

Tales of Herding Gods Chapter 696-700

Chapter 696: Reflection in the Knife

Qi Jiuyi had a smile on his face, but his gaze was very cold. His aura reached its peak in that instant.

His fighting spirit overflowed into the sky.

For a very long time, for about two to three years, he had always been looking for a chance to be able to defeat Qin Mu perfectly!

He was a child favored by heaven, and he had the bloodline of Southern Heaven Red Deity. He was a young talent that possessed two Emperor's Throne techniques, and he carried his dreams and ambitions to the lower bound. Yet when he had just arrived in the lower bound, he got beaten up by Qin Mu and Zhe Huali together!

Afterward, he was defeated by Qin Mu in a one on one match.

Suffering two defeats was extraordinary shameful and humiliating.

He had messed up Qin Mu's Dao heart though, and it was a once in a lifetime opportunity!

He waited for the chance and created it!

"People who learn from me live. People who imitate me die."

Qin Mu made the dragon qilin fall back and said seriously, "When experts fight, first aim for the heart. I'm skilled in striking on my opponent's Dao heart after all. You, Zhe Huali, Xu Shenghua, and Grandmaster are all people who could live after experiencing my beat down. All of you are talents, and I've seen you guys grow. However, there's one place where you're wrong. When you didn't make your move instantly and imitated the art of how I strike at the heart, you were doomed to lose. That's because I'm even more skilled than you in this field."

Flames poured out around Qi Jiuyi's body and transformed into the apparition of a phoenix perching on an ancient parasol tree. He tried his best to not listen to his words and sneered. "Your techniques and divine arts will never be on par with the Emperor's Throne technique of my Qi family. One great divine art of mine can fight three of your moves!"

The speed of his divine art execution became faster and faster, growing much quicker than before. It was obvious after Qin Mu defeated him that he had learned from his defeat and worked hard on cultivating, thus he had another astonishing improvement!

Emperor's Throne technique was a profound mystery, and it was like the divine arts practitioners of Eternal Peace cultivating. The comprehension of every step required one to continuously grind and discern, entering the state of comprehension by opportunity and chance.

Even the saints that appeared once every five hundred years like Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor required dozens to a hundred years of his accumulation to comprehend his own Dao sword. He even needed the guidance from the previous Sword God Village Chief to enter the realm of the path in one go, achieving cultivation in the sword path that even Qin Mu had no hope of catching.

People who comprehended the realm of the path in Disabled Elderly Village like Butcher, Blind, and Deaf all had astonishing attainments in their own realm of the path.

That was something that they had worked on throughout their life, and they had experienced countless obstructions, torture, and setback. They were down on their luck their whole lives and only then could they reach the top in the realm of the path.

Even the setbacks faced by an 'overlord body' like Qin Mu were unimaginable when he was stepping into the gate of sword path.

First Ancestor Human Emperor shattered the bones in Hall of Human Emperors, destroying the ultimate arts of the past human emperors. He then beat Qin Mu up badly and beat him down in corporeal body, spirit, Dao heart, and skills and forced Qin Mu to kneel in the mud to look at Second Ancestor's corpse being destroyed helplessly.

That fight had nearly crush Qin Mu entirely and only then was there teleporting to Supreme Emperor Heaven, fights on the battlefield, and comprehending the path in Li City. The blood, sweat, and tears behind his hard work were something others wouldn't know.

Meanwhile, Qi Jiuyi who cultivated Emperor's Throne technique lived in the celestial heavens and had the guidance of Southern Heaven Red Deity. He then learned under Mingdu Black Deity and cultivated two great Emperor's Throne techniques.

Emperor's Throne techniques were broad and deep, having an ability to allow people to comprehend the path and reach the top. There was no need for them to go through those kinds of hardships like Imperial Preceptor, Butcher and Blind had gone through. There was also no need to experience the setbacks they had experienced.

Qi Jiuyi's cultivation was smooth sailing, but because of that, the kind of forcefully raised realm lacked very much.

Qi Jiuyi always thought he was invincible on the same realm and he could rank in the top ten. That was until he met Qin Mu, the country bumpkin that was rolling in the dirt of the lower bound.

After being defeated twice in the hands of Qin Mu, he realized he was lacking. The comprehension of the path that relied on an Emperor's Throne technique wasn't his, and it wasn't as etched into his memory.

From that day onwards, he always walked on the path of his comprehension, and that was why he had improved so much.

On the ancient parasol tree behind him, a nine-headed phoenix flapped its wings to circle the parasol tree. In the phoenix's nest, there was a phoenix egg that was breaking open. Another small nine-headed

phoenix flapped its tender wings and started to drink the dew and absorb the phoenix flames to grow up quickly. It flapped its wings to fly up again.

Qin Mu raised his eyebrows, and in that short while, sixteen nine-headed phoenixes flew out of the nest. The phoenixes dragged along long and gorgeous feathers to fly around him. The nine-headed phoenixes cried out and gave off waves of clear Dao voices from their beaks.

He stood there, and in a radius of over ten miles, huge nine-headed phoenixes flew across one another and formed a marvelous formation.

In the formation, Qi Jiuyi stood opposite him with an ancient parasol tree behind him. The flaming tree behind him bloomed, and the flowers on the parasol tree were like small trumpets that were brightly colored. The clouds of flames that were floating among the branches were also bringing along a marvelous rhythm.

The youth below the tree had an aura that made people unable to approach him.

Qin Mu felt a slight regret. He shouldn't have given Qi Jiuyi the time and chance to execute his great divine art. Qi Jiuyi was much much stronger than the previous time they had fought. By giving him that chance, he had landed into a passive situation.

It was obvious that Qi Jiuyi's great divine art, Phoenix Perching on Parasol Tree, had entered another marvelous realm which had patched what he lacked.

Suddenly, the nine-headed phoenixes gave off incomparably sharp cries as they swooped towards Qin Mu!

At the same time, Qi Jiuyi slowly shifted under the tree, but his gaze always stared at Qin Mu who was being pounced on by the phoenixes.

Qin Mu stood on the original spot and didn't move at all. Instead, he revealed a three-headed and six-armed form which defended against the nine-headed phoenixes that were swooping in all directions. What he had executed was First Ancestor Human Emperor's Heaven and Earth Mudra Skills, and he blocked down the sixteen nine-headed phoenixes that were attacking him. He was unharmed.

Standing in between heaven and earth, First Ancestor Human Emperor's mudra skills turned himself as the heart of heaven and earth, and it was the most effective method he had at that time.

Qi Jiuyi's footsteps moved, and the mist behind him was vast. A nine-headed phoenix popped its head out from the mist and stared at Qin Mu to search for his opening.

The mudra skill in his hands was changing continuously and the divine art that had formed the ancient parasol tree was also having slight changes. He was calculating the opening in Qin Mu's moves and divine art.

Suddenly, Qi Jiuyi's eyes lit up, and he drew a circle with his right hand. The mudra on his left hand penetrated through the circle and smacked towards Qin Mu.

And at that moment, sixteen nine-headed phoenixes pounced at Qin Mu to drown him out!

How intense were the attacks from sixteen nine-headed phoenixes?

In an instant, the feathers of the nine phoenixes were like swords, the phoenix claws were like hooks, the phoenix beaks were like spears, and they were like tens of thousands of spirit weapons attacking Qin Mu at the same time. In addition to that, incomparably intense phoenix flames were incinerating everything. Where Qin Mu stood was like a sea of fire and also the center of a world-shaking explosion!

The terrifying air currents swept in all directions. Where the air currents flowed past, mountain rocks floated in the sky before shattering, melting and finally vaporizing. The flames formed a circular ring that gave off an incomparably bright light which flooded into the surroundings. It swept everything in its path, and its power only drop after expanding fifty miles!

In the explosion, incomparably bright sword lights suddenly appeared and pierced through the heads of the phoenixes, slashing across their necks, shaving off their wings, chopping off the phoenix feathers and hacking away the phoenix claws!

“Brother Qin, your great divine art is already released, you’re no longer my match!”

Qi Jiuyi laughed loudly, and his palm force pierced through the center of the explosion, going straight for the back of Qin Mu’s heart.

Qin Mu turned his head back and struck out with his palm. He was still a hundred yards away when both of their palm force exploded!

Qi Jiuyi’s palm force was like Bridge of Phoenix Feathers, and countless phoenix feathers that were like swords formed a bridge. The speed of the sword feathers stabbing forward was too fast and as a result, gave off the illusion of a flying bridge.

Qin Mu’s palm force formed a path of crystals which struck Qi Jiuyi’s palm force. The force spat out countless crystals which grew and expanded out in all directions. The structures of the crystals were as different as they could be, and the flames inside the crystals suddenly burst forth.

That was the heavenly fire and a divine art from the Great Dao of Heavenly Fire. It was a fire that was even more terrifying than phoenix fire and it just incinerated the terrifying power that was hidden inside Qi Jiuyi’s sword feathers as it rushed straight at Qi Jiuyi.

Qi Jiuyi’s expression changed drastically, and the ancient parasol tree behind him floated forward. Hugging the ancient parasol tree with both arms, he bellowed and used the ancient parasol tree as a weapon to smash down on the Great Dao of Heavenly Fire!

Boom—

The palm force of the two people collided with the ancient tree and even though its power wasn’t as terrifying, exploding in a small area caused its power to be a cut higher!

The mountain rock below their feet completely melted and the power of both their divine arts pressured down on them until they were incomparably heavy.

The dragon qilin looked at the battle from far away and carried a huge sword pellet on his back. He thought to himself, 'Cult Master doesn't have a spirit weapon on hand, he's probably going to be at a disadvantage... This sword pellet is too heavy, should I put it down first?'

As he thought until there, a world-shattering explosion rang out, and the ground trembled continuously. Next, Qin Mu and Qi Jiuyi's body vanished.

When the aftershock from their clash had dissipated, the dragon qilin immediately saw a huge pit. The huge hole roughly had a radius of three hundred yards, and it was so deep that he couldn't see the bottom couldn't.

The dragon qilin immediately ran over and popped his head over the hole to look down.

He saw that the huge hole didn't look like it was blown out from their divine arts. Instead, the center of the underground was empty as though it had crumbled from their stomp.

'This looks like the underground space of God Broken Mountain Range, there are still chains there, and a long knife sealed there...'

The dragon qilin pondered and he walked into the underground space unwillingly. When they were attacking High Heavens, Qin Mu and the rest had discovered all kinds of unbelievable sights in the underground space of God Broken Mountain Range.

The underground space of God Broken Mountain Range was peculiar and not only was there a long knife stretching across from south to north, but there was also a shrine and chains that were suppressing the long knife.

What was even weirder was there seemed to be a stone statue from Eternal Peace that had tunneled its way there, and in the end, its head got stuck under the long knife. Furthermore, Imperial Preceptor also used Earthquake Cauldron to shatter the space, and as a result, the vision of being connected with another devil world had appeared.

The strangest thing about the knife was that the line was exactly the line of separation between the Great Ruins and Eternal Peace.

'This concerns my meals. I can't not go, in case Cult Master meets danger.'

The dragon qilin jumped down, and qilin flames floated out from his feet to lift him up. He flew into the underground space.

In the space underground, incomparably thick and huge chains were locked onto that astonishing long knife. Looking down at the blade, the head of one majestic god was stuck on the blade.

Not far away, there was also a shrine floating under the blade.

The dragon qilin looked around, and he finally found both of them. They were standing on the surface of the knife and chasing after each other's life.

The surface of the knife was as bright a mirror, and no flaws could be seen. Both of their figures reflected on the body of the knife, and they were extremely clean. It was like there were two Qin Mu and two Qi Jiuyu fighting.

The surface of the knife was so smooth, and both of them were like reflections in the water. Even though their battle was very intense, there was no ripple on the surface of the knife at all.

Qi Jiuyi revealed his body of the nine-headed phoenix. He had a human body and nine phoenix heads while Qin Mu had three heads and six arms. Each had their own unique points, and as they were fighting close quarters, their divine arts were different from the collision before. Each strike hit true to the corporeal body, and they were pounding each other up.

Suddenly, the dragon qilin noticed something strange. The knife no longer reflected their figures, and instead, it reflected a nine-headed phoenix and Qin Mu's primordial spirit!

Qin Mu and Qi Jiuyi's primordial spirits got sucked into the divine knife unknowingly, and they were fighting inside the knife!

'I knew this place was extremely strange...'

The dragon qilin rushed forward and was planning to rescue Qin Mu. Suddenly, he lowered his head and saw the surface of the knife and was slightly stunned. There was another dragon qilin in the clear mirror, and it looked imposing and strong.

The dragon qilin's felt his blood run cold because he was looking at the corporeal body through his primordial spirit!

'My primordial spirit has also been pulled into the mirror!'

The four legs of the dragon qilin pushed around, and it felt as if he had stepped on the mirror surface, yet it also felt as if he wasn't stepping on anything. He was filled with fear.

"It's haunted—"

Before he could finish, both Qi Jiuyi coughed up blood and tumbled several rounds as he came crashing over, landing at the dragon qilin's feet. One landed in front of the true body of the dragon qilin while another landed in front of the primordial spirit of the dragon qilin.

The dragon qilin raised his head and saw two Qin Mu that reflected each other walking over. He stopped in front of Qi Jiuyi who had collapsed and couldn't get up.

Chapter 697: Endless Void

"Brother Qi, I told you I would spare your life so I really won't take your life."

Both Qin Mu lowered their heads at the same time as he looked at Qi Jiuyi who was struggling to get up and fight again. He said firmly, "The information that you leaked is beneficial to me, and it's worth your life."

Qi Jiuyi still couldn't stand, so he struggled to sit up. He scorned himself as he gasped heavily for his breath. "I originally planned to use that information to crush your Dao heart, never would I expect that information would save my life..."

He had a feeling that whatever he had done was merely a joke. He composed himself and continued, "After this battle, I will return to the celestial heavens and cultivate diligently. I will seek guidance from beings on Emperor's Throne. Brother Qin, don't fall behind me."

Qin Mu raised his head to look out into the distance and surveyed the surroundings with doubt. With a strange expression, he said, "Brother Qi, you might not be able to leave Eternal Peace for a short time. Even I might be trapped here as well..."

Qi Jiuyi was slightly stunned. When the ground was burned through, and they fell to the depths, he had already noticed the strange sight in the underground space of the God Broken Mountain Range. He was just too caught up with fighting Qin Mu that he didn't have the time to examine his surroundings properly. He couldn't lose his focus.

Only when Qin Mu made clear that he would uphold his promise and not kill him, was he finally at ease to survey his surroundings.

Below the shrine was a sacrificial altar which should have been constructed by the devil race, and there were numerous sacrificial runes from the devil race that were intact. There was once a blood sacrifice there, and it was unknown who had broken the sacrifice. There were still bloodstains splattered all over the sacrificial altar.

They were on the surface of the knife, and the knife seemed to have no thickness at all. The blade of the knife was very long as the handle and tip of the knife couldn't be seen at all.

Furthermore, what was strange was that their primordial spirits, including the primordial spirit of the dragon qilin who had just arrived, had all entered the knife that seemed to have no thickness.

There seemed to be a vast space inside the knife as though there was another world!

Qi Jiuyi tried to pull his primordial spirit back, but he realized that there was a world between him and his primordial spirit. Even though he could sense his primordial spirit, he couldn't pull it back.

Cold sweat couldn't help breaking out on his forehead, and he croaked, "Brother Qin, what is going on?"

Qin Mu didn't reply to him, and his expression became grimmer and grimmer.

He had long seen the strange sight where the knife was during the battle against High Heavens. The God Broken Mountain Range was razed to the ground, and the battle was extremely bitter. Village Chief had 'died' in battle, and among the five immortals of the demon race, Willow Immortal, White Immortal, and Yellow Immortal had died. Old Dao Master, Old Rulai, Daoist Ling Jing, Young Patriarch, Tuxing Feng, and

Xuan Shengwu had also died in battle while the others received substantial injuries. Apothecary and the rest had also 'died' and it was Qin Mu who had seized their souls back to revive them.

In that battle, High Heavens was beaten until they could no longer fight Eternal Peace anymore.

At that time, Butcher and the rest discovered the knife that was under the God Broken Mountain Range, as well as that devil god stone statue that was under the knife. The stone statue that had tunneled out under the knife was a terrifying devil god that was the old ancestor of a devil world. When he had descended onto Eternal Peace, he was careless and tunneled out under the knife and landed in a precarious situation that concerned his life and death.

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor had used Earthquake Cauldron to crumble the world barrier between Eternal Peace and the other world, and that world was none other than the devil world where the devil ancestor resided. Numerous devil gods transformed into stone statues to enter the God Broken Mountain Range and they searched for the knife as they planned to rescue their old ancestor.

Finally, the blood sacrifice of the devil race in that world was intercepted by Qin Mu using mirror images. The revival of the devil god stone statue had failed, and so, all of them crawled back into the ground and vanished.

Qin Mu had once suspected that the world was Luofu Heaven, but after he saw Luofu Heaven, he realized his guess was wrong.

The world which the devil god stone statue came from was on a much higher class than Luofu Heaven, it should be a devil world that was under the celestial heavens. The power of Luofu Heaven was far inferior to that devil world.

As for the long knife, none of them could even move it back then. Furthermore, the long knife looked like a treasure left behind from Founding Emperor Era for blocking the darkness of the Great Ruins from invading Eternal Peace; thus, no one touched the knife.

Back then, the primordial spirits of Granny Si and the rest, as well as the primordial spirits of the gods of High Heavens, had fallen into the space inside the knife. Luckily for them, Fengdu had passed by the place at the right time, and so, the primordial spirits of Granny Si and the rest managed to fly out of the knife and returned to their corporeal body while being in a daze. Only then did they not lose their lives.

Qin Mu's primordial spirit looked out and saw his corporeal body. If he wanted to save his primordial spirit, he would probably have to wait for Fengdu to pass by again.

However, even though he had gone to Fengdu numerous times, he had only been to the first city of Fengdu. He hadn't been to the other cities of Fengdu, and King Yama didn't open those cities for touring either.

There were still many mysteries in Fengdu.

The crucial point was how they were going to leave the inside of the knife.

The world inside the knife was vast, and it was like two pieces of incomparably clear and bright mirror stretching across the void, trapping them in the center of the two bright mirrors that had no thickness. The end couldn't be seen.

Their corporeal bodies gazed at their primordial spirits from across the mirror. Even though it looked like the primordial spirits were stepping on the soles of the corporeal bodies, they could never return into their corporeal body.

"When will Fengdu move to this place? I've heard Sister Jing says, the previous time Youdu had invaded, King Yama led the gods of Fengdu to defend against Youdu, and that was why they had come to the God Broken Mountain Range. King Yama probably doesn't know I'm trapped here..."

Qin Mu frowned and his primordial spirit was trapped there. He couldn't use his Secrets of Three Primordial Spirit Assembly so he couldn't contact Si Yunxiang and Ling Yuxiu. If they didn't know about it, King Yama wouldn't be able to help.

"No one will know even if we die inside the space of the knife..."

He composed himself and took a step forward into the depths of the knife.

Qi Jiuyi recovered slightly, and his primordial spirit struggled to get up to follow Qin Mu. The dragon qilin also hurried to follow.

Qin Mu examined the mirror below his feet and the mirror above his head but couldn't see any signs that they were forged. He couldn't see what the knife was forged from and what method was used to forge it. With his standard as a great master in forging, he actually couldn't infer anything at all.

One had to know that Mute was the senior in the path of forging and Qin Mu learned under Mute. His skills in forging were number two in the world, and if even he couldn't see any traces from it, other people could forget about trying.

Qi Jiuyi stared with his eyes wide open and suddenly revealed his nine heads to look around. He turned to spew phoenix flames to burn both sides of the mirror and didn't even manage to make them red hot. There were no signs of the mirror melting!

"Is this place still the lower bound?"

Qi Jiuyi laughed from extreme anger. "Is there such a powerful thing in the lower bound? Could the country... people of the lower bound have such powerful standard of forging?"

"Country bumpkins of the celestial heavens, no knowledge at all." The dragon qilin rolled his eyes at him.

Qi Jiuyi was furious. As a child blessed by the heavens in the celestial heavens and the disciples of two Emperor's Throne, he was actually being held in contempt by that fellow.

Qin Mu also tried to use his heavenly fire divine art to melt the mirror, but just like Qi Jiuyi, there was nothing done.

“There should be an end to this world, right?”

They continued forward and what disappointed them was that no matter how far they walked out, there were always two flat mirrors in front of them that seemed boundless.

It was unknown how far they had walked, but they had walked until they were in despair. They walked until the dragon qilin didn't want to walk anymore and was only willing to lay down on the ground.

Qin Mu pulled his tail with one hand and dragged him to continue forward. The mirror was very slippery, so he didn't have to spend much energy.

Qi Jiuyi's gaze was blank, and he followed behind the dragon qilin. He could only see the huge head, and the entire body of the dragon qilin slumped on the mirror. He just let himself get pulled by Qin Mu with his lifeless eyes.

“It's impossible that it's endless...”

Qi Jiuyi revealed a miserable smile and said, “We have already been walking for two years, right? There's still no end! Let's not talk about a small place like the inside of this knife; two years is already enough from us to walk from one end of the celestial heavens to the other, right?”

Qin Mu didn't reply. He just set his sights on one direction and continued walking forward.

“Two years, our corporeal bodies have already died, right?”

Qi Jiuyi had signs of breaking down and laughed hysterically. “Our corporeal bodies outside the knife must have already rotted, and there must be flies hovering around us while maggots feast on our flesh and blood. Our bodies are definitely giving a foul smell...”

“Shut up!” Qin Mu shouted with a grim expression.

The dragon qilin opened up his eyes in a daze and said weakly, “Shut up, nine-headed bird man...”

Qi Jiuyi was furious and sneered. “You master and servant only knows how to bully me! Don't forget, both of you are like me, you have both been dead for two years! Hehe, in this strange world, no matter if you are the descendants of celestial heavens' aristocrats, even if you are the emperor of the mortal, everyone is trapped here until they die, until our primordial spirit gets whittled away! I shouldn't have listened to Old Man Black Deity and come to descend calamity for Eternal Peace! I shouldn't have come to this broken place to capture you! F*cking Mingdu, f*cking Black Deity...”

He cursed non-stop, and the state of his psyche had completely broken down.

Qin Mu was affected by his negativity, and his psyche was also showing signs of breaking down. He couldn't help thinking of evil thoughts. “I should first kill Qi Jiuyi, this fellow who can't stop talking...”

Right at that moment, the two layers of mirrors in front suddenly broke off.

Qin Mu was stunned and suddenly stopped. He stared at the broken mirror blankly and saw a dark space where the mirror had broken off. There was no heaven above and earth below. There was only a step made of white jade slabs, and it was laid out regularly into the darkness, stretching into the depths of the darkness. He couldn't see where the steps led.

"There's a road!"

Qin Mu cried from happiness and swung the dragon qilin to smash him ruthlessly on the ground before swinging him up and smashing him down once more. He said with a smile, "Fatty Dragon, quickly wake up! There's a road!"

The dragon qilin was giddy from Qin Mu swinging him around and hurriedly said, "I'm awake, I'm awake!"

Qin Mu threw him to one side and looked at Qi Jiuyi. "You can be happy if you want to but don't try to swing me around!"

The dragon qilin crawled up and shook his body. He looked at the road paved by the white jade slabs and asked in glee, "Cult Master, can we finally go out?"

The two humans and beasts were delighted and ran barefooted on the stone slabs, sprinting down into the darkness as though they were flying.

Three months later, Qin Mu's eyes were lifeless as he dragged the dragon qilin to land weakly on another step.

Qi Jiuyi followed behind them and jumped over. Next, he sprawled himself out on the dragon qilin's head and turned limp.

Qin Mu pulled along the dragon qilin's tail and threw them forward, making the dragon qilin and Qi Jiuyi to land on the next stone slab together.

He jumped over and grabbed Qi Jiuyi by the collar. He raised his fist to start beating him, and Qi Jiuyi didn't fight back. He just let Qin Mu's fists fall on his beautiful face and said weakly, "Just beat me up however you like, just beat me to death..."

After two punches, Qin Mu had no more interest to continue beating him up, so he just threw him to one side. Qi Jiuyi laid on the stone slab and was just sprawled out on his back.

The dragon qilin sat up with a blurred face and sat Qi Jiuyi under him. He opened his eyes and licked his lips. "Scarlet Fire Spirit Pills have the best flavor. I had a dream that Cult Master made numerous Scarlet Fire Spirit Pills for me. A whole world filled with spirit pills... I ran and ran, but no matter how much I ran, I could never reach the end. I rolled around in the sea of spirit pills happily and swam inside the sea of spirit pills... Cult Master, there is a door in front..."

Qin Mu looked over and couldn't help crying from happiness. "Brother Qi, there's a door, there's a door!"

Qi Jiuyi was squashed under the dragon qilin's butt, and only half of his legs were revealed on the outside. He kicked his legs, but he couldn't crawl out, so he grunted. "What are you saying? I can't hear you, stop disturbing me."

Qin Mu was delighted and sprinted straight for the door, and the dragon qilin also stood up in a hurry. He ran over while crying tears of joy.

Qi Jiuyi sat up, and the plumes on the back of his head were all crooked. He said weakly, "What were you saying? Oh, there's a door!"

Qi Jiuyi cried from joy, and the smile on his face spread open like a blooming flower. He danced around and skipped over to the door.

When they came to the final stone step, he saw Qin Mu rushing into the door first, followed by the dragon qilin who jumped kicked and shut the door to block him out.

Qi Jiuyi was furious and hurriedly rushed into the door, only to see a long corridor filled with doors on both sides.

Qi Jiuyi broke down and collapsed on the ground. He grabbed onto the dragon qilin's tail and let him drag him along. "So many doors, until when must we walk? Anyway, even if we go out, our corporeal body would have died a long time ago..."

At that moment, a door suddenly creaked open, and a head popped out from inside. "Who are you guys? Why are you guys here?"

The dragon qilin kicked Qi Jiuyi onto a wall and looked at the person curiously.

Chapter 698: Imperial Gate Divine Knife

Qi Jiuyi slid down the wall, and the astonishment on his face still couldn't be wiped off. He stared at the huge head that had popped out from the door.

It was a head that had a human face and yet two strange mountain goat's horns. There was a tuft of mountain goat beard under his chin, and his mouth reeked of alcohol. He burped and looked at them curiously.

Qin Mu said courteously, "Senior, we are from Eternal Peace and have entered this place by mistake, alarming senior. May I ask senior, how can we get out of this place?"

The goat-horned man covered up his shirt and walked out from the door. He was much taller than Qin Mu and Qi Jiuyi, and even taller than the dragon qilin. With a solemn expression, he lowered his head and examined them. His gaze fell on the dragon qilin, and he swallowed his saliva. "It's been so long since I've eaten meat, it's a pity you guys are primordial spirits and there's no flesh... You're from Eternal Peace? What kind of place is Eternal Peace?"

From his outfit, he wasn't someone from the current times. He wore the outfit of an ancient era.

The vein lines of his lean muscles weren't as sturdy as the green bull, but it gave people a feeling that he was capable and experienced—a terrifying feeling of threat.

Furthermore, he wasn't a mountain goat that had turned intelligent. From the swirly markings of all sizes on his body, he should have been a primordial spirit of a god. However, his primordial spirit had already cultivated into a physical state. They didn't know if he was the primordial spirit that was guarding the knife.

Cultivating one's primordial spirit to a physical state was no ordinary feat, and it was obvious his cultivation was extremely high.

Qin Mu asked suspiciously, "Is senior a person from Founding Emperor Era? In that case, do you know about the Great Ruins?"

"The Great Ruins? Of course, I know. Founding Emperor ordered me to use the divine knife to slash one corner of Youdu and used it to construct. Founding Emperor said to cleave out a small Fengdu world that is about the size of the Great Ruins."

That goat-horned man let out a breath reeking of alcohol and asked, "Where is Eternal Peace? What year is it?"

"Senior is the creator of Fengdu?"

Qin Mu's mind trembled violently, and he hurriedly said, "Eternal Peace is on the east of the Great Ruins, and Founding Emperor Era already ended twenty thousand years ago. Eight hundred years ago, Eternal Peace was founded, and now we are in the midst of reform. Senior is a god under..."

The goat-horned man seemed to be slightly intoxicated, and he muttered, "Founding Emperor Era already ended twenty thousand years ago? Hehe, it's no wonder too, I think I've already been here for seven to eight million years... I'm under Founding Emperor, Heavenly Emperor Stars Left Assistant Minister, my surname is Tian, and my name is Shu. However, you wouldn't know me anyway."

He turned around and returned to his room to take out a big wine jar. He raised his head and started gulping down the wine.

Only then did Qin Mu notice that his legs weren't human legs as well. Instead, they were bent goat legs that grew a pair of hooves. Because his stature was very tall, his hooves were very big as well.

"Founding Emperor Celestial Heavens? Heavenly Emperor Stars Left Assistant Minister?"

Qi Jiuyi's expression changed slightly, and he thought to himself, 'A remaining survivor of the fake dynasty!'

Qin Mu was puzzled. "Senior, you are also in a primordial spirit form, right? Could it be that you aren't actually here? Where could your corporeal body be?"

Tian Shu drank a big mouthful of that jar of fine wine and just shattered the wine jar. Qin Mu immediately noticed that after the wine jar shattered, it returned to normal quickly and there was actually a jar full of fine wine which was giving off a nice fragrance.

The wine jar flew through the sky and returned into the room.

“It’s hard to say with a few words.”

Tian Shu’s expression dimmed, and he returned into the room to take some wine. While being slightly intoxicated, he asked, “You are a descendant of Founding Emperor, am I right? I can feel Founding Emperor’s bloodline on you, and your appearance is also slightly similar to him. That little chicken you brought along should be the nine-headed phoenix race of that so-called celestial heavens. Hehe, Southern Heaven Red Deity Qi Xiayu is pretty remarkable eh, she just had to like Li Youran that rascal...”

He raised his head to drink again before smashing the broken jar. Only then did he continued his story. “Back then, when Founding Emperor was creating the divine knife, he had conferred to me the title of God of Knife. I could enter and exit Youdu freely, so I was to cleave a portion of Youdu to forge Fengdu and thus, I chopped off a small chunk of Earth Count’s horn. Founding Emperor wanted to go Carefree Village, so he ordered me to stay guard at the Imperial Gate to prevent the darkness of the Great Ruins from invading other places, which is the Eternal Peace you had mentioned.”

Qin Mu blinked his eyes and looked at Qi Jiuyi.

Qi Jiuyi was bewildered, and it was obvious he didn’t know about the secret either.

‘Should I kill Brother Qi to silence him?’ Qin Mu thought while wearing a smile on his face.

Left Assistant Minister Tian Shu sighed and said, “However, I have a problem, and that is I like to drink. Without wine, I’m unhappy. When I was on guard here, I always wanted to drink, yet I couldn’t find the face to leave and search for wine. One day, my old rival, which is the Left Assistant Minister of the celestial heavens called Yan Shaoqing. That bad guy wanted to gamble with me, and the prize was a wine that couldn’t be finished. This fellow was hard to deal with usually, and yet he lost to me. This guy was truly bad as he used some method to hide the fine wine in Imperial Gate Divine Knife before leaving with a chuckle. I clearly knew it was a trap, yet I couldn’t control my mouth. When I can’t control my mouth, I can’t control my head as well.”

Qin Mu took a glance at the dragon qilin and said, “I understand this feeling of senior very well.”

“You also like to drink?”

Tian Shu shook his head and said, “You probably don’t like drinking, when you saw the wine, you had no desire. I couldn’t sit still and kept wanting to enter Imperial Gate Divine Knife to take out the wine to have a good drink. However, I also knew the Imperial Gate Divine Knife was very powerful, and it could swallow the primordial spirit of a person. I’m only a knife bearer and not the person who made the knife, even if I’m not careful, my primordial spirit would also fall into the knife and be unable to break free. However, I really couldn’t resist any longer, and I felt since I had controlled the knife for quite a long period of time, I might just be able to return to my own body after taking the wine out...”

The dragon qilin couldn't resist asking, "What next?"

Tian Shu sighed and said, "And then I couldn't return any longer. That Scoundrel Yan Shaoqing was right; I can never finish this wine..."

The shattered jar on the ground recovered, and it was still full of wine.

"I've been drinking here for seven to eight million years, yet I can never finish, and I can never walk out."

Tian Shu said, "The three of you have come at just the right timing, we can drink together."

Qin Mu and Qi Jiuyi's heart were full of despair. If Tian Shu had stayed in Imperial Gate Divine Knife for eight million years without being able to get out, they naturally couldn't get out as well!

Were they going to be trapped in the divine knife and be unable to break free forever?

Qi Jiuyi opened a door with trembling hands and saw wine jars piled up inside. He opened another door, and there were still more wine jars. More and more doors were opened up by him and inside every single one of them was filled with fine wine!

Qi Jiuyi sprinted forward frantically and could never see the end of the long corridor no matter how much he ran!

On both sides of the corridor, the countless rooms were stacked full with wine jars!

After a long while, he laid down disappointedly against the wall and was silent for quite some time. He got up quietly and opened a door to take out a jar of fine wine to drink heartily. Not long later, he was completely drunk.

And the wine jar in his hand, no matter how much he drank, the wine never reduced.

"Senior, there are people whose primordial spirits entered Imperial Gate Divine Knife by mistake, yet they had managed to escape."

Qin Mu's gaze flickered, and he asked, "Does senior knows about this?"

"What you are saying happened two thousand years ago."

Tian Shu drank up and wiped off the droplets of wine that were hanging down his mountain goat beard. "At that time, I felt Imperial Gate Divine Knife had actually connected to the outside world, but I was so drunk that when I came back to my senses and wanted to escape, it was already too late."

Qin Mu was stunned. "Two thousand years ago? Granny Si and the rest had their primordial spirits trapped in the divine knife five years ago. This means that one day outside is one year over here, which also means that Qi Jiuyi and my primordial spirit has only been trapped in Imperial Gate Divine Knife for two days. Our corporeal bodies are still not yet died."

His spirit was greatly aroused. He had run with Qi Jiuyi for over two years inside the knife, and even Qin Mu thought his own corporeal body would have died. Never did he expect only two days passed.

'As long as my corporeal body doesn't die, there's hope!'

Qin Mu's eyes lit up, and he said solemnly, "Senior, after controlling Imperial Gate for so long, you definitely know how to execute Imperial Gate, am I right? You should know the internal formation structures and rune structures of Imperial Gate Divine Knife in and out as well. As long as you know the internal formation structures, we can try to solve..."

"No!"

Tian Shu shook his head. "You've guessed wrong. Even though I'm able to control this divine knife, I know nothing about the rune structures and formation structures inside. The reason why I could be the knife bearer is because of my unique constitution. I can enter Youdu. This divine knife was personally designed by Founding Emperor and used to sever the horns on Earth Count's head. How huge are the horns of Earth Count? How powerful are the horns of Earth Count? Founding Emperor personally designed this knife to sever his horn; this shows how profound the formations and runes in this knife are."

Qin Mu frowned.

Tian Shu continued to say, "And the person that refined this knife was the most powerful heavenly worker in Founding Emperor God Dynasty. It's the person that I had told you about earlier, that Li Youran that had a thing with Red Deity Qi Xiayu. This fellow is handsome and is loved by all..."

"What you mean is that the person who had forge Imperial Gate Divine Knife is Sakra Buddha?" Qin Mu was astonished and delighted. He hurriedly asked.

"It's Li Youran. Who is Sakra Buddha?" Tian Shu was puzzled.

Qin Mu was delighted and paced around in the long corridor. He said with a smile, "Sakra Buddha is none other than Li Youran! Li Youran is his layperson's name. To avoid his debts in the relationship, he left home to become a monk! Since he refined imperial Gate Divine Knife, we might still have a chance; I've learned his technique before..."

Tian Shu originally had a look of anticipation, but he was slightly disappointed when he heard what Qin Mu said. "So you're thinking about that, I'll advise you to stop wasting your time. Over here, even if you have the greatest divine art, you can't execute it. Founding Emperor designed the runes here, and no one can escape, otherwise, how could I have severed the horn of Earth Count?"

He revealed a look of excitement. "Back then, I had wielded this knife and barged into Youdu, chopping down a chunk of Earth Count's horn! You didn't see that angered and astonished look in Earth Count's eyes, kekeke... My life is truly worth it; it was truly worth it!"

Qin Mu paced to and fro while recalling Sakra Scripture that Sakra Buddha had imparted to him. There were indeed numerous things that didn't belong to Buddhism, and in the past, Qin Mu had only learned

the battle techniques and didn't comprehend the other things at all. Browsing it in detail, only then did he notice there were numerous marvels of forging hidden in Sakra Buddha's technique.

He comprehended diligently and another half a year had passed by unknowingly.

Tian Shu found Qi Jiuyi, and he raised the kid by the leg to drag him back. Both of them sat down and started to drink with each other until they were dead drunk. The dragon qilin also joined them and was crying and laughing, clamoring to become sworn brother with Qi Jiuyi and Tian Shu.

Just when Qin Mu comprehended what he needed, he heard sounds of kowtow coming out. He saw the dragon qilin, Qi Jiuyi, and Tian Shu kneeling over there and kowtowing to a wine jar seriously, becoming sworn brothers that had different surnames and breed.

"We ask not the same day of birth, but we seek to die together!" said the three of them in unison.

Qin Mu shook his head and coughed. "I've thought of a way to leave this place."

The three of them turned to look at him.

Qin Mu said, "From Sakra Buddha's technique, I've found a small flaw, and from this flaw in his technique, I will be able to find the flaw which he had left behind after forging this divine weapon. This Imperial Gate Divine Knife isn't completely flawless, as long as we find the correct spot, I will be able to unleash Gate of Heaven Influence, and we will be able to escape into Youdu. We can then escape into Youdu and return to the world of the living from Youdu, returning to our corporeal bodies!"

Tian Shu tugged on his mountain gate beard and cried out, "Escape into Youdu? Wouldn't that mean I have to face Earth Count? I'm not going! Earth Count will eat me. I'm not going!"

Qin Mu said patiently, "Senior Tian, I still have some face in front of Earth Count. If I come forth to mediate, I can definitely help both of you bury the hatchet. Senior, don't worry, put your heart at ease..."

Chapter 699: Earth Count's Bosom Buddy

Tian Shu sobered up, and he muttered under his breath, "Put my heart back at ease? I don't even know where my corporeal body is now, or if it's still alive. My heart is going to jump out from my mouth already..."

The dragon qilin and Qi Jiuyi were completely oblivious and continued to drink. The dragon qilin just poured the wine straight into his mouth and finished a jar in seconds.

Meanwhile, Qi Jiuyi plunged his head into the jar, and because the opening of the jar was slightly bigger, there was more than enough space to put his head in.

The dragon qilin chuckled non-stop. "Third brother, stop drinking like this before you drown yourself. Third brother, third brother..."

His face changed slightly when he saw Qi Jiuyi stop moving after putting his head into the wine jar. The dragon qilin was about to rescue him when Qi Jiuyi pulled his head out from the jar and laughed. "Did I scare second brother? Your head is too big, so you can't put your head in. It's especially refreshing to put your head in to drink. I can even put nine heads in nine jars, wait a moment..."

He opened a door shakily and took out nine wine jars. Opening them up, his body shook, and he revealed nine heads. With several plops, he stuck his nine heads into nine wine jars to drink.

Qin Mu saw that and couldn't help shaking his head.

Qi Jiuyi was an outstanding youth from the celestial heavens. His name was Jiuyi, which showed that he was an incomparably wise person. Yet after suffering such a huge setback, he had fallen to the level where he was brothers with Fatty Dragon.

The sight would sooner or later become a huge stain in his life.

"Sakra Buddha's technique has a small flaw, so there's a spot that would be slightly thinner on the Imperial Gate Divine Knife that he forged. Over there, I will be able to open Gate of Heaven Influence to link to Youdu. The crucial point is the location of that flaw..."

Qin Mu's gaze flickered, and he used his vital qi to construct the form of Sakra Buddha's corporeal body and primordial spirit. He transformed his Sakra Scriptures into vital qi to circulate throughout the structure of his corporeal body and primordial spirit. He calculated in detail.

"The flaw is continuously moving."

Qin Mu calculated for several months and stared at a certain spot where the vital qi was circulating in Sakra Buddha's body. That spot was where the technique was weak.

Qin Mu then used his vital qi to construct the two-dimensional structure of Imperial Gate Divine Knife, and he imagined himself to be Sakra Buddha. When he was forging the divine knife and executing his technique, the flaw in his technique would subconsciously fuse into Imperial Gate Divine Knife along with his forging.

Clank, clank, clank. He could imagine the beating sounds of a hammer beside his ears ringing out one after another.

Qin Mu's brain was operating furiously as countless algebra symbols flashed through his mind. After a period of time, he suddenly opened his eyes and laughed loudly. "Got it!"

He looked around and saw that the dragon qilin had already fainted on the ground. Qi Jiuyi revealed his original form and transformed into a nine-headed phoenix to lie in the corridor. His legs were laid on by the dragon qilin while his nine heads stretched into nine rooms.

Tian Shu was still fine as he sat on a wine jar while holding onto another wine jar to drink slowly.

"Wake up, wake up all of you!"

Qin Mu kicked the dragon qilin and Qi Jiuyi. He said with a smile, "We can go out now."

Qi Jiuyi sobered up and looked at his surroundings in a daze. The dragon qilin also yawned as he woke up.

Qi Jiuyi instantly remembered how he had become sworn brothers with the dragon qilin and Tian Shu, and that made his face flushed. He felt uneasy.

Tian Shu carried a wine jar to walk over. His hooves gave off clear tapping sounds as he walked over with a smile. "Third brother, you have sobered up? Don't worry, we have only become sworn brothers when we were drunk, we didn't do anything too ridiculous."

The expression on Qi Jiuyi's face froze, and he muttered, "I'm third brother?"

The dragon qilin crawled up and shook his head. "You are a hundred years younger than me, so of course you are third brother. We made an oath to Earth Count that we seek to die together..."

"We swore to Earth Count?"

Qi Jiuyi's eyes filled with fear and shock. He was at a loss. "Getting drunk really made a botch of things..."

Qin Mu continued down on the long corridor and examined every room. "It's not getting drunk that's making a botch of things. The wine isn't making anyone drunk; it's you that is making yourself drunk. The fine wine here is actually something that materialized from consciousness, that's why no matter how you drink, the wine can never be finished. Left Assistant Minister Yan Shaoqing of the celestial heavens must have been an existence that possessed abnormally strong consciousness divine art. He used his powerful consciousness to transform into these fine wines, and since you guys are in the form of the primordial spirit, drinking the wine means you are drinking his consciousness divine art. His divine art is the thing that caused you guys to feel drunk."

The dragon qilin, Tian Shu, and Qi Jiuyi followed after him, and the dragon qilin asked curiously, "There's such a divine art? In that case, we have always been drinking air?"

"Not entirely air, it's the apparition of Yan Shaoqing's consciousness."

Qin Mu opened the door to a room and popped his head in to take a look. He took out a jar of fine wine and struck it with a strong wave of consciousness. His consciousness actually caused the jar of fine wine to fade until it completely vanished in front of them.

"This is me using my consciousness to erase Yan Shaoqing's consciousness. Of course, he is very strong and created numerous jars of fine wine. My consciousness isn't enough to completely erase the illusion that he had created. Every time you drink, it's equivalent to one attack on your consciousness, and thus, you will have the feeling of being drunk."

Qin Mu calculated the rooms, and his eyes suddenly lit up. He said with a smile, "Right here and right at this moment!"

Everyone didn't understand what he meant, and Qin Mu just pushed open the door forcefully. Light burst forth from the back of the door, and it made everyone couldn't raise their hands to shield their eyes.

Qin Mu walked into the room, and the dragon qilin hurriedly walked in. Tian Shu and Qi Jiuyi also hurriedly stepped into the room. When they got back their vision, they couldn't help clicking their tongues in wonder.

It wasn't a room, and instead, it was a structure of strange and irregular space that was formed by all kinds of runes. Different kinds of runes constructed different fragments of space. The space fragments were like gears that interlocked with one another.

Tian Shu muttered, "I've opened all of the rooms here before, so why have I never seen this room before?"

Only then did he notice that Qin Mu, who was walking in front, had turned into a paper man!

Qin Mu was like a paper man that had no thickness at all. He was just walking in front of them!

Tian Shu shook his head and suddenly realized he could see his own buttocks!

He had also become a paper man!

The dragon qilin and Qi Jiuyi were no different!

They were their respective primordial spirit, and the primordial spirit was also three-dimensional after all. Yet when they came to that room, they actually lost all thickness.

"This room always existed, but it was the flaw of Sakra Buddha. Furthermore, this room is always moving and transforming. Even if you open all the doors at the same time, you still might not be able to find it."

Qin Mu's mouth appeared behind his head, and that caused the hair of the dragon qilin, Tian Shu, and Qi Jiuyi to stand on end.

The mouth on the back of Qin Mu's head opened and closed to speak. "You will need to calculate the correct time and correct room when you open the door, only then will you be able to find this place. After entering Imperial Gate Divine Knife, the structure of the surroundings around the divine knife is a two-dimensional world. And this place is because Sakra Buddha realized he had a flaw when he was forging and thus he constructed a room to store his miscellaneous items. This is a one-dimensional space, so anything that comes in will become very flat."

Space fragments that were like gears floated past them silently, and it was truly a lustrous and dazzling sight.

There were numerous strange and rare runes hidden in the space fragments, and they must have been the runes of Founding Emperor.

Founding Emperor had designed the Imperial Gate Divine Knife to let Sakra Buddha forge. Founding Emperor should be the designer, and there shouldn't have been any mistake; however, Sakra Buddha's forging skill couldn't be perfect, and as a result, he forged such a storeroom.

And it was also because of the storeroom that Qin Mu and the rest had the chance to escape.

It wasn't that Founding Emperor couldn't forge Imperial Gate Divine Knife, but he wasn't specialized in that profession. His ability to create treasure would definitely be inferior to Sakra Buddha so he could only let Sakra Buddha forge the knife.

In Eternal Peace, numerous divine arts practitioners were specialized in heavenly works, and they forged spirit weapons for others to earn money.

Qin Mu examined the runes in these space fragments, and his mind was stirring. The runes were the wisdom of Founding Emperor, and if he could comprehend the marvel in the runes, they would be a huge asset.

"We can't waste too much time here, or our corporeal body will die," he muttered, but he couldn't shift his gaze from the runes.

"Brother Qin, we really can't wait anymore!"

Qi Jiuyi hurried him. "Three days have already passed in the outside world, what if our corporeal bodies get ravaged by wild beasts?"

Tian Shu said with a sigh, "My corporeal body could already have been long dead..."

"Senior, I might have seen your corporeal body before."

Qin Mu executed Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique and a Gate of Heaven Influence, which was like paper when it appeared in the storeroom. The gate opened, and Youdu devil qi poured out piece by piece from the gate. "I've once seen a god that looked similar to an overlord body in Ghost Valley. Behind the god were seals with the shape of honeycombs. He had a gate that was similar to the Gate of Heaven Influence."

Tian Shu was slightly stunned, and he shook his head. "What kind of place is Ghost Valley? When I chopped down the horn of Earth Count, Earth Count chased after me and came grabbing at me. I escaped in a hurry, but he was truly powerful. Even when I escaped out of Youdu through God Execution Mysterious Gate, I still couldn't shake him off, so I turned into a stone statue."

His gaze was filled with fear. "Earth Count's hand stretched out from Youdu and grabbed my corporeal body. I transformed into a stone statue, and my primordial spirit escaped. However, I still have a part of my primordial spirit trapped in the stone statue... I've escaped into Fengdu and only ran out after avoiding him. However, I can't return to my corporeal body; I would be captured if I return. There's still a small part of my primordial spirit in the stone statue, and I can still feel his grip on me..."

He shuddered and hurriedly changed the topic. "That's right, the Gate of Heaven Influence that you had mentioned earlier is this gate? This gate is similar to my God Execution Mysterious Gate, but it isn't really the same. Strange. Also, what's an overlord body?"

Qin Mu said, "Overlord body is hard to explain with a few words, you are a pseudo overlord body, I will explain to you in detail later. Let us go in first; I'll stay behind."

Qi Jiuyi walked one step into the gate first, and the dragon qilin hesitated. However, he still jumped in. Tian Shu's mountain goat beard shivered, and he suddenly chickened out. "If I enter Youdu, Earth Count will definitely see me. I feel it's best if I stay here..."

Qin Mu consoled him, saying, "Senior, you can be at ease, I have a good relationship with Earth Count!"

Tian Shu walked into Gate of Heaven Influence while shuddering. "Earth Count is emotionless so how can he have a good relationship with you..."

He walked in, and Qin Mu looked around before entering the gate with a sigh. "The runes of Founding Emperor are exquisite and shows that his path and skills are profound. How could such a talented and wise person be a ruined old man that doesn't dare to come out of Carefree Village..."

He put aside his doubts and passed through Gate of Heaven Influence to proceed to Youdu.

Just as he got hold of his footing, a lamp suddenly shone through the darkness as a small boat with an elder whose face couldn't be seen came sailing over silently.

Boundless darkness was around them, and only the lamp was shining on their face.

The elder under the lamp got up and waved his hand. "Benevolent Sainly King Equal to Heaven pays my respects to Mingdu Heavenly King and Son of Youdu!"

"Son of Youdu?"

Tian Shu took a glance at Qin Mu and was slightly stunned. He suddenly laughed out loud, and his worries before were all swept away. An unmatched aura burst forth, and he became more and more gigantic. His primordial spirit was so huge that Qin Mu and the rest seemed incomparably tiny when standing on his hooves. He greeted loudly, "Founding Emperor God Dynasty Left Assistant Minister, Tian Shu, pays my respect to Official Sovereign Equal to Heaven!"

Elder Messenger of Death said with a smile, "Heavenly King, Earth Count has been waiting for a long time. Please board the boat."

Tian Shu's aura immediately collapsed, and his primordial spirit shrunk rapidly. Shaking his horns, he chuckled. "I have also been planning to find Earth Count to seek his forgiveness. Never did I expect to be trapped for so many years so I couldn't have the chance to go forward."

He poked Qin Mu secretly and whispered with a trembling voice, "You really have a good relationship with Earth Count?"

“Don’t worry.”

Qin Mu pat his chest heavily. “Earth Count and I are bosom buddies, he will more or less give me some face.”

The small boat floated over, and Elder Messenger of Death stared at him. He sneered and said, “When I sensed someone opening the Gate of Heaven Influence, I immediately knew it was you! You’ve come to create trouble again! If you create more trouble, Earth Count is going to swallow you up!”

Tian Shu’s expression turned ashen, and he slumped down. He thought to himself, ‘This good relationship isn’t like what I’ve imagined it to be... I’m dead meat!’

Chapter 700: Mingdu Heavenly King and Son of Heaven Yin

The three men and the dragon qilin sat on the boat, which turned to sail into the endless darkness.

“Big Brother Tian even has the title of heavenly king?” asked the dragon qilin curiously.

Tian Shu snorted and looked around without saying a word.

Qi Jiuyi was completely sober and sat between the dragon qilin and Tian Shu uneasily. He was nervous like a small bride that had just entered the bridal room. “There aren’t many people who know the title Founding Emperor God Dynasty Left Assistant Minister, but there are many people that know the title of Mingdu Heavenly King.”

Qin Mu also became curious and asked, “What’s the origin of Mingdu Heavenly King? Could it be related to Mingdu Black Deity?”

Qi Jiuyi’s expression flickered, and he took a glance at Tian Shu who was shivering over in the corner. Tian Shu was even more nervous than him, allowing him to be at ease. “I’ve once heard Red Deity talk about the title of Mingdu Heavenly King, and back then, Red Deity made me go to Mingdu to learn spells. She told me numerous taboos of Mingdu and that Mingdu Heavenly King was a name we shouldn’t mention.”

Qin Mu took a glance at Tian Shu and was astonished. “Why is that?”

“Black Deity has a grudge with Mingdu Heavenly King.”

Qi Jiuyi calmed down and said, “Earth Count actually confers the title of Mingdu Heavenly King. I’ve heard Red Deity mention before that Big Brother Tian has extremely high attainments in the art of the soul. He’s able to enter and leave Youdu at will and had quite a reputation; thus, Earth Count viewed him highly and conferred him the title of Mingdu Heavenly King. Red Deity said Earth Count actually had ill intentions. His original intention was to sow discord between Mingdu Heavenly King and Black Deity to make them fight.”

Elder Messenger of Death said, “Don’t think so lowly of Earth Count. Earth Count felt he epitomized the system of Youdu’s divine art like Black Deity and felt he wouldn’t be any weaker than Black Deity in the future. Of course, there was also some intention of sowing discord.”

Qi Jiuyi said, "Afterwards, Black Deity's successors went to find Mingdu Heavenly King for trouble and Big Brother Tian Shu killed many of his disciples."

Tian Shu couldn't help revealing a pleased look and said with a smile, "I'm a heavenly king that's on the same level as Black Deity, how could I be weaker than his disciple?"

Qin Mu had a weird expression as he examined Tian Shu. He totally couldn't see the drunkard that viewed wine as his life being so famous as to have the same reputation as Son of Heaven Yin.

"He completely killed Black Deity's disciple, and even his big disciple died in the hands of Mingdu Heavenly King; thus, Black Deity went to find him personally."

Qi Jiuyi hesitated and said, "Red Deity said even though Big Brother Tian was defeated, Black Deity didn't manage to kill him and let him escaped instead."

Tian Shu was full of smiles and chuckled. "Even though I'm not his match, I'm still a heavenly king, after all, it's not so easy if he wants to kill me."

"And then, Big Brother Tian fell out with Earth Count," Qin Mu continued.

Tian Shu's expression turned ashen, and he collapsed on the small boat. He said with a weeping face, "What can I do? Founding Emperor sent Imperial Gate Divine Knife to me and wanted me to chop Earth Count, how would I dare to? And so Founding Emperor gave me a lot of fine wine, and the wine was truly delicious. After drinking, I would even dare to chop Founding Emperor, much less Earth Count! Therefore, I took the knife and went into Youdu rashly. I was only sober when Earth Count caught me..."

Qin Mu looked at him with a weird expression.

Tian Shu looked very timid and yet he loved to drink. He was usually timid, but once he drank, he was reckless.

Before he drank, he was a field rat, and after drinking he was as fierce as a tiger. That was his true portrayal.

Elder Messenger of Death didn't drive the small boat to his manor, and instead, went down to the body of Earth Count where the horn of the nine bends was.

Tian Shu's expression was pale, and he looked at Qin Mu in a fluster.

Qin Mu muttered, "We might be going to meet the true body of Earth Count, don't be scared, don't be scared..."

Gradually, they could see the eyes of Earth Count flying closer and closer. The bigger the three eyes were, the harder it would be to see the full appearance of Earth Count.

Qin Mu could still see countless ghosts resting on Earth Count's skin and countless lands where countless ghosts were living. They built beautiful cities, and there were even some places that were at war. They fought until Earth Count's body cracked, but it couldn't hurt Earth Count at all.

He even saw numerous monsters with huge body sizes carrying palaces, and those palaces were chained to their bodies. They walked forward on Earth Count's body, taking each step with difficulty.

"Living in those halls are the primordial spirits of strong sacred gods; monsters are being subdued by them to be mounts."

Tian Shu said, "Those that have a little status in Youdu would rear a monster or two and treat them as mounts. When they visit their friends and families, they will let these monsters carry them and make them look imposing. Back then, when I was mingling in Youdu, I was also so impressive."

Elder Messenger of Death said with a smile, "After Heavenly King meets Earth Count, you can continue to be so impressive."

Tian Shu had a look of despair and didn't say another word.

Qin Mu consoled him, saying, "Don't worry, he's scaring you. Earth Count has a very high tolerance; he won't do anything to you."

Elder Messenger of Death sneered and said, "The same goes for you as well. Don't think Earth Count doesn't know. You are the one who had been stealing his power recently, am I right? The evil you have done, Earth Count will remember it."

Qin Mu said with a smile, "Official Sovereign, I was also doing it to save Goddess of Heavenly Yin. Goddess of Heavenly Yin manages the dead spirits when the soul shatters, and if the soul doesn't shatter, Earth Count manages them. I felt I couldn't let a beauty like Goddess of Heavenly Yin perish just like that and thus I took without asking. I borrowed a little power from Earth Count and Heaven Duke. Heaven Duke even said what I did was good and right."

"Heaven Duke said that?" Elder Messenger of Death asked curiously.

Qin Mu said righteously, "Of course! Heaven Duke is highly principled, and he supported my action very much. Heaven Duke even said Earth Count would understand and approve of my action. You must be wrong when you said Earth Count would remember my mistake. I guess we shouldn't disturb Earth Count even though we are back in Youdu, why don't you send us back first?"

"We have already arrived."

Elder Messenger of Death was calm, and he disregarded his sincere and honest expression. The boat sailed leisurely towards Earth Count's third eye, and they couldn't see the eye any longer. They could only see boundless red light.

The small boat sailed into the red light, and Qin Mu's body trembled when he turned back to take a look. He could actually see countless worlds through Earth Count's eye, and the souls of the countless lifeforms were all captured in his eyes!

“Truly remarkable abilities...”

In the depths of the red light was a circular platform that had a radius of three thousand yards. On the circular platform was a palace, and the small boat sailed to the circular platform to stop by the side.

Qin Mu and the rest got off the boat, and Tian Shu nearly slumped to the ground. At that moment, they heard a gentle voice speaking with a laugh. “Since Earth Count has visitors, I won’t stay and disturb you anymore. I shall come to visit another day. No need to send me off.”

Qin Mu heard the voice, and he was slightly stunned. He felt that it sounded familiar.

Elder Messenger of Death moored the boat and said, “When the guest is out, we can enter.”

After a moment, Qin Mu saw a slender man walking out of the palace, and that man looked very handsome. He had a bearing that couldn’t be described, and people would find it refreshing to look at him. They couldn’t help having a favorable impression of him.

Qin Mu could imagine if Apothecary’s face was still around, he must have been as handsome as well.

Tian Shu’s expression changed slightly, and he snorted.

That handsome man walked over and greeted the Elder Messenger of Death. “Official Sovereign.”

Elder Messenger of Death returned his greeting.

That handsome man saw Tian Shu and was slightly stunned. He said with a smile, “So it’s Heavenly King, you are still alive.”

Tian Shu changed from his earlier helplessness and stood straight. His horns gave off a cold divine light, and he said, “Thanks to your blessing, I’m not dead yet!”

That handsome man looked around with a smile. “It’s not bad that you can escape out after Yan Shaoqing trapped you in the Imperial Gate Divine Knife, however, you still chopped off Earth Count’s horn so it’s hard to say if you can remain alive. That’s right, I knew you like wine; therefore, I’ve told Yan Shaoqing to bring some fine wine to you, how is the taste?”

Tian Shu’s mountain goat beard floated up, and he couldn’t contain his anger.

The handsome man gave a slight smile. “This is Youdu, don’t be reckless. That’s right, you have already been reckless once. Jiuyi, why are you here too?”

Qi Jiuyi’s expression changed slightly, and he walked out from the back of the dragon qilin. He greeted, “Jiuyi pays my respect to master!”

The handsome man examined him and frowned. “You only have your corporeal body left, where is your corporeal body?”

Qi Jiuyi revealed a look of shame and said, "I got sucked into Imperial Gate Divine Knife, so my corporeal body is still in the Great Ruins."

Qin Mu's heart jumped, and he instantly knew who the handsome man was.

'Mingdu Black Deity, and also Son of Heaven Yin!'

His aura wavered, but he suppressed it immediately and remained calm. He thought to himself, 'Why has Son of Heaven Yin come to find Earth Count? Is it because of the incident with Goddess of Heavenly Yin? I stole Earth Count's power to revive Goddess of Heavenly Yin, and this fact definitely wouldn't escape his eyes.'

Son of Heaven Yin seemed to sense his aura wavering and looked at him before praising. "A stable primordial spirit, truly a good youth. Heavenly King, is this your disciple?"

Tian Shu chuckled. "None of your business."

Son of Heaven Yin looked at Qin Mu and revealed a warm smile. "There's no future in following this rebel, if there's a chance, you can find me in Mingdu. I admire young people like you."

Qin Mu had fear and trepidation as he looked at Tian Shu before looking at Son of Heaven Yin. He seemed to be helpless.

Son of Heaven Yin took a step to leave. "Jiuyi, since Earth Count wants to meet you guys, I shan't take you away by force. After you have settled the things here, go to the world of the living and find your corporeal body, then leave there immediately. Your senior brothers have started to descend the disaster. My visit this time is to discuss with Earth Count on how to deal with the billions of souls that will suddenly die in the lower bound."

"Understood." Qi Jiuyi bowed and only raised his head after he disappeared.

Qin Mu narrowed his eyes. Son of Heaven Yin's qi field was ample, and his imposing manner had always been pressing down on Tian Shu steadily. He was truly a powerful person.

Qi Jiuyi took a glance at him and said, "My master didn't recognize you."

"Much thanks." Qin Mu bowed.

Qi Jiuyi opened his mouth and suddenly sighed. "We are originally enemies, yet I've become sworn brothers with the dragon qilin when I was muddle-headed, so it wasn't good for me to betray you. How did it become like this?"

He had a blank look in his gaze.

Tian Shu was curious. "Qin Mu, what had you done? Why can't your identity be revealed to Black Deity?"

Qin Mu sighed and said, "It's hard to explain with a few words."

Tian Shu's eyes became even bigger, and he was even more curious.

Elder Messenger of Death came forward and said indifferently, "Go in, don't let Earth Count wait too long."

Tian Shu immediately slumped down again like he was a mountain goat monster that was about to die. He laid down on the floor and wasn't willing to move. Qin Mu grabbed onto his mountain goat horn and dragged him all the way into the main hall.

Earth Count was right in front of them, though it was likely his clone. He was covered in flames and had a tiger's head, bull's horns, and a human's body, and he was flipping through a thick stack of books.

"Official Sovereign, have you added the incident where he stole my powers?" Earth Count asked without even raising his head.