, a spatial storm formed around them with a blinding radiance.

It seemed that there used to be stars hidden around them. However, the moment the duo got here, they started shifting away and releasing countless rays.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that the force from their shift could destroy anything. A sect master would be completely helpless and be reduced to dust from a single shift.

At this moment, the duo was facing countless spatial shifts as the main target. If they couldn't block it, the area around them would turn back to the origin and so would they.

"Activate!" The demon god was prepared for the countless explosive rays.

He became shrouded in radiance as he summoned his totems. One tail released numerous dao waterfalls and turned into a barrier.

"Rumble!" The rays easily pushed through the first barrier.

This didn't deter him. His second tail swung forward like a divine sword - offense was the best defense.

It created a sharp domain and separated them from the rest of the world, using distance to stop the incoming rays.

Time stagnated during the exchange. The rays from the stars could be seen clearly after entering the domain. At the start, they were slowed down by its effect.

"Boom!" Alas, the suppressed waves came relentlessly and eventually destroyed the domain.

If spectators were present, they would be shocked because the first two defensive lines were immaculate. Alas, they were still not enough to stop the star explosions.

"Go!" The demon god used his third tail for a technique resembling a dragon leaping from the water and leaving a long trail in its wake.

This supreme dao encompassed numerous affinities - celestial, yin and yang... It tried to drag all of the explosions into its path.

He was doing a great job dealing with the explosions. Meanwhile, Li Qiye made it look easy.

The latter casually smacked the incoming ray. Those coming from the right would be sent to the left and vice versa. They didn't seem destructive at all and were as feeble as tree branches.

Numerous rays from all eight directions came for Li Qiye. Alas, they just started flying out chaotically after reaching him.

Chapter 4444: Entering

The knowledgeable demon god saw Li Qiye swatting them away and couldn't believe it.

He experienced just how intense these rays were. Nonetheless, they could be blocked and destroyed...

However, Li Qiye simply changed their direction by smacking them. This was unfathomable due to their speed and power.

With Li Qiye as the starting point, the rays shot out everywhere again. However, they didn't hit the demon god or any other star.

In reality, given his mastery, he could have easily redirected them towards the stars but he chose against it.

Eventually, the demon god noticed that the rays were forming a massive, inscrutable diagram. The brilliance emanating from it illuminated the entire space, banishing the darkness with ease.

“Boom!” Once the brightness reached the limit, the rays suddenly exploded - the scene of an apocalypse.

The stars finally fell victim to this ultimate explosion while the demon god felt a threat and shouted: “Defense!”

He finally used all nine tails. They coiled together and formed the ultimate shield blessed by numerous totems.

The explosion struck his strongest defense, wave after wave. He felt that he was a small boat being stuck in a storm, on the verge of capsizing at any second.

Nonetheless, the great cultivator still managed to survive the explosion. He staggered backward continuously but remained balanced. He heaved a sigh of relief afterward and looked up.

The stars that attacked them were nowhere to be found right now. However, a coordinate node was finally visible and pulsed brightly.

“Let’s go.” Li Qiye stepped on the node and he did the same without any hesitation.

Both were teleported to another dimension...

Just like that, the duo leaped through numerous chaotic dimensions in Ravaged Land. From the outside, this place didn’t look particularly large in the grand scheme of things.

However, beneath the fog and mist were numerous chaotic dimensions. Traversing through them required finding the right coordinate nodes.

During their journey, the demon god became increasingly afraid. They have entered some dangerous dimensions. Just one misstep and he would die here.

Moreover, he found the nodes to be too complicated. This might be the reason why numerous dao lords returned empty-handed. It required a true mastery of spatial manipulation.

Finally, the two fell straight down in the path of a vertical beam. He felt that he was returning to the real world.

It was as if they were back in the free fall. It was that this time around, there was a beam taking them down through the fog.

Eventually, they saw a circular barrier at the bottom. It was obvious that whatever inside was special.

Alas, cultivators couldn’t come close because the barrier was embedded with numerous dao runes of the lightning affinity. Coming close meant being annihilated.

Sure enough, when they fell down and Li Qiye touched the barrier, all the lightning bolts immediately attacked him.

The ocean of lightning bolts could eradicate numerous ancestors in the blink of an eye. The demon god was ready and used his nine tails again.

However, they easily broke through his ultimate defense. He managed to erect it fast enough to stop the onslaught.

Unfortunately, he didn't know how long he would be able to keep up against the relentless assault. His vitality was depleting and he wouldn't be able to fuel the barrier any longer.

In the past, he was smart enough to escape whenever things got dangerous. He only made it this far because of Li Qiye.

As for Li Qiye, he raised his hand and exuded a melting light, akin to fire melting snowflakes.

Sure enough, he actually managed to create a large hole in the runic barrier.

Chapter 4445: Pinnacle Lifewater

Li Qiye jumped into the created hole on the barrier. The demon had no choice but to follow him as well. After they were inside, the hole in the barrier disappeared.

When the demon god fell to the ground, he felt a harmonization experience with the dao. His pores started relaxing.

He looked around and saw immortal energy everywhere. This seemed like a paradise meant for immortals. He felt himself ascending by just being here.

"Is this immortal energy?" He carefully sensed this energy, realizing that it was completely different from chaos true energy or any other form of worldly energy.

He had even entered a forbidden zone before - Evil Flame Ridge. However, this was still a unique atmosphere.

It was so pure and magical, akin to one existing at the start of the world. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to call this an immortal energy.

Of course, he wouldn't know what that felt like. This was mere speculation.

"Primordial dao essence." Li Qiye casually said.

"Primordial dao essence." The demon wasn't familiar with this title at all. Nonetheless, just the name alone was rather moving.

He then looked around and noticed that they were inside a valley. It looked rather simple with random pebbles and a small pond in the middle. It has been there for who knows how many years and was filled with water.

There were random green grass as well, rather sparse in number. They were overgrown because no one has come to disturb them.

There were only three leaves on each grass; they had a pentagonal shape. All the parts had a green jade color and looked shiny, brimming with water.

“This is the place? Hmm, there is a chance of immortality here?” He murmured.

This was obviously their final destination. Alas, nothing too peculiar seemed to be here just yet - no shocking artifacts, pulsing treasures, profound dao...

If it wasn't for his pleasant state, he would question that they were in the wrong place. However, he knew that this was it.

They had been through so much to get here. The other dao lords must have wanted to come here as well. Who knows if they had made it?

He speculated that this place was the reason why Feng Qi and Jiu Bian fought to the death. He wasn't a fool and activated his heavenly gaze to check out all the details here.

The first thing that drew him in was the small pond. He walked forward and saw something peculiar about the clear water.

It appeared resplendent and measureless, seemingly made from all of the water in the world compressed into a single pond. Moreover, there was no trace of impurity. This could be the purest water in the world.

“This is?” The demon had seen plenty of magical water before but nothing like this.

He bent down and placed one hand into the water. Suddenly, dao laws and hymns appeared around him.

His hand became ethereal, seemingly on the verge of breaking down into laws and runes. His own grand dao and totems were automatically activated. He felt himself transforming into an immortal.

This was only because he touched the water; he didn't channel his power in the slightest.

“What the hell?!” He became frightened and pulled his hand back.

The water wasn't dangerous, it was simply magical beyond imagination. He was afraid that if this continued, he could lose control of his own grand dao.

“This water is peerless.” His heart beat faster. If he could bring it outside to slowly absorb or comprehend it, he would be able to break through to the next level.

He took out a treasure gourd in order to take some water. However, it wouldn't pour into his open gourd regardless of his repeated attempt. It was akin to the reflection of the moon in the water - beautiful but not actually tangible.

“Sir, what is this water?” He asked for help.

Li Qiye glanced at the pond and said: “Pinnacle Lifewater.”

“Pinnacle-?” The demon became startled: “The water in the legends?!”

He had heard rumors about it before. The sources and the details remained unknown. He never expected to see it in his lifetime. Unfortunately, he couldn't take a single drop with him.

"If you don't want to return empty-handed, take one grass with you." Li Qiye glanced at the vegetation and said.

He calmed down and knew that Li Qiye was helping him. He rushed over and activated his heavenly gaze. He saw that this particular tall grass has three leaves. It brimmed with aquatic energy as if each of them was an ocean filled with life.

"This must be the Three-leaves Life-ferry Grass?" He said with uncertainty.

"Looks like your title as a demon god is well-deserved. At least you know about it." Li Qiye joked.

"I see, one leaf can ferry nine lives..." He became emotional because he knew about this legendary grass as well.

Each grass could be considered an immortal medicine. Just one was enough to start a war but there must be more than a hundred blades in this valley.

"Sir, should I?" He bowed.

"Yes, but don't be greedy or it'll be the reason for your death." Li Qiye replied.

He understood this logic - it was best not to incite others' greed. He bowed at the grass before taking out a jeweled bowl. He carefully took down three leaves and stopped there. Taking too much would only cause trouble later on if others were to find out.

Chapter 4446: Rock Pile

Li Qiye didn't take the water or any of the grass. His focus turned to a pile of rocks.

After fully gathering the grass, the demon god came over and stood next to Li Qiye. He stared at the rock pile as well.

There was nothing special about a bunch of white rocks stacked randomly in this manner. However, he eventually noticed something weird - the rocks were connected with each other.

It seemed as if after the pile was made, they were burned by an unbelievable flame, resulting in the surface melting and fusing together. In other words, contrary to their appearance, they have become a single entity. Each individual rock was crucial to the whole and couldn't be missed.

He then crouched down in front of it and tapped gently. There was a heavy echo, a sign of calcification.

"Hmm..." He started pondering that this rock was actually a bone.

"Take out your item." Li Qiye ordered.

He immediately took out the treasure box with an incredible seal. The power stemming from it was ancient and seemingly unbeatable. The content inside must be nothing short of amazing because the seal itself was rather precious. Only a top master could do something like this.

He had a respectful expression, not because of Li Qiye but rather, the box. This was something left behind by Space Dragon Emperor - an heirloom of Dragon.

It wasn't quite a treasure because no one in Dragon has been able to understand the thing inside. Nonetheless, they still revered it due to its prestigious origin.

Space Dragon Emperor personally sealed it in Dragon Platform. How many treasures were worthy of this?

Li Qiye demanded it a while ago and he yielded, accepting all responsibilities. He knew that they had no chance of stopping him in the first place.

The only difference between handing it over and fighting was the number of dead disciples. Dragon might turn to ashes as a result.

Li Qiye accepted the box and formed a mudra. A pulsing light manifested and opened the seal on the box.

The demon didn't know what to say after seeing this. The seal required a special incantational mudra to open. This was a secret from Dragon only known by a few.

Without this mudra, no outsider would be able to open the box. This wasn't the case for Li Qiye at all. He did it faster and easier than some of Dragon's ancestors while not knowing the special incantation.

He took out the item inside and this made the demon realize something.

"I see, I get it now." The latter said.

The thing inside was hard to describe. It had a long shape with random warpings and a white hue. He didn't think that it was a bone until now with the rock pile in front of him.

The heirloom turned out to be something similar to the fused bones, consisting of dozens of "rocks" being melted together.

Li Qiye sat down and pressed the heirloom into the pile of rock. It turned out that this thing was a perfect match and made the rock pile complete.

"So the progenitor came here before." The demon understood the use of his sect's heirloom.

It wasn't a treasure but a part of this rock pile. Perhaps this was the key to the more important part. This was the reason why they couldn't figure out the item - its incomplete nature.

"Not just your Space Dragon Emperor, others have visited this place too." Li Qiye said.

"Others? The top dao lords such as Sword Queen?" He asked. From his knowledge, top dao lords such as Sword Queen and Nine-wheel were the most likely to come here.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn't answer.

"I'm guessing our heirloom is the key, how come he didn't open this place for a chance at immortality?" He was curious about this issue.

If top beings have come here, they certainly noticed the biggest clue as well. Most importantly, his progenitor might be the first one here after the battle between Feng Qi and Jiu Bian. He even took away part of the rock pile and removed everyone's chances.

Why did he do it? And what about the others? All of these top beings desired immortality. Why didn't they take advantage of this opportunity?

If they had done it, the world would have known of their wondrous tale and legends would have started.

Chapter 4447: Open

He then focused on the rock pile with his heavenly gaze. This left him with an indescribable feeling.

He forced himself to find something special about it only to fail. In fact, he was paying attention to it due to prior knowledge. Otherwise, he would have dismissed it after a quick glance.

There was no point in worrying about it when the valley had Pinnacle Lifewater and the three-leaves grasses.

He believed that a few masters before him might have fallen into this trap, completely enthralled by the obvious treasures.

After all, they were peerless and the word "immortal" has been used to describe them. Alas, this didn't mean much compared to actual immortality.

Thus, he focused everything he got on the rock pile. As a peerless demon god, he was mighty enough to defeat virtually everyone. With enough time, he finally figured out some clues.

In terms of appearance, most wouldn't be able to figure out anything regardless of the angles and methods.

As for him, he ignored the actual rocky parts and focused on the missing gaps and holes. He deconstructed and re-assembled in his mind numerous times and finally saw a faint outline. However, it remained complicated and he wouldn't be able to move on to the next step in a short time.

At this time, Li Qiye finally started. He pointed his index finger at the rock pile and started moving it around with lightning speed. It was as if he was playing the zither. The musical notes coming off his finger were woven into a dao chapter.

The dao mysteries were just like composing a song for him. Thus, the demon god stopped his calculation and watched Li Qiye in awe.

He tried everything and wasted a considerable amount of energy and effort only to see a faint outline. However, Li Qiye was acting as if he was the author of this chapter.

This was a difference between a grand scholar and a student who had just learned how to write. The latter was still learning characters and experimenting, unable to accomplish much. As for the grand scholar, he would be able to form a poem in no time at all.

This disparity shocked the demon god. He didn't think that he was unbeatable. Pride was not one of his weak points either because he knew about stronger existences.

Nonetheless, he was not one to be unduly humble. He has been a genius his whole life and reached a height many could only dream of.

Yes, there were stronger masters than him but this number was tiny. Nonetheless, he knew the exact gap between him and these cultivators.

This was akin to a new cultivator looking at their sect master. The disparity was still perceivable.

On the other hand, the demon couldn't gauge the difference between him and Li Qiye in the slightest. He felt as if he was a mere drop of water in the ocean.

"Stand behind me." Li Qiye interrupted his stupor.

Anyone else would feel their pride being hurt. Why would a demon god need protection? Of course, Nine-tailed God was different and immediately followed Li Qiye's direction.

"Buzz." The entire pile lit up as Li Qiye waved his hand.

Minuscule yet detailed runes could be seen. They must have been carved by a supreme being using all of their efforts. Each was in tune with the worldly dao and has proven itself.

As Li Qiye moved his hand, the myriad dao of the world were moving with him - this was the demon god's impression.

He didn't have the chance to take a clear look before Li Qiye finished deriving all the runes.

A portal was instantly opened and a mighty power rushed out. No, two different powers.

He became astounded by the incoming power. Nonetheless, he still activated his nine tails on time.

"Rumble!" An inferno rushed for him. He thought at first that this was a type of solar flame.

However, he gasped after realizing what it was after the first contact: "Phoenix flame!"

The inferno seemed to be heralding a new world of destruction, melting everything in its path.

However, the other power was unpredictable. It kept on morphing and changing while maintaining a similar level of destruction.

The phoenix flame was clearly felt due to its scorching nature. The other was actually more difficult to stop, capable of killing the unaware victims.

He became frozen due to the elusive second power.

"Screech!" He then heard the hymn of a phoenix, one loud enough to injure his eardrums.

Chapter 4448: True Invincibility

"Poof!" A phoenix manifested into reality, looking wondrous and dignified while soaring in the air.

It spread its wings and released a sky-blotting inferno, capable of refining yin and yang along with the myriad dao.

The aura of a phoenix engulfed the valley. All living beings trembled before this apex creature.

Though the demon god was hiding behind Li Qiye and activated his nine tails, his barriers were melting and couldn't be rebuilt. It seemed that the flame of a phoenix made recovery impossible.

The worst part was - the demon felt an instinctive urge to prostrate, akin to peasants seeing the emperor for the first time.

He activated his vitality and true chaos energy in order to suppress this primal urge. It had nothing to do with his power, just his background as a demon.

A phoenix was divine and loomed above all demons. The bloodline of the fox, albeit prestigious and high level, was still not enough to contend against the phoenix bloodline.

"Boom!" The second power suddenly took over his mind and immobilized him. He felt an invisible power gripping his throat, intending on crushing him to a pulp.

He couldn't breathe - this was a fear he had forgotten. Fortunately, Li Qiye finally took action and stopped it.

The phoenix power alone was horrifying. Nonetheless, it was direct so he could come up with a plan to stop it. On the other hand, that mental attack was impossible to assess. Once he realized that it was there, he had already become helpless.

"Raa!" The shadow of a strange hybrid crossed through the sky. Its power was invisible yet fatal.

Li Qiye retaliated by becoming resplendent. He raised his hand and appeared to be the only immortal in existence.

All dao and affinities circled around the tip of his finger and were subjected to his rule.

"Back off." He waved his hand and exerted his dominance.

The demon trembled in horror since he felt severed from his grand dao. Li Qiye seemingly took over his own power.

"Boom! Boom!" Li Qiye's targets were the phoenix and the mysterious shadow.

The two immediately retreated; their power also disappeared from sight.

The demon god heaved a sigh of relief. Alas, this was a little too early.

"Boom!" A cataclysmic force came next. He looked up and saw the stars in the sky exploding into pieces.

The attack this time reigned above all else, containing a might capable of sweeping through everything. He was but a speck of dust before it.

"Fuc-" He bellowed in horror because this was helpless.

A while ago, his nine-tail defense could last for a long time against the attack of the phoenix or even the mysterious power, as long as he was ready for it.

However, his barriers collapsed in the blink of an eye, akin to an ember being extinguished by a tornado.

It seemed that the reason why Li Qiye told him to stand back was because of this attack, not the ones prior.

“What is this...” He thought that he was witnessing the strongest force in existence - true invincibility.

He once believed that he could last five moves even against the strongest cultivator. This was rather erroneous.

“Boom!” His protector, Li Qiye, chose to stop the attack with his body instead of turning resplendent like before. It immediately engulfed him.

“Shit!” He bellowed because peerless weapons wouldn’t be able to stop this attack, let alone the flesh.

He was scared out of his mind but in the next second, he found the invincible power nullified.

This resembled a reef at the bottom of an ocean. It could withstand the waves forever without being swept away.

Peace returned with haste to his astonishment. The roaring storm subsided without warning and the ocean became calm again.

As he stood there in a daze, Li Qiye gently pushed forward and the unknown power receded like the tides. If he didn’t witness this in person, he wouldn’t believe it.

Chapter 4449: A Grave

The demon god had met many top cultivators before. He even faced the terrifying danger looming in Evil Flame Ridge. Alas, none of them could hold a candle to the attack just now.

He was able to struggle against Evil Flame Ridge but in this case, he knew that he would be reduced to dust without Li Qiye’s protection.

He realized that the apex was not actually the apex. There was an even greater height, one above his comprehension and scope.

The last few events have shaken him to the core. Most importantly, this overbearing power suddenly became gentle in front of Li Qiye.

The latter treated it as his own, capable of giving commands. Thus, just a hand wave from Li Qiye sent it away.

In his opinion, no one in all of Eight Desolaces could have endured that historically-unstoppable attack. The strongest characters would barely be able to block it.

Therefore, the attack was a tyrannical dragon instilling fear into all living beings. Alas, it felt like a docile puppy before Li Qiye.

It took a long time for him to calm down; cold sweat streamed down his back. He eventually asked: “Wh-what was that attack?”

It wasn’t here from the start nor was it a heavenly tribulation. This meant that someone purposely left it there, meaning that the source was even more impressive.

Not to mention him, even Dao Sanqian of Sky Border would be nothing more than an insect against this being.

“A true immortal actually exists?” He murmured since this was the only lifeform he could think of capable of leaving this attack here.

Of course, top masters have unanimously said that true immortals did not exist. Dao Lords believed that they were far from reaching the mythical characteristics of a true immortal in the legends.

However, dao lords were already unbeatable. So how could there be true immortals?

“If immortals are around, they won’t be there. A shallow pond can’t produce a qilin.” Li Qiye smiled.

“I see.” The demon pondered and agreed with this logic. Eight Desolaces couldn’t handle the existence of one.

For example, his world has plenty of top geniuses in every generation. However, only one dao lord could be produced at one time. Perhaps there were exceptions of two being around, but this would be extraordinary.

Thus, it meant that Eight Desolaces couldn’t accommodate two dao lords. As Li Qiye said, a small pond wouldn’t be able to birth a qilin. Or, a kun would only appear at a great ocean.

“So who left behind this power?” He asked if an immortal wasn’t the right answer.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn’t respond.

The demon god was smart enough to not pursue this matter. He turned his attention towards the rock pile and became speechless.

This situation was akin to a treasure-seeker being filled with anticipation after finally opening the vault. However, they only found rocks instead of gold nuggets.

In this case, he only saw a stone tablet, nothing else. There wasn’t any engraving either. He initially assumed that opening the rock pile would show them the mysteries of immortality.

He believed that there would be billowing immortal energy or the rays of everlasting life, perhaps an immortal grass with a fragrance capable of delivering ascension...

He regained his wits and came closer, hoping to see something else. Perhaps it was hidden well and required time to ponder.

The slab seemed to be made from bluestone with shoddy workmanship. It hasn’t been polished either, seemingly removed from a cliff and was taken to this place. The craftsman didn’t leave a signature behind either.

His heavenly gaze didn’t spot him anything new - no runic lines and symbols. They didn’t exist at the start and weren’t added either.

Thus, this was just a regular slab of bluestone. The lack of hints made it impossible to even start pondering any dao mystery.

“What is this, Sir?” He asked for help.

“A grave.” Li Qiye gently touched the tablet.

“A grave?” He was only surprised for a moment before realizing how much sense it made. He was too focused on the chance for immortality and didn’t read the situation normally.

He then used his heavenly gaze and looked down but there was nothing buried underneath.

“This is an empty grave?” He asked again. Those who died with their corpse missing could still be remembered in this manner.

Chapter 4450: Nameless Tablet

“Yes and no.” Li Qiye had a strange half-smile on his face as he answered. His eyes appeared profound, seemingly remembering and thinking about something.

The demon didn’t understand Li Qiye’s expression. The guy seemingly turned into a statue and was traveling elsewhere.

He got the impression that the Li Qiye earlier no longer existed. This man before him had turned into someone else - one that has lived for countless years dating back to the start of time.

Despite a lack of tyrannical aura and energy ripples, this form was rather impressive in the demon’s eyes. He believed that the current Li Qiye had the cosmo within his grasp. Gods and devils would tremble in fear before the ruler of all.

Naturally, his knees started buckling as well. He felt a strong urge to kneel and prostrate before a superior being.

A while ago, Li Qiye released his energy and it was truly unbeatable. Now, this mortal form frightened the demon god even more.

He started imagining Li Qiye activating his energy in this state and couldn’t come up with anything. This was simply beyond his imagination.

He took a deep breath and channeled his merit laws to calm his dao heart. The trembling finally stopped.

He then turned his attention to the slab instead. Time passed by and only failure awaited him.

“Where is this opportunity for immortality...” He murmured helplessly.

He wasn’t foolish enough to think that it would be so simple. Nonetheless, the manifestation caught him by surprise.

He could see that the mysteries would be hidden in a perfect manner. However, this unique opportunity should have released a special phenomenon. For example - the image of an immortal world, the mysterious reincarnation cycle, the transformation and derivation of the yin and yang...

In this case, there was only a nameless slab and zero visual phenomenon.

“I’m too weak.” He sighed and gave up.

After all, even peerless existences couldn't obtain immortality. He was nothing compared to the wise sages in history.

In the present days, others worshiped him as a great demon god. Alas, he himself knew that he was just an average cultivator when compared to the brilliant dao lords and matchless historical cultivators.

His self-awareness allowed him to give up and be at peace. There was no need to force the issue.

As for Li Qiye, he started rubbing the tablet in a slow yet rhythmic manner, akin to the flow of the waves or the tapping of the grand dao.

His hand released sacred rays as a result. They were primordial and reversed space back to a chaotic state.

They seemed to be there at the start of the world and have witnessed history. They traveled through time to reach the present and didn't change in the slightest. Time and external changes had no effect on them.

The slab reacted and released identical rays. "Buzz." The rays from two different sources started twisting together as if this was their destiny.

The demon god felt his grand dao resonating with this phenomenon. His dao laws appeared and were out of his control. Something greater was summoning his power.

This was naturally not pleasant, losing control of one's own grand dao.

Enough rays came out to engulf the entire tablet. The area around it appeared to be the mysterious primordial chaos.

Next came a loud yet distant explosion. Perhaps this was the explosion that started the world itself. Now, this sound finally came to the present day.

With this explosion, the primordial chaos was split open and primordial energy poured out like mercury. In just the blink of an eye, it took over the entire valley.

Primordial energy was the most basic type of energy for cultivators. As a demon god, he had accumulated an impressive amount of energy in his life. Alas, it was only a drop compared to the flood coming out of the explosion.

"Is this the chance?!" He blurted out.

Alas, the dense primordial energy suddenly disappeared. He thought that the slab had absorbed it completely.

Everything became normal again outside of one change - a diagram finally appeared on the nameless tablet.

It was the image of a crow, depicted with awfully few lines yet looking animated. The crow seemingly wanted to fly away from the slab to reach the nine heavens. He could even feel its aura and the gales from its flapping wings.

Simplicity didn't diminish the vividness of the effect the diagram had on him. He could see wings large enough to blot out the sky, raising a dark curtain over the entire world.

He didn't know what to feel. He had seen visual phenomena of phoenixes before but now, he felt the urge to prostrate before this crow diagram.