

Tales of Herding Gods Chapter 411-415

Chapter 411: Success

In the manor, cauldrons were raised and each one had a deer demon guarding it and adding wood to the fire continuously. Within them, experts were being cooked, and a medicinal smell wafted out.

Besides the cauldrons, there were also huge steamers in which experts were put to be steamed. Qin Mu patrolled around them and checked on the medicinal concoctions, changing the herbs a few times and applying needles to the experts whose divine treasures had been damaged. The hollow silver needles directed steam into their bodies.

Emperor Yanfeng's body was covered in silver needles while he looked at Qin Mu with a black face. He was pressed down into the steamer by the youth, but then sat upright again to continue glaring.

Qin Mu smiled and said, "Does Your Majesty have anything to say?"

Emperor Yanfeng's expression suddenly changed, and he said with a pleasant face, "Minister Qin has worked hard and his merits are high. Do you want a promotion?" Qin Mu was puzzled as Emperor Yanfeng's expression became even more pleasant. "You are still on the fifth rank now, but you have contributed so much: improved our flying ships, crafted True Origin Cannon, and Sunshot Divine Cannon, followed the crown prince to open irrigation works and transportation, and even saved me numerous times from danger.

"This time, you even brought Heavenly Feather Clansmen over. Your contributions are just too great, to the point I don't even know how to reward you. Tell me, what do you want?"

Qin Mu scratched his head, racking his brain. "Your Majesty, the amount of money required for all the herbs which are needed to heal everyone is quite high. I also spent quite a sum to buy cauldrons, steamers, and silver needles. All that money was paid in advance by me, so can Your Majesty..."

Emperor Yanfeng's face instantly turned black. "This is not considered a reward, Ministry of Finance has the money for it! The reward I want to give you is something Ministry of Finance can't give! What do you want?"

Qin Mu thought about it for a moment. Money? He never lacked money. Official position? He didn't really have an interest in that. Fame? Heavenly Devil Cult Master was known throughout the land so what fame did he need?

Treasure?

He had seized many treasures and even plundered Dragon Rearing Sovereign's pouches. Hu Ling'er even got him a hundred treasures from Rolan's Golden Palace. He also had Carefree Sword and his sword pellet, so he didn't lack treasures as well.

Precious herbs and materials, spirit pills, or miraculous medicines? He didn't need that as well because he was a divine physician himself.

Qin Mu shook his head and finally understood how Imperial Preceptor felt. The things that the emperor could reward him with didn't catch his eyes, so he didn't want any reward.

"Think again." Emperor Yanfeng slowly guided him. "There's definitely something you want that I possess. It doesn't have to be an item or an official position, but can also be a person..."

Qin Mu came to realization and smiled with understanding. "So Your Majesty is thinking of granting me some palace maids. I wander around most of the year, so I don't need any palace maids to serve me. However, granny stays here and there are just demons and monster who are all ugly around here. If Your Majesty can grant me some palace maids to tidy up the manor, I will definitely not reject! Two girls like Jian Qi and Qin Qi beside Empress Dowager would be just fine. They aren't bad-looking and are also gentle and understanding..."

Emperor Yanfeng was furious and lay down in the steamer. "Scram!"

"As you command." Qin Mu closed the steamer while muttering under his breath, "Acting all generous, saying he wants to reward me, and then he can't even bear to spare some palace maids. What miser..."

"What did you say? Say it once more!" Emperor Yanfeng who was in the steamer was furious. "Off with your head!"

Emperor Yanfeng then heard Qin Mu complaining outside. "Yuxiu, you came at the right time. Your father said he wanted to reward me, then he didn't want to reward me, and now he even wants my head."

"Why are you paying attention to him? He has been quite agitated these few years, wanting to off with this head and that head all the time. It's all from the stress of politics. In the end, even though he had said to off many heads, he actually didn't really kill many people. Ignore him, and he will calm down after creating a ruckus."

"Did you find me for dual cultivation?"

"That's right. Our technique is almost complete, but delayed it to come and treat everyone's injuries. We need to hurry and beat the metal while it's hot. Otherwise, once father's injuries are healed and he decides to bring me back to the capital, I don't know when the technique will be completed..."

...

The two of them walked away and Emperor Yanfeng who was in the steamer was disappointed as he thought to himself. 'Xiu'er, father can only help you this much. That brat is too dense, so you can only rely on yourself.'

After a couple of days working on it, Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu finished tidying up the complete technique of Six Directions Primordial Spirit. They were slightly anxious as they didn't know if that technique would really allow others to cultivate their primordial spirit on Six Directions Realm.

"Let me try! I'm on Six Directions Realm!" Si Yunxiang said excitedly.

Qin Mu shook his head. "This technique is actually two techniques used as a set. It's separated into male and female which have some slight differences. Because of that, two people must cultivate it together and they can't be on guard against each other. They also can't have crooked thoughts, or they won't be able to cultivate their primordial spirits. But once it succeeds, both of them will succeed together."

"Cult Master, train with me," Si Yunxiang said in a hurry.

Qin Mu's voice became more serious. "Saintess, we need to be so intimate that nothing can come between us. We need to share mutual trust and have no crooked thoughts!"

Si Yunxiang giggled and said, "You're the cult master, how can I harbor any crooked thoughts about you?"

Qin Mu rolled his eyes. No crooked thoughts? That little woman saw Granny Si as an example, always thinking of how to replace the cult master without learning any of Granny Si's good points.

However, Si Yunxiang still had a side that was similar to that of Granny Si, and that was whenever they met danger, she was always the first one to jump in and save people without hesitation. This showed that her nature wasn't bad, she just lacked a good upbringing.

'If she'd had such an excellent upbringing as I did, she wouldn't have ended up walking a crooked path.'

Qin Mu sighed ruefully. Si Yunxiang might have crooked thoughts, but he needed to confirm the technique that he and the princess had created worked. He nodded and said, "I can't do anything if you have crooked thoughts. I will believe you once, but only once. If it doesn't work, you can find another person you can trust."

Si Yunxiang rushed excitedly to Ling Yuxiu and asked for the technique for women. Ling Yuxiu taught her without holding back. Yan Jingjing also came over, and Ling Yuxiu smiled. "Sister Jing, do you want to cultivate your primordial spirit with the one who herds cows?"

Yan Jingjing shook her head. "I had cultivated my primordial spirit long ago. You two can cultivate, I will just look."

"Primordial Spirit Dual Cultivation is very comfortable!" Ling Yuxiu said seriously.

Yan Jingjing's heart was moved, but she was also slightly embarrassed. Si Yunxiang then asked curiously, "Jingjing, what's your cultivation now? How did you cultivate primordial spirit this early?"

"It should be Divine Bridge Realm," Yan Jingjing said in a soft voice with some embarrassment. "I did not cultivate it, however; it's from Sun Ship. I'm a body of pure yang, and because I had control of Sun Ship and borrowed its energy for many years, I used it to open all my divine treasures. When I parted from Sun Ship before, my divine treasures would close back, but after using it many times, the divine treasures no longer closed."

Si Yunxiang and Ling Yuxiu were stunned. Qin Mu also stared with eyes wide open, hardly able to believe it.

Yan Jingjing's age was similar to theirs, but she was already an expert of the cult master level!

They still couldn't see it earlier that Yan Jingjing was then the strongest among them!

Qin Mu had also once driven Sun Ship and Moon Ship, but his divine treasures would close and seal up after he separated from the ships. Never would he have thought that after driving one numerous times, the divine treasures would remain open!

"In this case, does it mean that we can use Sun Ship to create a bunch of existences of the cult master level with Sun Ship?" Si Yunxiang suddenly suggested.

Ling Yuxiu shook her head. "Impossible. One needs to be the body of pure yang to become the sun guardian. Sun Herder Tribe can't even find a second body of pure yang, so what is there to talk about other places."

"Cult Master can!" Si Yunxiang immediately looked at Qin Mu. "Cult Master can control Sun Ship and can most likely borrow the power of Sun Ship to open all his divine treasures in one go!"

Qin Mu's heart was pretty moved, but Yan Jingjing immediately said, "By borrowing Sun Ship to open divine treasures, it's easy for the realms to become unstable. Grandpa said this was an opportune shortcut, but it's not as solid as cultivating step by step. My trip this time is also to take a look at how you guys cultivate and see if there's any remedy."

Qin Mu could only give up on that idea.

Cultivating step by step indeed contained more fun and surprises. If he hadn't done that, he would have never discovered the god transformations of Five Elements Realm or Six Directions Primordial Spirit.

Yan Jingjing, who had opened up all her divine treasures with Sun Ship, might still have to cultivate from the beginning again, comprehending the meaning of every realm in detail to comprehend the marvel within them.

Yet when the height one stood at was too high, it was hard to clearly see the bottom.

Si Yunxiang comprehended the female version of the technique, then asked Ling Yuxiu for guidance to make sure there were no problems with her cultivation of it. Only then did she start to cultivate her primordial spirit with Qin Mu.

Far away, Blind said to Emperor Yanfeng with his eyes blindfolded, "Emperor, your daughter is pretty generous, giving your son-in-law away for Lassie Xiang to enjoy."

Emperor Yanfeng snorted coldly. "Xiu'er clearly doesn't understand the meaning of Primordial Spirit Dual Cultivation; she has no concept of that. If she knew Primordial Spirit Dual Cultivation could only be done between husband and wife, she wouldn't be that generous."

"You are going to tell her?" Blind asked with interest.

“There’s no need.” Emperor Yanfeng shook his head. “Only one couple can do Primordial Spirit Dual Cultivation. After their primordial spirits resonate with each other, there can’t be a third person’s primordial spirit resonating together. Minister Qin has already resonated with Xiu’er’s primordial spirit, so even if Saintess Xiang cultivates with him, they won’t be able to achieve resonance of primordial spirits and she won’t be able to cultivate her primordial spirit. They are all just kids, so they don’t know the real stuff.”

He sighed. “Since ancient times, the emperor’s chamber of imperial concubines has had three thousand beauties, but no one knows that the emperor also has imperial troubles. Only the empress can resonate her primordial spirit with the emperor, so even if the emperor goes to love his other concubines, they can’t resonate together and it’s hard to ascend to extreme happiness. This is why there are not many people in the royal family.”

Blind smiled. “When together with the other concubines, the pleasure isn’t as great, so the younger generation of the royal family is lacking in numbers.”

Emperor Yanfeng nodded. “That’s why I’m not worried about Xiu’er at all. She has already taken the opportunity, so even if Minister Qin has other women, he will still return to her side. That is because he cannot resonate with other wo—”

“My primordial spirit was cultivated!”

Si Yunxiang’s cheers suddenly rang out, and Emperor Yanfeng’s eyes went blank as he listened to Si Yunxiang frolicking around in joy. Ling Yuxiu was also overjoyed and celebrating with her, and so was Qin Mu.

Emperor Yanfeng didn’t come back to his senses even after a long while.

“You forgot that Mu’er is the Overlord Body. Primordial spirit of ordinary spirit body cannot resonate with others once they have a partner, but an Overlord Body can.” Blind propped himself on his cane and said calmly, “Emperor, I admire your expression very much, but I’m not a painter; otherwise, I would draw it and admire it whenever I’m free.”

“I have painted it,” Deaf said from nearby.

The two old men chuckled, sounding very pleased with himself.

“Cult Master, Princess Xiu, what’s the name of this technique that you two have founded?” Si Yunxiang asked.

“This kind of Primordial Spirit Dual Cultivation Technique, let’s call it Primordial Spirit Guide,” Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu said in unison.

Chapter 412: A Storm is Brewing

Primordial Spirit Guide was devised by Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu by combining the theory of the most basic technique of Overlord Body Three Elixir Body. Its basis rested in Daoyin Technique who was used to guide the vital qi.

Meanwhile, Primordial Spirit Guide guided one's spirit embryo to mix with another person's soul before flying out of their bodies. The soul and spirit would then swap back, taking the chance to merge into primordial spirit.

Therefore, the technique needed to have a 'guide' word in its name.

The reason why Qin Mu's primordial spirit could resonate with Si Yunxiang's primordial spirit was because of his spirit embryo. It had no attributes, which was unlike the spirit bodies of Si Yunxiang and Ling Yuxiu who had their own attributes.

The resonance between spirit embryos came from primordial spirits fusing and producing a fixed frequency. Because everyone's attributes were different, there would be greater or lesser differences in everyone's primordial spirits, and the frequency would be different.

A couple dual cultivating their primordial spirits would resonate together and coordinate to be on the same frequency, forming a unique one for themselves. When they dual cultivated with other people's primordial spirits, they wouldn't be able to achieve resonance of the primordial spirits because they wouldn't be on the same frequency.

Qin Mu's primordial spirit and spirit embryo coincidentally had no attributes of any spirit body, so it was like a white sheet of paper. When it dual cultivated with Ling Yuxiu, the frequency was Ling Yuxiu's frequency, and when he dual cultivated with Si Yunxiang, it was Si Yunxiang's frequency.

Emperor Yanfeng had never experienced how weird Qin Mu's 'Overlord Body' was, so he hadn't paid any mind to it, and thus didn't tell Ling Yuxiu about the taboo of the resonance of primordial spirits. Now he was full of regrets.

Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu finished up the male and female techniques of Primordial Spirit Guide, writing down the cultivation method and the method of replacing souls in detail. They were both very happy.

Suddenly, they came to an indescribable comprehension. It not only concerned the Dao, but also their Dao heart.

By experiencing the process of founding the technique together, their Dao heart took a leap, a one-time qualitative leap!

It could be said to be sudden, but it actually wasn't sudden at all.

Creation was the hardest.

They had created a technique out of nothing and changed the cultivation system of Six Directions Realm and after, pulling primordial spirit to Six Directions Realm. This change far surpassed the three basic sword forms that Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor had founded!

It could even be said that if Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu could develop the marvel of Six Directions Primordial Spirit to the extreme, it was possible that this change could make people arrive at Celestial Being Realm much earlier, fusing it with Seven Stars Realm and changing the two realms into one!

Furthermore, this change would affect all the divine arts practitioners of the future generations!

Spirit Embryo Realm and Five Elements Realm were the realms of martial arts practitioners, the people who had yet to step into the door of divine arts.

People on Six Directions Realm could be called divine arts practitioners and be considered to have officially stepped through the door of divine arts.

After Six Directions Realm, there were Seven Stars, Celestial Being, Life and Death, Divine Bridge. All of them were realms that divine arts practitioners had to stride forward step by step to the realm of gods in the legends. The four realms were four steps, but each one was much harder than the previous, so taking each step took an extremely long time.

What Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu had founded could possibly change four steps into three steps, allowing divine arts practitioners to reach the god realm in an even shorter time!

This was a huge achievement and a great virtue to take part in creating such a technique!

The world had no roads, so where many people walked, there would show up a road. The change in the cultivation system could cause the paths, skills, and divine arts to change. The great Dao of heaven and earth would also change according to it.

The huge change Primordial Spirit Guide would bring was something the two youths did not expect.

Founding a technique was difficult, so they had to comprehend a lot of matters. Their Dao heart topped those of great masters and both of them sunk into their own comprehensions.

The moment Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor founded the three basic sword forms was also the moment he became a great master. His frame of mind had also risen from technique to the realm of skill.

What Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu were experiencing was the same kind of change.

They could be considered to have completed Primordial Spirit Guide, but how to strengthen their primordial spirits on Six Directions Realm was still a blank area to be explored.

Strengthening their primordial spirit by cultivating was actually a matter of Seven Stars Realm. No technique on Six Directions Realm had a method to strengthen the primordial spirit, which meant that as the founders, they could be a step ahead of others in comprehending cultivation techniques of Six Directions Realm, creating even more things.

“Emperor!” Blind suddenly kicked Emperor’s Yanfeng’s thigh, not looking like he was joking. He said with a solemn face, “Do you feel a change in the heaven and earth?”

Emperor Yanfeng wanted to blow up, but was too stunned by the words. He said in astonishment, “There’s indeed an indiscernible change, so strange...”

“Deaf, Cripple, wake up, carefully sense the great Dao of heaven and earth!”

Blind summoned Deaf and Cripple over, and the two old men also felt an indiscernible motion as though the spring rain was joining with the wind into the night. The action was mild and slow.

“What happened?” Deaf asked in astonishment.

“When Mu’er and Princess Xiu founded Primordial Spirit Guide, this change happened. How bizarre,” Blind said. “Sense carefully, the Great Dao of heaven and earth seem to be undergoing a marvelous change somewhere. This throbbing is very faint, but it can’t escape my Dao heart!”

No matter if it was Cripple, Deaf, or even Emperor Yanfeng, they were all great masters. Cripple had comprehended the marvel of divine legs by himself to push his speed to the realm of god. What he used was the technique he had founded, so his Dao heart was also extremely strong.

Deaf had pushed his painting path to the extreme, transcending to the level of god and saint!

Emperor Yanfeng, in the meantime, relied on the not so outstanding Nine Dragons Monarch Technique to develop it to the highest level in one go, making it become on par with the ultimate arts of the three big sacred grounds. Furthermore, Nine Dragons Monarch Technique he had relied on was merely a few primitive dragon writings on the Emperor’s Disk!

The other people in the manor, even if it were experts like Granny Si, Yu Zhaoqing, and Empress Dowager, hadn’t reached that frame of mind of a great master, thus they naturally couldn’t sense the throbbing and indescribable change in the great Dao of heaven and earth.

“Your Majesty, your daughter’s accomplishments in the future are going to surpass yours by far,” Deaf suddenly said. “Have you ever thought of making her the crown prince?”

Emperor Yanfeng was slightly stunned as he looked at Ling Yuxiu who had sunk into an ineffable realm.

Making Princess Xiu the crown prince?

He did have that kind of thought at that moment.

“Have Yuxiu head to the border army to train for a period of time. There is still some rebel army left in the snow plains in the north which haven’t yet been eradicated. Let her and Yushi lead an army each.”

Emperor Yanfeng’s heart calmed down. It wasn’t that there had never been a crown princess before, but just that their numbers weren’t as high as those of princes. After all, there were plenty of female divine arts practitioners and some of the sects even had women as sect leaders. With that, it was easy to see that there could be empresses, it was just that they were in the minority.

‘If Xiu’er could do better than Yushu...’

Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu woke up from their comprehensions. During them, they had comprehended numerous marvels about the primordial spirit and it resulted in cultivation methods for it on Six

Directions Realm. Some could be written down for others to learn while some could only be comprehended by oneself. They could be understood, but not taught with words.

“Xiu’er, my injuries are almost healed, so follow me back to the capital city,” Emperor Yanfeng’s said.

Ling Yuxiu acknowledged him as her gaze landed on Qin Mu’s body. “The one who herds cows, are you going back to the capital with me? We can continue to dual cultivate there...”

Qin Mu hesitated for a moment, then shook his head. “You go ahead first. I need to wait here for Grandpa Butcher to come back. I still have some stuff I need to ask him. He handed a complete version of the male technique of Primordial Spirit Guide to Ling Yuxiu and said, “Hand it to Imperial Preceptor so he will promote it.”

Ling Yuxiu nodded, then hesitated for a moment. “Nine Dragons Monarch Technique that you improved, can I teach it to my father?”

“It was your Ling Family’s to begin with, so just teach,” Qin Mu said with a smile.

Ling Yuxiu suddenly moved forward to give a peck on his cheek and ran away like an alarmed sparrow.

Emperor Yanfeng shook his head and brought her to bid farewell to Empress Dowager. “I didn’t let the officials who followed me to come over, but had them stay at Overlord Prefecture. It’s best for them to not know about all that happened in this manor. Mother, take care of yourself.”

Empress Dowager sighed and said solemnly, “You have to take care of yourself as well! What you and Imperial Preceptor want to do won’t end with simple death, so you have to be careful. Even though you have already grown up, I’m still worried about you.”

Emperor Yanfeng turned around to leave and Ling Yuxiu followed after him. “Father, the one who herds cows taught me Nine Dragons Monarch Technique which is different from what you taught me. I would like to teach it to father. Does father want to learn?”

Emperor Yanfeng laughed out loud and shook his head. “Even though your little lover is overflowing with talent and has extraordinary abilities, having accomplished an astonishing feat with you this time, which made even me feel ashamed for being inferior, it’s not enough. When it comes to Nine Dragons Monarch Technique, your little lover is way inferior. The technique he learned was still taught by me.”

“Are you learning or not?” Ling Yuxiu asked with anger in her voice.

“Okay, okay, tell me about it.”

Ling Yuxiu told him about the Nine Dragons Monarch Technique that Qin Mu had taught her, and Emperor Yanfeng’s expression became more and more solemn. When she finished, his face was black as he asked coldly, “He taught it to you?”

Ling Yuxiu could feel his overflowing murderous intent and couldn’t help shuddering. “Father...”

“Emperor’s Disk is on him!” Emperor Yanfeng’s face was filled with fury as he laughed from extreme anger. “This is a technique comprehended from the Emperor’s Disk! The treasure of our Ling Family was on your little lover all along! I shall now—”

He was about to fight his way back when he suddenly stopped in his footsteps and gazed at the snowy white manor. He stared blankly at it for a moment before shaking his head and saying to the flustered Ling Yuxiu, “Return to the capital.”

“Emperor’s Disk is with him, so I’ll go ask him for it. Father, don’t be angry.”

Emperor Yanfeng shook his head. “I have examined that piece of Emperor’s Disk for thousands of times yet I never comprehend anything out of it. The ancestors of Ling Family have also examined it countless times yet never found the marvel within it. The throne doesn’t belong to Ling Family due to that Emperor’s Disk. There’s no need to completely fall out with Heavenly Saint Cult.”

Ling Yuxiu sneaked a look at his face. Emperor Yanfeng looked calm, like water without any ripple. His true intentions were unknown.

“Xiu’er, never mention that Primordial Spirit Guide was founded by you and Minister Qin. This matter cannot be told to anyone,” Emperor Yanfeng said solemnly. “If you say it, I won’t be able to protect you.”

Stunned, Ling Yuxiu still nodded silently.

In the manor, Qin Mu went to check Blind’s eyes. The injuries on Blind’s legs had already healed, but his eyes were still wrapped with ribbons which had to be removed from time to time to change medicine.

“Mu’er, regarding that matter of founding Primordial Spirit Guide, don’t say you’ve done it,” Blind suddenly said. “Everyone who saw it must keep their lips sealed, so no word would get out. Understood?”

Qin Mu was puzzled. “Why?”

The ribbon was undone, and Blind gradually opened his eyes. They had no spirit, but slowly, their black pupils filled with divine light. Layers and layers of formation markings swirled in them, and incomparably deep nine heavens took shape.

Blind’s voice was abnormally calm when he spoke next. “The law has changed, the path has changed, and the heaven has also changed. The change of heaven will result in death. All the great masters in the world will sense a motion that’s out of ordinary. A storm is brewing...”

Chapter 413: Astonishment at the State of the World

In the capital, Elder Fu went into Imperial Preceptor’s manor in a fluster to report, “Old master, His Majesty is here to visit!”

Imperial Preceptor rose to welcome the guest, and the two heroes of Eternal Peace Empire met. Ling Yuxiu came after Emperor Yanfeng who gave his friend a deep look. Understanding his meaning, Imperial Preceptor waved his hand for Elder Fu to fall back.

“Your Majesty came to find me before even going to the palace, so something big must have happened.” Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor looked with inquiry at Ling Yuxiu. “There’s only three of us here, so Your Majesty can speak.”

“Did Imperial Preceptor felt it?” Emperor Yanfeng asked. “Five days ago, the fluctuation of heaven and earth.”

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor nodded. “It was a very marvelous fluctuation. The law changed and the path changed, and there was an abnormal change in the great Dao of heaven and earth as well. Someone created a reform and it touched me greatly.”

Emperor Yanfeng took out the two version of the technique of Primordial Spirit Guide and handed it to him. “Imperial Preceptor, take a look.”

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor flipped through the pages in detail, his expression growing more and more solemn. After some time, he closed Primordial Spirit Guide and said, “It’s princess and Cult Master Qin’s handwriting. Six Directions’s reform changed Seven Stars, Celestial Being, Life and Death, and Divine Bridge, so no wonder there was such a huge motion. Princess Xiu is not bad, her achievements in the future won’t be inferior to yours and mine.”

He was extraordinary wise and didn’t need Emperor Yanfeng to give him a hint to know that it was made by Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu. On top of that, he also guessed what consequences their work would bring.

Emperor Yanfeng nodded. “The source of the reform comes from these two scrolls. I came to find you without stopping for rest because the situation is grave. The effect is still very mild, so those who aren’t great masters who had reached the level of skill won’t be able to detect it. But for existences who had reached the level of the path, the effect is blatant. You said it touched you greatly, so looks like you entered the path a step earlier than I.”

“I reached the path not long ago so it isn’t clear yet. However, that fluctuation flooded in like waves from all direction, and I was standing among them, experiencing that fine change of the great Dao of heaven and earth.”

Emperor Yanfeng listened carefully to his words and praised, “The realm of the path is truly marvelous. You’ve been affected this much, so how would the gods feel?”

“Even worse!” Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor’s eyes shone with hazy rays as he said, “Your Majesty wasn’t in the capital these few days, so you don’t know that memorials have been flying in like a flurry of snowballs. Your Majesty, please take a look.”

He took out dozens of memorials which were from various country magistrates all over the empire.

Emperor Yanfeng opened one which was by the county magistrate of Initiate Peace County. It said that an earthquake had happened at Grandma Qi Yue Temple. Other places had no tremors, except for Grandma Temple which had collapsed, crushing over a dozen believers.

When Initiate Peace County Magistrate brought a group of people to clean up the debris, they saw that the mountain on which the temple had been built had split apart. In the huge crack, there was a god statue of a giant's upper body. It was the color of flesh, and the light of runes flowed across its body.

Emperor Yanfeng frowned slightly as he thought for a moment. He passed that memorial to Yuxiu and picked another one for himself.

It had been sent by the magistrate of Bent Prefecture and spoke about strange incidents happening at Great Bent Lake. When it was midnight, abnormal lights would burst into the sky from the lake, covering its whole surface. There was a huge lifeform rising from the lake with eyes like lanterns. It was said that it was Bent Lake Sovereign which wanted the people at the shore to offer virgin men and women as tribute. The magistrate sent his bailiff to investigate, and numerous divine arts practitioners had already died.

Emperor Yanfeng's brows tensed up as he flipped through the other memorials. Some were about shrines splitting apart, with extremely ancient god statues appearing and shattering the god statues that the people were worshiping. Some spoke of earth shakes and god statues rising in riverbeds. Some of those statues didn't move, but others demanded tribute from people living in their region.

There were also numerous places that burst forth with strange lights or had strange creatures appear in their territory. However, no one could take them away.

"There's no such gods in our Eternal Peace Empire." Ling Yuxiu looked through the memorials, then placed them down. She pondered over what she'd read before asking, "Where did those god statues come from? They definitely couldn't have just popped out from the ground. Also, the treasures mentioned in the memorials don't seem to have been left by someone, for they are treasures of gods."

"Not from underground," Emperor Yanfeng said. "If they had existed underground, they would have been found long ago. Those stone statues and treasures should have come from another world."

"It should not be just one world," Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor said solemnly. "Great Ruins have similar stone statues, and rumor says that they are gods who had petrified their bodies. They are in slumber, waiting for something, but they can transform back into their real bodies anytime. If these stone statues came from another world, the timing they chose is very peculiar."

"Princess and Cult Master Qin created Primordial Spirit Guide, changing the great Dao of heaven and earth, and the next moment, numerous stone statues and strange treasures appeared all around the world; there's definitely a connection between them," Emperor Yanfeng said. "Imperial Preceptor, the origin and aim of those stone statues have to be investigated."

"This reminds me of the incident two years ago when Dutian Devil King descended. Back then, he relied on Cult Master Qin's sacrifice and a sacrificial altar to be summoned into our world. Furthermore, only his consciousness and part of his power had come to Eternal Peace, since his body required even more deaths and live sacrifices."

Emperor Yanfeng and Ling Yuxiu listened quietly without interfering. What Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor wanted to say was extremely important, so they couldn't be careless.

"This means that traveling through different worlds requires an immense amount of energy. The stronger the existence that is traveling to another world, the greater the energy required.

"Since the great Dao of heaven and earth changed, the stone statues of those gods descended. Yet they should have only been able to send their stone statues over, while their power is unable to transfer for the time being. They need countless sacrifices of flesh and blood to call over their true bodies."

Emperor Yanfeng and Ling Yuxiu's hearts stirred as a terrifying thought suddenly formed in their heads. Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor helped them by saying it out loud. "They need to create a large-scale natural disaster for many people to die, for only then could their true bodies come to Eternal Peace!"

Emperor Yanfeng and Ling Yuxiu's blood ran cold.

The previous natural disaster had already caused countless people to lose their lives, and Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor had yet to recover from his encounter with the god. If another natural disaster was to happen, the empire was definitely going to fall into ruin, and countless living beings would fall into utter misery!

"According to my guess, the gods of High Heavens will soon receive an order to send disaster for our Eternal Peace," Imperial Preceptor said solemnly. "This natural disaster will definitely not be inferior to the snow disaster before. It can be an earthquake, eruption of volcanoes, tornadoes, floods, or even snow disaster or drought. As long as it's a disaster that can kill billions of people, anything is possible!"

Emperor Yanfeng croaked out in a hoarse voice, "What you mean is..."

"Eradicate High Heavens," Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor said indifferently. "We need to eradicate the gods of High Heavens, since if I didn't guess wrong, the ones in charge of sending disaster to this world is none other than High Heavens. If we get rid of it, all the stone statues around the world won't be able to transform into gods or devils, and the people will then be spared from death. We need to make a move first, eradicating all the gods of High Heavens!"

Emperor Yanfeng felt a splitting headache. He raised his hands to hold his head and gritted his teeth. "High Heavens is in West Earth and we don't know how many gods and devils they have, so how would we gain the ability to eradicate High Heavens? If we could wait a few more years, allowing more experts to patch their divine bridge and cultivate to the god realm..."

"Your Majesty, they won't give you the time. If what I guessed is correct, the treasures mentioned in those memorials are meteorological weapons!"

Emperor Yanfeng and Ling Yuxiu's blood ran cold.

Meteorological weapon was an idea suggested by Qin Mu. By keeping meteorological phenomena—for example, snowstorm, hails, tornados, floods, volcano eruptions, and earthquakes—in bottle gourds, they could adjust the weather during normal times.

If they were to attack enemy countries, they could also use the meteorological weapons to kill the enemy troops.

The time Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor had attacked the prairie, Pangong Tso had made the great shamans poison all the water sources. To get rid of the shaman poison and save the herdsmen of the prairie, Imperial Preceptor had then used bottled storms to make it rain for ten days, which cleansed the land and washed away all of the poison.

However, quite a number of herdsmen had drowned in the flood. Because of that, Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor had been accused of misconduct by the contrarians which caused him some trouble.

If he wasn't wrong and those treasures of gods and devils were all meteorological weapons, the gods of High Heavens just needed to come over, and they would be able to activate them, releasing all kinds of meteorological phenomenon to cause grave casualties in Eternal Peace Empire!

With that many people dead, the stone statues would receive enough flesh and blood sacrifices for the power of those gods and devils to flow in like a long river. Once the stone statues regained their true forms, a massacre would begin, and they would wipe out the whole world!

"I shall immediately send orders and command people to guard the stone statues and treasures. I can't let those things fall into the hands of High Heavens!" Cold sweat started rolling down Emperor Yanfeng's forehead, and he started walking to and fro. "We definitely can't let them find them... Why are they doing this? Can't they just let the people of this world live better lives? I-I don't understand!"

"The reform touches the benefits of the gods and devils. It changes the Dao and the gods and devils won't be tolerated by it if they can't change accordingly," said Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor. "There is definitely an even deeper reason for it, but we are lacking too much information to deduce the truth. Your Majesty, I need Human Emperor to come personally."

Emperor Yanfeng looked at him.

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor looked into the distance and muttered, "Only when Human Emperor calls for it would all the sacred grounds and strong practitioners listen and join hands to wipe out High Heavens! Only the human emperor that all the sects revere can make them follow him wholeheartedly!"

Ling Yuxiu was stupefied. Wasn't the current human emperor Qin Mu?

Wasn't Human Emperor's Seal in Qin Mu's hands?

Based on that logic, didn't it mean that Qin Mu also had to attack High Heavens?

"I'll go speak with Human Emperor!" Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor rose and left.

Qin Mu was cultivating his primordial spirit with Si Yunxiang at that moment, the two of them roaming around. When they came to a spot, a majestic mountain there suddenly split, and a huge stone statue rose from the depths of the crack.

“What’s happening? Is this Great Ruins?”

The two of them were astonished. They suddenly smelled a fragrance, and their hearts couldn’t help shaking. “We had just lighted Soul Guide Incense to come to play around, and it couldn’t have finished that fast. Someone had to have blown the incense all the way to the bottom!”

Their primordial spirits were summoned back into their corporeal bodies. Qin Mu opened his eyes and saw Village Chief, Butcher, Mute, and even Old Ma!

Chapter 414: Stone Statues

Qin Mu was astonished. Since Butcher had come back, Village Chief and the rest should know that Xing An had attacked and got severely injured. With the danger of Xing An solved, it was a surprise that Old Ma didn’t remain in Great Thunderclap Monastery, but instead came with Village Chief and the rest.

“Village Chief, Xing An...”

Village Chief shook his head. “Xing An’s matter is insignificant. I’ve called you back because there’s something important. Are you able to contact Heavenly Devil Patriarch?”

Qin Mu’s heart stirred as he said, “Did something big happen? Patriarch and Elder of Discipline left to roam the world and said that Elder of Discipline would bring his ashes back after he died. Village Chief, what exactly is going on? Saintess Xiang and I discovered something weird when roaming just now—a mountain split apart and a stone statue rose up. Are you here because of that?”

Si Yunxiang nodded repeatedly as she added, “That stone statue was very terrifying and seemed to be growing out from the mountain, rising upward quickly!”

“There’s not only one stone statue.” Old Ma gave others a feeling that his wisdom was smooth and round like a pearl. “Stone statues have appeared all around the world, and there is about a hundred of them. There are numerous strange treasures as well. These objects have all appeared suddenly and are things that are not from our world. Some stone statues had burst from under Mount Meru, hitting it, but they didn’t split it. Instead, they were suppressed.”

Qin Mu had a weird expression.

Mute’s expression was grim as his fingers jumped rapidly to make weird gestures.

“This kind of stone statue is a sign that the gods and devils are descending.” Deaf looked at his hands and said, “The gods and devils from the other world can’t cross the world barrier easily, so they chose to petrify themselves into stone statues that have no energy to send themselves over. With this, their primordial spirit and magic power would remain in their respective worlds.

“If they wanted to regain their body of flesh and blood, they would need blood sacrifices to summon their primordial spirit from another world. We saw a few of the treasures on the way, and they are meteorological weapons used to draw great calamities for massacring the populace... Don’t look at me, that’s what Mute is saying.”

Everyone looked at Mute and Village Chief couldn't resist asking, "How do you know so much? You understand all of it even better than I do."

Mute grinned, signaling with his hands. Deaf then said, "This guy is acting mute and deaf again, I didn't understand what he signaled."

"This matter is too terrifying. From what I see, there's no need to find Patriarch or anyone else. Let's return to Great Ruins immediately!" Granny Si said. "So many stone statues had appeared in Eternal Peace, and once they revive, who can defend against them? Old Ma, don't be a Rulai anymore, let whoever wants to take over. I also don't want this manor anymore, so let's just all return to Great Ruins immediately!"

Butcher shook his head and said, "Granny, it isn't good to just leave like this, right? Aren't we going to be cowards if we hide in Great Ruins? A man should have an indomitable spirit and fight a vigorous battle!"

Granny Si gave him a look and said coldly, "If you aren't leaving, do you want to die? Do you want to return to before, living miserably with your upper body alone?"

Butcher's face flushed red from anger. "I won't stoop myself to your level!"

Village Chief coughed and said, "Granny, Human Emperor needs to take on the responsibility..."

"Take on the responsibility?" Granny Si smiled with extreme anger. "Can you take on the responsibility? You couldn't yet you still pushed Mu'er into the pit! If you have the capability, take on the responsibility yourself! Look at you now, hiding in Great Ruins like a rod and acting dead, yet you still have the face to talk about responsibility!"

Village Chief was too angry to even form words. "You-you!"

"You, what you?" Granny Si asked ruthlessly. "There are over a hundred stone statues. If you have the ability, go cut down all of them. Otherwise, you shall also go back obediently to Great Ruins and act dead like me!"

Deaf coughed and said, "Granny, you're going overboard..."

"How is it related to you? I brought Qin Mu up, cleaning his pee and poop. All you did every day was hit his palm with a black face. If it was not because you could write well and taught Mu'er to read, I would have beaten you to death long ago!"

Deaf stuttered from his fury. "One can learn without a beating... You-you unreasonable woman! Only a lowly person would quar—"

Granny Si put a cowskin over his head, and Deaf instantly became a mooing bull.

"Granny, I think—" Apothecary started to say, but was cut off as well.

"Scram!" Granny Si said coldly. "Go back and serve those women of yours!"

“Alright,” Apothecary replied frankly and turned to leave.

Mute knocked on his tobacco pipe and signaled. “Ah, ah...”

“Shut up, you bad egg, always full of mischievous ideas!”

Mute lowered his head, feeling extremely wronged. He stopped talking. Cripple opened his mouth, wanting to say something, but Granny Si turned around to stare at him. Cripple then shuddered and laughed dryly. “Why are you so fierce? We can discuss this peacefully, haha. Everything is good... Old Ma, Old Ma, say something! I listen to your words the most, so if you say to return to the village, I will return. Old Ma says go and I will go!”

Granny Si glanced at Old Ma. “If you don’t return to Great Ruins, I will go to your Great Thunderclap Monastery, and you can see how many monks will be left in your monastery!”

Old Ma didn’t say a word.

“Blind, say something.” Village Chief looked at Blind.

“If Mu’er wants to stay, then we shall stay. If Mu’er wants to return to Great Ruins, we shall also return.” Granny Si looked at him coldly, and Blind closed his eyes. “Granny, if you want to take Mu’er away, they can’t stop you, but I can. I brought Mu’er away once, so I know his resolve. We are all old, and if Village Chief won’t manage to patch his divine bridge, he probably won’t make it past next spring, so why do we have to strain our relationships? Just listen to what Mu’er has to say.”

Granny Si’s heart softened, and she looked at Qin Mu. In a gentle voice, she said, “Mu’er, you are already a grown up. The baddies of the village taught you to be like that, but you shouldn’t learn bad from them. Follow granny back. You shall marry any girl you like, and granny will wait to carry her grandson...”

Qin Mu looked around in a daze before lowering his head.

Si Yunxiang looked around her surroundings, also slightly at a loss. She didn’t know what was happening. ‘Aunt is pretty awe-inspiring, scolding all these god-like existence into obedience. When can I become this impressive as well...”

After a moment, Qin Mu raised his head. “These stone statues are like the stone statues of Great Ruins, gods and devils who had petrified themselves, but they had suddenly appeared because Yuxiu and I founded Primordial Spirit Guide. Those stone statues have come to wipe out Eternal Peace, right? In that case, the trouble is caused by me, isn’t it? They are here to kill me?”

“It might not have been caused by you, but Emperor Yanfeng killing Jade Sovereign of High Heavens with the cannon. Based on the timing, High Heavens should have reported that event to their masters. Besides, Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor and Emperor Yanfeng’s reform would have brought this sooner or later, just probably several years later,” Village Chief explained.

“This change doesn’t rest solely on your shoulders, but also the reform. First, Emperor Yanfeng’s cannon raised the attention of the masters of High Heavens. Then, Princess Xiu and you founded Primordial Spirit Guide which brought about some changes to the great Dao.”

“In that case, part of the reason is still me.” Qin Mu pondered it for a moment, then said to Granny Si, “Granny, I’m not going back. I still have many friends here, like Wei Yong, Chen Wanyun, Mu Qingdai, and Yue Qinghong. I don’t want to hear news of their deaths a few years later. Didn’t you guys say it before? I should clean up after myself.”

Granny Si was slightly stunned. “Butcher taught you to be loyal, so you are really going to be loyal? What’s loyalty going to do? Can it save your life?”

Qin Mu shook his head. “It won’t, but it will put my heart at ease.”

Granny Si was first stunned, then she sighed. “At ease? I don’t know if you’ll still be able to feel at ease when Eternal Peace Empire is wiped out by the fire of war. But you have grown up and have your own ideas. Fine then, I won’t force you. Invite Patriarch back.”

Qin Mu blinked and asked with curiosity, “Why do I have to invite Patriarch?”

“We old bones discussed and felt that High Heavens would come to activate the treasures which broke out from the earth and release various natural disasters, using the resulting deaths as sacrifices to bring over the gods whose stone statues have risen in Eternal Peace. To stop that, we discussed a plan to attack the High Heavens to prevent their actions.”

“Since those statues are the bodies of gods and devils, why don’t we just smash them?” Qin Mu asked in bewilderment.

“Once the gods and devils petrify themselves, they become incomparably tough, too hard to shatter,” Blind said. “Have you ever seen shattered stone statues in Great Ruins?”

Qin Mu pondered over it, realizing that it was indeed the case. He had roamed around in Great Ruins numerous times, but rarely seen shattered stone statues. However, he had seen numerous dragon king’s statues whose heads had been severed in the east sea.

That time, it should have been the heavenly king of Heavenly King Temple. He’d ridden the dragon qilin to quell the rebellion in the east sea, using Green Dragon Crescent Blade to sever the heads of dragon kings’ stone statues.

“Can we move the stone statues to Great Ruins?” Qin Mu asked. “If we move them to Great Ruins and place them near the stone statues there, we wouldn’t have to worry about them reviving and created a ruckus.”

Cripple smiled and said, “Carrying a stone statue is like carrying a god. Who can carry a god and walk tens of thousands of miles to Great Ruins? Besides, it’s not just one or two, but over a hundred!”

Qin Mu frowned. The god statues were indeed terrifyingly heavy. An existence like Old Ma would have to rest after walking just one thousand yards. On top of that, Old Ma was a person who had a strong corporeal body!

“Saintess Xiang, what method does the sacred cult have to contact Patriarch or Elder of Discipline?” Qin Mu turned his head to ask the girl.

“My Si Family has two Heart Inspection Mirrors which act as a pair. By mumbling the other person’s name and imagining their voice and appearance, one is able to contact another person, seeing them and hearing their voice. Patriarch and Elder of Discipline have one such inspection mirror, so it’s simple to contact them. I shall go inform elder lady and get her to contact Patriarch!”

“There’s still a toy like Heart Inspection Mirror in the sacred cult?” Qin Mu said in astonishment.

Si Yunxiang rolled her eyes at him. “You became the sacred cult master two years ago and how many times have you gone to Saint Arrival Mountain? The sacred cult’s Si Family, Yu Family, Shi Family, have you visited them? If you weren’t a decent cult master, I would have long rebelled against you!”

Qin Mu smiled. “You won’t, you don’t have the ability.”

Si Yunxiang was driven mad, but could only contact the great-grandmother of Si Family. She wanted to be as awe-inspiring as Granny Si, but the brat didn’t give her face, giving her no chance to become impressive.

“Grandpa Butcher, the sun, moon, and stars in the sky, the Milky Way, and the constellations are all fake.” Qin Mu came to Butcher’s side and said, “Grandpa Butcher should know numerous secrets, right?”

Butcher pulled out his Pig Slaughtering Knives and grinded the blades against each other. “When talking about this, I can’t not talk about the martial art I founded, Every Cloud Has a Silver Lining. Back then, I was a great master of the battle techniques, and all I wanted to do was to create an ultimate art that had no comparison. Back then, I was overflowing with confidence and felt that I was invincible in this world, that any divine art could be destroyed with one knife strike. However, I had never fought with heaven before, so I wanted to split the sky and jump out to fight with heaven...”

Chapter 415: Talented in Both Literature and Painting

Back then, Butcher was a maniac. He was overbearing, invincible, lonely, and full of ambition, instead of being rough like right now. Not only was his knife skills superb, he was also knowledgeable, and the poems he wrote were bold and unrestrained. He was also a gifted scholar that was renowned at that time.

His knife skills were called Heaven Knife, and he was also named after them. His every move was filled with poetic quality, speaking his mind and emotionally unrestrained.

If Disabled Elderly Village was ranked according to their literary talent, the first would be Deaf, but the second would be Butcher. Even though he’d grown crazy and spewed vulgarities, he was a famous literary giant back in the day.

At that time, he had challenged nearly all of the experts, including even Pangong Tso. The grandmaster of Rolan's Golden Palace could only hide, not daring to face him.

Butcher was enormously proud of his success, and besides an annoying disciple, his life was already complete. Of course, his disciple was also very remarkable. He was called Ba Shan and known as Hegemon Knife.

For over four or five decades, wind and rain clouded the sky. As transient as a fleeting cloud, every cloud had a silver lining

One should not think about boasting, for after the crisis comes hope. When looking at the sky and sea, a journey taken seems but a smoke!

Butcher created Every Cloud Has a Silver Lining, and the battle technique school was pushed to a height at which it had never been. At that time, many people learned the way of the knife in the martial world, and the battle technique school became mainstream, suppressing spell divine arts and sword technique divine arts.

It was at that moment that Butcher finally couldn't resist attacking the sky. He wasn't a person like Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor with his reform, but a person who wanted to fight to his heart's content!

"After I founded that move, I immediately tested it, and the knife sliced the sky apart."

Butcher swung his knife, and the knife skill he executed was none other than Every Cloud Has a Silver Lining. He didn't unleash any power with this move, but only executed it once.

He then pulled back his knife, his expression weird. He composed himself, seeming to be reminiscing about the period when he had become deranged. "I saw a strange sight. The sky split open, but there were no stars behind it. I was very careful and didn't go up to check, instead, I found a few like-minded friends who were all proficient in algebra."

Qin Mu's heart stirred slightly. Butcher actually knew how to be careful? He was the one with the worst temper, the one who would go straight into things, slashing down as he swung his knives.

'This kind of personality should be a facade purposely created by Grandpa Butcher. Those who believe he is a boorish fellow should have all died,' Qin Mu thought to himself.

"Then, I slashed toward the sky with my knife again. My algebra friends should have calculated the thickness and height of the sky, but there was a problem that time.'

Butcher fell silent. After a moment, he said sorrowfully, "My friends died. In the tear that I had slashed open, an eye appeared. A huge eye. A weird eye. When it looked at us, I felt my soul throbbing as though it was going to be pulled out of my body. However, my corporeal body was extremely strong and my heart suppressed the throbbing along with my primordial spirit. However, my good friends didn't manage to do that. They..."

The corners of his eyes twitched, and he fell silent again.

“I didn’t go up to the sky to find the owner of that eye immediately. Instead, I brought the corpses of my good friends back to their homes, letting their families arrange for their funerals and bury them.” Butcher fell into a daze as he spoke. “I knelt down and begged for forgiveness, especially from the family of my sworn elder brother. Elder sister was a very nice person, but she gave me a slap. She then told me to get out and leave for as far as possible, instead of taking revenge. I knew the meaning of her words: If I went and take revenge, I would definitely die. But I still went.”

He revealed a smile and said to Qin Mu, “My friends, my elder brother, all of them had died without knowing how it happened, and it happened because of me, so how could I not take revenge? A man eight feet tall, full of muscle, with heroism in his chest, and big knives in his hands, how could he not take revenge, not do what his heart said? Elder sister cherished me and didn’t want me to die, but my knives and my heart were upright and plainspoken, so I had to take revenge! That was why I carried my knives up to the sky. Hehe, many people said I was a lunatic, right?”

Qin Mu nodded silently.

Too many people had said Heaven Knife who had raised his knives against the heaven was a lunatic, that he had fought with the gods of heaven in the dark sky filled with clouds and lightning strikes.

It was said that in that battle, Heaven Knife, the strongest practitioner of the battle technique school, had fallen to a devil’s influence which made him challenge the heaven. His actions then became a legend carried down through the generations.

Heaven Knife was severed in half at the waist, and his blood sprayed on the mortal world. The battle technique school lost their strongest practitioner, but it was still prospering. It was so until the rise of Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor who, because the battle technique school was fierce and liked to kill people frequently, challenged it in its entirety, killing numerous famous people. From then on, battle technique school went down the slope.

“I fought against the sky, but it was only this thick...”

Butcher made a pinching motion with thumb and index finger, leaving the space of three inches between them at most.

Qin Mu didn’t know whether to laugh or cry. The sky was ten thousand miles high and its thickness was one thousand yards, which was calculated by Xu Shenghua, Wang Muran, and Lin Xuan. But Butcher frequently talked drivel, wrote poems, and exaggerated, so three inches was only his metaphor.

“I fought my way up to the sky and saw numerous weird formations.” Butcher looked at the sky in a daze. “The sky was only the thickness of a line, but there were numerous complicated formations that operated automatically, presenting the shapes of the sun, moon, stars, Milky Way, and constellations.

“I was furious at that time. The bullshit heaven was all fake, yet the stubborn mules of Dao Sect were still calculating heavenly cycles and constellations. Commoners even worshiped the sun and moon every day, paying their respects to those toys. I wanted to chop them up, to shatter them and see how they would then continue to fool people. But then...”

Then, Heaven Knife met gods, the gods that were protecting the fake astronomical phenomenon.

Heaven Knife and the gods fought, and he was severed at the waist, which resulted in him falling down.

His lower body was snatched by Grand Shaman, who had also snatched the severed hand of a god which was later stolen by Qin Mu. It was still with Butcher.

“I never met the owner of that eye and didn’t manage to take revenge for my good friends. I was disabled, crippled.” A crazed look appeared in Butcher’s eyes but his mind was still stable. “I had no face to return to the families of those friends, to meet my elder sister, or to die. Those friends are still looking at me...”

With a cry that wasn’t really a cry and a smile that wasn’t really a smile, he said, “I can’t let them raise the crippled me and I can’t let Ba Shan see the crippled me. This world had Heaven Knife who died in battle, not Heaven Knife who struggled for years at death’s door.

“At that time, I crawled and crawled through the rain and snow. I crawled until I reached Great Ruins, where cold mud covered the ground. It was Blind who picked me and brought me to the village. That damned Blind keeps using this against me...”

Butcher’s face became sorrowful soon, however. “When I left Great Ruins with Blind last year, I couldn’t resist going to visit elder sister. She has grown old, her eyes becoming blurry and her head not being as good as before. She couldn’t recognize me anymore. Her grandchildren follow her, for she can no longer walk, just lay in the recliner. Her grandchildren said that the sentence she says the most is: I shouldn’t have let second brother go back then.”

Butcher wept manly tears, but his voice still remained calm. “When I spent the last moments of her life with her, she was still harping on about me, not knowing that I was right beside her. She said that she had harmed me...”

Qin Mu stayed silent.

Butcher raised his spirits and said, “Even though I didn’t spend much time in the sky, I saw a lot of stuff. The sun, moon, and stars are actually formations created in a small space. It seemed like, seemed like...”

He looked at Deaf who had been turned into a bull and said, “It seemed like a painting. However, those sun, moon, and stars weren’t things that were drawn. They truly existed and operated automatically, hidden in the painting. I had seen Deaf’s paintings before, and they’re extraordinary, but not to that extent.”

Qin Mu was slightly stunned. “There are formations in the picture which show us the magnificent sight of the sun, moon, and stars?”

“Moo!” A big black cow mooed angrily beside Qin Mu. Next to it were a couple female deer demons that were trying to pick it up.

Butcher chased the deer demons away and placed his Pig Slaughtering Knife on top of the bull's head. He swung it up and down, making the black bull shiver in fear.

Butcher stabbed the knife into the bull's neck and carefully peeled off the cowskin while the deer demons fled in a panic.

Deaf tumbled out from the cowskin and grumbled, "Butcher, you almost hurt me."

"The sky is like a painting, but it wasn't completely a painting. There were a sun, moon, and stars inside. They were all forged treasured. The painting instead covered the true sky and maintained the formations of the sun, moon, and stars for tens of thousands of years. You couldn't do that; your cultivation is too shallow."

Butcher pushed Pig Slaughtering Knife back into its sheath and said, "Those gods in the sky should be the dogs guarding the Astronomical Phenomenon Picture and not the real gods. They are very strong and no weaker than those guys in High Heavens. However, I didn't see the owner of that divine eye. He shouldn't be from this world. When I was investigating the astronomical phenomenon, he detected me and only then looked over."

There was a picture that covered the whole world. The sun, moon, stars, constellations, and Milky Way were all formations that could operate by themselves. The thickness of the picture material was only one thousand yards while its height was ten thousand miles.

Qin Mu had a headache. Was this something that humans could create?

"Back then, I didn't manage to see past the sky." Butcher's face became sorrowful again as he said, "My knife had only sliced apart the astronomical picture, but I didn't slice open what's behind it. Back then, my corporeal body was terrifyingly strong, so I didn't die; however, I went mad."

As a matter of fact, Butcher would still flare up from time to time, scolding the heaven, full of cynicism.

The people of Disabled Elderly Village were all people who didn't have a complete body from various setbacks while their hearts and corporeal bodies had suffered from psychological shock. They were more or less embittered.

"I could draw what I saw in the sky," Butcher said. "However, my drawing isn't as good as that of Deaf. Mu'er, give me a few days, I will draw down all the formations for you to take a look."

Qin Mu was astonished.

Butcher was rough and boorish, courageous and strong to the point he was like the reincarnation of a bull demon. On top of that, the stubble on his face was also incomparably robust, able to give off sparks when he shaved it with Pig Slaughtering Knife!

Such a boorish man was actually talented in both literature and painting. And he was even honored as Heaven Knife!

Deaf, on the other hand, wasn't astonished. "In our village, the one most lacking in culture is Blind. Butcher's literary works and paintings are all first-rated. It's just that he didn't put all his heart into them, or else he would have left his name in history as well."

Qin Mu looked at Blind, only to see him staring at Deaf with shining eyes.

The next couple of days, Butcher cooped himself up in his room and painted continuously. Qin Mu didn't go and disturb him. Si Yunxiang in the meantime managed to contact the young patriarch and came to report to him., "Patriarch had gone to West Earth, but he's on his way back."

Qin Mu was astonished. 'Patriarch went to West Earth? Could he be looking for his old lover?'

At that moment, he suddenly heard a voice. "Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor seeks an audience with Human Emperor!"

Qin Mu turned around and looked toward the source of the voice while laughing loudly. "Why is Heavenly King so polite? Just saying that you are here to meet the cult master will do! Calling me the human emperor is too formal!"

Si Yunxiang was full of admiration. 'Cult Master's level of thick skin is something I can never reach.'