

Chapter 571 - Remorselessness of the Demon Heart

The Unraging monk shook his head with a smile. "The human heart is deep and deceptive. Normally, it only shows the tip of the iceberg, and it's bound by common customs and courtesy, making it even more unpredictable. With how cruel and ruthless his attacks were earlier, I don't think they were only to triumph over the opponent anymore. Everyone has a buddha nature within them, but everyone also has a demonic nature within them. You can't deny that, can you, senior brother?"

"I don't deny that, but if his demonic nature truly is so unbearable, why would he be so kind to the cannibalistic little demonfolk?" The Dauntless monk pointed out. Duoge was currently searching for the demon hearts scattered across the square with his head lowered.

Demon hearts were made of something different. They were the only remains not destroyed by Li Qingshan's sword qi.

"Perhaps he has always been suppressing the demonic nature within him."

The Unraging monk said, but even he himself felt it was quite unlikely. If one's demonic nature could be suppressed so easily, then the world would be filled with kind-hearted people. Why would they still need the Demon Suppression Statuary?

Never did they think that Li Qingshan was constantly using the Spirit Turtle's Method of Sea Suppression, a cultivation method even more wondrous and powerful than the Demon Suppression Statuary, to suppress his demonic nature. Otherwise, he would have become a demon a long time ago.

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Xiao An stared at the "Demon Suppression statue" and shook her head before long, giving up on comprehending the Demon Suppression Statuary it contained.

"What, even you can't comprehend this cultivation method?" Li Qingshan asked curiously. He had never seen anything that could stump Xiao An.

Xiao An said, "The statue is a part of the entire Demon Suppression hall. It's called demon suppression and not demon slaying or demon purging, which only demonstrates the creator of this place didn't create the Demon Suppression hall to kill or torture. He had a heart of benevolence."

"The cultivation method it hides should be for the people of the demonic path and the demonfolk imprisoned here so that they can suppress their demonic nature, becoming aware of their errors and turning back from their wrong path. I have no demonic nature within me, so I can't practise it."

Outside the Demon Suppression hall, the Dauntless monk and the Unraging monk exchanged glances. They were both surprised. In a short while, she had seen through the objective of the creator of the Demon Suppression hall, as well as the function of the Demon Suppression Statuary. It was unbelievable.

In the past, any demonic cultivators who were imprisoned in the Demon Suppression hall were powerful figures who had run amok through an entire region. Because of the intense demonic nature in their

hearts, they had the opportunity to comprehend the path of repentance within the Demon Suppression Statuary.

However, neither of them believed what she said about how she had no demonic nature. She was clearly directing it towards them.

“I understand why you’re so cautious now, senior brother.” The Unraging monk shook his head, and his smile vanished for the first time.

With such wisdom at such an age, it would either be a great blessing or a great curse for the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga to have her as a disciple.

However, they did not know that Xiao An was not lying.

Although she possessed unbelievable talent for cultivation and comprehension, there was no so-called “demonic nature” within her as she was almost emotionless and without disposition. Even if she could comprehend it, she could not practise it.

The Path of White Bone and Great Beauty could be regarded as a path that led from buddhism to the demonic. It was the exact opposite to the Demon Suppression Statuary. She never had any demons in her heart to suppress in the first place, while Li Qingshan was different.

It can suppress one’s demonic nature. Can it be used to suppress the ox demon and tiger demon?

Li Qingshan came up with an idea. After reaching the fifth layer of the Ox Demon Transformation, he often had a feeling he was unable to keep it suppressed. Forcing the suppression took him quite the effort, both mentally and physically. If he could learn the Demon Suppression Statuary, would it help out?

And, the level of this cultivation method did not seem low. At least, it was much higher than the Arts of the Boundless Ocean. These bald asses had locked him up in here as a test without a second thought, so if he could learn this cultivation method, at least he would have received something in exchange.

Li Qingshan circled around the “Demon Suppression statue” before turning around, facing the statue with his back. He studied it with his soul sense as he changed his posture, making it exactly the same as the statue.

When he first extended his soul sense into the statue, he did not feel anything special. Taking Xiao An’s advice into account, he tried easing up on the spirit turtle’s suppression of the ox demon and tiger demon.

In that moment, his expression changed. His eyebrows flew up, and his eyes widened. He raised his head and gazed at the empty air, his lips pursed thinly.

The demonic nature of the ox demon was immovable no matter what. The demonic nature of the tiger demon surged with viciousness and violence.

He spread his thickened arms as veins and muscles rippled across his body. He produced a soundless roar from his chest as if he was clashing with an invisible opponent.

Duoge, who happened to be collecting demon hearts and shoving them into his mouths, leapt up in fright and staggered backwards, falling back onto his bottom with his mouth hanging agape. He even forgot to swallow the demon hearts. He stared right at Li Qingshan, experiencing an urge to kneel and worship him.

While Li Qingshan had saved him originally, he did not feel grateful. Gratitude was not an emotion that existed in the hearts of demonfolk. Only “good people” would feel gratitude and an urge to repay it.

After learning Li Qingshan was a human, he feared his strength and sang many “praises”, but that was not what he felt inside. In particular, after Li Qingshan showed him kindness, he felt strange inside. It consolidated his belief that humans were just as weird as they were rumored to be.

But in that moment, Duoge was filled with sincerity, wanting to throw himself on the ground in veneration, just like how monks revered eminent monks who had achieved profound virtue.

The venerable truly is a demon among humans. Even those Demon Generals are nowhere close to him. He’s already so powerful without a demon heart. If he has a demon heart and becomes a demonfolk, wouldn’t he become even greater?!

“What’s this!?” Even with the Dauntless monk and the Unraging monk’s cultivated composure, they were stunned right now. How could he, someone who started off as a mortal, possess such a powerful demonic nature!?

The strength of the demonic nature within Li Qingshan was well beyond what anyone could imagine.

The ox demon’s obstinate perseverance could not even be changed by gods and buddhas, while the tiger demon’s will to fight the world around it was a maddening frenzy.

The demonic nature of demonfolk seemed powerful. They were emotionless, and they ignored all concepts of morals, but that was simply due to the influence of their demon hearts.

So-called demonic nature arising from indoctrinated ideologies and twisted thoughts were as puny as maggots compared to the ox demon and tiger demon. They were essentially the same as the mortals who paid respects to Great Buddha mountain, but instead of believing in the buddha, they believed in the demonic.

True demons ran amok freely, doing whatever they wanted. Once they made up their minds, they would not regret it even if they died multiple times.

This was the “demonic nature” that Li Qingshan possessed. The various desires and killing intent were merely byproducts resulting from the demonic nature. They were unable to shake his conscience.

The Dauntless monk’s face was completely sunken. His fists were clenched firmly within his sleeves. With how heavy his demonic nature was, it was basically unheard of in the world. If he had met this child outside, he basically would have tried to kill him on the spot regardless of the consequences!

He turned towards the Unraging monk. “Junior brother, if he can’t comprehend the Demon Suppression Statuary, we definitely can’t let him leave the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga, no, the Demon Suppression hall.”

The Unraging monk shook his head. "Senior brother, I know you utterly loathe the evil like you have a grudge against it, and you've sworn to purge the world of evil demons for the sake of the buddha. However, even if our chan sect focuses on seeing the true nature, he hasn't committed any sins yet, so how can we punish him because of the demonic nature within him?"

The Dauntless monk frowned. "You want to protect him?"

The Unraging monk avoided the question. He only said, "He has such a heavy demonic nature within him, yet he can keep it all within him without acting on it. That's completely impossible to achieve unless he possesses great willpower. Perhaps he is the most optimal choice for practising the Demon Suppression Statuary, the fated person that the Demon Suppression hall is waiting for."

"That's not necessarily true."

The Dauntless monk said. Going from kindheartedness to wickedness only took a single thought, but realising the errors and mending the ways was anything but easy. There had been so many demonfolk and demonic cultivators in the Demon Suppression hall, yet none of them had ever succeeded with the Demon Suppression Statuary and emerged from the hall.

It was possible to say that the Demon Suppression hall had never achieved the function that its benevolent creator had hoped it might. At the end of the day, it was only a prison, a ground for trials.

"Will he become the groundbreaking first person to practise the Demon Suppression Statuary in the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga?"

Li Qingshan carefully controlled the subtle balance between the spirit turtle and the ox demon and tiger demon, just in case he accidentally released daemon qi. The Dauntless monk did not seem like a softhearted person, but little did he know that just by the demonic nature he had released, the Dauntless monk had already made up his mind about killing him.

At this moment, the Demon Suppression statue began to glow, giving off an unprecedented, dim, golden light. The entire Demon Suppression hall trembled.

It was exactly within this struggle and wavering, this repression and release, that coincided with the will within the Demon Suppression statue.

The Unraging monk's eyes lit up. "That's right, sure enough!" The Dauntless monk's expression eased up slightly.

Li Qingshan locked onto the Demon Suppression statue firmly with his soul sense. He could vaguely sense the existence of something. It seemed like a form of comprehension, yet it was also like a scripture. However, a barrier continued to exist. A while later, the statue dimmed, and Li Qingshan's body loosened.

"Amitābha, it's still ended in failure, hasn't it?"

The Dauntless monk brought his palms together and uttered the buddha's name, but the Unraging monk beside him knew this was the Dauntless monk making up his mind about purging demons.

Li Qingshan asked Xiao An, "What do you think?"

“You don’t really look like it.”

“Really? I also feel like something is lacking.”

The will in Li Qingshan’s heart and the will within the statue did not match at all. Instead, they deviated from one another, which was why he could not obtain the Demon Suppression Statuary within the Demon Suppression statue.

He sank into his thoughts for a while, turning towards the statue in thought.

A powerful demonic nature exists within my heart, but I don’t feel pain, nor do I pray for anyone’s help, much less do I have any interest in repenting and changing my ways to completely destroy this demonic nature. If this demonic nature doesn’t exist, then Li Qingshan will no longer be Li Qingshan.

He bellowed out suddenly, “No matter what you’re hiding, hand it all over!”

The Demon Suppression statue suddenly erupted with unprecedentedly resplendent light as if all the light in the entire Demon Suppression hall had gathered there.

The light reached a limit, and two streaks of golden light shot out of its eyes, landing in Li Qingshan’s eyes. Li Qingshan shuddered as if he had received a heavy strike, staggering a step back. An image suddenly appeared in his head, rapidly revolving about. It was the Demon Suppression statue right before him.

The first form of the Demon Suppression Statuary, Initial Remorse of the Demon Heart.

Although he was born as a demonfolk, he had experienced the taste of kindness and love. He felt remorse over his past actions, so he wanted to break free from the restraint of the demon heart to develop a will of his own.

But gradually, the figure of the demon male turned into Li Qingshan’s figure. His expression was not pained, nor was he praying for anything. There was only pride and resolve. He would not feel remorse over anything he had done in the past.

Remorselessness of the Demon Heart.

Chapter 572 - Establishment of the Demon Heart

After producing the two beams of light, the Demon Suppression statue rapidly dimmed, and Li Qingshan stood before the statue silently for another long while. Only after becoming completely well-versed with the first form of the Demon Suppression Statuary did he open his eyes. He was slightly intrigued.

Although he had guessed that the cultivation method hidden within the statue had to be different from normal, he had never expected the Demon Suppression Statuary to be so wondrous, and it did not conflict with the Arts of the Boundless Ocean.

The Demon Suppression Statuary could also be regarded as a cultivation method for the body. It could drastically strengthen his physique. However, the method of practising it was completely unheard of. It actually utilised the demonic nature within him, converting it into his own strength through the constant suppression and struggle.

In other words, if demonic cultivators practised the Demon Suppression Statuary, they did not have to abandon their original cultivation method. It would still serve as the foundation of their cultivation, but an additional method of cultivation would be layered on top of that, essentially doubling their might. There was even the chance for them to obtain great strength that surpassed their current realm of cultivation.

Simply that aspect alone made the cultivation method very rare. The Nine Transformations of the Demonic and Divine that Li Qingshan practised possessed a similar function.

However, not only was learning this cultivation method extremely difficult, but practising it was layered with difficulties too. Some comprehension on the spot definitely would not be enough.

During the cultivation process, if the demonic nature was too weak, then it could easily be completely suppressed, making it impossible to learn the remaining part of the cultivation method and thus being limited to the third or fourth layer of the Demon Suppression Statuary at most.

When regular wicked people repented, they would become regular kind-hearted people at most. Only when people of great wickedness and evil repented and changed their ways could they achieve great benevolence and virtue. In other words, for those with insufficient demonic nature, they would not be able to unleash the full power of the cultivation method even if they managed to comprehend it.

But if their demonic nature was too powerful and unable to be suppressed, they would suffer from qi deviation and basically blow up on the spot. No demonic cultivator would continue to commit evil with it after practising the Demon Suppression Statuary. Once their cultivation failed, only death awaited them.

It was possible to imagine that basically no one could reach the ninth layer with the Demon Suppression Statuary; this cultivation process was no different from walking on a tightrope.

Li Qingshan clenched his fist. His lips curled into a smile.

This cultivation method is basically made specially for me. I definitely have enough demonic nature, and it will grow stronger as I cultivate. I virtually have an endless amount of the most important resource for practising the Demon Suppression Statuary already, and with the Spirit Turtle's Method of Sea Suppression, there's absolutely no danger of me suffering from qi deviation.

Whether it was the "Initial Remorse of the Demon Heart" or the "Remorselessness of the Demon Heart", he needed a demon heart before all that. The first statue of the Demon Suppression Statuary also contained the method to condense a demon heart.

Li Qingshan remembered the things Duoge had been eating. When he considered how he would be condensing one of those in his body, he felt rather disgusted, but for the sake of cultivation, he could not care so much anymore.

He immediately crossed his legs and sat down, gathering his demonic nature to condense a "Demon Heart of Remorselessness".

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"What do you think, senior brother?"

The Unraging monk stared at Li Qingshan. His eyes shone brightly as a smile oozed out of his mouth, just like a smiling buddha. Only at that moment did he demonstrate the great power on par with Monk Kings.

“Amitābha. It’s all up to him now.”

The Dauntless monk brought his palms together, closed his eyes, and uttered the buddha’s name. He did not practise the Demon Suppression Statuary, but he did understand how parts of it worked. He knew that upon practising this cultivation method, it was equivalent to becoming wrapped in invisible chains. All they could do was constantly suppress their demon heart and demonic nature and never deviate from the righteous path, or what awaited them would be destruction.

The thoughtful and benevolent senior who created the Demon Suppression hall was simply amazing. However, having received a successor like him after several millennia, perhaps Li Qingshan truly did have a destiny with the buddha.

The Unraging monk then asked, “If I were to accept him as my disciple, would you allow that, senior brother?”

“If he were willing to join the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga, then there was no need for him to pay a visit to the Demon Suppression hall in the first place.”

The Dauntless monk was basically implying he recognised Li Qingshan now.

Reaching mid Foundation Establishment in his twenties already proved his talent, and he had comprehended the Demon Suppression Statuary that no one had managed to comprehend for several thousand years. That was a destiny with the buddha. He would definitely become someone extraordinary in the future.

And, in comparison, the Dauntless monk was instead less worried about Li Qingshan than Xiao An. Although Li Qingshan had claimed he had a special liking towards “conflict and sins”, he was clearly a person who drew a distinct line between black and white. And, bound by the Demon Suppression Statuary, there was even less of a reason to worry he would do anything detrimental to the monastery.

The Unraging monk smiled. “But he’s practising the true secret cultivation method of our monastery right now. Even if he doesn’t want to join the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga, senior brother probably won’t permit it.”

The Dauntless monk thought silently for a while. “Do you really want to accept him as your disciple?”

“There’s always room to change my mind. Let’s keep watching for now!”

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Li Qingshan practised the Demon Suppression Statuary as he gradually released the spirit turtle’s suppression, allowing the ox demon and tiger demon to loosen up. Extremely heavy demonic nature gathered in his chest without dispersing.

Demonic nature had always been an invisible will that could only be sensed. However, under the function of the Demon Suppression Statuary, it was converted into a visible aura that sprayed out.

Li Qingshan was wrapped in a dark-red aura. It surged about, turning into various hideous faces, filled with greed, wrath, ignorance, fury, and hatred. At a closer glance, they all resembled Li Qingshan, but in contrast, Li Qingshan sat like an old monk in meditation with his face sunken.

The demon qi was like thick smoke, rising right up to the ceiling of the Demon Suppression hall. Cries, roars, and sounds of cold slaughter could be vaguely made out as it grew louder and louder. It was like a clash between armies thousand strong.

Duoge curled up on the ground firmly, utterly afraid to move. He constantly muttered, "Please calm down, venerable. Please calm down."

Li Qingshan refused to let the ox demon and tiger demon unleash their demonic nature, just in case the Demon Suppression Statuary was unable to keep them suppressed, giving him away.

As a result, with a thought, the surging demon qi began to spin. It wormed into the top of Li Qingshan's head like a tornado, all vanishing in the blink of an eye.

Li Qingshan's eyes shone with a dark-red light. His chest bulged as the surging demon qi gathered towards a single point.

There was a great rumble in his head, and the demon qi vanished.

Li Qingshan could not help but stand up. He gathered his focus and gazed into his body, discovering that a dark-red crystal had appeared in his brain. It had many faces, shaped like a rhombus.

Hmm? This is the demon heart, but it seems rather different from the ones that Duoge had been eating. It resembles a buddhist ?arīra.

He had no idea that only demon hearts from the weakest demonfolk would look like that, foul and hideous in appearance. As for powerful demonfolk, their demon hearts were all condensed like rocks.

It was extremely rare even among the Demon race for a demon heart to become such a clear and sharp crystal. Most of them belonged to powerful members of the Demon race with great willpower. Li Qingshan could be regarded as a supreme genius among the Demon race for possessing a demon heart like this while at his level of strength.

However, as long as he possessed a demon heart, he could use the various techniques from the Demon Suppression Statuary. The way the Demon Suppression Statuary defeated its opponents was far too interesting. Li Qingshan was eager to try it out.

The Demon Suppression hall had a total of nine floors, which was equivalent to a Demon Suppression statue on each storey. Upon assembling the nine, that would be the complete Demon Suppression Statuary.

"Duoge, how do we enter the next floor?"

Before Li Qingshan had even finished, the pedestal below the Demon Suppression statue let out a great flash, and a door appeared. A few frantic figures rushed into the chamber. When they saw Li Qingshan in the way, they yelled out, "Get out of my way!"

This was the highest floor of the Demon Suppression hall. Those powerful Demon Generals were unable to come up here, and they were powerful demonfolk close to Demon General. With only Li Qingshan blocking their path, they obviously did not take him seriously.

Li Qingshan licked his lips. His eyes immediately became dark red, reflecting the figures of the demonfolk.

Demon suppression!

Spurt! Spurt! Spurt! Spurt! The demonfolk stiffened. As if an invisible hand had crushed down on them, they were reduced to piles of flesh.

Duoge's mouth hung agape from surprise. He had no idea what had just happened.

The Demon Suppression Statuary could suppress more than the demonic nature in his heart; it could also suppress the demonic nature of others.

This method of attack was extremely special. Not only was its power relative to the strength of Li Qingshan's demonic nature, but it was also relative to the opponent's demonic nature as well. The stronger their demonic nature was, the more powerful it would be.

If this move was used on an infant, it would not even be able to touch a single hair. However, it possessed overwhelming power when used on these regular demonfolk.

Originally, he dared not use his daemon abilities in the Demon Suppression hall, which greatly limited his strength. But now that he possessed the Demon Suppression Statuary, he had something perfect for subduing these demonfolk.

"Let's go!"

Li Qingshan made his way towards the gaping door.

Duoge faltered and said to Li Qingshan, "Venerable, it's best if you hide your woman! There are a lot of very powerful Demon Generals down there."

Because Xiao An had remained on the sidelines the entire time, Duoge thought she was merely Li Qingshan's woman. With the great strength that Li Qingshan had demonstrated, he would not be in any danger even if he ventured to the next floor. However, navigating around among demonfolk with a woman like her was basically walking into a pack of wolves with fresh meat. They would definitely become swarmed.

"My woman?" Taken aback, Li Qingshan rubbed Xiao An's head and laughed. "She's not my woman."

Xiao An lowered her head and dodged Li Qingshan's hand. Her lips pouted slightly as she became unhappy.

Even little Duoge who had no concept of relationships between men and women was dumbfounded. Li Qingshan was no different. It was extremely rare for her to display an expression like that. Li Qingshan extended his hand around her shoulder and smiled.

"I'm her man, can't you tell?"

“Huh?”

“The bruisers obviously walk at the front. She hasn’t fought because there hasn’t been any opponents worth her time.”

Li Qingshan said. If he did not possess the Demon Suppression Statuary and was unable to use his powers as a daemon, Xiao An was indeed much more powerful than him. However, against these demonfolk, it would prove nothing even if she fought. She had to kill some stronger people down below.

Unbeknownst to him, his actions of casually hugging and touching the genius disciple of the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga had already greatly displeased the abbot of the monastery, the Dauntless monk. He could not help but snort coldly, tempted to pull him out of there right now and lop off his hand.

Chapter 573 - Complete Demonification

The Unraging monk laughed aloud. “Both of them have a destiny with the buddha, and they’ve both joined our Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga. Fate has basically bound them together. They’re a match made in heaven. It won’t be easy for you to separate them, senior brother.”

“You need to keep a proper eye over your disciple.”

Although the Dauntless monk was displeased, he instead relaxed slightly inside. Xiao An’s behaviour all along had been too perfect. One was unable to find any flaw at all, which instead brought unease.

Now that she behaved like a regular girl, she seemed much more normal. These feelings between a man and a woman could be eliminated with gradual guidance.

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Li Qingshan walked towards the open door and suddenly asked, “Duoge, don’t you like women?”

Duoge said, “I’m still young, so I don’t like women. Otherwise, even I don’t know what I’ll do. I can only control myself once I become very strong.”

“Yeah. You need to learn how to control yourself. You can’t let your demon heart twist your conscience.”

Duoge nodded blankly and murmured the word “conscience”. If an eminent monk of buddhism had tried to persuade him to do that, he might not have necessarily accepted it, but since even the venerable had said that, it could not be wrong.

Li Qingshan stepped into the doorway, and his surroundings twisted as if he had been sucked into a vortex. When he returned to his senses, he had already appeared in a golden room, similar to the prison on the upper floor. However, when he raised his head and looked around, he noticed the ceiling was even higher up now.

It only made him more certain about the impressive origins of the Demon Suppression hall. The height of these two floors alone had already exceeded what Great Buddha mountain could hide. If this were to continue, then the height and area of the Demon Suppression hall would probably even exceed Great Buddha mountain and the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga.

He waited for a while in the prison, but he did not see Xiao An or Duoge appear.

“Oh no, I didn’t expect we’d be teleported randomly and not to the square on the lower floor. I forgot to hold Xiao An’s hand. But with Xiao An’s strength, she shouldn’t be in any danger. I only need to look around for her, that’s all.”

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Watching Li Qingshan and Xiao An pass through the door first, Duoge picked up a few scattered demon hearts on the ground and shoved them into his mouth, but he began to hesitate inside.

The demonfolk on the next floor would definitely be more powerful than the ones on this floor. If he ventured down with his strength, safety was not guaranteed at all. And, after eating these demon hearts, he could feel his body surging with vigour. His strength had increased drastically, and he no longer faced much danger on this floor. It was a good opportunity for him to escape from them.

As the demon hearts entered his body, they were like droplets of water, merging with his own demon heart, which thumped vigorously. An eerie smile that completely contrasted against his age appeared on his face.

“I can obtain even more demon hearts and become even stronger if I follow them. It’ll be worth it to take some risk.”

Before he walked through the door, Duoge raised his head and glanced at the towering Demon Suppression statue again. He was rather confused. He’s clearly not injured, so why is he in so much pain?

He became somewhat lost. He recalled how he had also been in pain when he was almost eaten earlier. His body was not all that ached. He felt pain somewhere else that he was unable to locate, somewhere far, far away.

He subconsciously rubbed his chest. His heart thumped loudly.

Was that his conscience?

To demonfolk, as long as their demon hearts were not destroyed, they would not die even if their hearts were pierced, so they would often forget about its existence.

He heard that as long as he understood the secrets in the statue, he could go home. Go home? He shook his head. His mother had already been eaten. There was no such thing as home anymore.

Suddenly, he pressed against his chest. The strange sensation appeared again. His nose tingled and burned slightly.

His small, dark face scrunched up into a ball. He hated this feeling!

Fortunately, another voice rang out in his heart at this moment. “Quick, follow them, or there will be no more demon hearts to eat. Such a great opportunity rarely appears. You have to make good use of them!”

He let out a breath, and the strange feeling finally vanished. However, when he stepped through the door, the image of the Demon Suppression statue was firmly embedded in his mind. The pair of pained eyes stared right at him.

The moment Duoge touched the ground, he felt his body grow heavy, having been pressed firmly against the ground.

“Look at what I’ve caught. Heh, it’s a small one. Seems like he came down from above. How brave. He’s just enough for a meal for me.”

A fierce-looking fatty pinned Duoge to the ground with one foot. He carried a bloody butcher’s blade in one hand as he showed off to his companion on the side, waving the blade around Duoge. As he laughed aloud, he revealed his mouth full of sharp teeth.

“Venerable, venerable! Save me!”

Duoge cried out in fright, but no one paid any attention to his calls. That was merely the howls of food.

“What enough for a meal for you? Those who see it get a share as well. Cut him right down the middle. We can have half each!”

A demonfolk tall and thin like a bamboo pole stood beside the fat demonfolk. His arms were so abnormally long that they almost touched the ground. He looked like a gibbon. He grabbed one of Duoge’s arms as he made a ruckus unhappily.

“Let go! I caught him, so why should I give you half? I’ll give you an arm at most to have a taste.”

“An arm? Quit dreaming. No, all I want is half!”

The fat demonfolk pinned Duoge to the ground firmly, while the thin demonfolk extended his other hand and grabbed Duoge’s other arm, tugging him hard and refusing to let go.

Duoge felt like his body was about to be ripped apart and let out a painful wail.

Swish! There was a flash of a blade and blood spattered.

The thin demonfolk staggered backwards. His abnormally long arms had been cut in half. He was filled with surprise and anger. “How dare you...”

The fat demonfolk lifted the butcher’s blade and pointed it at him. “Since you refuse, I’ll eat you too then.”

“Let’s see who’s eating who!”

The thin demonfolk’s waist suddenly elongated, lunging towards the fat demonfolk like a snake. Long tentacles grew from the severed stump of his arms, wrapping around the fat demonfolk’s neck.

Duoge’s body crackled. Who knew how many bones in his body had been crushed. He was in great agony.

However, his body became unbearably hot as his demon heart thumped heavily like a drum.

Duoge had devoured several demon hearts all at once. The demonic power in each one was several times greater than what he possessed, so it should have erupted a long time ago. However, he had been right next to the Demon Suppression statue earlier, which constantly gave off the power to suppress demons. Now that he had left the Demon Suppression statue's side, this power erupted immediately.

And, because he was too young, he did not understand the risks that came with recklessly eating demon hearts.

Foul demon qi surged out, wrapping around his body. His small, skinny hands completely turned into pitch-black claws, scraping around the golden ground and producing ear-piercing screeches, sending sparks flying.

Bone spikes erupted from his body, extending out of his joints. His eyes completely turned into a bright violet as he bellowed, "I'm going to eat you!" In the end, the bellow completely became a wild's beast's roar as he put up a fierce struggle.

"He has completely demonified! Kill him quick!" The fat demonfolk experienced a violent force of resistance beneath his foot. Even with his strength, he struggled to keep it from breaking free.

The thin demonfolk cried out, "How can he possess such power!?"

Demonification was the most basic power of demonfolk. Once they used it, their strength would multiply.

However, demonfolk focused on becoming one with the demonic nature. If the power of their demon hearts was too great, and they were unable to keep it under control, it would take over their bodies. They would lose all rationality and become violent, wild beasts, completely demonifying.

Even vicious demonfolk never hoped to end up like that, which was why they were extremely careful when they devoured demon hearts. Normally, eating the demon hearts of demonfolk weaker than them would not have any effect. It would only make their demon qi impure. However, while devouring the demon hearts of powerful demonfolk could increase their strength, it was very easy for them to lose control and completely demonify.

The butcher's blade was swung viciously towards Duoge's neck. With a clank, it missed and struck the ground.

Duoge pulled himself out from under the foot, lunging towards the fat demonfolk. With a spurt, he dove into his great big belly. The fat demonfolk seemed heavily pregnant, except a hand extended from here and a leg burst out from there.

The thin demonfolk waved his tentacles around with no idea what to do. The fat demonfolk's face was filled with malice. He lifted the butcher's blade and stabbed it into his own body, plunging right through him. In a short while, he stabbed himself seven or eight times. Blood splattered and covered the walls and ground. It was an extremely bloody sight to behold.

With a clatter, the butcher's blade fell to the ground. The fat demonfolk's chest bulged, and it erupted with a bang.

Duoge burst out of his body with a demon heart in his mouth. His body was riddled with horrific slashes. Standing on four legs, he was like a vicious, little beast. He chewed up the demon heart messily and swallowed it. His wounds began to recover at a visible rate.

Another three bone spikes grew from his head like horns; his body had swelled up as well. His mouth stretched from ear to ear, revealing a row of razor-sharp teeth.

He had completely lost his human shape. Swiveling his head, his violet eyes locked onto the thin demonfolk and he lunged over. The thin demonfolk turned around to run, but it was already too late. Duoge threw him onto the ground.

With a crack, Duoge's mouth opened to an unbelievable angle before closing together violently. A semicircular chunk vanished from the thin demonfolk's shoulder. At the same time, Duoge swung his claws about and became covered in blood spatter.

The tentacles coiled around him loosened. Duoge abandoned the corpse and leapt over to one side. After eating the two demon hearts, his body had become even larger. His small, skinny body had now become as sturdy and agile as a panther's, and he was several times larger than a panther. He was covered in sharp spikes, which made him seem extremely hideous.

Lowering his head and sniffing the ground, he turned around and leapt onto a wall, running off into the corridor.

"The little demonfolk has become a demonic beast. He can't turn back anymore." The Unraging monk sighed gently. During the century of guarding the Demon Suppression hall, who knew how many times he had seen similar events already.

"Are you sympathising with demonfolk, junior brother? He might be young, but his demonic nature is deeply rooted. They only have themselves to blame for all of this. They can't blame anyone else," the Dauntless monk said coldly.

"You're right, junior brother. Let's check on your precious disciple instead. Her situation doesn't seem too great!"

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When Li Qingshan stepped through the door, Xiao An sensed something and extended her hand, wanting to grab him, but she was too late. Her surroundings dimmed and brightened, but when she looked around, she could not see even a trace of Li Qingshan anymore. She thought to herself, Did we end up separating?

She was standing in a relatively large cell, equivalent to a spacious hall. It was beautifully decorated just like everywhere else. Several dozen demonfolk either sat or stood around, with a few females among them.

This was probably a nest of demonfolk, and as long as a community existed, there would be a leader.

On the eastern side of the hall, a demonfolk with a head of tumours sat on a platform constructed from white bone. He radiated with a powerful aura as several female demonfolk sat around him.

Clearly, he was the master of this nest, the leader of the demonfolk here, a powerful Demon General.

The moment he saw Xiao An, the Demon General's eyes shone with undisguised, sunken light. He pushed aside the demonfolk around him and walked down from the platform.

Chapter 574 - The Wisdom King's Glare

The Dauntless monk became cautious. The world that demonfolk lived in was filled with brutality and slaughter. The cultivation of Demon Generals was only equivalent to Foundation Establishment, but they were much stronger than Foundation Establishment cultivators in battle.

Under the control of their demon hearts, they possessed very few vital points on their bodies. Even disciples of the school of the Military who practised both qi and the body paled in comparison. The inner courtyard disciples of the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga would often suffer against them during their trials. As a matter of fact, some of them had even been slain in the past from a moment of carelessness.

He thought, One Will possesses extraordinary talent and a great understanding of the buddhist dharma, but she's still young after all. She might not necessarily be this Demon General's opponent.

Within the Demon Suppression Hall, even a Monk King like the Dauntless monk was bound by its rules. He was forced to descend floor by floor too. If Xiao An encountered any danger, he was afraid he could not rescue her in time.

However, life-threatening danger like this provided the best opportunity to observe a person's disposition. Whether they were courageous or cowardly, calm or fear-stricken, none of their emotions could be hidden.

As a result, he observed patiently. "One Will, don't leave me disappointed."

.....

"Did you come down from above?" the demonfolk extended his forked tongue and licked around his face as he asked with ill intention.

"I didn't think the humans would have such a beautiful woman." A demonfolk drooled.

"Hmph, look at how soft and tender her flesh is. She must taste nice." The female demonfolk on the throne of white bone snorted coldly, filled with envy.

"That'll be quite a pity. We're obviously going to eat her once we've had enough fun! Hahaha!"

There was lust, envy, and evil snickers. Xiao An's expression remained as blank as ever as she was surrounded by the leering demons. She gazed ahead hollowly with her eyes, ignoring everything. She turned around and made her way towards the exit, which made the demons even more complacent.

"You want to leave?" An extremely tall and large demonfolk blocked Xiao An's way like a wall. Xiao An's footsteps did not slow down at all. The moment she collided with the demonfolk, there was a flash of golden light, and a bloody door opened in this "wall".

The huge demonfolk widened his eyes, lowering his head and gazing at the gaping hole in his body in disbelief. A gleam of light flashed through the eyes of the Demon General, but before he could even do anything, Xiao An took out an object without even looking back and lifted it high into the air. It was

shaped like a wheel above and like a stand below, glistening with golden light. It was the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare that the Annihilum Light Chan Master had given her.

The closed eye in the centre of the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare suddenly opened, emitting a beam of golden light that pierced the Demon General's chest.

The Unraging monk laughed. "So Annihilum Light already gave the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare to her. You don't have to worry then, senior brother."

As a purely-offensive arcane artifact, the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare possessed extremely great destructive power. The golden light it had emitted could basically pierce through everything.

The Dauntless monk shook his head. "If she becomes careless because of this, it won't do her any good."

The Demon General lowered his head in some surprise as if he had never expected her to possess such a powerful weapon. He snickered inside, Do you really think you can kill me like this? I've seen plenty of foolish monks like that.

Right when he was about to lunge over and catch her off-guard, the beam of golden light suddenly separated, multiplied from one to ten, then to one hundred. At the same time, the light spun rapidly, cutting through the Demon General's body like it was paper. It revolved around in the centre for a while before dispersing.

"You..."

The Demon General took another step forward before collapsing completely and falling apart as a pile of flesh. Some of it continued to writhe, but no matter how great his life force was, he was unable to assemble himself.

The other demonfolk were all taken aback. Their faces were still frozen with greed and lustful smiles before plopping onto the ground as pieces.

The nest of demonfolk immediately fell silent, without a single trace of life. Blood flowed, and the sanguine smell filled the surroundings.

Xiao An's steps had not become flustered at all. The throne assembled from white bones behind her collapsed loudly.

The Dauntless monk was mildly taken aback, but it was not by the power that Xiao An had demonstrated. Instead, he was surprised over how she could actually use the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare to such a level!

With her cultivation, unleashing the full power of the arcane artifact was already very difficult, yet she easily managed to split one beam into a hundred, and every single beam was so accurate and effective.

The Unraging monk sighed. "With that move alone, there are no demonfolk on the second floor of the Demon Suppression hall that can touch her."

Xiao An arrived in the corridor. There were seven paths that extended off in different directions.

It was completely impossible to find one's bearings in the Demon Suppression hall. The concept behind its design was not for its prisoners to find their direction easier either. Sometimes, even if they chose the correct direction, it was very likely for the path to come to a dead end. Without any directions, it was truly a maze.

However, Xiao An simply glanced around and chose the correct path leading to the statue room. Her right foot halted, and she whistled off into the air.

Although the structure of the first and second floors were completely different, she had already grasped their pattern. Her sharp deductions and reasoning left the two monks gasping in admiration.

Soon after Xiao An had left, a nimble, black figure arrived in the hall. Having completely demonified, Duoge was attracted by the heavy smell of blood, so he found his way over.

His body had become even larger as bone spikes extended from all over him. He threw himself onto the segmented Demon General first, extending his long, red tongue that curled across the ground. He swept up the fragmented flesh into his mouth and swallowed it all.

Afterwards, he lunged towards the remains of the other demonfolk. In the blink of an eye, he had cleaned out the demonfolk nest, which obviously included several dozen demon hearts.

His black demon qi grew even thicker, coiling around his body. With the sound of stretching bones, his body swelled and grew larger once again. The demon heart in his body had become extremely large, thumping like a great drum. Suddenly, he crossed a boundary and raised his head, letting out a roar.

Boom!

With a clap of thunder, a bolt of lightning pierced through space and struck Duoge.

Electricity crackled as the golden hall trembled gently.

The Unraging monk said, "The little demonfolk is undergoing the tribulation. He's quite fortunate."

The Dauntless monk said, "He'll die from madness in the end anyway, so how can you call that fortunate?"

"Heavenly tribulations" were the supreme laws of the world and an invisible examiner. They were present everywhere, and they tested all creatures that wanted to escape mortality and obtain eternal life. Whether it were gods, demons, humans, or daemons, no one could escape its judgement.

Lightning writhed like dragons and snakes, coiling around Duoge's body and punching holes through him. Duoge let out a violent, painful roar as his demon qi immediately weakened.

So painful!

Under the violent lashing of lightning, a sliver of clarity appeared in Duoge's head. The Demon Suppression statue appeared in his mind again, and its painful posture seemed to align with his current situation.

Deep within the corridors, Xiao An stopped and glanced back before stepping over a pile of flesh and continuing on her way.

“What is this sound? It’s thunder. There’s obviously no thunder here. Is someone undergoing a tribulation?”

Li Qingshan listened closely before turning around and facing the male demonfolk before him. “When demonfolk undergo the heavenly tribulation, they become Demon Generals like you, right?”

“Which race’s Demon General are you? Why have I never seen you before?”

The Demon General carried two blades on his waist and another two on his back as he studied Li Qingshan cautiously.

“I never answer questions from corpses.”

After replying with this classical line, Li Qingshan became like a child who had just been given a new toy. He raised his hand in great interest and enveloped the Demon General with his fingers. With this move alone, he had already crushed over a hundred demonfolk throughout his journey here.

The feeling was truly similar to crushing ants during his youth, except the effect was much more satisfying. Standing right before him was an oversized ant, the type that could bring him exceptional pleasure when he crushed him.

The Unraging monk asked in confusion, “Why does this kid’s demonic nature seem to have strengthened after practising the Demon Suppression Statuary?”

When it came to things like killing intent and malice, Li Qingshan was much more powerful than these demonfolk. Normally, he kept it under control and refused to unleash it. Now that an opportunity had presented itself to him, he might as well just do what he wanted. What was wrong with using the demonic path against demonfolk?

“What did you do?” The Demon General’s expression changed. He clutched his chest, taking a step back. He felt like a boulder was weighing on his body, and the aura within him was being stretched and pulled apart.

“Don’t make me repeat myself,” Li Qingshan said impatiently before pulling back his hand and murmuring to himself, “Looks like the effect on Demon Generals is limited.”

“Why? Even if you kill me, it won’t bring you any benefits.”

Wave Treading Form!

Li Qingshan stopped blabbering. Waves rose up beneath his feet as his fingers curved like the claws of a tiger, reaching over towards the Demon General’s head.

The Demon General let out a furious roar and another two arms extended out from his back, drawing the four blades and swinging them in a flurry.

Tsunami Form!

Li Qingshan shifted his hands from claws to open palms. Surging spiritual qi turned into a colossal tsunami, filling the wide corridor and slamming against the flurry of blades.

The flurry and tsunami vanished at the same time. Li Qingshan's palm pressed against the Demon General's chest gently, no longer possessing any power. With the four-armed Demon General's powerful body, he had not even sustained a scratch.

However, the four-armed Demon General's flesh began to surge, rising and falling and fluctuating. In the end, he exploded with a thump.

"Taste my fist of justice!"

Li Qingshan sniggered. The Demon Suppression Statuary sure was interesting. Right now, he was completely the embodiment of justice. He did not have to worry about what was right or wrong at all. He only had to throw a punch over. If you're a good person, you'd obviously be fine, but you can go die if you're a bad person!

Li Qingshan continued on his way towards the second Demon Suppression statue. There should be even more and stronger Demon Generals there!

He did not have Xiao An's level of judgement, but after learning the first form of the Demon Suppression Statuary, it had suppressed the ox demon and tiger demon to a certain degree. As such, the spirit turtle's predictive ability had recovered by a lot. With a clear destination in mind, finding the correct path was no issue.

A while later, Li Qingshan pushed through the gilded doors rather eagerly, only to be mildly surprised. He sighed with a smile. "Sure enough, you're still faster!"

Xiao An currently stood before the second Demon Suppression statue as she wielded the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare. Her surroundings were strewn with remains.

Li Qingshan arrived beside Xiao An and asked, "Have you seen Duoge?"

"Perhaps he's undergoing the tribulation."

"Don't tell me the thunder earlier was from him!?"

In the golden hall, Duoge laid on the ground. Most of his body had become charred black, but his chest rose and fell, still breathing.

The tumour-like demon heart in his body had become extremely small and firm like a rock. It constantly emitted demon qi. The charred black flaked off his body piece by piece as his wounds slowly recovered. Suddenly, he leapt to his feet, becoming ten times more nimble than before. He had become a Demon General.

Chapter 575 - The Chains of Demon Suppression

Temporarily disregarding everything else, Li Qingshan directed his attention to the second Demon Suppression statue.

The demon male knelt on one knee with his back hunched over. His face became vicious, already clearly demonstrating the special characteristics of demonification.

His muscles swelled, filled with explosive power as they shone with a violent-blue sheen. In particular, his arms were layered with bright-red, armour-like keratin, which made them seem extremely large. His mouth opened like he was roaring, the inside jagged with sharp teeth. He seemed extremely vicious.

Li Qingshan shut his eyes and faced the Demon Suppression statue. He used his soul sense to comprehend the idea within before striking a pose the same as the statue. However, many differences still existed.

The demon male clearly put up extreme resistance against demonifying, battling with his demonic nature inside. However, not only did Li Qingshan put up no resistance at all, but he was basically demonifying intentionally.

After achieving the first form of the Demon Suppression Statuary, achieving the second form was something that came about naturally.

Suddenly, the Demon Suppression statue lit up with golden light, and its eyes released two beams of light, landing in Li Qingshan's eyes and entering the depths of his sea of consciousness. The original image of demon suppression changed accordingly.

The second form of the Demon Suppression Statuary—the Immovable Demonic Nature!

The demon heart that resembled a dark ruby released rings of hazy light.

Li Qingshan's body immediately began to expand. Originally, he only seemed sturdy, but not particularly strong, as his skeletal frame was abnormally large and thick, propping up his flesh. As such, it gave off the false impression of him being thin.

However, he seemed to become a strongman in the blink of an eye. His body pulled upwards by a foot, while his arms had become even stronger and thicker than a regular person's thigh. His skin became slightly red, and a piece of armour-like, dark-red keratin appeared and covered his arms and shoulders.

“So this is demonification!”

Li Qingshan clenched his fist before loosening it. He threw a straight punch all of a sudden, and with a bang, the air exploded. Although it was nowhere close to his daemon form, the might it possessed could be considered as startling among Foundation Establishment cultivators.

The Unraging monk was secretly amazed. Originally, this form was extremely dangerous. When attempting demonification for the first time, it was very easy to lose control over the demonic nature inside. However, there was not even a hint of confusion or losing control in Li Qingshan's eyes. They remained as clear as ever. Had his control over his conscience and himself truly reached such a level?

Li Qingshan had the spirit turtle as a safeguard, so the agitation from his demonic nature was unable to influence his mind at all. It was merely demonifying. It was absolutely nothing compared to his state when he was in daemon form.

After achieving the second form of the Demon Suppression Statuary, the suppression over the ox demon and tiger demon strengthened slightly yet again, which made him loosen up quite a bit. The spirit turtle was gradually released from the tremendous pressure.

“Let’s continue!” Li Qingshan riled up with vigour and said to Xiao An. His ears twitched, vaguely hearing the roars of a vicious beast from deep within the maze.

Xiao An grabbed his hand and Li Qingshan tightened his grip over hers as they made their way to the third floor of the Demon Suppression hall.

Killing their way over together, they were virtually unstoppable. Li Qingshan committed another two Demon Suppression statues to heart.

However, when they arrived on the fifth floor of the Demon Suppression hall, the rate at which they encountered enemies and the number of enemies they encountered increased abruptly. They finally began to feel that the pressure was increasing.

Basically every demonfolk they came across was a Demon General, and unlike the Demon Generals they had met in the beginning, these Demon Generals were all extremely powerful. They were equivalent to mid and late Foundation Establishment cultivators among humans, and they could frequently use some powerful and strange techniques.

There were even techniques like formations and combined attacks, and the illusions and mesmerising techniques were completely impossible to guard against. If they were regular Foundation Establishment cultivators, they probably would have been in constant danger already, struggling to advance any further.

The Wheel of the Wisdom King’s Glare emitted a resplendent beam of golden light, shooting straight down the corridor and striking a female Demon General.

The female Demon General seemed like a woman in her thirties, except her chest was completely uncovered, and her clothing was highly exposing. A promiscuous smile stretched across her face. There were even a few male Demon Generals behind her who all seemed like followers.

The female Demon General waved her hand, and the air before her twisted and turned. The golden light entered the space, constantly turning and shifting, before vanishing into nothingness in the end.

This was the first time that Xiao An’s ever-successful Wheel of the Wisdom King’s Glare had been nullified so easily, and it was before the opponent had even demonified. However, Xiao An was not surprised either. There were already a few Demon Generals who could block this attack on the fourth floor.

The female Demon General cast her gaze past Xiao An, landing on the huge, dark figure behind her.

Li Qingshan had completely demonified already. He stood over three meters tall and seemed extremely burly. His entire body seemed to be covered in dark-red armour while his head was wrapped in helmet-like keratin, only exposing a pair of dark-red eyes. Just by standing there, he gave off a fierce and brutal aura.

He carried the Heavy Water sword on his back like before, but the colossal sword of the past was no different from a regular sword to him now.

“What’s your name? Why are you with a person of buddhism? Don’t tell me you’ve been bewitched by this woman?”

The female Demon General shot an envious glance at Xiao An. "What's so interesting about human women? She just has a good outer appearance, that's all. Come with big sister. Big sister will let you taste true paradise."

Following that was a charming giggle as she covered her mouth, but she was not smiling inside at all. She thought, Demonfication is the strongest state of demons, but if you lose control, it's extremely easy for you to be devoured by the demonic heart and completely demonify into a demonic beast. You can't use it rashly unless it actually matters, so why can he maintain his demonified state perpetually, without any signs of losing control?

"Sure!" Li Qingshan agreed extremely happily before changing the topic. "But my tastes are a little special. Normal women probably can't stand it."

"Big sister loves special tastes!"

"That's good to know!"

Li Qingshan's eyes suddenly lit up, and he extended his hands.

With a jangle, black chains emerged from thin air, criss-crossing together and binding the female Demon General firmly.

"So little brother has a taste for this!" The female Demon General smiled as she shuddered violently. Her expression changed, and her smile vanished. The black chains did not merely lock up her body, but the demon qi in her body too.

"I'm still not done yet!"

Li Qingshan smiled as he strode over.

He had comprehended the "Chains of Demon Suppression" together with the third form of the Demon Suppression Statuary. It was basically perfect for suppressing and capturing these demonfolk.

"Kill him!" The female Demon General ordered angrily. A few vicious figures immediately lunged over from behind her. The male Demon Generals had all demonified.

With a golden flash, Xiao An blocked the Demon Generals. She used the Guardian King's Scripture of Demon Subdual for the first time and conjured up a golden avatar. The golden Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare remained in her hand as if it had completely fused with the golden avatar.

The golden wheel spun, spitting out a meter-long streak of light upwards. The stand served as the hilt, the wheel served as the guard, and the golden light served as the edge, conjuring hundreds of streaks of light as it pushed forward.

All of the light vanished with a flash, and Xiao An dispersed the avatar, turning back to normal. The Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare was hidden in her sleeve. The Demon Generals fell backwards and disintegrated, their bodies collapsing from the sword qi.

The Unraging monk said, "Looks like there's no need for senior brother to worry. If she does not possess a buddha nature and the root of wisdom, how can she unleash this buddhist cultivation method and buddhist arcane artifact to such a degree?"

The Dauntless monk said, "Several thousand years ago, did Golden Cicada, that wretched daemon, lack a buddha nature or the root of wisdom?"

"That's different. One Will is a human after all. If Golden Cicada were a human, he would have become the abbot of the monastery already."

The Dauntless monk fell silent. He felt like the Unraging monk's words made some sense. He might have been worrying too much. That wretched daemon in the past had almost stolen the position of abbot, but if he truly had been a human, he probably would have become a revered, eminent monk already, venerated by future disciples of the monastery.

The female Demon General was overcome with both surprise and fear. With a strange shriek, her body swelled rapidly, going from a beautiful woman to a swollen, ugly monster in the blink of an eye.

Li Qingshan did not care. The more they demonified, the heavier their demonic nature became, and the stronger the suppression from the Chains of Demon Suppression was. The Chains of Demon Suppression dug deeply into her swollen skin as Li Qingshan grabbed her face with a single hand.

"I'll give you a fast one!"

"No!"

The female Demon General let out one final scream, and the demon qi in her body surged violently, torn apart furiously by the Chains of Demon Suppression. In the end, she exploded to pieces with a thump.

The two of them stepped over the remains and continued on their way, killing everything.

Finally, they arrived at the very centre of the fifth floor, right in front of the gilded doors. The structure of every floor in the Demon Suppression hall varied drastically. Only the gilded doors remained the same.

In the golden square, the Demon Generals split into two sides, eyeing the other side with hostility, wanting to force them back. At this exact moment, the gilded doors opened slowly, and the Demon Generals looked over, only to see two figures appear.

One was a huge, sturdy man, radiating with demon qi, while the other was a glistening woman of absolute beauty. They each held a strange sword in their hand, and they harboured no good intentions.

"Those who don't want to die can piss off!"

When Li Qingshan had just said half of that, a beam of golden light shot out from beside him, piercing a Demon General. Xiao An lifted up her golden sword and pointed the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare at the Demon Generals.

Li Qingshan shot a glance at Xiao An, and she stuck out her tongue at him.

"It's a buddhist avatar! Kill them!" The Demon Generals roared furiously and lunged towards them.

"Forget it. I didn't mean it anyway."

Li Qingshan opened his left hand and black chains extended out from thin air, wrapping around the Demon Generals. He gripped the Heavy Water sword firmly in his right hand and swung backwards, charging towards the Demon Generals together.

Growls, shrieks, roars, and the sound of clashing weapons layered together into a chaotic and vigorous song. Severed limbs and fresh blood constantly flew out of the open doors.

A Demon General's head flew out of the gilded doors, hit a wall, and rolled to the ground. Long strands of hair then sprouted from beneath his severed neck. It crawled quickly through the door and over the strange "legs". As soon as it found its body, a huge leg stomped down, crushing the head to pieces.

Li Qingshan ground his foot forcefully. The Heavy Water sword grew to over thirty meters long, unleashing a colossal sweep. With a bloody storm, he severed several Demon Generals lunging over. He said to Xiao An behind him, "This place is quite interesting!"

At the very least, cutting down these Demon Generals was much more satisfying than cutting down those Corpse Commanders. Ripping apart and crushing these grotesque figures truly was much more satisfying than killing people who were dead in the first place.

Chapter 576 - The Sixth Floor

Under the gaze of the Demon Suppression statue, violent gusts of wind swept through the square, forming a vortex and throwing countless severed limbs and droplets of blood into the air.

Li Qingshan and Xiao An stood back to back in the centre of the storm, creating the winds that ripped through everything.

The winds subsided, and the battle stopped.

Li Qingshan swung the Heavy Water sword downwards, splattering the ground with a thick streak of blood.

Notches appeared on the sword. It was riddled with cracks, on the edge of shattering.

High grade spiritual artifacts were no longer enough to endure such a battle.

Li Qingshan was riddled with wounds. Many of the injuries were close to his vital points.

Outnumbered and unable to use his daemon powers, it was impossible for him to remain unscathed. If it were not for the Demon Suppression Statuary's extraordinary effectiveness against these Demon Generals, he would not have even been able to last ten seconds even if he pushed his talent for battle to the limit.

Xiao An's golden avatar was also riddled with wounds, but upon dispersing the avatar, she was completely unharmed.

"It's a pity we can't collect these corpses."

Li Qingshan said to Xiao An through his soul sense with a slight sense of pity. The two monks were not idiots. They definitely could not afford to do anything strange that would raise suspicion.

Xiao An said, "It's fine. These aren't substantial anymore."

Li Qingshan nodded and turned towards the Demon Suppression statue, comprehending the fifth form of the Demon Suppression Statuary.

Outside the Demon Suppression hall, the Dauntless monk stopped worrying completely, while the Unraging monk had already vanished from beside him. He had entered the Demon Suppression hall, so he was ready to save them at any time.

Although slain geniuses could not be considered as geniuses, this was still the fifth floor of the Demon Suppression hall. Even if they sent in a group of the most outstanding disciples of the monastery, it was highly likely for them to be completely annihilated.

But in the end, the battle prowess that Li Qingshan and Xiao An demonstrated left him deeply astounded. Their teamwork was virtually flawless. Their coordination could no longer be described as tacit. They were basically mentally linked.

A special connection seemed to exist between them, far more complicated than the relationship between a man and a woman.

The Demon Suppression statue emitted two beams of light again, and Li Qingshan shut his eyes. His body radiated with black demon qi, which lingered on his wounds. The injuries began to writhe, closing up at a visible rate.

As he practised the Demon Suppression Statuary, the dark-red demon heart in his body grew even stronger, constantly absorbing the demonic nature of the ox demon and tiger demon and relieving the spirit turtle's pressure.

From this aspect alone, he was already no different from demons. He possessed life force that far exceeded any human.

A while later, Li Qingshan opened his eyes and dispersed the demonic nature and demon qi. He had become even fiercer and stronger, and his level of demonification had become deeper.

"I think I look pretty good!"

Li Qingshan waved his hand and water rippled before him, forming a mirror. He saw a hideous, human figure before raising his eyebrows and making an evaluation like that.

Of course, this "pretty good" was in comparison to his original daemon form. When it came to his judgement of appearances, he had never used beauty and ugliness as a standard. He had his own strange set of standards. He had always found his original daemon form, together with the ox hooves and tiger claws, much more satisfying than his humanoid daemon form, the handsome, red-haired man.

His appearance after demonifying was another style compared to his original daemon form. He basically maintained his humanoid figure. Apart from growing taller, he only seemed like he had put on a set of extremely fitting and flagrant armour.

But in the eyes of regular people, he was truly a terrifying monster.

"Yep!" Xiao An raised her head and nodded seriously, praising him with admiration from the very bottom of her heart.

“I have to say, out of all the people I know, you have the best tastes!”

Li Qingshan chuckled and laughter reverberated through the surroundings.

The Dauntless monk and the Unraging monk both witnessed this. There was nothing they could say about their standards of beauty.

“Do you think we should still visit the sixth floor?”

Li Qingshan asked. He was very tempted to go and learn the sixth statue of the Demon Suppression Statuary, as he had learnt the Chains of Demon Suppression on the third floor.

This was no coincidence. For many ancient cultivation methods, a special juncture would often come with every three layers. If cultivators could comprehend a technique and battle skill that complemented their cultivation method, it would stop them from being distracted by anything else, and it could also ensure they could protect their lives to a certain degree.

Along the way, the role that the Chains of Demon Suppression had played could be considered as vital. Against many Demon Generals that were difficult to defeat, he only needed to unleash the Chains of Demon Suppression, and he would be able to overwhelm them completely, achieving victory with great ease.

However, with the fifth floor as a boundary in the Demon Suppression hall, venturing down further would definitely result in even greater danger. After learning the fifth form of the Demon Suppression Statuary, the pressure on the spirit turtle had basically been relieved, and it had recovered some of its sharp senses over the future. It could sense the existence of danger.

Of course, if he could use his full strength freely, Li Qingshan believed that even the seventh floor would be no problem, much less the sixth floor. However, the fate awaiting him if he reverted to his daemon form in the Demon Suppression hall would probably be venturing straight down to the ninth floor and being suppressed there for ten thousand years.

Xiao An said, “Let’s continue!”

Li Qingshan said in surprise, “You’re so confident!”

Xiao An said nothing and fished out a scarlet talisman from her hundred treasures pouch.

“I sure have been forgetful.”

Li Qingshan smiled. Among battles between cultivators, talismans had always held an extremely important position. They could serve as sudden attacks that could turn the tides of the battle.

Throughout the years, Li Qingshan had gathered quite a lot of different talismans. Let alone scarlet talismans, he even had violet talismans. However, during battles at his level, rarely was there the opportunity to use talismans, so he forgot about them.

Then Xiao An took out a few bronze bangles for controlling corpses. Every single one of them hid a Corpse General. They had also been one of the spoils Li Qingshan had obtained from his battle at Burial Mound mountain. There were all from the hundred treasures pouches of the Golden Core cultivators who had been killed.

Li Qingshan had passed them to Xiao An to be refined. Xiao An had already accumulated everything she required for her breakthrough to the second layer of the Path of White Bone and Great Beauty. She only lacked comprehension, so she kept them around for whenever the need arose.

Of course, these refined Corpse Generals that could be controlled were worlds apart from the Corpse Generals of the Hungry Ghost realm. And, if they were ever used before Corpse Commanders or Corpse Kings, they would change sides basically immediately. However, they were enough for rushing into battle.

Li Qingshan no longer had any second thoughts. The two of them continued on their way, stepping through the door.

The heavy smell of blood even made regular Demon Generals afraid to approach this place, but a colossal figure rushed over out of instinct. Duoge burst in and had another sumptuous feast.

.....

The sixth floor of the Demon Suppression hall, the central square.

Almost a hundred Demon Generals gathered beneath the Demon Suppression statue, studying the secret within the statue, hoping that there would be a day when they could leave this prison.

The atmosphere in there was quite heavy and solemn. The Demon Generals had no interest in fighting one another. As they observed the Demon Suppression statue, their gazes would drift past the front of the statue from time to time.

A dishevelled, indifferent man sat there with his legs crossed. He had a strangely-shaped sword radiating with demon qi placed across his knees.

The sword was pitch-black like ink, but it was not completely straight. Instead, there were knobs, like it was a pagoda. It was almost three meters long, which made it obvious what kind of stature was required to wield a sword like that freely.

The strangest part of the sword was the guard and hilt. It was not made of gold, metal, rock, or wood, but a clump of coiled flesh and blood vessels. At the very centre was a bowl-sized eye, with only the whites of the eye and no iris. It was completely bloodshot, which made it seem extremely eerie.

The other Demon Generals all remained a few meters away from him, afraid to get any closer. They even seemed like they were afraid to breathe too loudly.

“What the fuck are you all doing?! Piss off, don’t block the path!”

A bellow broke the silence. From the door beneath the Demon Suppression statue, a demon radiating with a fierce aura suddenly leapt out and swung his hand towards the cold man.

The place occupied by the cold man was definitely the most optimal position for studying the Demon Suppression statue, but it also happened to be a place where demons coming up from below had to pass through.

The eyes of the demons were filled with a mocking pleasure over what was about to happen, Sir Lietu is a genius of the Demon race. Although he has fallen back down from the Demon Commander realm, he's still not someone who can be handled by Demon Generals, not to mention he wields the "Evil Eye".

Lietu waved his right hand gently, and a gust of foul air swept through the square.

The fierce Demon General staggered past Lietu. A vicious wound stretched from his left shoulder to his right waist, spraying with blood. He turned around. "You're..."

Suddenly, he discovered that something important seemed to be missing. He lowered his head and checked his chest.

Lietu currently had his head lowered, fiddling around with a black, pebble-like demon heart. There was a thump behind him, and the fierce Demon General collapsed on the ground.

Without even looking back, he placed the demon heart into the strange eye in the centre of the sword hilt. The eye pulsed and absorbed the black demon heart. As if the sword had been completed, a black iris appeared in the eyeball. The eyeball swiveled around, and every Demon General that it saw shivered inside.

The many blood vessels coiled around the black iris, and the entire hilt twisted violently. Foul air whistled out, blowing Lietu's hair into the air and filling the entire hall. All of the Demon Generals felt like they were suffocating.

The entire sword shone with black light as if the dark night had descended. The glistening colour of gold in the surroundings immediately dimmed. Only the Demon Suppression statue remained the same as before, watching all of this unfold from above.

But a while later, the eyeball forced out the demon heart, which fell to the ground with a clink. It felt like it had just eaten something disgusting and spat it back out with great disdain.

Lietu shook his head. "Sure enough, it's still not enough. The demon hearts of Demon Generals are unable to satisfy the Evil Eye. It requires even stronger demon hearts. I need to recover my strength as soon as possible and kill my way back onto the seventh floor so that I can find a suitable demon heart."

His sharp ears suddenly twitched as he sensed auras of death gathered outside the door. The other Demon Generals were afraid of Lietu, but none of them were weak. They all sensed it too and became vigilant.

Thump!

The nine gilded doors suddenly opened at the same time, and a hundred Corpse Soldiers swarmed in.

The Demon Generals were unsurprised. As it turned out, it was merely some Corpse Soldiers.

Lietu frowned, sensing that something was amiss. There were plenty of demonfolk that could control corpses, but these Corpse Soldiers were originally humans. Where did all these human corpses come from in the Demon Suppression hall? It was completely impossible for those bald asses from the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga to use something like this.

The eyeball on the Evil Eye sword in his hand swiveled, noticing how the backs of every Corpse Soldier was plastered with talismans. They all tore apart at the same time, shining with light.

Chapter 577 - Mine

Ranging from low-level Fireball talismans to powerful Scarlet Sun talismans, with Rushing Lightning talismans and Explosion talismans in between, a hundred Corpse Soldiers were covered in over a thousand talismans—of course, the relatively-more-precious violet talismans that could incur trouble easily obviously could not be used here.

Li Qingshan and Xiao An killed their way to the outskirts of the sixth floor before beginning their preparations. Li Qingshan had obviously come up with this move that terrorists used all too frequently. Originally, he only wanted to catch them off-guard so that he could launch a sudden attack.

But from the moment he stuck on the first talisman, Li Qingshan became like a child who wanted to test out the maximum power of some firecrackers. He took out all of the destructive talismans of fire and lightning and stuck them on. Afterwards, with an order from Xiao An, the suicidal Corpse Soldiers all rushed in together.

The Demon Generals had not responded slowly, unleashing their various defensive techniques. However, the circular square only had nine doors in total, and not all the Corpse Soldiers Xiao An had arranged charged in. Nine remained behind, specially for closing the doors!

The nine gilded doors opened and closed. Everything happened in a single instant.

Boom!

All of the Corpse Soldiers were torn apart by the lightning and fire first. The flames surged and the electricity crackled, swallowing the Demon Generals and slamming them against the walls heavily, but the fire and lightning and firmly stopped. It rebounded and was compressed before becoming even more violent. Who knew how many times that process occurred in a single moment, completely unleashing the full force of the explosion.

The entire Demon Suppression hall shook violently. Only after a very long time did the shaking completely stop.

Li Qingshan crouched outside the door, plugging his ears with his index fingers as he shook his head violently. He stood up and whistled in disbelief. He had never thought the combined explosion of these talismans would be so great that even he would become slightly dizzy.

Li Qingshan extended his thumb at Xiao An.

“Probably all of them inside have been blown up to death!”

Li Qingshan estimated that even if he were blocked up in a place and blown up like that, he definitely could not emerge unscathed either. No matter how powerful the Demon Generals were inside, they probably would not have been able to escape death.

However, Xiao An shook her head. She could clearly sense a powerful aura of life remaining behind the door.

“Then I need to see just whose life is so tough. Surely it’s not a Demon Commander!”

Li Qingshan secretly raised his guard and pushed open the gilded door. The moment he touched the door, he was slightly surprised, as the door was just as cold as before. There was not even the slightest warmth, let alone being warped by the explosion. He had no idea what the Demon Suppression hall was made of for it to be so tough.

Xiao An stopped Li Qingshan. A few Corpse Generals leapt out from behind her and entered through the door first.

There was a sharp flash, and the Corpse Generals at the front suddenly fell backwards, but the lower half of their bodies maintained the charging posture. They were like wheat that had been cut down by a sickle, splitting in half along the waist.

“Hmm?” Li Qingshan stared ahead, only to see a demon male currently standing in front of the Demon Suppression statue. He wielded a strange, long sword in his hand. A glisten of light flowed through the sword, and the hollow eyeball on the hilt stared fixedly at Li Qingshan.

His clothes were tattered and parts of him were charred, but his aura had not weakened at all. His eyes were filled with fury and killing intent. Probably everyone would feel the same if they were caught by surprise with something like that. And, if it were not for the sword in his hand, he definitely would have received even more severe damage.

The ground beneath him was littered with charred remains. Some of them still writhed, with a shred of life remaining that could be extinguished at any time.

Lietu said sternly, “Do you really think you can kill me with something like that!? You can pay with your blood!”

“What’s your name? Bastard, you sure are hardy.”

Li Qingshan drew the Heavy Water sword and the tip struck the ground with a clank. He grabbed the sword with both hands as he cried out inside, How close!

To be able to react immediately under these circumstances, this guy definitely isn’t some regular Demon General. The strike was not enough to pose life-threatening danger to me, which was why the spirit turtle gave no warning. However, if I had stepped into it, I’d have to use strength beyond Foundation Establishment to dodge it, which will lead to suspicion. Though, that sword sure is interesting!

The moment Li Qingshan spotted the strange sword, his eyes became glued to it. It was not only because of the great, strange power it gave off, but also because the design of the sword suited his tastes very much!

He’s no regular Demon General. The demon qi he gives off is extraordinarily pure. Even among Demon Commanders, there aren’t many who can reach that level!

Lietu studied Li Qingshan too, or more accurately, it was through the “Evil Eye” in his hand. The Evil Eye’s gaze directly passed through Li Qingshan’s body, spotting the location of his dark-red demon heart.

Demon hearts were not like the cardiovascular organ. They could condense anywhere inside a demonfolk's body, making them extremely difficult to be targeted as a vital point. Lietu had used this exact ability of the Evil Eye to dig out the demon heart from the fierce Demon General earlier.

He sensed the pulses of the "Evil Eye", desiring the opponent's demon heart. Situations like this rarely ever occurred. In the past, he had killed many Demon Commanders in order to strengthen the Evil Eye demonic sword, but not every demon heart could satisfy the "Evil Eye".

If he could obtain this Demon General's demon heart, then he would be able to unleash the Evil Eye's power, and he could return to the seventh floor immediately.

"Your sword is mine!"

"Your demon heart is mine!"

The two of them blurted out at the same time. Even their intonations were no different, but unfortunately, this was not a mutual understanding among friends, but the desire to kill as enemies.

There was another flash of sharp light as Lietu rushed over, swinging his sword along the way.

Li Qingshan refused to be careless. He had personally witnessed what had happened when Xiao An's Corpse Generals were killed. He knew what terrifying power a sharp sword could display in the hands of a master.

With a great bellow, he lifted the Heavy Water sword over his head, unleashing the Siege Breaking strike and swinging down violently.

Clang!

With a gentle thrum, the broken tip of the sword spiraled through the air, striking the ceiling before falling to the ground, sending sparks flying.

The Heavy Water sword returned to its original size. A third of the sword had been cut off.

Lietu sneered. I'll cut you in half with my next slash!

Li Qingshan was unfazed. He changed to a single-handed grip and grasped the sword firmly, swinging out diagonally. He extended his free hand towards Lietu.

Chains of Demon Suppression!

With a metallic jangle, black chains criss-crossed through the air, wrapping around Lietu.

"What?"

Lietu was dumbfounded. He felt his demon qi surge uncontrollably right when he was about to swing out with his certain-kill strike. Under the firm entanglement of the Chains of Demon Suppression, he was immobilised on the spot. Even his demon qi seemed to freeze up. The broken sword had already arrived by his face.

Who knew how many Demon Generals with all sorts of techniques Li Qingshan had managed to kill with this move. It was basically ever successful. However, he did not feel the satisfying feedback of a strike running all the way through from the broken sword. Instead, it seemed to be stuck.

Lietu's mouth protruded out like a canine's, biting down firmly on the blade. He closed his mouth forcefully, and his sharp teeth pierced into the sword. Cracks spread rapidly, and with a crack, the Heavy Water sword had actually been forcefully shattered with a bite. Lietu stared at Li Qingshan with a sneering smile.

Li Qingshan was taken aback. He glanced at the empty hilt before plunging it viciously into Lietu's head. "Do you really think you won't have to compensate me, idiot?" He extended his hand to steal the strange sword from him.

The eyeball in the centre of the hilt suddenly pulsed. The thumb-thick things that resembled blood vessels wrapped around the hilt suddenly sprang alive and swarmed over, plunging into Lietu's hand and completely merging with him. The sheen that flowed through the sword slid up into the hilt before being delivering into Lietu's hand through the "vessels".

This had been completed in a split second. By the time he had become "one with the sword", Lietu's body produced a hundred stands of sword qi, pulverising the Chains of Demon Suppression. There were even several dozen strands that shot towards Li Qingshan.

It had happened right beside him, so it was too late for Li Qingshan to dodge. He had lost his weapon too, so he was unable to parry or block. If he truly were a regular mid Foundation Establishment cultivator, then he probably would have been diced on the spot.

A streak of golden light inserted itself between them. The golden sword in Xiao An's hand was like a huge, golden brush. It splashed around and danced liberally, unleashing a flurry of strokes. With a wild scribble, she wrote a huge, Chinese character of the word "sword".

Blood splattered from Lietu's body. He staggered back by a few steps and said in surprise, "A golden avatar of buddhism!"

Currently, Xiao An resembled a gilded statue that had just been completed in a temple. However, while the craftsman possessed almost-divine skill, he had misunderstood the monks' request, creating a heavenly maiden of absolute beauty instead of a glaring guardian king. She wore a golden crown with a golden ribbon draped over her. There was a red mole on her forehead as she stood on the ground bare-footed, coming off as gentle and graceful, beautiful and solemn, but the sense of stateliness had not been reduced at all.

Lietu felt greatly threatened, but he still had an option. He could retreat to the seventh floor from here. If they were bold enough to chase after him, then they would be doomed.

"I'll leave this guy to you!"

Li Qingshan said suddenly before making his way around Lietu, arriving before the Demon Suppression statue and studying it closely. Just like that, he had sealed off Lietu's path of escape.

Rarely do we come across such a suitable opponent, so let's just leave him for Xiao An to demonstrate her skills. We killed our way over here. Those two damn, peeping monks should be satisfied now!

The Dauntless monk and Unraging monk were not just satisfied. They basically felt rather overjoyed. In the world of cultivation, studying under a renowned master or joining a large sect was not easy, but finding a genius disciple was very difficult too.

Not only did the two of them have quite the destiny with buddhism, but they were skilled in fighting and killing too. They would definitely strengthen the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga's renown in this age of chaos.

This came off as rather conflicting. After all, in the eyes of the secular world, monks were supposed to cleanse themselves of all desires and embrace benevolence. However, if that were all to the monks of the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga, then the current Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga would not exist anymore, nor would they have to use a brutal place of slaughter like the Demon Suppression hall to train their disciples.

Even the buddha had to unleash a lion's roar to subdue the demons of heresy, to have his statue gilded in gold and revered by the living creatures, let alone these disciples and grand disciples under him.

However, while the Dauntless monk was satisfied with Xiao An, the one who caught the Unraging monk's eye was instead Li Qingshan. Gazing at Li Qingshan who stood before the sixth Demon Suppression statue, the Unraging monk thought to himself.

The Demon Suppression Statuary, oh the Demon Suppression Statuary. I originally thought it was a great fortune left behind by that senior for me, but I never thought I'd still be able to meet you. We're basically master and disciple designated by the heavens. Kid, even if you don't want to accept me as your master this time, it won't be up to you to decide.

Chapter 578 - The Sixth Layer of the Guardian King

Xiao An obviously understood what Li Qingshan was implying. She half-closed her eyes and nodded her head as she chanted silently. The golden light from the avatar grew brighter and brighter as the sounds of recited scriptures seemed to ring out.

Lietu gripped his sword firmly, completely on edge. Before him stood a formidable enemy he rarely encountered.

What's she doing?

Just as the Dauntless monk was rather confused, Xiao An gave him an answer. The golden avatar suddenly erupted with light, and it actually started showing signs of melting away. Golden liquid poured down from the beautiful face.

"She's breaking through!"

The Dauntless monk was mildly surprised. He never thought Xiao An would choose to break through on the spot when she was confronting an enemy. A disposition like that was impressive, but she would be greatly disadvantaged if she failed.

The golden avatar was like a man of wax in fire, melting to a blurry, humanoid clump. Xiao An practised the Guardian King's Scripture of Demon Subdual silently, and the golden avatar gradually began to condense again, consolidating once more. The avatar became even more refined and exquisite, having

broken through to the fifth layer of the Guardian King's Scripture of Demon Subdual, reaching "mid Foundation Establishment".

The Dauntless monk smiled. The surprises that this child had brought him were endless. If this continued, she could reach peak Foundation Establishment before the age of twenty, and she had a chance at becoming the head monk of a courtyard before the age of thirty. Even throughout the entire history of the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga, there had only been a handful of such peerless geniuses.

At this moment, he had made up his mind completely to toss aside all of his doubts and guide her properly so that she could accept the benevolence of the buddha.

The golden avatar reflected in Lietu's eyes, which made his irises narrow. He felt the threat become even greater, also realising that the opponent had just broken through earlier, which made him feel regretful. He had been far too careful. If he had known beforehand, he would have used this opportunity to launch an attack and catch her off-guard.

It was too late for regret now. His sword was directed towards her, poised to strike.

However, Xiao An closed her eyes once again.

"What's she doing this time?"

The Dauntless monk was taken aback before seeing the golden avatar that Xiao An had just condensed melt away once more. Surely she was not breaking through again!

Even with everything the Dauntless monk had witnessed in his life, he had no idea what to say. He had seen audacious people before, but never had he seen someone so audacious. He had seen talented geniuses before, but never had he seen a genius so talented.

"Not so easy!"

Lietu howled fiercely. How could he simply let her continue with her breakthroughs? The Evil Eye sword swiveled in his hand, and the eye targeted Xiao An. It emitted pulsating rings before releasing a streak of black light from the bulging centre.

Xiao An raised one hand and formed a seal, resplendent like a lotus flower. At the same time, she lifted the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare with her other hand, which emitted a streak of golden light.

The golden light collided with the black light, and the buddhist light and demonic energy clashed violently in the air, constantly wearing each other away and emitting a strange, sharp drone. It spread out into a wall of light between them.

The energy that leaked out surged like ripples, sweeping across the entire square. It completely crushed the Demon Generals who continued to hold onto their last gasp, turning them into dust. In the end, only sturdy demon hearts remained where they were. Most of them were like pebbles, but there were a few that were slightly shiny.

What is she? She can actually devote all of her attention to breaking through while holding off an opponent? Or is that merely a diversion?

Lietu was not a timid coward, but when he fought Xiao An, he had to keep an eye over Li Qingshan behind him. Although Li Qingshan had said he would not fight, how could Lietu, a demonfolk, trust a promise from the opponent?

Whatever. I'll kill her first. Demonify!

Lietu made up his mind and released turbulent demon qi. His hair began to flutter in the air as his body swelled up. His limbs extended, becoming abnormally long.

His face twisted into a triangle as the midline running down his face protruded like the ridge of a sword. A sturdy layer covered his eyes, which shone with a sharp light. At the same time, his nose became two, long slits. A single horn that resembled a sword protruded from his forehead, stabbing into the sky. It seemed like he had put on a strange mask.

His entire body resembled a mask, shining with a metallic lustre like a sharp sword drawn from its sheath.

He swung his sword backwards, and his body tilted forwards, shooting towards Xiao An like a launched javelin. He actually ignored the threat of the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare.

Golden light shot out, sweeping past Lietu, but it dimmed drastically after penetrating his protective demon qi. In the end, it only left behind some singes, unable to pierce him so easily.

In a flash, the Evil Eye swung over. It was still over three meters away, but the whistling of sword qi directly pierced the ears; it was as chilling as the shrieks of countless ghosts.

If the sword landed, she would not emerge unscathed even with the golden avatar's protection. Moreover, she was currently breaking through. Not only was she unable to dodge, but her golden avatar basically had no defensive power either. As it seemed, breaking through on the spot had not been the correct decision.

Xiao An waved the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare. The melted, golden fluid flowed into it, turning into a hilt and a blade and recondensing a vajra sword.

A complicated and magnificent pattern covered the golden sword, with a few simple and elegant glyphs engraved on there. It completely merged with the Wheel of the Wisdom King's Glare, but it had never seemed so complete and compatible before. It was as if the two were one object in the first place.

Clang!

The two swords collided and produced a thunderous explosion, but neither the Evil Eye sword or the vajra sword were damaged.

Lietu was astounded. The Evil Eye sword had been unstoppable, yet it was unable to cut through the vajra sword. With a thrust and a flick, Lietu tried to knock the vajra sword away and run his sword through Xiao An's chest.

The vajra sword responded to the circumstances, sticking firmly to the Evil Eye sword like its shadow. The two swords slid and ground against each other, unleashing a series of sparks. No matter how Lietu wielded his sword, he was unable to knock away the vajra sword.

The Dauntless monk sighed inside. She can actually wield this vajra sword of extreme rigidity with such flexibility. It's not only her understanding of the Buddhist dharma. Even her swordsmanship is ingenious.

Lietu let out a fierce howl and pulled back his sword. Looming over Xiao An and merging with the sword, he swung madly.

The streaks of light from the sword rained down like a storm. Flexibility came with an inability to hold the ground and defend. Faced with such an extravagant sword style, it was impossible for Xiao An to receive these strikes as easily as earlier no matter how ingenious her swordsmanship was.

Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang!

Like a string of thunder claps, Xiao An remained where she was, without moving at all, but seventeen or eighteen arms seemed to extend from her body, wielding the vajra sword to the point where she stood like a sturdy fortress. It was like she could not be shaken at all no matter how violent the storm was.

But a while later, the golden avatar condensed once again. Every single crease and wrinkle in the skin was clearly visible now, and the sense of stateliness it emitted became grander. Just like that, Xiao An had broken through to the sixth layer of the Guardian King's Scripture of Demon Subdual naturally.

She had managed to succeed under such circumstances! The Dauntless monk already had no idea what he could say. All he could do was silently adjust the plan he had in mind. If this continued, perhaps she had a chance at condensing a *ṛāra* and undergoing the second heavenly tribulation before the age of twenty. Just how many people had managed to achieve this throughout history? Compared to this, could that wretched daemon Golden Cicada even be called a Buddhist genius?

Xiao An opened her eyes and glanced at Lietu indifferently. If she could use the Buddha Slaying sword embryo, killing this demon would only take a single strike, but she faced the same issue as Li Qingshan. She could not directly use the great power of the Path of White Bone and Great Beauty, so she made use of the situation to practise the Guardian King's Scripture of Demon Subdual.

It was like she had finished the content from university before sitting a test for primary schoolers. It would only be strange if she had any issues.

Xiao An silently sensed the power flowing through her. It should be enough to kill him now.

She took a step forward. Golden light erupted and sword qi swelled as she switched from defence to offence.

Li Qingshan had been staring at the sixth Demon Suppression statue the entire time. When Lietu gained the upper hand earlier, he had not even glanced back, but he suddenly turned around and said, "Oh right. I want that sword, so be careful not to break it."

She was in such a dangerous battle, yet he still reminded her to keep the enemy's weapon intact! If it were not for witnessing their unbelievable teamwork earlier, the Dauntless monk basically would have wondered if they even cared for one another.

Xiao An agreed to his request.

Lietu became even more furious. They basically treated him like a lamb to the slaughter.

Li Qingshan said, "Oh right. You there, if you leave the sword behind, I can let you leave this place alive."

Before Lietu could even answer, Xiao An said, "Definitely not."

"Why's that?" Li Qingshan was surprised. Xiao An rarely ever objected to his suggestions.

Xiao An said, "He said he wanted your demon heart earlier. As it seems, the sword requires suitable demon hearts to unleash its power. We aren't really suited for entering the seventh floor, so his demon heart is the best choice available."

"I see. Alright then. Butcher him!"

After stating his request relaxedly, Li Qingshan turned around and gazed at the Demon Suppression statue. Before long, the Demon Suppression statue lit up.

Xiao An leapt up gently and turned into a streak of golden light. The Evil Eye sword fell down, landing on the golden light.

Xiao An raised her hands and caught the blade, pushing right up to Lietu. The vajra sword plunged straight towards him. Lietu extended his hand to grab the vajra sword in a panic.

Both of them grabbed each other's sword with one hand while gripping their own sword with the other and pushing it towards the opponent, refusing to relent. The two swords broke free from their restraints at the same time, falling towards their enemy.

Lietu clutched his abdomen and pushed Xiao An away, spurting with blood. Sword qi that contained buddhist powers wreaked havoc inside him.

On the other hand, Xiao An did not take a single step back, and an extremely distinct slash appeared on her golden crown. Logically speaking, the head was a much greater vital point than the abdomen, but Xiao An was not afraid of exchanging strikes since she had the protection of the golden avatar.

After reaching the sixth layer of the Guardian King's Scripture of Demon Subdual, the golden avatar had become far tougher than anything a disciple of the Chan Monastery of Deva-Nāga could achieve at the same level of cultivation. Cutting through her golden avatar was not something a Demon General could achieve.

Dammit! If I had a suitable demon heart, that strike would have been able to split her head in half!

As that thought flashed through his head, the golden figure arrived right before him again. Sword qi swept out.

Xiao An only attacked without defending, allowing Lietu to leave behind slashes on the golden avatar while forcing him backwards. Blood constantly spurted from his body. A golden streak swept past and three of his fingers sailed through the air.

Li Qingshan kept his eyes shut and said without even looking back, "If you get any closer, I'm going to take action too."

Lietu was utterly furious. Suddenly, he leapt backwards, arriving in the air and plunging his sword into his chest.

Li Qingshan was astounded. Don't tell me this guy has lost his mind from anger!

"I want to kill you both! Evil Eye, give me power!"

Chapter 579 - The Demon Suppression Tower

The Evil Eye sword completely merged into Lietu's chest, all the way until the hilt. However, despite being three meters long, the tip of the blade did not emerge from his back as if the sword had combined with his body.

Thrum! Clang! With a series of metallic sounds, several dozen swords burst out of his body, stabbing out of his back, arms, neck, and even mouth.

Lietu's demon qi erupted. His body was covered with swords like a strange, twisted hedgehog of metal. He crouched on the ground, staring at Xiao An in resentment, having merged with the sword completely.

This was extremely similar to complete demonification. It was very difficult to turn back from. The Evil Eye would gradually devour him until he became a part of the sword. Basically every master of the Evil Eye had met their end like this, while the Evil Eye grew stronger and stronger.

However, before he was completely devoured, he would obtain great strength, enough to kill them.

"Even if I die, I'll drag you all down with me!"

The eyeball became completely embedded in Lietu's chest. It swiveled around, and a speck of green light suddenly appeared in the centre, turning into a green iris. It stared at Xiao An.

The iris was Lietu's demon heart. His arms and legs had all become long, sharp swords. Pushing off from the ground, he vanished.

Xiao An swung down with her sword, and with a clang, two swords collided. She had struck the arm that Lietu swung towards her.

"Die!" Lietu howled fiercely.

Cling! Clang! With a string of metallic sounds, several dozen swords burst out of his body, stabbing towards Xiao An's golden avatar.

His long arm that was as sharp as a sword wrapped around the golden avatar conveniently, wanting to bisect Xiao An along the waist like a huge guillotine.

No matter how powerful Xiao An's swordsmanship was, she could only forcefully endure a strike like that with her golden avatar.

These swords were as sharp as the Evil Eye itself. After obtaining Lietu's demon heart, they even became much sharper. The golden avatar gave way, and the swords dug in by several inches. Any further and they would reach Xiao An's body. There was a sword only inches away from her forehead.

Xiao An dispersed the golden avatar swiftly, using the opportunity to break free from Lietu's restraint with her petite figure.

Isn't this merely a temporary relief that'll lead her to her demise? Without the protection of the golden avatar, a single strike will be enough to threaten her life, the Dauntless monk thought, only to see Xiao An recondense her golden avatar. All the damage from before had vanished.

When Xiao An struck again, she was much more careful, just in case Lietu caught her again. However, losing the upper hand now became unavoidable.

Their figures turned into two blurs, one running and one chasing on the square. They constantly clashed and moved about as ear-splitting thrums of metal rang out endlessly.

Even if Xiao An managed to land a blow on Lietu with her vajra sword, his swords would block it, so she achieved nothing. On the other hand, as the fusion between Lietu and the Evil Eye deepened, their attacks grew more and more swift. A sudden thrust left behind a deep mark in the golden avatar.

Lietu turned into a rotating storm of metal, filling the air with golden power every time he collided with the golden avatar. And, he moved faster and faster too, giving Xiao An no time to condense her golden avatar again.

A while later, the magnificent and detailed golden avatar was reduced to a horrible shape.

Xiao An was already pushing the Guardian King's Scripture of Demon Subdual to the limit, but Lietu's strength completely surpassed Demon General after merging with the sword. A regular cultivator would have become riddled with holes from a single clash with him.

"A little help here!" Xiao An said.

"Alrighty!"

Li Qingshan looked back with a smile. He waved his hand, and the pitch-black Chains of Demon Suppression criss-crossed over, extending towards Lietu.

"Useless!"

Lietu barked. Several dozen swords emerged from his body, cutting and tearing apart the Chains of Demon Suppression. Suddenly, a black shadow loomed over him; he looked up, only to see a nine-layered tower, pitch-black like ink. It had appeared out of nowhere, imposing and dignified, utterly unstoppable.

The second move of the Demon Suppression Statuary, the Demon Suppression Tower!

Boom!

The entire square shook violently. The Demon Suppression Tower fell from above, trapping Lietu inside.

"Sure enough, this move is plenty devastating," Li Qingshan smiled.

"Release me!"

Lietu's bellows rang out from the Demon Suppression Tower. After merging with the Evil Eye, it constantly devoured him. If he could not kill the two of them quickly, then he would be completely devoured in the end, becoming a part of the sword. In the end, he would only benefit Li Qingshan at his own expense.

He struggled desperately. Swords plunged out of his body, but the black tower was not as fragile as the Chains of Demon Suppression. The swords rapidly weakened before they had even approached the tower, and the demon qi in his body was rapidly suppressed.

Lietu was very tough. He threw himself against the tower madly, shaking and swaying the Demon Suppression Tower; it was like it could tip over at any time.

Li Qingshan waved his hand again, and nine Chains of Demon Suppression flew over with a clank. They wrapped around the Demon Suppression Tower before pinning it to the ground and pulling themselves taut. The Demon Suppression Tower immediately stopped shaking. Sounds of collision continued to ring out, but the Demon Suppression Tower did not even budge anymore.

“Done. So this is the true usage of the Chains of Demon Suppression. They work with the Demon Suppression Tower for suppression. Just how many people can escape this?”

Having learnt a new, powerful trick, Li Qingshan was overjoyed. The only issue he had with it was the moves in the Demon Suppression Statuary focused on suppression and not killing in a single strike.

The Chains of Demon Suppression can still trap the opponent before I kill them, but the Demon Suppression Tower completely isolates the opponent from me. If this Lietu doesn't die by himself, I have to move the Demon Suppression Tower before coming up with a way to finish him off. How troublesome!

Li Qingshan studied the black Demon Suppression Tower and suddenly thought of something. It also has nine floors. Don't tell me this is how the Demon Suppression hall looks like? If the Demon Suppression hall is actually a Demon Suppression tower, how large will this tower be? It'll probably be even larger than Great Buddha mountain.

Suddenly, a fierce and brutal aura burst through a set of gilded doors and entered the square. The colossal figure had basically squeezed through the doorway, and its protruding teeth were even sharper than spears, producing foul gusts of air.

“Another one! Hmm? Are you Duoge?”

Li Qingshan noticed the deep-violet pupils of the monster and remembered how Duoge looked like when he held his breath to demonify.

Roar! Duoge unleashed a threatening howl, like a vicious beast about to launch an attack.

“I didn't think he'd actually turn out like this. Is it because he ate too many demon hearts?”

Li Qingshan could sense that the demon qi on Duoge was extremely violent and powerful. He had to maintain the Demon Suppression Tower and Chains of Demon Suppression, so he was unable to spare any effort to suppress Duoge as well.

Duoge glanced at Li Qingshan and Xiao An too before looking over them and staring at the Demon Suppression statue. The Demon Suppression statue gazed right back at him. In the end, Duoge lowered his head; his gaze landed on those scattered demon hearts, eyeing them greedily.

Li Qingshan came up with an idea. Using the Divine Talisman of Great Creation, he conjured a monster exactly the same as Duoge, just even larger and more vicious. He created it in front of Duoge, and it let out a roar.

“Hmm? What’s this? He even knows illusion techniques?”

The Dauntless monk was mildly surprised. He was highly knowledgeable, but he did not possess much understanding of the school of Novels that had fallen into decline.

Duoge shrank back slightly, becoming angered immediately. He lunged over viciously, but he hit nothing. The monster twisted and vanished as soon as he touched it. With his current level of intelligence, he had no idea what this was all about, so the situation left him in a small daze.

Li Qingshan instead used this opportunity to wave his hand. With a gust of wind, all of the demon hearts swept into his hand; he said to Duoge, “You want them?”

Duoge lunged over with a growl. He was extremely large, but he was highly nimble with the lunge.

The more demon hearts he devoured, the more violent and demonified he became, but he was unable to control this urge. He was like a person lost at sea, unable to help themselves as they drank seawater. The thirst could not be described with words.

Li Qingshan turned around and threw as hard as he could, tossing all the demon hearts behind him.

Duoge did not hesitate, immediately giving up on Li Qingshan and sweeping over Li Qingshan’s head in pursuit of the demon hearts. The demon hearts all flew towards the Demon Suppression Tower.

“Rise!”

Li Qingshan sniggered. The Chains of Demon Suppression slackened, and the Demon Suppression Tower flew high into the air.

Having been suppressed in the Demon Suppression Tower, Lietu finally gave up on the pointless struggle. However, when he crossed his legs and sat down, he discovered that the rate at which the Evil Eye devoured him was not as fast as he imagined it to be. Under the tower, his mind recovered some clarity, and he came to an understanding.

This tower can suppress demonic natures and demon qi. However, it is not just mine, but the Evil Eye’s too. This is a good opportunity for me to gain complete control over the Evil Eye! I refuse to believe he can keep me suppressed here forever. As soon as he stops the technique, I’ll rush out and kill them—no, I’ll have them taste the Demon race’s torture of slow death.

Right as he thought about that, his surroundings suddenly brightened. He responded extremely quickly, immediately standing up and brandishing his swords, only to see almost a hundred demon hearts flying over with a huge, vicious demonic beast following behind. The killing intent on his face turned into shock.

In the middle of the air, Duoge swept out with his long, red tongue and swallowed the demon hearts from almost a hundred powerful Demon Generals. His colossal body followed along his original trajectory and dove towards Lietu. His large, deep-violet eyes suddenly noticed the eye on Lietu’s chest,

as well as the demon heart in the eye. He immediately became like a dog that had spotted a bone, and his pounce became even more determined.

He immediately pushed Lietu down onto the ground.

Boom!

In the air, the Demon Suppression Tower became even larger and more dignified, falling down once more and suppressing Duoge and Lietu at the same time.

This was the benefit of the Demon Suppression Statuary. The greater the demonic nature and demon qi, the more powerful the moves would become.

After suppressing both of them, the tower instead became even more stable, as they were not working together to break free, instead becoming locked in an intense battle.

Li Qingshan sat on the sharp tip of the tower as furious bellows and bestial roars rang out from beneath his bottom.

Having merged with the sword, Lietu was extremely powerful, but Duoge had become extremely crazy after completely demonifying. He had just devoured almost another hundred demon hearts, so he definitely was not weak either.

Lietu was unable to settle down and slowly control the Evil Eye anymore either, or the only fate awaiting him was being devoured. He could only plead to the Evil Eye for more power while it gradually devoured him. The sliver of clarity in his heart vanished, and he gradually went crazy too.

In the narrow space, a man and a beast engaged in an unavoidable close combat, tearing and stabbing away at one another madly.

“When they’ve fought enough, I’ll open the tower. When that happens, finish off the sword person first and steal the sword.” Li Qingshan told Xiao An from atop the tower.

Xiao An asked, “Then what about Duoge?”

“If we can help him recover his sanity, then that would obviously be for the best. If we can’t-” Li Qingshan paused. “Then we kill him!”

A while later, the sounds of battle from within the Demon Suppression Tower did not die down at all. Instead, it became louder and shriller. They waited for another ten minutes before it gradually died down.

Li Qingshan and Xiao An exchanged glances. He called out, “Rise!”

Chapter 580 - The Traitorous Demon Sword

The Demon Suppression Tower rose high into the air and scarlet blood immediately flowed out.

Duoge waved his teeth and claws about with Lietu beneath him. His claws filled with power pressed down on Lietu’s shoulders firmly, completely ignoring the swords that pierced through him as he mauled at Lietu desperately with his bloody mouth. His scarlet tongue constantly swept about, wanting to swallow the demon heart in Lietu’s chest.

Lietu no longer bore any resemblance to his past self. Sword-like spines covered his body, penetrating deeply into Duoge, but they were unable to stop his huge, teeth-ridden mouth from constantly pressing down. The smell of the demon heart attracted Duoge. He did not care at all about how many holes there were through his body.

Blood flowed out like spring water, dyeing the golden ground red.

Originally, Lietu possessed the ability to see the location of the demon heart with the Evil Eye sword in hand. No matter where his opponent's demon heart was hidden, he could take it out in a single strike. However, who knew how many demon hearts Duoge had eaten as he followed Li Qingshan and Xiao An. He was unable to digest them immediately, so they were all stored in his body, preventing the Evil Eye from discerning the location of the true demon heart.

Lietu raised his head, blurrily making out Li Qingshan and Xiao An's existence. He could feel his will being assimilated into the Evil Eye. He would be completely devoured before long.

"Aaaaaaargh!"

Lietu let out a hysterical roar of despair. The swords all pulled back into his body, and his chin dropped to an unbelievable angle. A streak of light suddenly shot out of his mouth, moving as fast as lightning as it aimed straight at Li Qingshan.

As it happened right next to him, Li Qingshan was unable to dodge, or perhaps it would be better described as being unable to use his true power to dodge. He remained composed as the Demon Suppression Tower descended from above, enveloping him with a boom.

That had been from a moment of inspiration. Indeed, as it turned out, not only could the Demon Suppression Tower trap the opponent, but it also could protect its user. Although it could not kill the opponent, it was still an extremely practical move.

And, he could feel the glow of his demon heart subsiding drastically inside the Demon Suppression Tower. The Demon Suppression Tower was not for suppressing evil demons alone. More importantly, it was for suppressing his own demonic nature.

He could not help but recall the third Demon Suppression statue, the figure of the demon man wrapped in chains. He must have used chains for self-restraint and a tower for self-suppression when he was unable to control his madness.

However, it was pitch-black in here. He was unable to see what was going on outside.

Right as he thought of that, his vision brightened, and he saw the outside world. The Demon Suppression Tower seemed to become transparent, allowing him to clearly see the violent clash between the streak of light and the Demon Suppression Tower, kicking up sparks. As it turned out, the streak of light was a sword that shot out of Lietu's mouth continuously.

Lietu's desperate counterattack was definitely valiant. Probably even the Spirit Turtle's Profound Shell could not block it easily, but it was unable to pierce the Demon Suppression Tower. That was not because the Demon Suppression Tower was more powerful than the Spirit Turtle's Profound Shell, but because the Demon Suppression Tower possessed a power to suppress demons. It specially restrained

demonfolk, so no matter how powerful their attacks were, they would be whittled down to a shell of their former strength when they landed on the Demon Suppression Tower.

Duoge used this opportunity to lunge at the eyeball. Li Qingshan waved his hand in the Demon Suppression Tower and black chains flew out, wrapping around Duoge.

Duoge put up a violent struggle, and the chains broke one by one before even more chains immediately replaced them. He had already become heavily injured from the battle earlier, so he no longer possessed his original ferocity.

Lietu's final strike finally ran out of energy too. He collapsed onto the ground powerlessly, turning into a corpse.

The Demon Suppression Tower flew up once again, falling over Duoge. Li Qingshan smiled. "I can't just let you eat the sword that has caught my eye."

At this moment, something unexpected happened. Duoge's scarlet tongue suddenly extended rapidly, and a mouth with long, vicious teeth opened up, biting towards the eyeball in Lietu's chest.

Xiao An was about to swing her sword and sever the tongue when something else happened again. Lietu's corpse began to move again, flying towards Li Qingshan.

"Hmph, so you even know to play dead!"

Li Qingshan extended his hand and grabbed Lietu's neck, but to his surprise, Lietu did not put up a struggle. He only stiffened up without moving at all as his flesh and blood rapidly withered away. Only the eyeball in his chest remained the same.

A while later, a black residue scattered across the ground, and Lietu vanished completely. All that was left was a strange sword in Li Qingshan's hand.

"Interesting. Looks like divine swords aren't the only ones with intelligence. Demonic swords are the same. This sword actually knows how to avoid trouble and how to defect to the enemy. Not bad, not bad."

Li Qingshan stroked the sword and said with a smile. This demonic sword that had just lost its master seemed extremely docile. Its eyes swiveled around, even actively transmitting its power to Li Qingshan as if a voice was whispering into his ear, "I'm very sharp. I'm very strong. Take me. I will help you kill all your enemies!"

If regular people obtained a strange, demonic sword like that, they would not be able to help themselves but to develop some disgust even if they loved its power and could not bear to part with it or see it destroyed. However, Li Qingshan liked it very much. He said to the strange eyeball on the hilt.

"Sword, oh sword. Probably every single master you've served has suffered this fate! You've abandoned and betrayed them all, but that's not your fault. You're merely a sword. There's nothing you can do if they're too weak."

People always hoped that everything would be loyal to them. Their women had to be loyal, their friends had to be loyal, and even their dogs and horses had to be loyal. However, eternal loyalty never existed. If horses were loyal, they would be ridden. If dogs were loyal, they would be ordered around.

Li Qingshan had no plans to be loyal to anyone, nor did he need anyone or anything to be loyal to him.

“From today onwards, your name will be ‘Betrayal’. Yep, the Demonic Sword of Betrayal. I’ll just call you ‘Traitorous Demon sword’.”

The sword shone brightly as if it was making a gleeful reply.

Li Qingshan smiled. If he did not want the sword to betray him, then all he could do was constantly grow stronger and do his best to survive. He casually placed the Traitorous Demon sword over his shoulder. The sword was over three meters long, which was perfect for once he demonified.

Li Qingshan’s gaze passed through the Demon Suppression Tower. He saw Duoge roaring madly as he constantly threw himself against the tower.

He was heavily injured, but the power from several hundred demon cores constantly surged through his body. His wounds rapidly recovered, and he demonified even more.

Li Qingshan sighed gently. He was unable to connect this monster to the skinny, dark-skinned child. He dispersed the Demon Suppression Tower with a wave of his hand.

Duoge lunged towards him. The difference in their sizes was very great, so he resembled a tiger pouncing towards a rabbit.

Duoge was much stronger than a tiger, but Li Qingshan was no rabbit. He took a step forward with his left leg and anchored himself like a nail driven into the ground. He sucked in a deep breath as his pectoral muscles heaved into the air, bringing his right arm back and extending it to the limit like a battering ram ready to strike. He launched a vicious punch at Duoge’s head.

Duoge hurtled through the air and slammed into a wall. He climbed to his feet and shook his head. A few of his teeth were broken as blood oozed out in his mouth.

The punch contained a great power of demon suppression. After reaching the sixth statue of the Demon Suppression Statuary, the demon heart in Li Qingshan’s body had become shinier and clearer, and his destructive power towards demonfolk had become greater too.

Duoge let out a violent howl and lunged over again. Death was not a concept to him. With a thunk, he sailed through the air again, leaving behind a long trail of blood on the ground.

Li Qingshan pulled back his fist. With his crude method of attack, he could only crush those weaker opponents who posed no threat to him. If Lietu had not been trapped in the narrow Demon Suppression Tower that prevented him from moving and maneuvering about, he probably would have cut Duoge to pieces a long time ago.

If Li Qingshan wanted to kill Duoge, it would not take him too much strength either. However, as he gazed into the violet eyes, the figure of that child seemed to appear before him. Then, he recalled the demon man in a painful struggle against his demonic nature that all the Demon Suppression statues depicted.

“I hope you can feel this pain!”

Li Qingshan said softly as he watched Duoge lunge over. There was a flash before his eyes, and suddenly, he could see the demon hearts that twinkled in Duoge's body like stars. He could even clearly discern the quality of these demon hearts and whether the demonic nature they contained was pure or not.

Glancing at the Traitorous Demon sword on his shoulder, Li Qingshan opened his fist and extended his index and middle finger, pressing them against Duoge's head viciously.

The power of suppressing demons entered his body, and a demon heart in Duoge's head immediately dimmed, no longer shining anymore. Its demonic nature had been suppressed.

Seems like it's effective! Li Qingshan twisted his body and allowed a huge claw to fly past him. He struck the mid-air Duoge with a hook, and two demon hearts in his jaw dimmed as well.

Li Qingshan parted his legs and unleashed both fists. At that moment, he seemed to grow a hundred limbs. The fists rained down on Duoge's abdomen like a storm.

Duoge constantly trembled in the air, roaring and growling furiously, trying to fight back. Li Qingshan's final punch sent him flying.

Duoge only stood up after a flip. His demon qi plummeted, and a sliver of clarity appeared in the depths of his violet eyes. Li Qingshan channeled the power of suppressing demons into his body with each punch, having extinguished several dozen demon hearts now.

With a flash, Li Qingshan arrived beside Duoge. His feet shifted as his posture changed, barraging Duoge with punches. With each punch, a demon heart dimmed.

In the end, only a single demon heart continued to shine in his abdomen. Who knew how many demon hearts it had merged with. It became the size of a fist and had an uneven surface, shining with colourful light.

"Wake up!"

Li Qingshan bellowed and struck Duoge's abdomen with a palm strike. It penetrated deeply into him and light spilled out. Li Qingshan had poured all of his power of suppressing demons into the palm strike.

Suddenly, he came to an understanding. So this is demon suppression, not demon slaying or demon purging. Because the demon senior who created this cultivation method was also a demonfolk, he was not seeking to slay all demons, but to save those demons who were controlled by their demon hearts.

A tiny figure burst out of the colossal body of the demonic beast. It was Duoge in his original shape.

Li Qingshan caught him and placed him onto the ground gently. "I've already done everything I can. As for whether you can wake up, that'll be entirely up to you."

The Dauntless monk saw this and thought, This child seems vicious and violent, but he most definitely has a buddha nature. He has a heart of benevolence.

Duoge furrowed his brows as his eyelashes trembled. His expression changed as the Demon Suppression statues appeared in his mind, gradually blurring and turning into himself in the end.

The same expression of pain appeared on his face. Suddenly, he opened his eyes and looked at Li Qingshan. "Venerable... I feel horrible!"