

Tales of Herding Gods Chapter 231-235

Chapter 231: Killing The Monk

“Vajra Unbeatable!”

Buddha rays shone brilliantly from Monk Ban Chi, and his muscles swelled, becoming twelve yards tall. The nine rings monk staff also became bigger like a huge sun behind the head of a huge buddha.

This was Vajra Unbeatable Technique of Buddhism, a kind of technique whose forte was the divine arts of the corporeal body.

There are many kinds of techniques in Buddhism. The forte of some of them is the frame of mind, so they cultivate spells and divine arts; while others are known for their wisdom and cultivating knife and sword skills; there are also those of the battle techniques school, whose forte are divine arts of the corporeal body.

Even though Vajra Unbeatable Technique took the path of the battle techniques, it was different from others. Some spells were mixed into this technique. However, unlike Chancellor Ba Shan’s fusion of battle techniques and spells, the spells of Vajra Unbeatable Technique were hidden in the monk staff or prayer beads. Through the daily cultivation with their monk staff and prayer beads, the monks would chant the buddhist scriptures non-stop, refining their evil thoughts into the prayer beads and the divine arts in the buddhist scriptures into the monk staff.

When it came to battle, they could release the evil thoughts in their prayer beads, transforming into a fiendish battle stance, while the spells in the monk staff were methods to catch an enemy off guard with a surprise attack!

Qin Mu had experienced the strong points of Vajra Unbeatable Technique before. This technique would turn one’s body incomparably durable after executing the body of Vajrayaksa, to the extent that the person could take on the blow of Junior Protector Sword.

Furthermore, the monk’s strength would become so outrageous that he could push Qin Mu’s treasure ship down.

Qin Mu executed Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique, and his body trembled. A ray of golden light shot down from the sky and poured into him, transforming his corporeal body into a golden god. Tiger claws, fur, and head grew out from his body while he stepped on twin dragons and held a bronze battle-ax formed from golden qi, which was like a huge hatchet.

A golden snake hung on Qin Mu’s left ear and hissed while taking in and sending out golden qi.

What he had executed was Venus Sovereign Gold Marquis Technique, a god transforming into the form of Venus Sovereign to control all the gold qi in existence.

There were many secrets hidden in Five Elements Realm, and Qin Mu originally had an extremely high achievements in it. With the guidance of Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor, cultivating the god

transformation of the Five Great Star Sovereigns had allowed him to surpass the other strong practitioners of Five Elements Realm by leaps and bounds.

“Truly, the spell of devils!”

Monk Ban Chi saw his body transforming and sneered. The nine rings of his monk staff danced in the breeze and swelled up before smashing down suddenly like a huge hammer with nine golden rings!

As Qin Mu’s bronze battle-ax clashed with the nine-ringed monk staff, a terrifying power exploded from the both of them. Qin Mu moved back repeatedly from the vibrations, and the twin dragons under his feet flew out to climb onto Monk Ban Chi’s body, tangling with his legs. At the same time, the golden rings of the nine-ringed monk staff flew out one after another and hit Qin Mu’s head, causing sparks to fly out in all directions. Qin Mu ended up tumbling back a distance away.

Monk Ban Chi was of the Six Directions Realm, after all, and he was a divine arts practitioner with a lot of tricks up his sleeves. With a trample, both of the golden dragons were shattered into pieces. Once he grabbed his monk staff and leaped back up in the air, the nine golden rings whooshed back onto his monk staff while he was in mid air.

Boom!

Monk Ban Chi smashed his monk staff downwards onto Qin Mu. His feet were on the ground, but he couldn’t stop himself from sliding backwards, plowing a deep pit in the ground. The bronze battle-ax in his hand was also smashed into pieces.

Monk Ban Chi rushed over at an extremely fast speed and was in front of him in a few steps. His monk staff swept forward, and another loud boom rang out as he smashed Qin Mu repeatedly until the other couldn’t get a stable footing and flew backwards.

The monk staff hummed while the nine golden rings clanked as they smashed onto Qin Mu’s chest, throwing him hundreds of yards away and destroyed a part of the forest.

“Mount Meru Mudra, tut!”

Monk Ban Chi rose into the sky and started to chant an incantation as he smacked Qin Mu down with a palm. The ground trembled, and the trees collapsed, revealing a handprint that was the size of three ares, deeply imprinted into the ground. In the meantime, an apparition of Mount Meru materialized above this handprint, with countless symbols of buddhist texts swirling it.

“Amitabha, the demon of the devil path has finally been executed, due to a virtuous achievement of this little monk.”

Monk Ban Chi landed on the ground holding the monk staff with one hand while the other was in front of his chest. Standing outside of the handprint, he paid his respects. “Little monk isn’t a person that’s fond of killing and exhibiting such a swift means today was merely to rid the evil from this world. There was no other choice. Little monk shall recite a paragraph from the Scriptures of Rebirth in the Pure Land, sending the damned soul of the cult master to paradise, to not do evil anymore...”

Just as he was about to chant the scripture, he felt his hair standing up on end and immediately leaped away. The ground split open, and gold qi spikes rose up from the ground, frantically stabbing into the air!

The monk staff of Monk Ban Chi smashed down, and the nine rings swept in all directions, crumbling the gold qi spikes. He then saw the apparition of Mount Meru crumbling as gold qi gathered to form countless sword lights. They then gathered into one which was dozens of yards long and stabbed into the chest of Monk Ban Chi with a ding.

The monk felt pain when his chest was stabbed by that sword light. He suddenly shouted loudly, and buddha voice came from the prayer beads on his neck. Buddhist runes poured out from the vibrations, and the scriptures were like hoops that covered that sword light, layer after layer. As the scriptures continued swirling, they finally stopped the sword.

At this moment, light suddenly flashed in front of Monk Ban Chi, and a huge wave rushed into the sky in front of him. Before it, Qin Mu transformed into a red-haired snake body of Water Marquis Mercury Sovereign, who was holding a trident in his hand.

The trident stabbed towards Monk Ban Chi, and huge waves rushed up, transforming into a huge mudra which came pressing down on the opponent.

Monk Ban Chi shouted loudly, and his buddha rays shone brilliantly. He raised his hand to block, but found that a boundless strength was overwhelming him, smacking him away ruthlessly.

The trident reached his chest and transformed into a three-headed dragon which surged forward while pressing onto his body. He heard a loud bang as it and the torrent slammed him against the ground, creating a huge pit around him.

The wave dispersed, and Monk Ban Chi immediately stood up. In his face was a bull-headed human-bodied monster who rushed at him while stepping on two fire dragons. The heart of this monster's brows opened up, revealing its bull eye, and a beam came rushing over at a speed of lightning. Monk Ban Chi raised his hand to defend his neck and felt a searing pain on his palm. Two of his fingers had been severed.

Panic started to arise in his heart. He grasped the nine-ringed monk staff with a hand and used it like a hammer. The head of the staff swelled up, becoming larger and larger. The staff then was like a mountaintop smashing forward, while his other hand made a mudra which smashed forward.

Qin Mu transformed into Mars Sovereign's form and gave an angry bellow. His strength was boundless, and a fire bottle gourd appeared behind his back. When he took this fire bottle gourd into his embrace, blazing true fire spewed out from inside it, and the flames scorched the nine-ringed monk staff red hot. Molten gold leaked out from it continuously.

Monk Ban Chi was astonished. Nine-ringed monk staff was the spirit weapon he had painstakingly refined and one which had the blessing of Buddha. Yet it couldn't defend against the true fire from this bottle gourd, and if it was melted, he would lose a major weapon.

However, now was not the time to think it through; he could only risk his spirit weapon getting destroyed and brace himself to smash Qin Mu to death!

Bang!

The fire bottle gourd exploded from the attacks, and the two fire dragons under Qin Mu's feet also shattered into pieces. Monk Ban Chi immediately followed up with Mount Meru Mudra, and Qin Mu's body suddenly trembled. A ray of green light shot down from the sky, and he transformed into the form of Wood Marquis Jupiter Sovereign, which had a human head, bird's body, and bird feet. With two wings on his back and two green dragons under his feet, he flapped his wings and rose into the sky to avoid Mount Meru Mudra. Once he came into the sky above Monk Ban Chi, the willow whip in his hand came smacking down against Monk Ban Chi.

The moment the monk raised his hand to defend against the whip, he felt that something was wrong. This whip was actually incomparably soft and coiled around his arm like a green snake. The willow whip then suddenly grew and coiled around his whole body.

In the blink of an eye, the willow whip had become thick as a water barrel, turning into a willow tree which coiled around its target tightly.

At the same time, the two green dragons under Qin Mu's feet were shrinking as they transformed into two trails of green qi which entered Monk Ban Chi's nostrils.

"Arriving in this world empty-handed, leaving this world empty-handed! Six senses, be sealed!"

Monk Ban Chi sealed his senses so that the two trails of green qi couldn't enter his body and were then purified by his buddha rays. The prayer beads on his neck exploded one after another, and evil thoughts poured out from them, returning to his body.

The evil in Monk Ban Chi erupted, and he gave a bellow. His corporeal body swelled up once again and shattered that willow tree in pieces as he gave an angry roar, "When Grandpa Buddha gets angry, even the Heavens have to give way! Demon, die!"

Just as he shouted that out, Qin Mu transformed again, turning into a human-headed snake-bodied form while the Gate of Heaven Influence appeared behind him. With two Pig Slaughtering Knives in his hands, he rushed straight at his enemy.

Explosive sounds rang out endlessly. The buddha rays and sparks burst out continuously from the surroundings of Monk Ban Chi, and there was not a single scratch on him that was caused by the Pig Slaughtering Knives.

"Grandpa Buddha had the body of vajra, nothing can break through it!"

Monk Ban Chi had a malicious expression as the monk staff in his hand smashed down frantically. Qin Mu's knives collided with it, and a huge bang rang out, which pushed the birds and beasts in the forest around them into fleeing.

Suddenly, the knives in Qin Mu's hands cracked and exploded, unable to withstand the immense power of the two's fight. At the same time, the monk staff in Monk Ban Chi's hands also exploded.

"Die!"

Monk Ban Chi screamed continuously, and his fists which were as heavy as mountains came raining down. Qin Mu roared in anger, and his muscles bulged as electricity surrounded his body. He executed Thunderclap Eight Strikes, and the green dragon coiled around his body as he clashed directly with Monk Ban Chi.

The two small giants exchanged heavy blows in the forest when suddenly Junior Protector Sword flew out and stabbed into the huge sun behind Monk Ban Chi's head at a lightning speed.

Monk Ban Chi was astonished and immediately raised his hand to defend. At this moment, Qin Mu punched like sunshine refining the yang soul in the sky. Monk Ban Chi's soul wavered for a moment, and he didn't manage to block that sword light, allowing Junior Protector Sword to pierce through the huge sun behind his head.

His Vajra Unbeatable Technique was instantly broken, and his body started to shrink. Qin Mu sent another punch his way, and the bones in Monk Ban Chi's body trembled violently as he grunted and retreated.

Qin Mu's punches rained down like howling wind and torrential rain, causing pain to Monk Ban Chi. He became more and more frightened, then turned around to run. With a few ups and downs, he had already escaped to the sky.

Qin Mu paused for a moment as he looked at the sky. The speed of the escapee was extremely fast; he ran six-seven miles in just a few breaths' time. Only then did he stop so a lotus could bloom under his feet to lift up his body as he thought to himself, "This devil is powerful since he has too many tricks up his sleeves, but his speed isn't that fast so he can't catch up to me. I can still reorganize myself..."

Just as he thought this, a loud boom rang out, and he immediately turned back to have a look. At that moment, he couldn't help being stunned when he saw Qin Mu breaking through the air like he was flying. His speed was such that the monk could not even see him clearly!

Boom!

Qin Mu's fist bashed into Monk Ban Chi's face, and it caved in its entirety. The power of Tempest of the Nine Dragons poured into his head and exploded with a bang.

In the sky, blood light was accompanied by forty-five green dragons that bore fangs and brandished claws. Among their snarls, a headless corpse fell from the sky.

"Dumb monk, I could let you run ten miles first."

Chapter 232: Apothecary's Pot

"Ow, so painful!"

Qin Mu descended and searing pain filled all his limbs, making him suck in cold air.

The monk's Vajra Unbeatable Technique had made his body incomparably durable, to the point that even spirit weapons couldn't injure him. All kinds of divine arts were also useless against him, making this fight abnormally exhausting for Qin Mu.

The power of Monk Ban Chi's attacks was also astonishing, so Qin Mu's flesh had burst open. This was especially so because of that the nine-ringed monk staff which had almost shattered his head. Luckily, the monk's attacks were pretty straightforward, so he had still died under Qin Mu's hands.

"Divine arts practitioners of Six Directions Realm are pretty strong, I can't underestimate them."

Qin Mu touched the bump on his head and sucked in cold air. He executed Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique to circulate his blood and qi so as to not let his blood clot up.

Two of his ribs were broken, and the flesh on his back was a bloody mess. These injuries were probably from when Monk Ban Chi had smashed his Mount Meru Mudra on him.

Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique had an extremely good effect on healing injuries, but it was still incomparable to spirit pills and miracle medicine. Luckily, the current injuries were not fatal.

"Let me return to the village first to heal up before finding devil ape."

Qin Mu reattached the ribs that had broken off and threw the monk's corpse away. There was no rule to bury corpses in Great Ruins since the blood from the corpse would attract wild beasts which would devour it. At most, only the bones would be left.

While if the luck wasn't in the dead person's favor, even the bones might not be left.

Qin Mu returned to the village and plucked a few spirit herbs from the herb garden outside the village. He refined two furnaces of spirit pills, one of which was used to heal external injuries, while the other internal injuries. He then asked for some dragon's saliva from the dragon qilin to harmonize the medicine.

The dragon qilin noticed his beaten up state and gave a bewildered look; however, he didn't probe into it.

The dragon qilin squatted motionlessly at the village entrance in a guarding pose like he had done at Imperial College. But Qin Mu felt that he might be guarding only in name. Instead, he was actually lazing off, unable to be bothered to even move.

Dutian Devil King remained motionless as well. The dragon qilin was too lazy to move, while he was fixed in place by Deaf.

Qin Mu recuperated at ease. When night fell, Deaf still didn't return. The rest of the people in the village also remained away.

The next day came, and Village Chief and the rest still didn't return, either. Qin Mu's lungs were still aching, so he couldn't breathe in heavily, but the injuries on his ribs and back had already healed.

"If a person wants his injured lungs to heal faster, it is best for that person to steam themselves, allowing the medicinal gas to enter the lungs. However, there is no one to help me maintain the fire..."

The youth executed Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique and slowly walked. He breathed in and out slowly, to let the injured lungs heal slightly faster. Suddenly, he thought of a question, "After New Years, will I be fifteen or sixteen years old?"

His age was always a debate among the people in the village. Village Chief and Granny had argued a few times over this but come to no clear solution.

Granny Si had picked Qin Mu in the swaddling clothes during spring, and he had been two to three months old at the time. She believed he was born before New Years while Village Chief believed that he was born after New Years.

If he was born before, he would be sixteen years old. If it was after, he would still be fifteen years old.

During each and every New Years, the two would fight over this matter, and he reckoned they were going to fight this time as well.

As he was thinking about it, Qin Mu heard a buzzing and raised his head to have a look. He saw a few golden-colored insects flying over from the forest outside the village.

He blinked, and the golden insects buzzed away, disappearing into the forest.

More insects came out later on and circled around the village before disappearing back into the forest.

"That woman from Three Wonders Castle has arrived!"

Qin Mu's gaze flickered. The woman from Three Wonders Castle was much stronger than Monk Ban Chi and could control swarms of insects. They were venomous and had been refined by her until they were like steel, able to bite cleanly through spirit weapons.

The woman could control thousands of them. With such an amount, Qin Mu would definitely be unable to fight against all of them if they were to pour over at him all at once. He would be cleanly eaten in an instant!

"Rather than letting her slaughter her way into the village, why don't I settle it outside!"

Qin Mu looked around and came to Apothecary's herb shop. He carefully brought out a broken pot with a couple scorpions inside waving their pincers at each other. The barbs on their tails swept forward as they fought over the spirit pills Qin Mu had fed them earlier.

He carried the broken pot out of the village, and the dragon qilin took a glance at him before asking in a low voice, "Cult master, what are you going to do?"

“Fight!” Qin Mu said ruthlessly.

“Fight again...” the dragon qilin said with disinterest. “Don’t come back with injuries everywhere this time.”

Qin Mu carried the pot to the riverside while a couple insects kept following him, hiding among the bushes and leaves.

Qin Mu stopped and waited for a moment. He saw the number of insects growing around him as they lay down on the river’s surface. It was like a layer of gold was covering it.

The insects lured the huge fish of Surging River over, and a couple of them leaped out from the water, wanting to eat the shining prey. However, when the huge fish leaped into the air and opened their huge mouths maliciously, the insects started chirping weirdly and became three yards long. They then pounced onto the bodies of the huge fish and started gnawing at them. Soon, only the bones were left, which fell back into the water.

The corners of Qin Mu’s eyelids twitched. The fish monsters of Surging River were very powerful, their strength comparable to that of martial arts practitioners of Spirit Embryo Realm and Five Elements Realm. However, in front of the venomous insects raised by the woman from Three Wonders Castle, they were unable to withstand a single blow.

“Heavenly Devil Cult Master.”

A voice came from downstream, and Qin Mu looked towards the source of it. He saw the woman from Three Wonders Castle stepping on the golden-colored insect swarm flying over from downstream of Surging River.

She couldn’t fly, but the insects could. They surrounded her in uncountable numbers, and there was also a golden-colored female insect that was much bigger in size than the other venomous insects. The woman was standing on the back of this female insect.

Qin Mu smiled sweetly and asked, “How may I address big sister?”

Qiu Yue was several hundred yards away from Qin Mu when she stopped her insect swarm to ask curiously, “Heavenly Devil Cult Master has such an important position and should be the one holding supremacy under the heavens. Why are you so polite to your enemies, calling me big sister?”

Three Wonders Castle had three wonders: insects, poison, and beautiful women.

This woman had a heart-wrenching beauty. One look at her would make people ignore the scalp-numbing venomous insects. Instead, their hearts would throb violently from being struck by her beauty.

Qin Mu shook his head. “Once I’m in Great Ruins, I’m no longer the cult master of Heavenly Devil Cult and am now the child of my elders in the village. This big sister, if you are willing to let go of your grudges, I can invite you into the village for New Years. The celebrations in our Great Ruins are actually pretty bustling with noise and excitement.”

Qiu Yue said, "After killing you, I could return home for New Years..."

Her complexion then darkened, and sorrow entered her eyes. "I've forgotten, my home no longer exists, it was destroyed by you and Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor... My home is at Three Wonders Castle, my grandmaster is True Lord Tian, my teacher is Tian Youfei. In the battle of Daxiang City, Heavenly Devil Cult transported Eternal Peace Army into the city and killed countless senior brothers and sisters of mine. My teacher covered my escape only to die under the hands of Grand General who crowns the Army..."

She seemed to be laughing and yet not laughing, crying and yet not crying. With a cold gaze, she said in a soft voice, "Heavenly Devil Cult Master, you were already the cult master of Heavenly Devil Cult then, weren't you? To be able to mobilize so many experts of Heavenly Devil Cult, there is none one else capable of this. You were the one who mobilized the experts of Heavenly Devil Cult to destroy the great cause of our volunteer army, to destroy our Three Wonders Castle!"

With an awe-inspiring gaze, she added, "I had gone back to Three Wonders Castle secretly, but it had already been destroyed. My family members were treated as rebels and executed in public! Heavenly Devil Cult Master, do you think I should kill you?"

Qin Mu sighed. "You should. However, you shouldn't have rebelled in the first place. When you rebelled, you should have known that if the rebellion failed, this would be the only outcome for your family."

Qiu Yue took a step forward and said sternly, "Righteousness must be upheld by the people even in the threat of being executed. Justice may be won only by using the lives of people! Otherwise, where would the righteousness be, where would the justice be? Even though I'm from the devil path, I'm willing to be this kind of person! Heavenly Devil Cult Master, no need to say anymore. Please make your move, I'll send you on your way!"

Qin Mu felt a deep veneration and said resolutely, "People who walk different paths cannot work together, young lady, please."

Qiu Yue shouted sternly, and her sleeves fluttered. Venomous insects swarmed towards Qin Mu from all directions, and they were too varied and numerous to count. Some would expand in the wind: the bigger ones would grow to three-six yards in size while the smaller ones would become as big as a wash basin. There were others that didn't expand but shrunk down instead.

These kind of venomous insects were the most dangerous as the smaller they were, the harder it was to guard against them. They could tunnel into a human's body when they were not prepared and gnaw on their five viscera and six bowels. There were even some venomous insects that could swallow the soul and absorb the opponent's vital qi cultivation.

Qin Mu opened up the pot, and his vital qi poured inside it. The couple scorpions jumped out and suddenly expanded, becoming over sixty yards long. The black shell on their bodies was covered with exceptionally beautiful and strange rune markings which lit up continuously. Terrifying aura swept through the air, and the insect swarm which was surging over suddenly dropped out of the sky like rain!

Qiu Yue was astonished and immediately turned to escape. Suddenly, the tail of a huge scorpion swept out and extended endlessly like a chain, hooking the woman and killing her in one strike.

Qin Mu sighed. He saw these scorpions fighting over Qiu Yue's corpse, which resulted in the waves churching in the river. When the waves overflowed into the sky, he activated the pot and the scorpions shrunk down. They returned inside and continued to fight there.

Qiu Yue's corpse had already been torn to pieces by them and sunk into the river, where it got washed away by the current.

Qin Mu carried the pot back into Disabled Elderly Village, and the dragon qilin sized him up at the village entrance. He saw that that youth wasn't too happy, so he didn't say anything.

Qin Mu placed the pot down and pulled Dutian Devil King over. He punched, kicked, and even summoned wind and lightning over to strike the god statue several times before letting him off.

Dutian Devil King lay on the ground motionlessly, having lost dozens of parts. He felt extremely grieved and grumbled, "When have I provoked you?"

After beating Dutian Devil King, Qin Mu felt much better. Suddenly, he heard someone shouting from outside, "Heavenly Devil Cult Master is here! Everyone, come quickly!"

Qin Mu's face darkened. He went to Granny Si's room and took the mirror which she used to dress and groom herself. When he walked out of the village, he saw a couple divine arts practitioners rushing over.

He raised this copper mirror, and his vital qi poured inside it. The light from the mirror shined on the divine arts practitioners, and their souls flew away, having been scattered. Their corpses then fell from the sky.

The youth returned to the village and placed the mirror back onto Granny Si's dressing table, thinking to himself, "Will there be an end to this? Won't they let me have a proper New Years?"

Chapter 233: Paper Boats

Qin Mu's injuries had healed, so he brought the presents he had prepared for the devil ape out of the village, walking towards the valley of Doom Suppression Palace. Just as he left, he saw a strange beast which was dragging a corpse. When it saw him coming, that strange beast immediately hissed and the fur on its neck stood up.

The river water babbled as a couple strange beasts jumped out from the water and rushed for the other corpses. These strange beasts with the head of a fish and the body of a human stopped immediately when they saw Qin Mu and fell on the ground, afraid to move forward.

Qin Mu paid no attention to them. During his two days of recuperation, divine arts practitioners from Eternal Peace had found their way over one after another. However, before they could enter the village, they were all gotten rid of by items that were lying around the village.

There were plenty of items there that were extremely terrifying. Other than the insects in the pots, there was also the rake that gathered up the grass, the curtain in the smithy, the water cauldron, the

sword pellets under Granny Si's bed, Butcher's whetstone, the trough used to feed the hens, and also the wash basin that was taken by the dragon qilin to use as the rice bowl.

There were quite a lot of people who were chasing after Qin Mu's life as well. Other than Long Jiaonan and that batch of strong practitioners, there were experts from other sects. Many of them had found their way here during Qin Mu's two days of recuperation.

It was not hard to find Disabled Elderly Village, since if they followed the river, it was only a thousand miles away from Border Dragon City, which was not far from Eternal Peace's border pass. That's why if they wanted to find him, they could easily do so.

Qin Mu reckoned there were about forty to fifty people who had found this place during the past two days. Of course, they were all dead people by now.

"Long Jiaonan haven't found her way here. Could she have gotten lost or was she killed on the way? Or..."

When Qin Mu was in the village, he always felt a gaze staring at him from outside the village. It was like a huge venomous snake was hidden in the dark corners, ready to pounce anytime.

"She's nearby?"

Walking out of the village this time was also to lure Long Jiaonan out.

This woman had a deep hatred with him. The demise of Dragon Rider Sect was singlehandedly caused by Qin Mu. If it was not for him summoning Dutian Devil King in Heaven Wave City, Dragon Rider Sect wouldn't have perished so easily.

Qin Mu came to Doom Suppression Palace and saw a lot of wild beasts there. However, the devil ape and the dragon elephant were not among them.

He looked around and couldn't find any trace. The wild beasts in the valley sadly didn't know how to cultivate or speak, so he couldn't ask them where the devil ape had went.

Qin Mu could only return back to Disabled Elderly Village. Two more days passed, and he finally couldn't sit still any longer. It was very close to New Year now, with only two-three days remaining, yet Granny Si, Village Chief, and the rest had still not come back!

"The elders of the village are truly worrisome!"

He went to Doom Suppression Palace once more and still couldn't find the devil ape, which made him even more impatient.

"Fatty dragon, get up!" Qin Mu packed up his stuff and fed the insects and hen dragons once more. He then wiped off the fix word on Dutian Devil King's body and called the dragon qilin. "Let's find them in the depths of Great Ruins!"

Dutian Devil King stretched his body and sneered, "If a half-god existence like Deaf couldn't come back after going into Great Ruins, what's the use of you going?"

Qin Mu shook his head. "Even though my strength isn't high, I have a helper. Devil king, you are from the Heavenly Devil Tribe, am I right?"

Dutian Devil King said proudly, "So you want to borrow my strength. If you treat me nicely, it's not impossible for me to help you. However, you beat me up for no reason and made me upset. Please me, only then will I help you."

Qin Mu asked curiously, "How can I please Lord Devil King?"

Dutian Devil King became excited and was about to say what he normally said, but he felt that something was wrong. If he said it, the one kneeling down and licking the toes would be him.

Qin Mu said resolutely, "If you put in all your effort to help me find them, I'll release you. How's this condition?"

Dutian Devil King's eyes lighted up. "You promise?"

"I promise!"

Qin Mu finished packing up and walked out of Disabled Elderly Village, making the dragon qilin head upstream. Everyone had went to find the whereabouts of Carefree Village, and Village Chief had brought him upstream last time to the depths of Great Ruins, to the origin of Surging River where they had met numerous strange happenings.

However, what they had found then wasn't Carefree Village but the Moon Ship of Fengdu.

Moon Ship had guided the jade pendant on Qin Mu's neck, because of which the pendant had floated up, luring Qin Mu to that place.

He felt that if Village Chief and the others wanted to find Carefree Village, they would definitely start their search there. They also might have left some trails behind.

The dragon qilin's speed wasn't slow, but compared to the speed of Village Chief, he was much slower. When Village Chief had brought Qin Mu, he was like a god giving off brilliant rays in the darkness, moving at an extremely fast speed.

Qin Mu could only enter Great Ruins during the day. When night fell, he could only find other villages or ruins to avoid the darkness.

Great Ruins during the day and Great Ruins at night were two completely different worlds. Village Chief had guessed that Great Ruins during the day was the real world, while at night, some dark world overlapped with it.

If Village Chief and the rest had entered that world of the darkness and were brought away by it, Qin Mu would not be able to find them. He could only hope that Village Chief and the rest had found Carefree Village.

Not long after he left Disabled Elderly Village, a girl wearing a long dark green dress came to its outskirts. A red-colored earring that hung from her ear had stretched itself to look so, but it was actually a little red snake.

“Treasures are all around this village, I wonder if I can steal some of them,” Long Jiaonan said in a low voice. “Xiao’hong, call some helpers.”

The little red snake hanging from her ear hissed, and huge red-crowned snakes slithered out from the forest. It slithered into the village, but just as it entered, a black spider sprawling on the spirit herb suddenly leaped up from the herb garden and landed on the huge snake’s head to bite it.

That huge snake instantly died, and its flesh and blood decomposed into mush which got sucked clean by that spider. Only the snake’s skin was left.

The spider became bigger and bigger. After sucking dry the huge snake, it spewed balls of true fire to burn itself out to return to its previous size and jumped back into the herb garden to hide.

The corner of Long Jiaonan’s eyes twitched, and she immediately turned around to leave. The den of snakes behind her scattered off in all directions. “This village, not even Celestial Beings could enter it!”

The dragon qilin followed the river upstream for six thousand miles. Qin Mu raised his head to take a look at that time. The sky was already getting dark, so he immediately surveyed his surroundings to look for a place he could settle.

“On the geological map of Great Ruins, there should be a place called Monster Management Palace, maybe it’s a place where I can seek shelter.”

Qin Mu recalled the geological map of Great Ruins and found his bearings. Suddenly, his eyes lighted up, and he ordered the dragon qilin to go ashore. Not long later, they found the ruins of a palace, with some strange beasts already hiding there.

Qin Mu entered the ruins of Monster Management Palace and saw many skeletons of huge beasts all around. They were very quiet, not moving even when he entered.

Qin Mu raised his head to size them up. The skeleton of the huge beasts in Monster Management Palace was simply too humongous. They were dozens of times bigger than the dragon qilin’s transformation. If they were still alive, they would be three thousand yards tall and be like moving mountains!

Not long later, a couple Daoists came to the ruins, who were probably experts who had come into Great Ruins for experience. When they saw Qin Mu, they revealed astonishment, but they remained silent, setting their own fire to cook their meals.

Qin Mu cooked up a few dishes and ate dinner before lying down beside the dragon qilin to sleep.

The couple Daoists looked at one another but remained silent. They wrote words on the ground, and as they did that, the ground suddenly trembled. Bellows came from outside, and obscure and hard to understand voices spoke from the darkness, sounding like devil gods whispering to each other.

Qin Mu sat up and saw the skeletons of the huge beasts suddenly shine brilliantly with divine light. The tremors of the ground grew more and more violent, and he saw the huge beasts suddenly raising their legs from the ground. These skeletons seemed to have come alive, for they walked out of the ruins.

World shaking roars came from outside, and there was divine light shining over through the darkness once in awhile. Through these divine lights, those inside could see that the huge beasts had actually grown flesh and transformed into beast gods that were fighting with the devil monsters in the darkness.

The Daoists were bewildered, and Dutian Devil King was also shocked.

Qin Mu wasn't surprised by these strange sights and lay back down again. He then said in a low voice, "Dutian, stop looking, I've seen weirder things."

Dutian Devil King said quietly, "Those Daoists are slightly weird."

Qin Mu was unconcerned. "I know. One of them is Long Jiaonan."

After a moment, he began snoring, and Dutian Devil King could only restrain himself from making a move.

The battle outside the ruins lasted the whole night. When dawn came, the ground trembled as the indomitable divine beasts returned back to the ruins. Once they sprawled onto the ground, their flesh vanished. They turned into the skeletons that lay half buried in the soil, which was exactly how Qin Mu had seen them when he entered.

The darkness retreated back like the flood, and sunlight shone down from the sky. The other strange beasts moved out from the ruins and dispersed in all directions.

Qin Mu made fire again to cook breakfast while the other Daoists did the same as well. All of them did not say a word and ate their own breakfast.

The dragon qilin took out the wash basin from Disabled Elderly Village which he had somehow hidden for this long and placed it in front of Qin Mu to wait for his food.

Qin Mu poured half a bucket of Scarlet Fire Spirit Pills and took out another wash basin, pouring half of it with Jade Dragon Lake's water.

The dragon qilin ate to his fulfillment, and they set off. The Daoists looked at one another, then extinguished the fire and followed closely behind Qin Mu.

He stopped at that moment and turned around with a smile. "Is there anything I can help senior brothers with?"

One of the Daoist retorted, "Great Ruins are so huge, is this your home? We'll go our way and you will go yours, no one is interfering with you!"

Qin Mu smiled and continued forward.

They had set off earlier today so they reached the end of Surging River before sunset. Qin Mu saw a dilapidated village nearby, and his eyes lighted up. He made the dragon qilin head over.

The Daoists followed him in and saw that this village was in ruins. Spiderwebs were everywhere, and even the stone statues had been worn out by time.

What was weird was that all the other ruins had strange beasts seeking shelter from the darkness, but there wasn't even one here.

The Daoists were bewildered. Long Jiaonan, who was a beautiful female Daoist now, said in low voice, "There's something weird about this place..."

As she was saying it, darkness descended, and the temperature turned abnormally cold. A lonely boat floated over leisurely from another world with a lamp hanging at its bow. Under the lamp was an elder who was folding paper humans, paper horses, and paper boats.

That elder came to the village and disembarked. Everyone shuddered as they felt their souls freeze over.

The elder placed down a paper boat which floated away. One of the Daoists instantly noticed he had somehow landed onto that paper boat which sailed weightlessly towards the darkness.

Astonished, he immediately looked over to see another him still sitting in the village.

That was his shell.

"Dao brother."

Qin Mu executed Saturn Sovereign Earth Marquis Technique and transformed into a human-headed and snake-bodied form. The Gate of Heaven Influence appeared behind his back as he greeted the elder. After saying a phrase in Youdu's language, he took out the portraits of Village Chief, Apothecary, and the rest to ask, "May I ask Dao brother if you have seen them before?"

Chapter 234: Killings In The Snowy Night

The elder took a look and nodded. "I've met them before. They came to me to ask for directions."

Fear arose in the heart of the Daoists in the village. This elder was standing right in front of them, but they couldn't see his face.

Even though they were so close to him, the facial features of this elder were extremely blurry. They used all kinds of third eye, but they still couldn't see him clearly. It seemed like he wasn't a living person.

Dutian Devil King also kept quiet out of fear and didn't dare to make a sound.

This elder was Youdu's messenger of death, a god that was his subordinate. Nearly every world had such people, but the jobs that they were responsible for were different from one another. Some of them were responsible for guiding the wandering souls in the world of the living, some of them were responsible for extraditing the dead, and some were responsible for capturing the great divine arts practitioners that had escaped death.

The orders of Youdu and the world of the living were handled by them.

Dutian World had once experienced a war at a world destruction level that had nearly destroyed it entirely. At that time, skeletons of the dead filled the open ground and there were corpses everywhere.

The sun in Dutian World was extinguished, and nearly everything was plunged into darkness. However, among the endless darkness, countless specks of light came out, and under each of them was a similar elder coming forward to extradite the wandering souls.

Back then, Dutian Devil King had luckily survived the great war and become the ruler of Dutian. He had been considered young then and was hot-blooded. When he saw these messengers of death coming to extradite the souls of his Dutian people, he immediately went forward to fight, but he ended up severely injured and almost had his soul taken away.

Because of this, when Dutian Devil King saw this messenger of death, he was still slightly afraid and didn't dare to say a word.

Qin Mu asked respectfully, "May I ask where they had gone?"

The elder raised his hand and pointed towards the darkness. "Carefree Village. But they will never find that place and just get trapped. There's a messenger of death ready to take their souls."

The babbling of water came from the riverside as the drenched men and women popped their heads out from inside it. They slowly walked towards the village with ashen faces, not saying a word.

Paper boats flew out from the village, and these men and women boarded them. The paper boats then sailed into the darkness unhurriedly.

The other Daoists in the village were greatly shaken and immediately moved far away from the strange elder. At this moment, they noticed that two of their comrades were not moving from their spots.

On two of the paper boats that had sailed into the darkness, there were two figures that vaguely resembled the motionless people.

The remaining three Daoists felt their hair stand on end. Long Jiaonan, who had donned a Daoist's outfit, was also shaking. She wanted to turn and run, but she didn't dare to escape because outside of the village was darkness.

"Lower your head, don't look at that elder!" An elderly Daoist came to realization and said immediately, "He is the messenger of death! If your gaze crosses with his, your soul will be taken away!"

Long Jiaonan and another young Daoist immediately lowered their heads, not daring to look at the elder anymore.

Qin Mu's tone became even more sincere. "May I ask Dao brother for guidance on the location of Carefree Village?"

That elder continued to point to the darkness, not saying anything more.

Qin Mu frowned. The direction in which this elder had pointed out was the living realm of the dead. There was another netherworld there, which was where Fengdu was located.

That time Village Chief and he had barged into the living realm of the dead, they had nearly not been able to come back alive!

"That place is not Carefree Village. May I ask Dao brother where is the real Carefree Village?"

The elder shook his head and still pointed towards the darkness.

Qin Mu asked again, but the elder was no longer talking.

Qin Mu frowned, since he had no ability to travel through the darkness. Other than Village Chief, he reckoned it would be somewhat difficult for everyone else in the village as well unless they were able to carry the stone statues.

He quietened down. There were no other sounds in the village, only the snores of the dragon qilin who had fallen asleep.

After some time, there were no more corpses walking out from the water, and the little boat that the elder was sitting on disappeared into the darkness.

Everything in the village returned back to normal, and it wasn't as cold as before. Everyone let out a sigh of relief. By then, only three Daoists were left in the village, while Qin Mu's side still had both Dutian Devil King and the dragon qilin.

The worn out stone statues gave off ghostly light that forced back the darkness in the surroundings. Qin Mu had a strange feeling, and he looked towards the female Daoist with a smile before asking the other two, "Daoist priests look very unfamiliar, where are you from?"

Between the two, one was much older than the other. "Since Heavenly Devil Cult Master asked, I won't dare to hide from you. Us master and disciple are from Heavenly Star Catcher Sect. This hermit is Daoist Chi Yun and this is my disciple Shao Yun. The other two have also been this hermit's disciples, but luck was not with them and they had their souls taken away by the messenger of death."

Qin Mu felt a deep veneration and said, "So you're experts from Heavenly Stars Catcher Sect. Its Master is called Sect Master Luo Xinghe, am I right?"

“Sect Master Luo is my teacher who has already passed away,” Daoist Chi Yun said sadly. “That day when Heavenly Devil Cult transported the mountain of Daxiang City, my teacher died in the hands of Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor.”

“I see.” Qin Mu nodded.

The cold wind in the darkness outside the village whooshed and howled. The few people in the village quietened down once again and didn’t say a word. The two Daoists took down the sword cases on their backs and cleaned them carefully. Long Jiaonan smiled and gently stroked the earring hanging from her ear.

Qin Mu stretched his hand into taotie sack, but he didn’t pull anything out as a smile remained on his face.

Sparkling and translucent snowflakes floated down from the sky and landed around everyone.

This night wasn’t too peaceful, and the snow actually started falling as well.

Dutian Devil King saw that there was something wrong with the atmosphere and secretly kicked the dragon qilin. The fat dragon woke up and looked around before going back to sleep when he saw nothing abnormal.

Dutian Devil King was furious. “What’s the point of raising a lazy bum like him?”

The snow grew heavier and heavier, and soon everyone was covered in a layer of white.

At this moment, one of the many names of Buddha sounded out, and everyone was astonished. This name of Buddha had come from the darkness. Qin Mu pulled out his hand from the taotie sack, Long Jiaonan lowered her hand that was stroking the earring, and the two Daoists placed their sword cases down.

Light came from the darkness, and a chubby-faced big-eared monk came walking in. Looking around, he placed his palms together. “Benefactors, sorry to disturb.”

Qin Mu didn’t dare to neglect him and immediately rose. “We are also guests, so it’s not considered disturbing us.”

Behind this senior monk walked a robust man who was covered in black hair. He had bulging muscles all over his body and was five yards tall. He had a thick devil qi around him and was like a human-shaped violent ape. With a monk staff in his hand, he cried out in astonishment, “Young’un!”

Qin Mu was also indescribably astonished. He looked at the monk staff and recognized it as the khakkhara staff that he had given to the devil ape. He cried out, “Big fella! What are you doing here? You changed your form?”

The demon-like ape was surprised and delighted. He came forward to acknowledge Qin Mu before pointing to the big and fat monk, “Baldy, little!”

Devil ape then pointed at himself and said in a low, muffled voice, "Great, baldy, teach. Baldy, little, little!"

Qin Mu was confused and probed, "What you mean is that this great monk is from Little Thunderclap Monastery? He found you and taught you abilities. He then left and came back to bring you back to Little Thunderclap Monastery?"

The devil ape nodded repeatedly.

Everyone in the village was confused. Dutian Devil King muttered, "How did you even comprehend the meaning of what he was saying..."

Qin Mu was astonished. To be able to bring the devil ape to travel in the darkness meant that this chubby-faced big-eared monk was an existence on the same level as Old Rulai and Village Chief!

A god-like existence.

Fear arose in Long Jiaonan, Daoist Chi Yun, and Daoist Shao Yun's hearts. They secretly moved back as far as they could, to the point where they would enter the darkness if they went an inch farther.

The three of them grumbled inwardly. The messenger of death earlier and now the Little Rulai of Little Thunderclap Monastery were all people Qin Mu knew. Just a word from him could make them lose their lives!

What they didn't know was that Qin Mu was also extremely nervous. Little Rulai of Little Thunderclap Monastery was a demon cultivator, a great demon that had defected from Great Thunderclap Monastery. He was a Great Demon King!

His comprehension of Buddhism was extreme. He had once used a copper buddha to suppress the Centipede Xian Qing'er. That buddha had then ended up getting pushed over by Qin Mu who had made use of the ice tide to save Xian Qing'er!

The chubby-faced, big-eared Little Rulai looked really like a buddha. He was like a living buddha that had a dignified appearance. With a glance at Qin Mu, he said, "So it's little benefactor. Does little benefactor still remember spoiling my merit?"

The eyes of Long Jiaonan and Daoist Chi Yun lighted up as hope was reignited in their hearts.

Qin Mu said, "I remember."

Devil ape stood in front of Qin Mu and declared loudly, "Baldy, brother!"

Little Rulai looked at him and shook his head. "Don't worry, my enemy is coming, so I won't make a move now. My enemy is here, so stay, I'll go meet him."

Just as his words were spoken, a laugh came from the darkness. "Little Rulai, you're pretty interesting to make a battle appointment late at night."

In the snowy night, an elder wearing a bamboo hat walked into the dilapidated village covered in snow. Qin Mu was stunned and cried out, "Daoist Ling Jing!"

The elder raised his bamboo hat, and his gaze fell on the youth. He revealed a smile. "So it's the old sword god's disciple who borrowed Fengdu coins from me. Do you have the money to return now?"

Qin Mu was embarrassed and replied honestly, "Those Fengdu Coins were all spent."

Long Jiaonan, Daoist Chi Yun, and Daoist Shao Yun's complexion froze again. Another top notch practitioner that was able to travel through the darkness arrived, but he was also someone who Heavenly Devil Cult Master Qin Mu was familiar with!

How many god-like existences did this Heavenly Devil Cult Master know exactly?

"It's not late to pay me back in the future."

Daoist Ling Jing took off his bamboo hat and placed it beside a wall. Looking at Little Rulai, he said without hurry, "Heavy snow and dark sky, what a great time for murder. Little Rulai, let us go farther away to fight."

"Alright."

The two top notch practitioners went into the darkness, and the village was silent once again. Qin Mu looked at Long Jiaonan and her two companions who were also looking at him. The few of them remained motionless.

The devil ape saw this situation and was bewildered. Terrifying pulses came from far away, and the snow in the sky turned into fine rain pattering down. The divine arts of Daoist Ling Jing and Little Rulai melted the heavy snow in the dark night, turning snow into rain.

Snowflakes fell from the sky at times, but at others, they were turned into fine rain. It was hard to say for how long this lasted when suddenly the crows of roosters came from the darkness. The darkness rapidly surged back towards the west. and at this moment, Qin Mu, Long Jiaonan, Dutian Devil King. and the rest sprung into action. They instantly delivered killing blows at one another at nearly the same time!

The dragon qilin roared angrily and shook himself, revealing his true form. With blazing fire around his body, he raised his front claws to press down on the head of the red snake pouncing over, smashing it into the ground. Qin Mu rushed toward Daoist Chi Yun's side in an instant, while Daoist Chi Yun's countless swords were blocked by Dutian Devil King who was standing behind Qin Mu's back.

The devil ape leaped up from behind Dutian Devil King and smashed his khakkhara staff onto Daoist Chi Yun's head.

Chii!

A sword light pierced Daoist Chi Yun's chest, and with a flick of Qin Mu's finger, that sword light went slicing horizontally through the neck of Daoist Shao Yuan who was still in a daze as well.

Long Jiaonan grabbed the tail of the huge snake, and it shrunk in size. The woman rose into the sky and disappeared in a flash.

Chapter 235: Qin Mu Borrowing Ship

Thud, thud.

The corpses of Daoist Chi Yun and Daoist Shao Yuan collapsed onto the ground. Qin Mu put away his sword and raised his head to have a look. Long Jiaonan had already gone far away, the speed of the red snake really fast. It wouldn't be easy to catch up to her.

"Tonight, the messenger of death will have wandering souls to take away, it's just a pity that we didn't manage to send Long Jiaonan on her way as well. This woman is indeed very intelligent. She had also managed to escape in the battle in Heaven Wave City."

Qin Mu let out a sigh of relief. Now that Long Jiaonan was left by herself, it would be difficult for her to achieve anything. If she dared to come after him again, she would certainly die.

The main reason why this battle had gone so smoothly was mainly due to everyone's coordination. After all, Daoist Chi Yun's cultivation and strength weren't low, and he wasn't any weaker than Long Jiaonan.

Since Daoist Chi Yun carried a sword case, it meant that he was most proficient in sword battles. With Dutian Devil King blocking his swords with his eight arms, Qin Mu could rush to Daoist Chi Yun's side without any worry.

The devil ape's power lay in his incredible strength. With the Khakkhara staff and Rulai's Mahayana Sutra, the devil ape's strength was enough to stun Daoist Chi Yun, so Qin Mu could take his life in a single attack.

Long Jiaonan's battle prowess lay mainly in the huge red snake which was almost a flood dragon from all the refinement. The dragon qilin, however, was a perfect match for the red snake. Once he pressed down the red snake with his strength, Long Jiaonan was no longer able to save Daoist Chi Yun.

Because of this, the old man was doomed.

However, now that Long Jiaonan had escaped, Qin Mu wasn't able to chase her because he would definitely die if he went after her. His companions—Dutian Devil King, the dragon qilin, and the devil ape—sadly were not fast enough to catch up to her, so they could only let her escape.

"Big fella, did Little Rulai of Little Thunderclap Monastery give you trouble?" Qin Mu asked.

The devil ape shook his head and pointed at himself. "My, name, Kong."

Qin Mu waited for a moment. The devil ape was probably talking about his name in religion, but what religious name was only one word? Was it really Kong? And if not, then what was Kong?

The devil ape thought that he had already understood and didn't say a word more. This devil ape treated his words like gold and would never say an extra one.

"It's good for you to follow Little Rulai to cultivate. Little Rulai knows Rulai's Mahayana Sutra and is a strange beast that achieved the Dao, so he's the most qualified to guide you on your cultivation."

Qin Mu waved his hand and said, "My elders are lost so I have to go find them and can't stay here any longer. Come home when you're free, Ling'er misses you too!"

The two of them bade farewell.

Qin Mu followed the direction pointed out by the messenger of death, and this time he no longer felt Long Jiaonan's gaze on him. The girl must have believed that she couldn't kill him and thus retreated.

"I wonder how the battle between Little Rulai and Daoist Ling Jing went..."

Even though Qin Mu kept thinking of that fight, finding Village Chief and the rest was more important. He sat down on the forehead of the dragon qilin who began running forward, while Dutian Devil King chose to stand on the back, his four faces looking in four directions to take note of any movement in the surroundings.

The deeper they went into Great Ruins, the stronger the strange beasts became. The abilities of some of them were no inferior to those of the dragon qilin or the huge red snake. Luckily, most of these strange beasts had their own territories.

Having lived in Great Ruins since he was young, Qin Mu was quite the expert in differentiating between the territories of strange beasts, so they could easily avoid them on their journey and stayed relatively safe.

"If we continue on, we'll reach Eastern Heavenly Gates."

Qin Mu recalled the geographical map of Great Ruins and the place in it called Eastern Heavenly Gates. Besides it, there were three more places that had the name Heavenly Gates, and they were obviously Northern, Western, and Southern Heavenly Gates.

At that moment, the dragon qilin suddenly stopped and sniffed the air. "There's a scent of blood."

"This fellow is a huge dog and not a dragon qilin!" Dutian Devil King thought to himself.

Qin Mu's heart stirred slightly. "Blood scent? Go and take a look."

The dragon qilin followed the blood scent, and after a moment, Qin Mu saw an old Daoist in the distance leaning against a tree while panting heavily.

"Daoist Ling Jing!"

Astonished, Qin Mu immediately called the dragon qilin to a stop. "He has placed a restriction around him, so don't step into it."

Daoist Ling Jing raised his head weakly and took a glance at him. As he took a breath, he suddenly coughed violently and vomited out a mouthful of blood. "The eyes of Sword God's disciple are extraordinary. I'm injured so I placed a restriction around myself to avoid getting engaged by the strange beasts."

Qin Mu said, "Daoist, I'm proficient in the art of healing. Do you need my help?"

Daoist Ling Jing raised his hand and lifted the restriction. He wanted to get up but was unable to move, so he said while gasping for breath, "Come over."

Qin Mu had the dragon qilin walk to the tree. He then jumped down from the head to examine Daoist Ling Jing's injuries. This elder was heavily injured, and these wounds were probably caused by Little Rulai.

The crucial point was that Daoist Ling Jing was pretty old and his body was not like what it used to be. This resulted in the injuries becoming even more severe, making it difficult for him to heal naturally.

Qin Mu mumbled to himself as he took out the dragon's saliva to treat external injuries. He then took out a few Spirit Buddha Pills to repair the damage to Daoist Ling Jing's spirit. After that, he rummaged through his taotie sack and took out some herbs he had bought in Imperial College for emergency usage. Even though there weren't many herbs, they were enough to create spirit pills for Daoist Ling Jing's injuries.

Qin Mu made the spirit pills on the spot, with his hand techniques fast and perfect. Soon, a furnace of spirit pills was finished, and he let Daoist Ling Jing consume them.

The complexion of Daoist Ling Jing turned for the better, and he said in astonishment, "The disciple of Sword God actually has such high attainments in the art of healing. Little Dao friend, won't you be my disciple? I have a lot of enemies and with you by my side, you could assure my safety. Don't worry, even though the Old Sword God is powerful, what I can teach you won't be any worse than him."

Qin Mu shook his head. "I'm the cult master sacred teacher of Heavenly Devil Cult so I can't become your disciple."

"So it's the devil cult master." Daoist Ling Jing struggled to get up, then bowed in greeting with a respectful face. "I thought I was above you in seniority, never expecting us to be senior brothers of the same seniority, Ling Jing pays respects to devil cult master."

Qin Mu immediately returned his greeting. "Senior Brother Ling Jing is too polite. Your injuries are not a problem now, but if you want to get rid of them from their roots, you will have to nurse yourself to health."

Daoist Ling Jing smiled. "Seems like it was the right choice to give you those two Fengdu coins. The Old Sword God still owes me two Fengdu coins, but I reckon that guy won't return them to me. He's pretty stingy, having even chopped off one of my fingers back then." He opened up his right hand and said, "See."

The ring finger on his right hand was gone, and it was clearly a sword wound.

“If it was not for this broken finger, how would Little Rulai of Little Thunderclap Monastery have been able to injure me this heavily? However, his injuries are pretty severe as well. Hehe, without a divine physician at his side, I reckon he will have to roll back to Little Thunderclap Monastery and suffer for two to three years before fully recovering.”

Daoist Ling Jing let out a pent-up breath. “That fellow is younger than me and has a good foundation. He was the disciple of the previous Rulai and is the junior brother of the current Rulai. When the previous Rulai passed on the position to his senior brother, the Little Rulai was indignant and felt that the reason why the previous Rulai had not passed on the position to him was because he was from the demon race, so he had slaughtered his way out of Great Thunderclap Monastery and founded Little Thunderclap Monastery. That’s right, why are you wandering in the depths of Great Ruins alone?”

Qin Mu mixed a few herbs together and brewed a medicinal decoction. “The elders of my village have lost their way, so I’ve come out to look for them.”

“Elders of your village?” Daoist Ling Jing was bewildered.

“It’s none other than Old Sword God and the other elders. Among them are Jade Face Poison King, Thief God, Ma Wangshen, and also my Heavenly Devil Cult Patriarch. Has senior brother met them?”

Daoist Ling Jing was startled. Suddenly, he began laughing until tears almost rolled down his cheeks. The injuries that had just fused split open once more and made this elder suck in a cold breath from the pain. “Old Sword God and Heavenly Devil Cult Patriarch have lost their way? These two old goofballs, they actually lost their way!”

He laughed until he couldn’t breathe, and Qin Mu immediately said, “Stop laughing, your wounds have opened up again. Has senior brother seen them?”

“I haven’t.” Daoist Ling Jing shook his head.

Qin Mu then took out the portraits of Old Ma, Granny Si, and the rest to ask, “In that case, what about them?”

Daoist Ling Jing took a look at the paintings and pondered. “I saw this blacksmith carrying a chest. His speed was very fast and his ability was no weaker than mine. When I met him, we even competed with our leg power. He didn’t say a word and had a weird temper. It’s rare to meet this kind of strong practitioner, but I had never heard of such an expert before.”

Qin Mu’s spirit was aroused. “That’s Grandpa Mute from my village! Does senior brother know where he went?”

Daoist Ling Jing replied, “He went into a restricted area. It’s very treacherous there, so it’s one of the most dangerous grounds in Great Ruins. I chased him all the way to that dangerous land but did not go in. He’s a mute? No wonder he gave me the cold shoulder when I was talking to him.”

“Grandpa Mute went to a restricted area in Great Ruins?” Qin Mu became nervous again, and he thought for a moment before asking, “Has senior brother heard of Carefree Village before?”

“Carefree Village?” Daoist Ling Jing shook his head. “I’ve not heard of it before.”

Qin Mu muttered to himself irresolutely for a moment. Daoist Ling Jing frequently wandered around Great Ruins and knew numerous secrets that no one else knew. If even he didn’t know where Carefree Village was, Qin Mu had little hope to find Carefree Village by himself.

He pondered over it before suddenly asking, “Senior brother, can I ask you for a favor? I would like to go to the living realm of the dead once more.”

Daoist Ling Jing smiled. “This is simple. When the night comes, I’ll bring you there.”

Qin Mu calmed himself down and healed the other’s injuries, so when the night arrived, Daoist Ling Jing had pretty much recovered. He immediately brought them into the darkness of Great Ruins and said, “Living realm of the dead is the territory of the King of Hell. This world is very mysterious and the two worlds only overlap at night. If you want to enter the living realm of the dead, you need to have Fengdu coins. I’ve signed a contract with the King of Hell to not go to Youdu after I die but straight to Fengdu.”

Looking around, he took out a token and shone it towards the darkness. “The origin of Fengdu is very weird. It doesn’t have a fixed location but floats here and there in Great Ruins, creating a very mysterious world by itself. I have a token of Fengdu, so as long as I activate it, an envoy of Fengdu will come and fetch me.”

Just as he was saying that, a light came shining over from the middle of two large mountains. Daoist Ling Jing immediately brought Qin Mu over there. That light was sometimes bright and sometimes dim, guiding them on their way.

Without noticing it, they passed by a couple large mountains and got closer to that light only to see it was but a ball of a will-o’-the-wisp which suddenly vanished.

The jade pendant on Qin Mu’s chest gave off a ghostly light then and slowly floated upwards to lead the way.

Daoist Ling Jing brought Qin Mu and the rest forward until they passed through what felt like a formless barrier. The sight in front of them suddenly changed and the vastly mysterious living realm of the dead appeared in front of them. There, they could only see a small boat sailing unhurriedly through the sea of fog among the countless white bone mountains.

Daoist Ling Jing brought Qin Mu and the rest to the boat, and the skeleton inside brought them into the dense fog. After some time, they reached the docks.

The stone tablet of the living realm of the dead was right in front of them.

Daoist Ling Jing asked curiously, “Devil cult master, what are you coming here for? Your cultivation is too weak, so even if you sell your soul, Fengdu won’t want it.”

Qin Mu walked forward, passing by an empty village. After crossing the huge mountain in front of them, he saw the incomparably large Moon Ship that lay in front of Fengdu. It was like a three-legged toad that was carrying an enormous ship.

Once he said it, he said solemnly, "I'm here to borrow a ship!"

"Borrow a ship?"

Daoist Ling Jing was stunned for a moment, while Qin Mu sprinted over rapidly. He broke through in no time and landed on the Moon Ship in a few steps.

On his chest, the jade pendant which he wore since he was young floated up even higher, and the light coming from it became even brighter.

Dutian Devil King looked around, incredibly shaken as he muttered, "Is this a god artifact?"

"Visitor from Carefree Village..."

On the Moon Ship which was in a mess, the ruined star in the sky turned into fireballs which descended non-stop, making the situation quite dangerous. A strange, trembling voice rang out. "You're from Carefree Village! What are you here for? I'm not a betrayer, I only escaped! Their deaths are not my fault, hehe, they're not my fault. I'm just a coward..."

Qin Mu looked toward the source of the voice and came to the center of the Moon Ship. In the middle of several huge pillars, a face of several acres that was stuck to the ground looked at the jade pendant floating in front of his chest in terror.

"Not my fault, I didn't betray my tribesmen—" that face shrieked.

Qin Mu hesitated for a moment, then let out a shaky breath and stretched out his palm to touch one of the pillars. Daoist Ling Jing frowned. "I've been here before and there was nothing here except for this lunatic. I've checked these pillars before as well, but there were no abnormalities."

"Don't touch!" that face shouted in despair.

When Qin Mu's palm touched the huge pillar, an incomparably terrifying energy suddenly came pouring into his body. Cracking sounds rang out all around him as his body grew taller and bigger. The divine energy that came pouring in caused his body to undergo a dramatic transformation!

He felt his tailbone growing frantically, turning into a third leg that grew out from his back and landed steadily on the ground. Bones and flesh also rapidly grew under his armpits, turning into arms.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Qin Mu stretched out his arms and grasped the other pillars. Everything in his surroundings seemed to shrink rapidly, but that was just a misconception. He was actually the one becoming larger.

Due to the divine energy of Moon Ship reconstructing his body, deafening explosions came from his body. This noise originated from all the divine treasures opening within him. In the blink of an eye, Six Directions, Seven Stars, Celestial Being, and Life and Death Divine Treasures had all opened up. The Divine Bridge Divine Treasure had even opened up and reached straight to the opposite shore!

Qin Mu couldn't resist howling, and as he did so, the incomparably enormous Moon Ship gradually stood up. Then, the broken moon floated into the distance.