

Emperor 4601

Chapter 4601: Teasing

“Miss, what do you think about our brother here?” The daoist took advantage of this: “He’s from the Jian, a clan with untraceable roots and has contributed greatly to the world. He is their young lord, the sole successor, a hero among men with flawless bearing...”

“Enough!” Jian Ming interrupted him and looked embarrassed: “Nobody is asking you, Swindler.”

She stared at Jian Ming and said earnestly: “Fellow Daoist, if that is your wish, come to the sect and ask, we’ve been receiving many requests recently so you can try as well.”

“Of course not.” He smiled wryly: “Regular cultivators like us aren’t worthy of being a companion to such a beautiful lady such as yourself.”

It was rare to see the shameless youth being stuck in an awkward situation. He was actually blushing.

“Oh? And here I thought your skin was too thick to turn red.” Xiao Xuan laughed and said.

“Lady, please don’t tease me...” This only made it worse for Jian Ming. He was normally the one teasing people.

Ye Tingrong was rather curious about the group due to their weird social dynamic. It seemed that Li Qiye was the leader but on the surface, he was the weakest of the group.

“It’s a good idea.” Li Qiye nodded: “The brat has a sharp mind. Though he won’t travel that far on the dao path, his future is filled with good fortunes and happiness. Miss, if you are interested, do pursue.”

Jian Ming’s face turned even redder and hotter - the same shade as a persimmon.

“Young Noble, please don’t tease me too. I might have thick skin but the lady doesn’t.” He said.

“Face is important but so is life.” Li Qiye smiled: “Perhaps the two of you being together can help her get through tough times.”

The embarrassed Jian Ming immediately told Tingrong: “Our young noble is just kidding, don’t pay it any mind.”

The conversation took a weird turn for her but nonetheless, she nodded and said: “I will not stop you from going to Golden Gate to ask for marriage. Let heaven decides.”

“That’s what I like to hear.” Li Qiye smiled: “Let’s see who is heaven in this case.”

“Yes, a match decided by heaven will be blessed...” The daoist realized something and came up with an idea.

At this point, all Jian Ming could do was smile awkwardly. He never thought about marrying Ye Tingrong before but the situation got out of control.

It seemed that she herself was more composed than him.

“One can’t get a better start in marriage than this.” Xiao Xuan clapped and decided to join the fun.

“Please...” He only came near to talk to her. Now, it seemed like he has become a potential suitor.

“I think this is a great development.” The daoist elbowed him and said: “Since fate has brought you two together, I will prepare you a gift that I know you’ll love.”

He seemed supportive of Jian Ming for once, eager to be an errand boy if need be for the sake of this union.

“Mind your own business! Stop messing around!” Jian Ming couldn’t bark back at Li Qiye and Xiao Xuan. However, the daoist was a different story.

“Sigh, can’t even tell that I’m being helpful.” The daoist said: “Let me read your and the lady’s romantic fortune...”

“Okay, okay, you don’t need to prove anything. I know your fortune-telling is real, stop bothering me.” Jian Ming interrupted.

A fortune-telling session scared him. He didn’t want to see his future regarding romance.

“Fellow Daoist, just keep in mind that something as important as marriage is not up for juniors like us to decide.” She said while keeping an open mind.

Unfortunately, she also revealed her helplessness. A noble like her couldn’t decide who to marry. Given the current situation, this seemed to be absolutely the case. In fact, it might not even be up to her sect.

“I don’t think there’s a problem if Xiao Jian is interested, the young noble will take care of it.” Xiao Xuan was ready to drink the celebratory wine at the wedding. She happily joined in: “If the young noble goes there to ask for the engagement, then that will be a match decided by heaven. Hmph, who dares to say no and stop me from participating in the wedding banquet? I’ll destroy him.”

She looked like a cute kitten suddenly displaying its fierce side and raising its claws. Nonetheless, her aura was as intimidating as can be.

The youths thought that she had turned into a primal beast. This caused them to tremble in fear.

“Lady, please spare me...” Jian Ming begged for forgiveness.

Ye Tingrong observed the group again. She thought that Xiao Xuan was just a little girl but this might not be correct.

At this point, another guest entered and became surprised to see everyone.

“Young Noble, Fellow Daoists. You’re here too, Miss Ye?” He came over and greeted Li Qiye, looking a bit awkward as well.

“Why are you here, Scion?” Jian Ming heaved a sigh of relief, thinking that this was enough distraction to save him.

The guest was none other than Paramount Scion. They met again after just a short time.

He bowed toward Li Qiye and then sat down next to Ye Tingrong. He ordered some snacks from Puresword.

“You’re acquaintances, Scion?” She found it strange that he showed so much respect to Li Qiye.

“Yes, the young noble has taught me before.” The scion honestly answered: “I thought that you would be home right now.”

“I need a distraction.” She slightly frowned.

“So you went to Golden Gate too?” Jian Ming asked.

“Yes, I just came from there.” The scion answered.

“I see, your Paramount Gate wants a marriage alliance for you?” Jian Ming winked.

“It wasn’t my idea, our ancestors wanted it.” The scion found it embarrassing.

Chapter 4602: Looming Crisis

“What’s that supposed to mean?” Jian Ming said: “Are you saying that you’re not interested in Miss Ye, that she isn’t worthy of being your companion?”

He then gazed implicatively at the scion and continued: “At, I guess I understand, you are the future lord of Paramount and think there is a disparity between the social status of the involved parties.”

He couldn’t fight back when Li Qiye’s group teased him. It was a different story now and the scion turned red as a result.

“That’s not what I meant at all.” The latter waved his hands repeatedly and denied it.

He hurriedly explained himself: “Miss Ye, you are a beautiful noble but this marriage was decided by the seniors, not myself. It is not my wish but that doesn’t mean that I think lowly of you.”

“I understand and do not mind the comment, Scion.” Ye Tingrong responded.

First, it was true that there was a disparity in status. Golden Gate wasn’t comparable to Paramount Gate. Her sect has only been created recently, relatively. It lacked foundation and resources while solely relying on the founder. On the other hand, Paramount Gate had a deep history with numerous top masters.

She was also introspective and knew that she wasn’t the reason for the marriage requests. This was only because of her ancestor.

The scion heaved a sigh of relief after seeing her being so understanding. However, Jian Ming didn’t let up and smirked at the scion: “Miss Ye is both beautiful and gentle, have you never thought of actually marrying her? Maybe a little anticipation and excitement?”

“It wasn’t my wish.” The honest scion shook his head.

“So you’re saying you just don’t want to marry her?” Jian Ming rubbed his chin while smirking at him.

“No.” The scion hurriedly explained: “The grand dao is long and I’ve only entered the door. I have not prepared sufficiently to have a companion and do not dare to let someone else down. Therefore, I wish to walk alone right now.”

“Not a bad idea.” Li Qiye interjected: “One less shackle will allow you to go farther.”

“I understand.” The scion cupped his fist toward Li Qiye.

“What if you are chosen? What will you do?” Jian Ming asked a hard question.

“Well...” The scion hasn’t thought about it and stole glances at Ye Tingrong.

She became interested in the answer and smiled at him: “Right, if our two sects agree, what will you do, Scion?”

“I...” The scion scratched his head and smiled awkwardly. Nonetheless, he told the truth: “I haven’t thought of this before because I’m only here as another number. Though our sect is here to propose a marriage alliance, it’s mainly because of Three Thousand Dao. We are the wingmen in this case.”

He actually revealed his sect’s goal and Three Thousand Dao’s plan to her. He shook his head and continued: “Logically, the only two real competitors are Three Thousand Dao and True Immortal. The only other candidates are Lion’s Roar or Divine Dragon Valley but I’m not sure whether they want to join.”

Tingrong let out a sigh, once again lamenting her lack of autonomy. After all, her sect might not be able to withstand the pressure from the two behemoths.

Eventually, they must make a choice, whether it be True Immortal or Three Thousand Dao. Both the groom and bride were nothing more than political tools.

“I’ve heard that Lion’s Roar Royal Lord still doesn’t have an engagement.” Jian Ming pondered.

The scion smiled and said: “It’s embarrassing, Miss Ye, but the truth is that I’m just another pawn here. I apologize if I have offended you somehow.”

“I can sympathize.” She responded.

“You might not be interested but I’m sure your sect is interested in the emperor’s recently-obtained item.” Jian Ming only wanted to cause trouble at this point, piercing through the thin veil of pretense.

The scion couldn’t answer and Tingrong’s expression became serious.

Finally, the scion broke the silence and said: “The truth is I don’t know anything, not even the item obtained by the emperor. I didn’t see him when I visited Golden Gate either.”

Having said that, he stared at Tingrong.

She chuckled and shook her head: “I’m afraid that I will disappoint everyone because I don’t know either. I haven’t seen the ancestor.”

“You haven’t seen the ancestor yet?” Jian Ming was surprised to hear this: “Didn’t he come out of Worldbreaker already?”

Everyone saw him escaping from the dynasty that day. He should have returned to the sect already but this didn’t seem to be the case.

She remained straightforward with the group: "He has yet to return, that's why I have no idea what he obtained from Worldbreaker."

The others exchanged glances. Jian Ming and the daoist knew that what he got was a peerless gemstone, something far more precious than any dao lord weapon. Where did he go then?

"He's on the run, not wanting to bring the peerless item back and dragging his sect down." Xiao Xuan didn't hold back.

"That's plausible." The daoist nodded in agreement: "All the other experts and sects desire this item and will come to Golden Gate for it."

"That's why he ran away in order to protect the sect." Jian Ming agreed.

"I see." The scion felt the same way.

"Wealth will arouse the greed of others." Tingrong sighed after hearing this. Although Golden Gate was strong due to their emperor, he alone couldn't fight against the entire world. He had no choice but to run given the circumstances.

"It's useless." Li Qiye shook his head: "A monk can run but the temple can't, unless he doesn't give a damn about his descendants' lives."

Chapter 4603: Solution

Ye Tingrong looked dejected after hearing this. The scion also sighed sentimentally.

The latter was honest but far from a fool. His intelligence matched his cultivation talent. In reality, he already thought of the possibilities and knew about Li Qiye's suggested scenario.

Tingrong had also thought about this but she remained hopeful regarding her ancestor's situation. After all, he was one of the strongest masters in the contemporary and should be able to handle most situations even if the behemoths were involved.

Now, evidence pointed against this since he was gone and incommunicative. This made it rather ominous but at least the situation hasn't deteriorated to the worst possible outcome since the great powers were still giving them face.

Nonetheless, she felt worse after listening to him because it could drop to this level at any moment. All of these sects only wanted the peerless item, not a marriage alliance.

They would not easily give up regardless of her ancestor's whereabouts so now, her entire sect became hostages.

One way for her sect to get through this was to accept an alliance from one of the behemoths, hoping to gain its protection to push others back. Otherwise, they might start threatening her ancestor using the lives of his descendants.

All in all, these marriage proposals were nothing but shams. They only coveted the peerless item but didn't want to rob Golden Gate in a blatant manner.

Unfortunately, she was powerless to do anything. How could she stop Three Thousand Dao or True Immortal?

“What is your sect going to do if Golden Fist Emperor doesn’t show up? Are you going to attack?” Jian Ming didn’t hold back.

“That is not my intention at all.” The scion’s expression soured as he responded: “Remember, I am just a pawn as well. If I can make my own choice, I would not be here right now.”

He then turned towards Ye Tingrong and sincerely said: “Miss Ye, even if I run away, it doesn’t change anything. Just know that I bear no malice toward your sect.”

“It’s not your fault.” She understood.

Though he was the successor of Paramount Gate, his influence was not enough to change the direction of the sect. Above him were ancestors so even if he didn’t wish to scheme against Golden Gate, he must still follow their plan.

“A marriage alliance is inevitable. What will be your sect’s choice?” Jian Ming asked curiously.

Tingrong opened her mouth but swallowed her words instead of answering.

“It’s either Three Thousand Dao or True Immortal unless the other behemoths come too.” The daoist said: “Hmm, maybe Divine Dragon Valley isn’t enough to force those two to back off, it has to be Lion’s Roar.”

“True.” Paramount Scion agreed with this assessment.

Divine Dragon Valley was the weakest of the four. There existed a certain gap between it and the others. Only Lion’s Roar had a chance due to the prestige of the Supreme Monarch.

“Aren’t you on Three Thousand Dao’s side?” Jian Ming teased.

“I’m just saying.” The scion chuckled awkwardly.

Of course, due to their relationship, Paramount Gate had a high possibility of joining Three Thousand Dao when it came down to it.

“Is your sect ready for the worst-case scenario if your emperor is nowhere to be found?” The daoist asked Ye Tingrong.

“Mmm...” Tingrong pondered for a bit before letting out a sigh. The worst-case scenario didn’t look good for them at all. Even if she were to marry into another sect, her fate would be rather pitiful.

“Well, it’s not looking that bad yet. Miss Ye, you should run far away.” The scion suggested with a soft tone.

This wasn’t a bad idea because, at the very least, she would be able to survive.

“I am a member of Golden Gate and a descendant of Golden Fist Emperor. I can’t run away when the sect is facing a crisis.” Tingrong refused strongly.

"I'm sorry." The scion apologized. Despite his suggestion, he didn't think that he would be able to run away either if his sect was in trouble. He would choose to die alongside it as well.

"It's not like there isn't a solution to this." Li Qiye smiled.

"Oh? What is it?" Jian Ming blurted out.

"Go ask Golden City for help. Of course, success is not guaranteed." Li Qiye said.

Tingrong's eyes lit up after hearing this. This was indeed an option.

Golden City was a forgotten behemoth. It was strong enough to fight against True Immortal.

Moreover, both Golden Divine Fist and Golden Fist Emperor came from there. They were influential characters as well.

If Golden City cared about past ties, perhaps it would lend its support.

"Well, our Golden Gate has no ties with Golden City since the ancestor left long ago." She wasn't confident about this potential ally.

Chapter 4604: Engagement Bestowed

Golden Divine Fist was once the lord of Golden. However, he joined Worldbreaker and turned into a fist slave, eventually starting one of the great sects there.

Later on, Golden Fist Emperor also came to Worldbreaker in order to learn the fist dao. He came up with his own and also started another sect. The moment they started their sect, they essentially left Golden City as members. They also didn't use any merit law or technique from Golden so the connection was no longer there.

It seemed that these great geniuses from Golden City were drawn to Worldbreaker for some reason.

Therefore, Golden City was not obligated to help Golden Gate. First, it has been reclusive for so long. Its members rarely showed up in the outside world.

The chance of success for this option was not high. Nonetheless, there was still a sliver of hope. On one hand, Golden Divine Fist was the city lord - truly a prestigious status while his descendant was a top genius. Most importantly, both never betrayed Golden City and merely chose to branch out.

There was no conflict of interest and if the current leaders of Golden cared enough about past sentiments, they might actually help.

"I think if Golden Fist Emperor personally asks for help, the city might come." Jian Ming suggested.

Ye Tingrong nodded in agreement. She didn't have enough clout to ask Golden City since she was only a junior. On the other hand, if her ancestor were to go himself, he could meet the old ancestors there whom he had great ties with in the past.

The chance of success here was up to eighty or nine percent, or so Jian Ming thought.

A while ago, Tingrong was at a loss but due to Li Qiye's advice, there was still a fighting chance.

“Well, there is an even more direct and simple method, getting it done in the blink of an eye.” Li Qiye smiled.

“May I ask what it is?” She asked.

“Accept this brat as your companion and everything will be resolved with your wedding.” Li Qiye pointed at Jian Ming.

“Wedding?” She stared at Jian Ming, confused. She didn’t know why this would be a solution.

“No, Young Noble, this doesn’t sound right.” Jian Ming panicked and waved his hand repeatedly.

“That’s a good idea.” Xiao Xuan became excited. Her eyes flashed brightly as she said: “Brat, do it. If anyone is blind enough to interfere, I’ll beat them up for you.”

She started warming up after saying this, seemingly wanting nothing more than to fight the ancestors from True Immortal and Three Thousand Dao.

“Lady, please, love just doesn’t appear out of thin air.” Jian Ming turned red like a persimmon.

“You’re not satisfied with my arrangement? Why? Do you feel Miss Ye is unworthy or is there another reason? Speak.” Li Qiye said.

The blushing Jian Ming immediately explained himself: “Miss Ye, I don’t think you are unworthy at all, please don’t misunderstand.”

“Look at you now, it doesn’t feel wrong. Don’t try to understand fate, it can be wonderful and abrupt.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Young Noble...” The youth put on a pained expression and asked for mercy.

Tingrong, on the other hand, seemed far calmer. She nodded and said: “This is all happening too quickly, I am not offended at all, Fellow Daoist.”

She then asked for elaboration: “I don’t see why this is a solution though.”

“Our young noble will be your protector then. No one can stop a marriage bestowed by him.” Jian Ming had no choice but to explain.

Having said that, he also added: “But please, don’t get us wrong, we’re not trying to take advantage of the situation.”

“I see...” She stared at Li Qiye again, not spotting anything given her current vision. Would he really be able to protect them from the behemoths?

In her opinion, this was not possible. He alone couldn’t protect Golden Gate from True Immortal and Three Thousand Dao.

“So what if we’re taking advantage of the situation?” Xiao Xuan unhappily said: “If you don’t do it, there’s no hope for this girl. She will either be killed or at best, marry some random from a great power while her sect goes up in flames. If you fancy her, marry her and at least she won’t be a tool since there

are feelings involved. Plus, there is nothing to worry about with the young noble and me taking action. All you two need to do are try your best and make some healthy babies.”

Tingrong was surprised. This little girl spoke as if she was a supreme existence while others were only juniors or worms before her.

“Lady, can you spare me just once?” Jian Ming smiled wryly.

“What’s better for her? Marrying you or marrying someone from True Immortal and Three Thousand Dao?” Xiao Xuan didn’t relent.

“Well...” Jian Ming couldn’t answer.

The daoist elbowed him and smiled: “I can calculate for you and pick an auspicious date for the wedding. Of course, I can also choose an auspicious name for your baby later on.”

“Go away!” Jian Ming angrily shouted.

“It’s not a bad idea.” The scion had finished thinking about it and quietly added. This would be the best outcome for Tingrong if she didn’t hate Jian Ming.

In the other scenario, she wouldn’t know who her future husband would be. Plus, the person might mistreat her given the circumstances since she was just a tool to be used. The worst outcome would be the behemoths blatantly robbing and massacring all of Golden Gate, Tingrong included.

The question for him was - would Li Qiye be able to stop the behemoths? Tingrong wondered the same thing.

Chapter 4605: Five-sun King

“Come on, now is the best time, don’t wait and miss the opportunity. In fact, have the wedding today.” Xiao Xuan stared at the two.

She was even more direct and dropped the engagement ceremony altogether.

Ye Tingrong didn’t expect her to be so direct, removing some of the formalities.

Even if she wanted to marry Jian Ming, there was still a process to follow through since it involved her sect as well - the proposal, the engagement, and then the wedding ceremony. This was not a joke or a matter to be taken lightly.

“No, no, Lady, please don’t scare her, we’re not forcing anyone to do anything.” Jian Ming waved his hands.

“So what, this is a marriage bestowed by the young noble. Miss this chance and there will be nothing like it happening to you again.” Xiao Xuan said.

“Haha...” Jian Ming glanced awkwardly over at Li Qiye.

Even if the young noble wanted to pair them together, Jian Ming wasn’t ready for it. This was his first time experiencing something like this. He had only just met her so to decide right now was illogical. It was an issue affecting his entire life.

Of course, Xiao Xuan didn't care about their feelings. She was only hoping for a fun development, wanting to find opponents. There was no doubt that the ancestors from the behemoths were the best candidates.

Ye Tingrong didn't say anything since she had the same qualms as Jian Ming. She knew nothing about him and his clan. Moreover, her marriage wasn't something she could decide either.

Silence took over the room but it didn't last long. A bit later, loud noises came from outside and attracted everyone's attention.

It resembled the matching of a great legion - neighs and bestial roars. There seemed to be a big shot arriving near the shop.

A majestic power poured down like an endless ocean of the olden days. This power has been washed and polished by time.

"This is...?" The Improper Four exchanged glances, realizing who was coming.

"Who is it? What a show-off." Jian Ming and the daoist did the same. They could tell that this power was both powerful and ancient - a sign of an impressive bloodline.

"Hmm.." Ye Tingrong was moved by the presence of this newcomer.

Li Qiye didn't care at all as he sat there, completely unaffected by the aura.

"Which junior is this?" Xiao Xuan only glanced outside once. Her attention was on pairing Jian Ming and Ye Tingrong together.

Someone finally walked into the store; his presence illuminated the entire room by adding a layer of golden light to everything.

A great man visiting a humble abode was the right phrase to describe this entrance. The oceanic aura became increasingly palpable. Everything else seemed like a grain of salt in comparison. He appeared to be the lord of the myriad dao, demanding submission.

A divinity existed within him, a testament of his ancient and noble bloodline. The beasts and birds would prostrate in his presence.

"Five-sun King." Jian Ming became startled.

"Five-sun King?" Tingrong felt the same way after hearing this title. After all, virtually everyone has heard of him before - a potential candidate for the dao lord position.

She shuddered because this was obviously not a coincidence. She started thinking about the possibilities.

He didn't come alone. Behind him were two gorgeous women. One wore a blue dress, looking pure and unreachable like a lily in the valley.

The other was alluring like an enchantress with a sexy figure. Others couldn't avert their gaze from her curves. This was a ripe fruit inviting others to take a bite.

They were opposite yet still desirable all the same. The contrast only accentuated their attractiveness. Both walked behind the king like two maids, inciting envy and jealousy.

“Snow-realm Princess and Silk Valley Lord. How lucky is he...” Jian Ming recognized both women.

He started fantasizing about their relationship and became jealous. Nonetheless, this was normal due to his status and talent. Only a true dragon among men was deserving of these beauties.

Five-sun King looked around the room. His gaze made others tense up due to his power and reputation. It didn't matter that he was restraining his aura after entering.

However, he was visibly stirred after seeing the Improper Four, clearly recognizing them.

Chapter 4606: Five-sun King's Friendship

The members merely nodded to greet him, not bothering to do anything special.

“These four must be from the ancient clans in the east.” Jian Ming murmured to himself.

Five-sun King then noticed Xiao Xuan. His eyes narrowed and became profound as he attempted to learn her identity.

However, she waved her hand and stopped his gaze instantly, sealing him from noticing anything.

He immediately stopped and didn't pry any further.

“Gentlemen, Miss Ye.” He hid his aura and cupped his fist toward everyone. Nonetheless, his dominating charisma remained.

As a top genius of the young generation, it was impossible for him to lay low and not stand out. Only a few were qualified to be his rivals.

Paramount Scion and Ye Tingrong stood up and returned the gesture toward the famous genius.

“May I ask if what you would like to order?” Puresword came over, looking like a waiter. He didn't seem to be in awe of Five-sun King.

“Anything will do.” The king said politely before heading for Li Qiye.

“We got a show.” The daoist tapped Jian Ming's chest.

Paramount Scion and Tingrong also paid full attention to this development.

“Will he risk it all?” Jian Ming whispered. Due to his information network, he had heard about the death of the king's father.

Therefore, there was an irreconcilable feud between the two. Perhaps the king was here for revenge.

“Fellow Daoist.” Five-sun King slightly bowed toward Li Qiye.

“Sit.” Li Qiye didn't stand up.

The king sat down and stared intensely at Li Qiye, hoping to find what he was searching for. Li Qiye allowed him and sipped another cup of tea.

“Where are you from, Fellow Daoist?” The king asked.

“From where I should be.” Li Qiye nonchalantly commented as if he was just talking to a random passerby on the street.

“Even farther than Sky Border?” The king asked again.

“Farther.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Then you are a guest, I should carry out my responsibility as the host and offer you the utmost hospitality.” The king smiled back.

Ye Tingrong found this astonishing. Five-sun King was both mighty and had limitless potential. Everyone wanted to befriend him but couldn’t due to the disparity in status.

Normally, they would never have a chance to talk to him. In fact, just speaking to him was the greatest honor, let alone being offered this much respect. Not even last-gen experts and ancestors could enjoy this privilege.

In this case, Li Qiye showed no sign of happiness from the preferential treatment. Outsiders would view his attitude as being arrogant and ignorant.

“What kind of hospitality?” Li Qiye asked.

“When you have time, Fellow Daoist, come visit my Five-sun School?” The king said.

“I see, seems like there is some sincerity here.” Li Qiye stroked his chin.

At this point, any outside listeners might yell at Li Qiye for his impudence. Being invited by the king would be the story of a lifetime. The person would brag it to everyone repeatedly but Li Qiye didn’t seem to care.

“We will show you magnificent hospitality.” The king said.

“In what manner?” Li Qiye smiled.

“We will do everything possible to satisfy your needs, Fellow Daoist.” The king went on.

The whole thing was strange since the king was being so cordial to his father’s killer. No one else would do the same given the circumstances. They would have rushed and risked everything to kill Li Qiye while gritting their teeth.

“Something is off about this.” Jian Ming murmured. In his opinion, this invitation wasn’t that simple. This was obviously a treacherous scheme.

“Not necessarily. Maybe his extraordinary patience and toleration are the reasons why many ancient clans in the east support him.” The daoist whispered back.

“True.” Jian Ming said.

In terms of background, Five-sun King was far inferior to True Immortal Young Emperor and Shen Juntian. He was inferior to Tian Feng as well.

After all, Five-sun School stood no chance against Three Thousand Dao or True Immortal.

Nonetheless, he relied on his own power and methods to gain the support of the east. Even a few reclusive clans came out to help him.

Thus, this genius became the de-facto leader of the east. His experiences before reaching this point must have been rich and exceptional.

It required immense self-control to not try and kill his father's killer right in front of him. Perhaps this had nothing to do with having a tolerant and forgiving personality. It was just that he had a goal and this was more important than anything else.

"I have many needs and wants." Li Qiye smiled and said.

"Just say the word and I'll do everything possible to help you out." The king spoke generously.

Chapter 4607: Sworn Brothers?

"I wonder how much you can offer." Li Qiye smiled.

"Wondrous delicacies, supreme treasures, authority, any treasures and beauties, I will do everything to satisfy your demand." Five-sun King spoke with conviction. Each word harmonized with the dao to show sincerity. This was not an empty promise, something that didn't make sense since Li Qiye was his father's killer.

Some might think that he has become insane, promising the best for his enemy.

"He wants to recruit the young noble." Jian Ming understood what the king wanted to do, either entice Li Qiye to join him or vice versa.

"The other four can't match him in this regard." Paramount Scion joined the conversation.

It required both wisdom and incredible self-control. No one else could do the same.

"No wonder why he got the ancient clans' support at such a young age." The daoist added.

Five-sun King's success in the east wasn't only due to his power, talent, and noble bloodline. After all, the ancient clans there had seen plenty of supreme geniuses and masters before. These cultivators were merely transitory and inconsequential in the grand scheme of things.

Therefore, the king showed that he had a way of winning people over with his charisma and charm.

"So that's Five-sun King." Puresword told his group.

They have heard about the king's tales previously but not anything regarding his personality. Today, they thought that he was different from others. This allowed him to be successful.

The other conquerors also had ample support but this was more due to their own sect. Others had no choice but to follow them. The same couldn't be said about Five-sun King.

"This sounds like a recruitment." Li Qiye smiled.

"Fellow Daoist, I wish to team up with you and build an eternal glory." The king put on a serious expression: "You are a dragon among men. The two of us shall be unstoppable."

He directly stated his goal and revealed his high evaluation of Li Qiye.

"Should I feel overwhelmed and blessed for being so loved?" Li Qiye joked.

"Fellow Daoist, the truth is that you are special and will have supreme achievements in the future. Nonetheless, you are alone on your path. Why not team up with me, it is not easy to find a true friend in this life." The king said.

The listeners exchanged glances. It seemed that the king was ready to let go of everything for the sake of success.

"As long as you agree, everything that is mine shall be yours." He continued.

Listeners took a deep breath. This was indeed a tempting offer.

Five-sun School was currently a monstrous power in the east. Of course, its foundation couldn't compare to the behemoths. Nonetheless, due to the king's effort, it has been on a meteoric rise. Plenty of kingdoms and sects served as tributaries.

Moreover, he had absolute authority in Five-sun as well. His words would become the truth. Therefore, Li Qiye would indeed have all the treasures, authority, and beauties if he so desired.

It would be difficult to find a more tempting proposal. Anyone would feel their heart beating faster.

"I'm afraid you will be disappointed." Li Qiye shook his head: "I will not work for anyone since none is qualified."

The king froze for a split second before replying: "If you do not wish to be beneath anyone, then join me as an equal. I wish to be your sworn brother."

This was no longer a recruitment. Five-sun King has shown the highest sincerity. Becoming a sworn brother with him was beyond someone's wildest dream. This was akin to sharing the world together.

Remember, he had a chance of becoming the future dao lord. In the case of success, Li Qiye would stand at the peak as well. Who would be able to refuse?

The ones in the room stared at Li Qiye with bated breath.

Ye Tingrong became emotional after witnessing this shocking development. Who was this man? Why was he worthy of Five-sun King's offer to rule the world together?

As for the Improper Four, they finally understood why Five-sun King was able to garner support from so many ancient clans in such a short time. His method was direct and effective but most importantly, his vision and insight were also exemplary.

Chapter 4608: Not Interested

Being a sworn brother of a dao lord meant limitless potential, perhaps even sharing the world together.

At that point, authority, beauties, merit laws, treasures? All were within reach. Moreover, he would also be under the protection of a dao lord.

Li Qiye continued to sip his tea slowly, not showing any sign of excitement.

“Take a look at yourself in the mirror before asking our young noble to be your sworn brother. You... are not worthy.” Xiao Xuan answered instead while staring at the king with disdain.

Those who didn’t know who she was couldn’t believe what they were hearing. Five-sun King had everything going for him right now. Only a few were qualified to become his sworn brother.

Now, he took the initiative to ask Li Qiye. In the eyes of others, he was the superior performing a favor. They would view it as a blessing bestowed by their ancestors.

Alas, Xiao Xuan claimed that he was not qualified to do so. They would find this utterly ridiculous and ignorant.

For example, Ye Tingrong lacked information on Li Qiye, hence her astonishment. Five-sun King should be the one making this claim, no one else. Some might actually burst out in laughter after hearing Xiao Xuan and point their finger at her, jeering.

Five-sun King’s expression changed as well. This contempt was new to him and worst of all, it came from a little girl.

Nonetheless, he came with sincerity and didn’t become angry. He took a deep breath and asked Li Qiye: “What is your thought on this matter, Fellow Daoist?”

“I’m not interested.” Li Qiye smiled in response: “I do appreciate the kind intent, but please leave.”

The Improper Four exchanged glances, thinking that Li Qiye had a strong will to resist the tempting offer. Or maybe, this offer meant nothing to him. Could the little girl be right?

The king needed a moment to regain his composure: “Fellow Daoist, please think about it. We have plenty of time and can come back to it later.”

“No need for that.” Li Qiye waved his hand dismissively.

His contemptuous tone could be construed as rude but Five-sun King didn’t mind.

“No rush, I’ll await good news from you.” He remained cordial and cupped his fist: “I’ll be taking my leave then.”

He also added before leaving: “You must be tired from extensive traveling, the two ladies here can stay behind to serve you.”

He gestured to the two girls and they bowed toward LI Qiye: “Greetings, Young Noble.”

One of them had an elegant and pleasant voice; the other was enchanting. Five-sun King’s generosity surprised everyone again, delivering two supreme beauties to Li Qiye. Moreover, they came from prestigious backgrounds as well.

The key point was that they were willing to follow Li Qiye. How did he convince them to do so?

“Snow-realm Princess and Silk Valley Lord...” Jian Ming murmured.

It was one thing for them to serve the charismatic Five-sun King - a potential dao lord in the future. After all, dao lords always had plenty of admirers.

Ye Tingrong was astounded after seeing Five-sun King go so far. Moreover, why would these two beauties listen to this ridiculous command without a hint of dissatisfaction?

They were the perfect duo to have as companions as well - one sexy and the other elegant.

“Not interested, return from whence you came, don’t bother me.” Li Qiye smiled and waved his hand again.

The two beauties stared at Five-sun King, awaiting his command. He cupped his fist and said: “I apologize for bothering you today, let’s meet again later.”

As he was walking out, he stopped and asked Ye Tingrong: “Miss Ye, how is Senior Fist Emperor doing?”

“He’s doing well.” She became tense and responded right away. She couldn’t say that she didn’t know where he was because that would be inauspicious.

“I’ll visit the senior another day to pay respect.” The king said.

“It would be an honor to have you as a guest.” Tingrong bowed slightly.

Five-sun King left the store and his legion left with loud fanfare.

Everyone had their own thoughts after this meeting. It was surprising that the king didn’t try to avenge his fallen father.

“Young Noble, why didn’t you keep those two beauties around? It would be so much more pleasant.” Xiao Xuan winked.

“If I need a maid, I would have plenty of fairies lining up.” Li Qiye smiled and took another sip.

Ye Tingrong had a lot to digest after listening to the conversations today. This broadened her horizon.

“What would happen if you had agreed, Young Noble?” Jian Ming asked. Of course he knew that Five-sun King was not qualified but others would have agreed instantly.

“What is his purpose?” Li Qiye answered with a question.

“To conquer the world.” Jian Ming responded.

“What would you do if you were to meet your father’s killer?” Li Qiye asked again.

“I would die trying to kill him, this is an irreconcilable feud.” Jian Ming said.

“A man willing to drop this feud for his own ambition, what do you think about such a person?” Li Qiye smiled.

“Hmm...” Jian Ming couldn’t answer right away.

“Vicious and greedy.” The daoist jumped in.

“His talents are good, the same with his methods. Unfortunately, he does not have the qualities of a dao lord and will not become one.” Li Qiye concluded.

“Well, that’s the end of him.” Jian Ming murmured after hearing this.

Chapter 4609: Puresword

The Improper Four listened and understood why Five-sun King wasn’t recognized by Li Qiye.

One must avenge their father’s death. Moreover, Five-sun King’s father did everything he could for the sake of his son’s future.

Now, the son actually tried to team up with his father’s killer for the sake of his ambition, going as far as wanting to become sworn brothers.

How inhuman was this? “Vicious and greedy” was putting it lightly.

His followers only focused on his good qualities and ignored the other implications, whether purposely or otherwise. In this case, they would praise him as being forgiven and magnanimous instead of being a sociopath.

“This brat is something else though, actually going as far as sacrificing his own women and not avenging his father. He’s merciless to himself and will be merciless to others. That’s why he’s so successful at being a hegemon.” Jian Ming commented.

“But not a dao lord.” The daoist said: “The dao lords are always clear on their stance, whether it be love or hatred. They will pay back a favor owed and dish out revenge when it is deserved.”

“Regardless of that, this brat is capable indeed to become the voice of the east in such a short time.” Though Jian Ming didn’t like Five-sun King, he had to admit that the guy was absolutely charismatic.

“Becoming a hegemon and becoming a dao lord are two different matters.” Li Qiye smiled and said: “The former is fleeting and meaningless in the grand scheme of things while a dao lord is recorded in the historical annals.”

The duo couldn’t disagree with this. There had been plenty of hegemons in the past, being praised as the lords of Eight Desolaces. However, most have been forgotten.

As for dao lords, it didn’t matter what they did. They could be alone or start a sect. They could lay low or exert their authority. Either way, in the long future, their brilliance and tales still wouldn’t be forgotten. This was one of the reasons why so many wanted to become a dao lord.

“Young Noble, among the five conquerors, who do you think is most likely to become a dao lord?” Puresword couldn’t contain his curiosity.

“Oh? Sounds like you want to give it a shot too.” Jian Ming stared at him and said: “Why not join the competition. Henceforth, it will be the six conquerors of Sky Border, not just five.”

Though Jian Ming liked teasing Puresword and the Improper Four, he could tell that Puresword was immensely strong. Though he only saw Puresword in action once and this might not be his real limit, this was rather apparent. The other members were mighty as well.

“Please don’t joke like that.” Puresword smilingly shook his head: “I am only an idle youth with no ambition. How can I become a dao lord? The best I can do is selling wine to get through the days.”

“Your clan has not produced a dao lord for a long time.” Li Qiye smirked.

Puresword shuddered because this once confirmed Li Qiye’s knowledge of his background.

“I do not dare to comment on the seniors’ matter.” Puresword calmed down and responded.

“That doesn’t matter, this is you we are talking about. You can think about becoming a dao lord.” Li Qiye said.

“Well...” Puresword hesitated.

A’han, Xiao Yan, and Woodman stared at him. Among the four, he was certainly the most talented with the most potential. Furthermore, his origin was also the best.

“My cultivation is shallow and my comprehension is slow, I am not qualified.” Puresword shook his head.

“Your Diamond Evil-subduing Fist is only a front to trick others. Your sword art is rather usable.” Li Qiye smiled and said, shocking Puresword.

He only used this first technique against others and rarely met a worthy opponent. Only a selected few knew that his sword mastery was even superior.

Despite him never using it before in public, Li Qiye still knew about it. The other three were shocked as well since they knew this secret. They only saw it a few times and didn’t have a good grasp of its true power.

“It’s just child’s play.” Puresword bowed slightly, not daring to be complacent.

Li Qiye smiled and didn’t dwell on the issue.

“Young Noble, may I ask if our brother has a chance of becoming the next dao lord?” A’han became curious as well.

“I don’t want to since I will not be competitive on this path.” Puresword smiled wryly and shook his head.

Li Qiye stared at him and said: “Go all out and compete, your chance of success is greater than Five-sun King’s.”

“Damn!” Jian Ming’s eyes lit up.

Ye Tingrong and Paramount Scion were astonished as well. They knew nothing about Puresword and his origin.

However, they saw the king’s attitude and knew that the Improper Four came from prestigious backgrounds.

Currently, everyone knew that the five conquerors had the best chance. This wasn’t to say that others were doomed to failure.

When talking about Five-sun King alone, he had a prestigious bloodline and amazing talents. However, Li Qiye said that Puresword had a higher probability of success. This was truly shocking because Puresword was completely unknown.

Nonetheless, they didn't doubt Li Qiye's assessment. It seemed that this youth was indeed qualified to compete for the dao lord position.

"You're too kind, Young Noble." Puresword smiled wryly and said: "A nobody such as myself can't compete with a master like Five-sun King."

"Is that so?" Li Qiye smirked: "Go back home and ask your ancestors, see how many supporters you can pull if you intend on competing for the dao lord position. Let's test your clan's influence."

"Mmm..." Puresword didn't respond.

The others took a deep breath afterward. Li Qiye implied that Puresword could also garner numerous supporters. He must be from a clan with peerless might and foundation.

Paramount Scion thought about the various ancient clans, hoping to find an answer.

"If you wish to compete, we will support you." A'han smiled.

The four of them came from different lineages. Nonetheless, these lineages have been close friends for eras now.

Chapter 4610: Broken Cliff

"Go for it then, Puresword." Jian Ming urged: "We shall help you take down Five-sun King, stomp on True Immortal Young Emperor, capture Shen Juntian, and beat up Tian Feng."

The brat wanted to cause more chaos than anything.

Puresword smiled and shook his head: "How can a firefly compete with the moons? I do appreciate the sentiment."

"Fuck, you overly humble idiot, if you're a firefly, then what the hell are we?" Jian Ming gave him the side-eye.

Puresword only smiled. It looked like he had no ambition to take over the world.

"It's time to leave." Li Qiye didn't bother persuading him and stood up to leave, still seeming to be in a good mood.

Jian Ming and the daoist gave chase. Paramount Scion and Ye Tingrong also wanted to leave.

The latter bowed slightly to the Improper Four despite not knowing their background. Nonetheless, it became obvious that they came from prestigious and ancient lineages.

After leaving the store, they followed Li Qiye's group.

"Why are you following us? Got some ulterior motives?" Jian Ming laughed while staring at Paramount Scion.

“Of course not, I just want to broaden my horizon by following the young noble.” Paramount Scion shook his head and said sincerely.

“Brat, you are very smart, got thick skin too.” Jian Ming said.

“I can’t compare to you, Fellow Daoist.” The scion bowed slightly.

Jian Ming enjoyed the praise and laughed: “Haha, you’re too kind.”

The daoist came closer and whispered: “What the hell are you doing? Don’t you see that the miss is here too, you need to take advantage of this and get closer to her.”

“Shut up with this nonsense.” Jian Ming glared at him.

Despite the remark, his eyes still shifted toward Ye Tingrong.

“We’re heading this way.” Xiao Xuan frowned and sensed something, pointing to the other side of the town.

Li Qiye then talked to the other two: “You two have this much free time?”

“I wish to follow you and learn more, Young Noble.” The scion said, aware that Li Qiye was here for something, and shamelessly asked to tag along.

Ye Tingrong’s face wasn’t as thick. She turned red and said: “I’ve grown up in Sky’s Demise and know the streets like the palm of my hand. I don’t have anything to do right now and wouldn’t mind being a host if it is okay with you.”

“Of course it’s fine.” Jian Ming nodded in agreement: “With Miss Ye’s help, we’ll be saving a lot of time.”

The daoist laughed after hearing Jian Ming’s assistance, prompting the latter to glare at him.

Xiao Xuan took them to the other side of town. This place was abandoned and taken over with weed.

At the initial location, it wasn’t prosperous but there were still people living there. In this case, not a single soul could be seen.

It had tall trees and thickets amidst the broken walls and tiles. Judging by these remnant pieces, there used to be many large buildings here. Not far from here were mountain ranges that have been devastated by an unknown power, either pierced or severed.

It became difficult to imagine the place’s initial appearance; only its grand scale was obvious.

“Should be this place.” Xiao Xuan said without complete confidence.

Li Qiye scanned the area and didn’t notice anything. Of course, this was only temporary.

“Broken Cliff.” Ye Tingrong said.

“Do you know this place well, Miss Ye?” Jian Ming became curious.

She shook her head: “Not a lot, just a thing or two. This is one of the ancient ruins outside of Worldbreaker known as Broken Cliff. People rarely come here.”

“Is there anything special about it?” Jian Ming asked.

She tilted her head and carefully pondered for a bit before answering: “Rumor has it that back in the ancient era, there used to be a great capital here with pavilions floating among the clouds. It was the center of an entire continent, the place of central authority.”

“So a kingdom? I haven’t heard of this before.” Jian Ming said.

“One that is far older than your clan.” The daoist said: “It is a kingdom existing in the legends, its origin is shrouded in mysteries.”

“Go on.” Jian Ming became curious.

The daoist didn’t tease him this time and answered earnestly: “From what I know, the kingdom was started by a colony of a strange race. They were independent from Eight Desolaces and lived on their own continent, reaching a majestic level of prosperity. It might also have had an ancient lineage that regular people referred to as an immortal sect.”

“Wait, this place is next to Worldbreaker, what is this continent you’re talking about?” Paramount Scion looked around; this place was definitely still near Worldbreaker.

“The records are unclear. We do know that the world back then was different from the one we see now. During the great calamity, sects might have had their own dimension. However, the destruction changed everything, even oceans evaporated and divine mountains crumbled. Where we are standing might be an ocean in the past.”

“True.” The scion agreed with this logic. The landscape of the world changed entirely after the great calamity. Current generation might not know the exact details of the calamity, only the result.

“How did such a powerful race disappear?” Jian Ming asked.

“It’s impossible to know now.” The daoist shook his head: “Speculation has it that both the kingdom and the sect couldn’t avoid the calamity, resulting in destruction.”

He paused for a bit before glancing over at Worldbreaker: “A different one mentions the terrifying punch. Waves of fist energies broke through everything as if they were dried branches. A radius of one million miles was obliterated, all living beings were instantly killed.”

“That I am familiar with.” Tingrong said: “There are several ancient ruins in Sky’s Demise. The power of that punch was terrifying and crushed numerous sects.”

“I see, an ancient race became extinct just like that.” Jian Ming rubbed his chin.

“Hard to say.” The daoist replied: “I heard that Sword Ocean Dao Lord might be related to this race. Therefore, extinction might not be their fate.”