

Tales of Herding Gods Chapter 846-850

Chapter 846: The Dance of the Dragons and Snakes at the Southern Borders

“Ling’er!”

Qin Mu was delighted and plucked the little fox off his head. Just as he was about to take a good look at it, the white fox popped out of his hand and climbed back onto his head with her tail in his face again.

“Stop fooling around, Ling’er, I have already guessed that it was you.”

Qin Mu took her down again, and the white fox was now more behaved. She wrapped her tail around his arm, forming a nest on his chest before she laid down comfortably. Her body was curled up, and she blinked at him from time to time, looking at Qin Mu’s face with her sparkling black eyes.

The little fox looked very charming as she blinked.

“Young master,” she called out.

Qin Mu gave a sound of acknowledgment. Hu Ling’er called out to him again, and Qin Mu responded again. Assured, the little white fox squinted her eyes and pretended to sleep, lifting up her furry tails sneakily to tickle Qin Mu’s chin.

Beside them, Yan’er was very happy to see Ling’er, removing her from Qin Mu’s arms. Quickly, Hu Ling’er escaped and crawled back into his arms.

Yan’er carried her over again, and just as Hu Ling’er was about to escape yet again, a spirit pill was stuffed into her mouth. Instantly, she stopped moving and laid docile in Yan’er’s arms.

Chancellor Ba Shan said, “Hu Ling’er is now in charge of the Demon Faculty of Li River Academy. Once you step out of this door, the place with the foulest atmosphere within the academy is the faculty. However, as Hu Ling’er has a wide circle of friends, she managed to invite the likes of Fox Immortal, White Immortal, Senior Tiger, Grandmaster, and Mingdu Heavenly King to come down and give lessons. Now the Demon Faculty is a lot more prosperous compared to the other faculties. One thing about her is that Chancellor Hu likes it when people call her Big Sister.”

“This is just how Ling’er is. The green bull and Fatty Dragon are her sworn younger brothers.”

Qin Mu didn’t know how to react to this. He looked sideways at the little fox nestled in Yan’er’s arms, counting each and every strand of Hu Ling’er’s tail. Her tails danced around vigorously, dazzling his eyes. Even after counting for a long time, he was still unable to make out exactly how many tails she had.

“Truth to be told, Mingdu Heavenly King Tian Shu is her sworn brother. Fatty Dragon, too, became sworn brothers with this Heavenly King. The Heavenly King’s relationship with Ling’er is actually much better than it is with Fatty Dragon because he likes to drink too.”

Qin Mu was astonished. “I didn’t expect for Ling’er to be able to invite Grandmaster to come here and give lessons.”

Chancellor Ba Shan slapped his thigh hard. “I was still wondering why Mingdu Heavenly King kept coming to my place. I thought it was because he admired me, but in actuality, he was just interested in my wine. Chancellor Hu even managed to invite Xing An to Li River Academy to give classes, though it was merely for a few lessons. I think these notorious fellows won’t be accepted by the other academies anyway. Only my Li River Academy is open-minded enough to allow these unorthodox cultivators to come and teach.”

Qin Mu remained silent, thinking to himself, ‘Senior Brother Ba Shan’s Li River Academy is indeed the most chaotic one among its peers.’

Before he reached Li River Academy, Qin Mu had already noticed from afar that the skies above Li River Academy were shrouded by chaotic phenomena. The acute spirits—such as the Ferocious Tiger Descending the Mountain, the White Elephant Treading the Seas, or the Ravenous Eagle Hunting for Prey—of martial practitioners could be observed. Similarly, Qin Mu could see the terrifying devilish apparitions conjured by the experts of the devil path, the demonic clouds summoned by the experts of the demon race, the sword energy of the sword experts, and even the enchanted clouds formed by the spells experts.

Ba Shan said that the Demon Faculty had a foul atmosphere, but it was actually the whole of Li River Academy that had a foul atmosphere.

Yet it was also thanks to this that the different divine arts and skills could come into contact and that differing schools of thought could be shared.

After Qin Mu arrived at Li River Academy, he already realized that this was the wildest academy around. He had witnessed no less than a dozen big and small fights along the way to the academy alone.

The directorate and the chancellor were unconcerned by this. In fact, they even encouraged and cheered them on, taking pride in the fights won by their own disciples.

Chancellor Ba Shan’s gaze flickered, and he continued, “Junior Brother, you came here to learn, so you should know that merely listening to lectures is not the best way to gain knowledge.”

Qin Mu responded with an “Oh” and humbly asked, “Senior Brother, what’s the best way?”

Chancellor Ba Shan chuckled. “Naturally, it’s by fighting it out. The various faculties of my Li River Academy are all accomplished. The reforms of Eternal Peace Empire weren’t pioneered by the Imperial College. The Imperial College is far too orthodox—they are overly cautious in the development of skills and divine arts for fear of offending the emperor. Here, the heavens are high, and the emperor is far—Emperor Yanfeng has no jurisdiction over this place. As such, martial arts and divine arts of all sorts can be developed freely here in Li River Academy.”

Chancellor Ba Shan stood up, gently shaking his overcoat and revealing his broad chest and muscular body. He continued calmly, “The functionality of any divine art or skill can only be judged after it has

been used in real combat. If you come to Li River Academy to seek knowledge, you are naturally expected to fight through the various faculties at least once.”

Qin Mu revealed his apprehension. “Fight through the faculties? That’s not a very good idea, is it?”

Chancellor Ba Shan gave him a look of disdain. “Junior Brother, are you afraid?”

Qin Mu nodded his head vigorously, sighing. “Yan’er likes to feed others, and she has emptied my stash of spirit medicine. I replenished the stock once on the way here, and even that is almost depleted. If I injure the chancellor and directorate of Li River Academy, I have nothing left to heal you.”

Chancellor Ba Shan clenched his fists so hard the bones creaked loudly. He chuckled again. “Junior Brother has improved again after all these years out there. You speak with more boldness now, and even your breathing is heavier.”

Qin Mu’s breath weakened, and he responded feebly, “I am definitely nowhere as good as Senior Brother. Senior Brother has long broken through the Divine Bridge and became a god. I have just barely opened up the Celestial River Divine Treasure. I don’t even know how much longer I will have to cultivate to ascend to the celestial palace. Grandpa Butcher must have taught you new knife skills? Martial Arts Heavenly Teacher probably also imparted some good stuff to you. Senior Brother may even have learned a thing or two from Crimson Light Son of God. I don’t dare to claim to be any better than you, Senior Brother.”

Chancellor Ba Shan waved his hands hurriedly. “I’m not as hardworking as you. You are the overlord body, and you are more diligent than me. I definitely cannot win against you in a fight. At most, I can only beat you half to death.”

Qin Mu stretched his body, the roar of a dragon emerging from inside him. He laughed. “Grandpa Butcher is right here. How could he bear to watch me beat the teeth out of his favorite disciple?”

“Teacher Heaven Knife certainly wouldn’t allow me to beat you senseless. That old man would take his knife and come at me if he ever saw me beat you until you were immobile.”

The two of them continued to talk and made their way outside. Qin Mu executed the Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique and loosened up his body. Chancellor Ba Shan unsheathed his tyrant knife, holding it in front of him as he opened his mouth to release the Fiery Tempest to refine his divine blade.

Yan’er blinked as she watched them walk out of the door.

Hu Ling’er quickly leaped out of her arms, transforming into a young girl as she touched the ground. At the precise moment she opened her mouth to speak, Yan’er placed a spirit pill in it.

“Young master is going out for a fight? Can he win?”

Yan’er continued to feed her and said, “The other man is very formidable, his primordial spirit has been cultivated to a powerful level.”

Hu Ling'er chewed on the spirit pill noisily. "Young master is formidable too, it would be difficult for Chancellor Ba Shan to hurt him badly... Can this spirit pill be made hollow? If every spirit pill was infused with some good wine, the taste would be even better."

Celestial Venerable Yu walked over to them, and just as he opened his mouth, Yan'er fed him a spirit pill.

Celestial Venerable Yu mumbled in a muffled voice, "Add wine into spirit pills? Will that taste good?"

Hu Ling'er glanced at him and broke into a smile. "So you are Lan Yutian, Young Master Lan? I heard about you when I visited the capital city. You are young master's younger brother, so why is your surname Lan? Spirit pills infused with wine definitely would taste good. I have yet to eat it like that though. Usually, I will eat these spirit pills on a plate, pairing it with wine. Senior Brother Sanduo tried it and agreed it was good. I feel that infusing wine in the spirit pills would definitely make it taste even better."

Celestial Venerable Yu was eager to try it for himself.

When the three of them emerged from the hall, Qin Mu and Chancellor Ba Shan had already started to exchange blows outside. The both of them fought straight up into the sky. Chancellor Ba Shan was the founder of the fusion of battle techniques and spells. The political reforms in the Eternal Peace Empire could also be partially attributed to him.

All these years, as divine arts in Eternal Peace Empire grew exponentially, Chancellor Ba Shan's battle techniques and skills improved even more dramatically.

The southern borders were located in a secluded geographical area, but the convergence of techniques here was the most unruly. As such, skills and divine arts were able to advance and improve at a rapid pace. Furthermore, following the guidance of experts like Martial Arts Heavenly Teacher Zhuo Cha, Butcher Heaven Knife, Crimson Light Son of God, and Xing An, allowed Chancellor Ba Shan's abilities to improve even more—he was able to make drastic advancements whether in martial arts battle techniques or divine arts.

Chancellor Ba Shan learned from Butcher Heaven Knife, picking up the Nine Skills of Heaven Knife. However, Butcher was forced to fake his own death and go into hiding in the Great Ruins after he raised his knives to the heavens and had his body chopped off as punishment.

Unable to learn the complete Nine Skills of Heaven Knife, Chancellor Ba Shan created his own technique—the Seven Techniques of Tyrant Knife—using the fusion of battle techniques to compensate for where he was lacking in the knife path.

When Butcher later reemerged, he had found it improper, stating that his knife technique was unorthodox.

Now, however, Chancellor Ba Shan had managed to walk out a steady path of his own, even earning the respect of Butcher Heaven Knife.

He hid divine arts within his knife techniques, his tyrant knife filled with immense power and a domineering aura. Chancellor Ba Shan interchanged between close-quarters and ranged attacks against

Qin Mu with almost no difficulty. He was also incredibly strong, forcing Qin Mu out almost 100 yards with each strike before he could even stabilize himself.

Chancellor Ba Shan pressed hard on Qin Mu, his knife techniques constantly changing. At times it was engulfed in divine flames, and in the next, it bore heaven's thunder. A strike of his knife would cause the flashes to burst out into an ocean of light, and cutting down with a wave of his knife could cause a magnetic explosion.

Qin Mu had an abnormally difficult fight, being forced to retreat with every blow.

Within Li River Academy, Niu Sanduo and the green bull stopped beating up the dragon qilin and water qilin. They looked up to the skies and praised, "What great knife skills! Amazing divine arts! Chancellor Ba Shan is so impressive. He managed to balance the fusion of the battle techniques masterfully. If he used this on the divine arts of the martial path, he would definitely be able to make the martial arts path become more powerful."

The green bull put his two hooves on his hips, exclaiming with pride, "My old master defeated your master, my godfather beat you until you cried. Fatty Dragon, let's see how you are going to go against me in the future!"

The old farmer and Butcher walked over, raising their heads to take a look at the fight. The old farmer said, "Your disciple is quite capable, but he is about to lose this fight."

Yu Zhaoqing walked over, dressed head to toe in brilliant light and vibrant colors. He looked to the skies and said, "Martial Arts Heavenly Teacher, why would you make such a comment? Chancellor Ba Shan's fusion of battle techniques can be said to be unparalleled in the Eternal Peace Empire. If we only compared sheer power among the gods, he is almost matchless. I have seen him in combat with Senior Tiger, and even Senior Tiger could not defeat him."

Butcher began to explain, "It is definitely no easy feat for him to come this far with his fusion of battle techniques. However, it is even more difficult to enter the path with knife skills, martial arts, and divine arts altogether. Even as the founder of the fusion of battle techniques, his aptitude is still inferior compared to the Sixth Princess of the Ling Family. As long as Mu'er executes his divine arts, Chancellor Ba Shan will be defeated."

The old farmer commented, "He is too greedy. It is already incredibly rare to be able to enter the path with one attribute, much less all three. Ignoring everything else, it is already rare to be able to enter the path with martial arts. Son of Qin is one example of those who succeeded."

As he spoke, a clattering sound rang out. There were several people going up the mountain now. A handsome youth stood atop a chest that had six legs growing from it and ascended the mountain as easily as he was walking on flat ground.

Right behind this strange chest was a deer legged youth who was walking alongside a purple-clad teenager.

"Xing An." Butcher snorted coldly, his divine blade unsheathing with a crisp sound.

The chest sprinted over and stopped abruptly in front of everyone.

The youth on the chest continued to watch the battle in the clouds, only retracting his gaze when he heard the sound of the blade. He spoke calmly, "Heaven Knife, you are no match for me."

Butcher laughed out loud. "Back in the day, I wonder who it was that managed to make you run about flustered? Rumor has it that you went to the southern sea to beg Crimson Light Son of God to use creation divine arts to reforge your body. You no longer have to go around stealing the bodies of others? Did your body just grow out? I won't take advantage of you, if you want revenge, feel free to look for me anytime!"

Xing An shook his head. "I am not interested in you. I am here to see Cult Master Qin... What an attractive body..."

His gaze revealed a look of fanaticism as he continued to stare upwards at Qin Mu, who was still in battle with Chancellor Ba Shan.

Crimson Light Son of God walked over and smiled. "Do not misunderstand, Heaven Knife. Xing An is only here because he has a difficult problem he would like Cult Master Qin to solve for him. His insights on creation techniques are on par with me, and he previously came to the southern seas to consult me about it. Although I helped him to resolve part of his problem, he still felt that this reformed body had some deficiencies. He decided to come forth and seek out Cult Master Qin after I told him that Cult Master Qin was the true expert in all things regarding creation techniques."

Xing An added indifferently, "On the path of creation, Cult Master Qin is second to none. After him, I am tied with Crimson Light Son of God."

Chapter 847: A Meteoric Rise

Crimson Light Son of God gave a slight smile and remained silent. His smile revealed his conceit—evidently, he didn't agree with Xing An. 'He didn't realize that I was only being humble when I said we were on par... However, it's true that I wasn't able to solve his problem. Only Son of Youdu can help him.'

Up in the skies, Qin Mu was still fighting a losing battle.

Chancellor Ba Shan felt the battle was going smoothly, he couldn't help but let out a series of howls. He wanted to exhibit all that he had mastered in his lifetime.

As Li River Academy's Grand Chancellor, any gains from reforms within the academy would naturally go through him. Chancellor Ba Shan was restricted by his own skills and divine arts, hitting a bottleneck in advancements—he was thus hell-bent on mastering the other divine arts, hoping to make use of them to help him achieve his personal breakthroughs.

However, a worthy opponent was hard to come by.

He was situated in an awkward position—the fusion of battle techniques and spells made his attacks so powerful that few within the same realm could withstand a single blow from him. However, not entering the path meant that he would be defeated in one or two blows from opponents like Butcher and Xing An. Either way, he had no opportunity for contest or to show off his skills.

Chancellor Ba Shan was in the early stages of his transformation, which also happened to be the most depressing and helpless phase. He was very talented, but talent alone wouldn't help him evolve—he needed to be pressured, yet it was difficult to find anyone who could push him.

The one time that he was truly given the opportunity to exhibit all his skills was when he faced the black tiger god. However, the black tiger god followed the woodcutter around in his travels and thus had only dropped by the academy once.

This time, having the thick-skinned and resistant-to-beating Qin Mu around finally allowed Chancellor Ba Shan to completely and satisfactorily demonstrate all of the skills and techniques that he had mastered so far.

Qin Mu was here to study the reform results in Li River Academy, yet he was now merely a tool for Chancellor Ba Shan to hone his skills, allowing him to freely execute any skills and divine arts. Furthermore, Qin Mu's ability to adapt was astonishing—although he was retreating, his moves were intricate, and he was able to digest the techniques of Li River that Chancellor Ba Shan executed and retaliate with the same moves.

Furthermore, Qin Mu was doing this in less than two moves. He also managed to find loopholes in Chancellor Ba Shan's techniques, forcing the latter to ceaselessly make changes and improve.

Qin Mu was a whetstone that could push Chancellor Ba Shan to become a brighter and sharper blade.

Such an opponent was truly few and far between.

“The Senior Brother is not feeding moves to his Junior Brother. Instead, it is the Junior Brother guiding the Senior Brother.”

The old farmer shook his head at Butcher. “Son of Qin is better than you at teaching your disciple.”

Butcher nodded, replying, “Ba Shan lacks in heroism, he fails to learn my knife skills, yet still he tries to imitate me. He isn't smart enough to comprehend the ultimate arts of entering the path either. Fortunately, I died once. This made him walk out of my shadow and pioneer his own skill of the fusion of battle techniques. However, I am no longer able to guide him.”

The old farmer gave some thought to his words, “Knowing to let go makes you a good teacher.”

Butcher chuckled. “Has Martial Arts Heavenly Teacher opened the Celestial River Divine Treasure?”

The old farmer sighed and shook his head.

“Great Emperor of the Martial Path was given his title because he ascended the celestial palace directly without opening the seventh divine treasure. However, it's also because he doesn't have the seventh

divine treasure that he is slightly weaker compared to the other strong practitioners of the Emperor's Throne."

Butcher spoke unhurriedly, "Only when the seven divine treasures are complete and the Celestial River is opened can the Great Emperor of the Martial Path truly live up to his title. When the Celestial River Divine Treasure is open, the celestial river will connect all the divine treasures. You will become one of the most formidable practitioners of the Emperor's Throne in the world. Your accomplishment will be lauded beyond time!"

The old farmer's face crumpled, and he replied dryly, "I am slightly dumber. I sat by the Surging River for days and still have yet to sense the power of the Celestial River. Perhaps the woodcutter was right when he said that I'm only brawns without brains."

Butcher didn't know whether to laugh or to cry at this.

At this moment, thunder and lightning crossed in the skies, and countless blade flashes pierced through. The lightning was directed by the knife flashes and entered the tyrant knife with popping and crackling noises. The flash of the blade split up mid-air, multiplying rapidly and converging into a huge tide, surging towards Qin Mu.

Butcher and the old farmer, along with the rest of the onlookers, looked towards Chancellor Ba Shan with quiet admiration. Butcher commented, "Ba Shan's fusion of battle techniques and skills has improved tremendously. However, he is still unable to enter the path—whether through the use of knives, lightning spells, or even martial arts—he is still lacking."

The old farmer was surprised. "Strangely... his power is terrifyingly strong."

As he spoke, Qin Mu was suddenly enshrouded in innumerable apparitions, as though there were countless Qin Mus demonstrating the ultimate arts of the martial path. The sky burst open amidst this phenomena, metamorphosing into a powerful and magnificent palm!

Return of Thousand Palms Beyond the Strange Peaks of Heavens!

The power of his palm clashed against Ba Shan's tyrant knife—the blade flashes shone brilliantly in all directions, flattening out and splitting the surrounding miles of clouds into two distinct levels.

Upon executing this move, Qin Mu's figure flickered—a sword pellet materialized in his hand, transforming into a tyrant knife.

Qin Mu circled Ba Shan in the air, executing moves of the fusion battle techniques that were exactly what Chancellor Ba Shan had only just executed. Every single move and technique was vividly demonstrated beyond compare. The only difference in the moves was that all the deficiencies had been mended, and the loopholes repaired.

Ba Shan stood still in the air and watched as Qin Mu demonstrated his own ultimate arts around him. Even though the moves weren't powerful enough, they were still incredibly intricate and encompassed the essence of the techniques.

After a short period, Qin Mu executed the Seven Techniques of Tyrant Knife. Midway through the eighth technique, Qin Mu abruptly stopped.

Qin Mu halted the blade flash. Chancellor Ba Shan felt a stuffiness in his chest—he was so upset he almost threw up blood. In a fit of rage, Chancellor Ba Shan’s tyrant knife continued along the path that was drawn out by Qin Mu’s blade flash, slicing downwards as he yelled, “This is how you are supposed to do it!”

The flashes of their blades collided. Ba Shan used his tyrant knife to guide Qin Mu’s blade, completing the execution of the eighth technique.

Chancellor Ba Shan’s Seven Techniques of Tyrant Knife was initially formed on the foundations of Butcher’s Nine Skills of Heaven Knife. After becoming the Grand Chancellor of Li River Academy, he created the eighth technique based upon the foundations of the seventh technique.

Qin Mu executing only half of his eighth technique. While it may not matter in the eyes of outsiders, Ba Shan felt a pent-up urge to execute it completely.

Qin Mu smiled slightly, allowing his knife and divine arts to follow the direction of Ba Shan’s tyrant knife.

Chancellor Ba Shan executed his eighth technique, and just as he was about to retreat, Qin Mu’s knife suddenly pulled along his tyrant knife, guiding him into a whole new realm.

Chancellor Ba Shan was stunned. He felt as though in a single instant, his magic powers, divine arts, knife, and martial arts had found a gate to surge through.

His knife continued to follow the movements of Qin Mu’s blade. It felt like he had knocked down the gates that were trapping him, and he was now able to let out all of his aspirations unrestrictedly!

The sky lit up in an instant—thunder and lightning spiraled into a huge vortex as bolts of lightning merged together to form huge and thick rays of light that poured through its center to connect to the tyrant knife.

Shining brighter and more dazzling than the sun, the knife in Chancellor Ba Shan’s hands had now become the bridge that linked the magnificent powers of heaven and earth.

The ninth technique of tyrant knife.

The blade in Qin Mu’s hands was gone—it was no longer guiding the tyrant knife. Nevertheless, Chancellor Ba Shan had already broken through the fog that shrouded his vision and found his path. He struck out to his heart’s content, the brilliant flashes of his knife accompanied by the display of thunder and lightning.

The vortex of thunder and lightning swirled around like a whirlpool as a vast sea of flames emerged behind Ba Shan. The flames surged and poured into the knife, flooding it with the full power of the fusion of battle techniques and skills.

Ba Shan’s fusion of battle techniques had reached a whole new level.

He was originally already at the edge of the path, yet due to a lack of wisdom, he was unable to advance any further. Qin Mu helped to patch his shortcomings and walked him through this crucial step.

This single step brought Ba Shan into a whole new world. He was now able to continue walking the path himself without the further guidance of Qin Mu.

Chancellor Ba Shan rolled around, executing moves. The flashes of his blade split apart heaven and earth, forming a vast sea that slashed through the sky. The sky was now incomparably blue, as though it was washed clean.

Qin Mu laughed heartily and approached Ba Shan, calling out, "Senior Brother Ba Shan, from today onwards, you are the grandmaster of the fusion of battle techniques and skills!"

Ba Shan stopped his moves abruptly, standing still in the air. He wore an expression of mingled feelings as tears rolled out of his eyes.

This brute stood there, clutching his knife, remaining speechless for a long time. Suddenly, he held his knife in both hands and bowed down in the air. He kneeled down and bowed his head even lower. "Thank you, Junior Brother!"

Qin Mu kneeled down hurriedly to return his respects and chuckled. "Senior Brother, I merely noticed that you were lacking one final step that caused you to remain pacing outside the gates. I am unversed in this area and thus could only walk you through this step to help you enter. Entering the path through battle techniques and skills and becoming grandmaster was all entirely of your own efforts."

The two of them stood up, looking at each other and laughing loudly as they descended from the sky.

Pangong Tso revealed an expression of doubt and asked, "Chancellor Ba Shan didn't seem to have entered the path through martial arts or knives, and neither did he enter the path through divine arts. Strange, how did his cultivation suddenly rise by so much?"

Beside him, Xing An replied, "He entered the path using the fusion of battle techniques and skills, taking the shortcut and creating his own system. Cult Master Qin followed in his direction and gifted him a single step. This step resulted in his meteoric rise."

Crimson Light Son of God nodded in agreement. "Chancellor Ba Shan initially tried to improve himself by working diligently on the martial arts path, knife path, and path of divine arts altogether. However, it's extremely difficult to enter the path using all three skills! He was already on the wrong path. Cult Master Qin used the eighth technique of his tyrant knife to guide him into abandoning the three paths and continuing on his own path. This single step Cult Master Qin gifted him allowed him to become grandmaster of a generation."

Pangong Tso was shocked. He lowered his voice and asked, "That brat of surname Qin... is he that formidable?"

"He's not formidable—he's smart."

Xing An walked towards Qin Mu, and the chest followed behind, making clattering noises. At Qin Mu's feet, the chest circled him and nudged his legs.

"Xing An."

Qin Mu touched the chest before greeting Xing An and said with a smile, "Every time you appear, you look different. So whose body is this?"

"This is the real me."

Xing An returned his greeting with a serious expression. "This is what I looked like in my youth."

Qin Mu's heart stirred slightly, and he probed, "Creation divine arts? Reforged body? Previously, you went around seeking out the bodies of others, chopping off the strongest body parts of highly accomplished cultivation practitioners to piece together a body and a primordial spirit. I can understand how you may have reforged your own body, but how did you manage to reforge your primordial spirit?"

"This is exactly why I have come to see you."

Young Xing An continued with some difficulty, "I no longer know if the present me is still me. Previously, to extend my own life, and to explore the divine arts and skills, I studied my own body and primordial spirit to the extreme, dissecting it and then stealing the bodies and primordial spirits of others for my own use. However, the Eternal Peace Empire's reforms today made me realize the growing drawbacks of this method. I now feel that only by returning to my original self can I advance any further. Only, I can no longer find my own soul or the real me. Even though I have returned to the body of my younger self, it is still not the true me. I am now utterly terrified."

"You should have thought of the consequences of your actions."

Qin Mu sneered. "You want me to gather and reforge your soul? Pardon me for not being able to comply with your wishes!"

Suddenly, the chest opened on its own.

Qin Mu's gaze fell onto the contents of the chest, and his heart leaped.

Young Xing An also looked to the contents with some reluctance, yet he still replied firmly, "Is this price enough to buy your assistance?"

Qin Mu composed himself and closed the chest, responding in a solemn tone, "It's sufficient."

Chapter 848: Celestial Venerable Token

"Where did you obtain this item?" Qin Mu looked away from the chest and questioned.

Young Xing An let out a sigh of relief. "When the Primordial Realm broke through the seals, I noticed that there was an area in the ancient ruins that was enshrouded in divine rays. I went in to search around, and thereafter obtained this item."

Crimson Light Son of God, Butcher, and the other onlookers came forward to see the chest, but it was now shut, and they couldn't see what was contained within it.

However, there were few treasures in the world that could sway Qin Mu's heart, even things like the Emperor's Throne technique couldn't make him waver—this implied that whatever was in that chest must be of extraordinary value.

The dragon qilin approached the chest. Nudging it, he whispered, "Good brother, what's inside? Can you let me see it?"

Hu Ling'er tried to crack open a slit in the chest, yet it remained tightly sealed, not allowing them to see its contents.

"Where are the ruins that you obtained this item?"

Qin Mu continued solemnly, "This item isn't of much use to me. The most important thing to me is the location of the ruins. If you want me to save you, tell me where it is."

"There's a geographical map in the chest."

Xing An added, "If you help me, I will give you everything in the chest, including the geographical map. If you are still not assured, I can escort you there personally."

Qin Mu looked him deeply in the eyes and nodded, turning to Chancellor Ba Shan. "Senior Brother, please lend me a space so I can cast a spell for this guy and reforge his soul."

Chancellor Ba Shan immediately cleared out the main hall, Li River Hall. Qin Mu lifted the chest up and walked into the hall, placing the chest beside him.

Xing An followed behind and looked towards the chest.

The chest was able to walk on its own, yet Qin Mu still stubbornly insisted on carrying it—evidently, the item that Xing An had found was of great importance to Qin Mu. Taking this artifact to Qin Mu proved to be the right move to make.

Within the hall, the Gate of Heaven Influence emerged behind Qin Mu. He started to work on the spell to gather Xing An's scattered soul.

Xing An was a saint from the previous generation that appeared only once in 500 years, and he was remarkably intelligent and talented. However, due to the restraints from his generation, he was unable to become a god.

He was different from the current saint—Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor. Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor was wholeheartedly devoted to the reforms of Eternal Peace Empire, pursuing his ambitions with utmost passion and without a care for his own life. In comparison, Xing An was wholeheartedly devoted to studying the ways of prolonging his own life.

Xing An took an unorthodox route, killing many practitioners who were nearly gods, taking the body parts that were cultivated to the god realm, and assembling them together so that he could remain youthful.

Later, he made further advancements in his research, slicing apart even his primordial spirit and his own soul, piecing together a new primordial spirit with the souls and spirits of others.

As time went by, Xing An began to lose himself, no longer knowing who he was.

Furthermore, the physical body and soul of another would ultimately limit his achievements. In the present booming era of skills, his inability to return to his original self would doom him to elimination.

To Qin Mu, reforging Xing An's soul was a walk in the park. He could do it effortlessly—after all, Xing An wasn't a being the likes of Mother Earth or Goddess of Heavenly Yin.

Furthermore, he wasn't worried that Xing An would be able to learn the Soul Guide. Since he wasn't the Son of Youdu, he could forget about cultivating the true Gate of Heaven Influence.

Even more crucially, if one didn't have a good relationship with Heaven Duke and Earth Count, stealing the powers of these two ancient gods to reforge a soul would most likely guarantee death.

After a while, the spell was done. Xing An sat down in a lotus position, carefully sensing the reappearance of his own soul. He felt a myriad of emotions that were indescribable.

Qin Mu opened the chest. Lined-up neatly inside was a collection of physical bodies belonging to divine beings, many of which were half-gods who had already cultivated to the god realm.

There were also many primordial spirits locked up inside by Xing An using bizarre techniques. There were all sorts of primordial spirits that were of strange and unique varieties and from different races.

However, what drew Qin Mu's attention wasn't this collection, rather it was a token made of jade, one that was very similar to the Celestial Venerable Mu Token.

The chest spat out the token, and it landed in Qin Mu's hand. Qin Mu flipped the token over, and a single 'Qin' character was carved onto its back in ancient god writing.

Celestial Venerable Qin's Token.

Back when Qin Mu and Niu Sanduo traveled to the first year of Dragon Han, Qin Mu met Founding Emperor at the celestial river. Their huge battle at the Jade Pool Meeting shook the heavens.

Celestial Venerable Yu, seeing that both of them possessed remarkable abilities and were extraordinary—surpassing the human race, ancient gods, and half-gods of that period—had sent a memorial to Celestial Emperor for them to be rewarded.

Celestial Emperor then bestowed upon them the title of Celestial Venerable. Qin Mu, under the alias Mu Qing, was conferred the title Celestial Venerable Mu, while Founding Emperor Qin Ye, under the alias Qin Kai, was conferred the title Celestial Venerable Qin.

Qin Mu and Founding Emperor were now equals with the Seven Celestial Venerables. Together, they were known as the Nine Celestial Venerables.

Additionally, Celestial Emperor bestowed upon them each an edict and a token.

This was the reason he immediately agreed to help Xing An reforge his soul upon seeing the token.

Qin Mu tossed about Celestial Venerable Qin's token several times, looking at it before putting it in his taotie sack. He glanced over at Xing An. At the moment, Xing An was executing a technique to strengthen his newly reforged soul that was still in a weakened state.

Qin Mu retrieved the geographical map from the chest, giving it a few looks. This map was of the present time Primordial Realm, and there were far too many unfamiliar areas, so he was unable to make anything of it.

'Even with the geographical map, I will need Xing An to escort me there.'

Qin Mu put away the map and walked out of Li River Hall.

Outside the hall, Butcher transformed into a ray of blade flash and flew towards him laughing. "Mu'er, didn't you want to learn about the reforms in Li River Academy? I will be waiting for you in the Heaven Knife Faculty!"

Qin Mu let go of his thoughts and chuckled. "Grandpa Butcher, you will get beaten to death by me."

Butcher laughed heartily as a blade flash landed in one of the academy buildings—the Heaven Knife Faculty.

With a turn of his purple robes, Crimson Light Son of God disappeared in a flash. A voice rang out, saying, "Son of Youdu, I await your arrival in the Creation Faculty!"

The old farmer walked off, speaking calmly, "Martial Arts Faculty. Come find me for a beating!"

Qin Mu's face darkened, and Yu Zhaoqing giggled. "Nature Faculty, I will be waiting for Cult Master to come by."

Pangong Tso was filled with a sense of heroism in that instant, he laughed and said, "Cult Master Qin, I will face you in the Shaman Faculty!"

...

Most of the strong practitioners returned to their own faculties to await Qin Mu's arrival. Hu Ling'er too became excited, riding off on a demon cloud. She exclaimed, "Young master, I await your challenge in the Demon Faculty!"

Qin Mu scratched his head. "Ling'er seems to be mistaken. I am here to learn the divine arts, and I won't even be able to learn demon spells... However, it's rare to see her in such high spirits, so after

challenging the other faculties, I will head to her side to sit and talk with her so that the little girl won't be upset. The faculties of Li River Academy seem to be difficult to mess with... Of course, besides grandmaster..."

There were over 20 faculties in Li River Academy—Sword Path Faculty, Devil Path Faculty, God Path Faculty, and so on—they were all strong in their own way. Qin Mu went around challenging each and every one of them.

His goal was to learn the reforms of Li River Academy, and thus he challenged the various faculties using the divine arts techniques of Li River Academy, where he had his fair share of both victories and defeats. The worse loss he experienced was against Pangong Tso of the Shaman Faculty. They competed based on escape techniques, and Qin Mu was utterly defeated.

Qin Mu tried to salvage his pride by challenging Pangong Tso to shaman skills, but the latter refused and disappeared soon after winning.

Qin Mu had the easiest win in the Creation Faculty. Regarding the technique of creation, Crimson Light Son of God was still inferior to Qin Mu despite him having a level of cultivation that was far beyond that of Qin Mu's.

The most relaxed challenge was in Hu Ling'er's Demon Faculty. Qin Mu and Hu Ling'er played around for a while before drinking with the Fox Immortal and the other demons until they were dead drunk.

Qin Mu was brutally beaten up in the old farmer's Martial Arts Faculty. He was beaten up the moment he stepped into the faculty, and he was relentlessly beaten until he could no longer stand.

Finally, the most heartwarming exchange was still in the Heaven Knife Faculty. Both grandpa and grandson fought against each other, stopping at times. As Butcher seriously guided Qin Mu in his knife techniques cultivation, hoping that he would be able to enter the path through knives, Qin Mu was reminded of his time back in Disabled Elderly Village—it was truly a sentimental moment.

When he wasn't in a crazed state, Butcher had the warmth of an elder figure.

On this day, Xing An emerged from Li River Hall and said to Qin Mu, "Cult Master Qin, we can leave now."

Qin Mu said his goodbyes to the others, turning to Butcher. "Grandpa Butcher, this journey may be fraught with numerous dangers, so I'll let Lan Yutian remain here first and allow him to study the paths and techniques of Li River. Please take good care of him, you don't need to teach him skills, but do supervise him in his cultivation."

Butcher glanced at Xing An. "I'm wary of this Little An. This fellow is ruthless, and I'm afraid that he may lay his hands on you when you are alone with him. Mu'er, a tiger cannot change its stripes. The way he looks at you is strange, I suspect that he really wants to obtain your body!"

Qin Mu replied calmly, "Xing An won't be able to touch me."

Butcher remained slightly uneasy.

Qin Mu called the dragon qilin and Yan'er over, and they began their journey together with Xing An.

Xing An took out a dragon from the chest. When he breathed on it, the divine dragon immediately came to life. It rode on the clouds, weaving in and out of the fog with incredible speed.

Qin Mu sat on the dragon qilin's head as the dragon qilin rode on fire clouds, sprinting after the divine dragon.

"Cult Master Qin, this glutton of yours, his cultivation speed is pretty fast."

Xing An turned to look around and said, surprised, "Cult Master Qin didn't bring any experts along in this journey with me? It seems like you are at ease with me."

Qin Mu replied in an indifferent manner, "Xing An, back in the day you were truly outstanding. In the battle of Heavenly Saint Academy, the experts of Disabled Elderly Village and Eternal Peace Empire were almost entirely defeated by you. However, times are different now, your abilities are no longer as remarkable as they were. I don't need to have any other experts around to travel with you."

Xing An responded calmly, "You underestimate me. Although I know I took a wrong path, amongst my peers, there are still only a few who can be my match. Even Sword God Su is slightly weaker than me. You should have called along some experts because you are very attractive to me. Just by looking at the contents in my chest, you should already be aware that I have yet to completely abandon my previous path."

Qin Mu laughed out loud. Taking the opportunity when he opened his mouth to laugh, Yan'er fed him a Scarlet Fire Spirit Pill.

Qin Mu's expression darkened, just as he was about to spit it out, he realized that the taste was surprisingly good and he swallowed it down with devilish impulse. 'No wonder Fatty Dragon likes to eat Scarlet Fire Spirit Pills so much, I didn't know that it actually tasted so good... Bah, bah! This is to feed Fatty Dragon!'

With Yan'er on his side, Qin Mu felt he was full of courage.

Even with the dragon qilin sprinting with all his might and traveling through the nights, they still used almost two months before they reached the ancient ruins that Xing An spoke of.

The dragon qilin descended, and the divine dragon beneath Xing An's feet also gradually landed. The divine dragon slowly shrank in size, flying back into the open chest.

Xing An held the chest and said softly, "This is the place. I narrowly escaped death here and almost didn't make it out alive."

Qin Mu looked forward, only to see a destroyed divine mountain with brilliantly colored divine rays gushing out of it.

There was a bright light shifting amidst the divine rays. Qin Mu was about to inspect it when a ball of bright light flew out of the rays, and a blade flash emerged from the light, spanning dozens of miles!

“Isn’t this similar to your sword technique?”

Beside Qin Mu, Xing An continued, “I obtained the token with the ‘Qin’ character right here. Upon seeing that sword technique that looked similar to yours, I determined that this artifact would be able to move you.”

Qin Mu’s heart and mind pounded slightly. The Carefree Sword was giving off low hums again.

Chapter 849: Fallen God Valley’s Sword Bridge

Qin Mu gripped the Carefree Sword, and only then did this divine sword gradually stop humming.

‘Founding Emperor’s sword skill and my sword skill indeed have similar points. I learned part of the Carefree Village’s inheritance from father and also met Founding Emperor at the Jade Pool Meeting, I reckon we somehow influenced each other slightly.’

He examined it for a moment and saw that the round ball of light didn’t move. What was moving were the multicolored rays, which created the misconception that the light was moving

There were corpses everywhere in front of them, and the huge skeletons of gods and devils laid throughout the mountains. There were even golden runes all over some skeletons, and when those runes lit up, they would snap and crackle before disintegrating in the divine rays.

Qin Mu was astonished. These divine rays possessed terrifying power which had sealed this area.

‘The light is a mark left behind in the space by the sword skill, and the multicolored rays are also marks left behind by a kind of divine art.’

Xing An carried his chest and walked towards the ruins. “Follow after me carefully. These ruins are different from the rest, so we need to walk on these divine arts that are marked in the space.”

Qin Mu was slightly stunned. Walk on the divine arts marked in the space?

He had also entered quite a number of ruins, and he usually had to avoid the divine arts that were marked. That was because these marked divine arts usually possessed terrifying power, and touching them could result in the divine art erupting and shredding the invaders apart.

Wasn’t walking on the divine art the most dangerous path to take?

Right at this moment, he heard a voice laughing. “Celestial Venerable Mu! Long time no see!”

Qin Mu’s heart stirred, and he looked over at the source of the voice. He couldn’t help breaking into a smile as he waved his hand. “Big Sister Yan Qiling, I’ve missed you so much since we parted ways previously. How has big sister been faring these days?”

Xing An stopped and looked over to see a pleasure boat sailing through the air. Numerous goddesses surrounded a girl who was standing at the bow of the boat, and behind the head of the girl was a flowing halo, which made her look extraordinarily sacred. That halo wasn't a perfect circle, and instead, it was oval and had numerous kinds of strange markings.

Xing An didn't recognize her, but his eyes lit up as he said with praise, "This woman is worth collecting!"

Qin Mu said, "Disciple of Ancient God Celestial Emperor, there aren't many differences in her abilities and mine, so she's naturally worth collecting. However, the women beside her are also powerful, their abilities are extremely high, and they are unfathomable."

Yan Qiling also came to this ruin, and she stopped her boat. She was still three hundred yards away from Qin Mu.

Yan Qiling walked down from the boat with the group of women. Another youth also walked down the ship, and his age was similar to Yan Qiling's age. He also had a halo behind his head.

'Could this youth also be Celestial Emperor's disciple?' Qin Mu thought to himself.

Xing An also noticed this youth and praised internally, 'This boy is also worth collecting!'

Yan Qiling said with a smile, "After getting injured by Celestial Venerable Mu previously, little sister had to spend a very long time to recover. His Majesty is very angry with you for fooling him. You gave his blessing to a wild black boar, and His Majesty communicated with that wild black boar for a long time before realizing what was actually going on. He was furious and scolded you for a very long time."

She burst out into laughter, but that youth beside her had an unpleasant expression as he said solemnly, "Junior Sister, this guy insulted Celestial Emperor, and you're still joking with him?"

Yan Qiling said softly, "Senior Brother Mu, His Majesty still needs him to work for him, we need to leave him alive."

That youth called Mu Qiubai still had an unpleasant expression, and he sneered, saying, "Insulting Celestial Emperor, it's hard to escape his crime."

Qin Mu was immensely proud of himself, and he said with a smile, "His Majesty wants to control me, so I naturally have to be on guard. That's right, how is that wild black boar?"

Yan Qiling shook her head. "His Majesty was very aggravated, and he ordered people to catch that boar demon, but that boar demon was very intelligent, bringing along his entire family to escape beforehand. His Majesty even sighed and said that boar demon was very crafty and would become quite a remarkable figure with his blessings sooner or later, it would become a stain of his. So what is Celestial Venerable Mu doing at Fallen God Valley?"

"This place is called Fallen God Valley?"

Qin Mu was delighted, and he hurriedly took out Xing An's geographical map. He wrote down the name of Fallen God Valley on the map and said with a smile, "Thank you, Big Sister Yan Qiling. Big Sister Yan, how are Mother Earth's injuries?"

Only then did Yan Qiling realize that he didn't know what this place was called. Before she could reply, the ground bulged up, and a series of mountain ranges continued to burst out from underground. Over a dozen gods stood on the mountain peaks as they whooshed over.

"Celestial Venerable Mu, thank you for asking, Mother Earth is doing very well."

A loud voice boomed like thunder, and Qin Mu looked over at the mountain peaks that had suddenly appeared. He saw an old dragon king in the lead with his brows and beard drooping low. He had blurry eyes, but every time he opened and closed them, divine rays would shoot out in all directions. He spoke to Qin Mu with a muffled voice, "Mother Earth misses you very much, and she is waiting for you to reconstruct her soul!"

Qin Mu felt apprehensive. This old dragon was none other than that old dragon king in front of Mother Earth's earthly palace. He was an existence on par with Feng Qiuyun!

Feng Qiuyun was brought away by the ghost ship and was still missing. Mother Earth was first injured by the other Mother Earth and then severely injured by Scholar Zi Xi. Later, she was heavily injured by Martial Arts Heavenly Teacher Zhuo Cha and Mingdu Heavenly King Tian Shu when she fought her way to Eternal Peace Capital City. After that, she hadn't shown any other movement.

The dragon qilin said in delight, "Dragon King Tian, do you remember little brother?"

That old dragon's face turned black, and he pretended not to have seen him. The dragon qilin had used spirit pills to bribe him and became brothers with him, currying quite a lot of benefits. That was a stain in his life, so he naturally didn't want to bring that up again.

Dragon King Tian said, "Celestial Venerable Mu, Fallen God Valley is not a place you can come. For Celestial Venerable's safety, you should come to my side, I shall bring you to Mother Earth."

Mu Qiubai's gaze lit up, and he looked at Dragon King Tian. "Celestial Venerable Mu needs to come back with us. Dragon King Tian, please go back."

Dragon King Tian's blurry eyes suddenly revealed a fierce gaze, and his killing intent burst forth.

Qin Mu laughed and said, "Both of you want me to meet Mother Earth, but there are two of them, which one should I meet? Or should I make a decision after the outcome of the fight between the two Mother Earths is decided."

Dragon King Tian snorted.

Mu Qiubai said, "Dragon King Tian, do you swear your allegiance to Celestial Emperor or Mother Earth?"

Dragon King Tian said indifferently, "I only know Mother Earth, I don't know Celestial Emperor. I will kill whoever blocks Mother Earth's way."

Xing An looked at the surroundings. Their retreat had been completely cut off by these two groups of strong practitioners, and the only path left was into Fallen God Valley.

Now that so many strong practitioners had suddenly appeared, he was also starting to feel the heat.

Suddenly, Yan Qiling said with a smile, "Everyone, we are all here for Fallen God Valley and not to fight for Celestial Venerable Mu, so why do we have to fight each other now? Since we are here for Fallen God Valley, we should naturally explore Fallen God Valley first. Dragon King Tian, what do you think?"

Dragon King Tian also seemed to have restraining fear, so he nodded his head slowly. The numerous half-gods led by him walked down the mountains, and the old dragon king's body trembled. Strands of snow-white dragon beard floated backward and pierced through a heaven.

That world was opened up by his dragon beard, allowing countless fire dragon crows to come flying out from the world and into Fallen God Valley.

He didn't have the confidence to explore this forbidden ground, so he let the fire dragon crows scout out the path first. These fire dragon crows grew crow heads, dragon mouths, crow feathers, and dragon tails. They were about fifteen yards long, and they were half-gods with the bloodline of the dragon race, having an extremely high number of them.

One of the maids beside Yan Qiling and Mu Qiubai took out a door and placed it flat on the ground. That woman grabbed the handle of the door and opened it up. Behind this door was also another world, and numerous bird winged half-gods came flying out.

Xing An shook his head and sneered. "These dumba**es only know how to throw lives away without using their brains, they really don't know the meaning of death."

Midway through their flight into Fallen God Valley, the bird-winged half-gods and the fire dragon crows suddenly turned into white skeletons and crashed into the ground. However, there were also quite a number of them that had survived and made it to the foot of Fallen God Valley.

Yan Qiling, Dragon King Tian, and the rest ascertained the path and walked towards Fallen God Valley.

Qin Mu looked at Xing An and said leisurely, "That path is a path of death, the true path of survival is right under our feet. Notice what's under our feet and remain at the same height as my feet. The height of your head also cannot surpass mine."

Qin Mu hurriedly raised his leg, and the dragon qilin also shrunk in a panic to become a yard long. His height didn't surpass Xing An's height. Yan'er, who was shorter than Xing An, suddenly transformed into a green sparrow to stop on Qin Mu's shoulder.

Xing An took out a large-scale calculation spirit weapon, and countless runes changed along with the pitter-pattering. Only after some calculations did he finally take the first step.

'This calculation spirit weapon is exactly the same as mine!'

Qin Mu had a weird expression, and he thought to himself, 'Xing An copied my spirit weapon!'

Xing An took a step out, and he suddenly saw a bright light bursting forth from that ball of light. A sword light that was dozens of miles long rushed at his face, and the boundless sword qi made him shudder!

This sword light was so terrifying that it had pierced through dozens of multicolored rays, and wherever it passed by, the space was sliced open!

The copious power in the sword light tore through everything, and not just Xing An and Qin Mu, but even ordinary strong practitioners on the Jade Capital Realm would be slain in one sword!

This sword light reached the bottom of their feet and caused them to feel as though countless fine sword lights were penetrating through their bodies. There was a very severe stabbing pain, but the weird thing was that the sword light didn't hurt them, the stabbing pain was actually from the sword will that was hidden in the sword light.

Xing An stepped on the sword light and hastened his footsteps. He said solemnly, "Move faster, this sword light will retract back very soon."

Qin Mu hurriedly brought the dragon qilin to follow closely to Xing An.

Meanwhile, below them, Yan Qiling, Mu Qiubai, and Dragon King Tian raised their heads and saw Qin Mu, Xing An, and the dragon qilin sprinting past them. Everyone was astonished. 'This sword light is a bridge and not a killing formation in Fallen God Valley?'

Around them, there were still numerous half-gods melting away in the divine rays, and as they walked, they would just turn into a pile of white bones. Everyone started to feel the pressure.

Yan Qiling hurriedly leaped up and jumped onto the sword bridge. "This place is safe."

The others also leapt up, and suddenly, six to seven people with taller physiques lost their heads the instant they jumped onto the sword bridge. There was still a person who only got half of his head shaved off, and it was extremely horrifying!

"Be careful, this sword bridge can only protect you to a height of seven feet, lower your body!" Dragon King Tian hurriedly shouted.

When they landed on the sword bridge, Qin Mu and Xing An had already come to the end of the sword bridge, which was the front of that ball of light. Behind the light were cliffs, and there was a floating bridge that connected the cliff to the other side.

Xing An jumped down from the sword light and landed right on the floating bridge. Qin Mu also hurriedly jumped down, and the moment he landed on the bridge, he heard a hum, and that sword light suddenly retracted back into the bright light above their heads. The divine rays that were severed by the sword light converged back together once more.

Yan Qiling and the rest who had landed on the bridge instantly stepped on nothing, and they lamented in their hearts as they saw the divine rays flooding over.

“Retreat!” Dragon King Tian shouted resolutely.

Everyone hurriedly retreated backward, and some people turned into skeletons as they ran.

Everyone escaped out of Fallen God Valley, and Mu Qiubai opened up the gate again to let more bird-winged half-gods fly out. He shouted, “Find that sword bridge!”

Swoosh—

The sword bridge appeared once again and severed the heads of several hundred bird-winged half-gods, leaving behind their corpses on the ground. Mu Qiubai finally determined the accurate location of the sword bridge.

Meanwhile, on the floating bridge, Xing An shook his head and said, “These fellows only know how to throw away their lives.”

Qin Mu said with a smile, “In that case, how many lives did you lose before finding the sword bridge?”

Xing An was silent, and he resisted the urge to beat him to death.

They came to the cliff on the opposite side, and behind the cliff was a valley. There were precipitous cliffs around the valley, and there were chains from all directions which tied up a coffin vertically. Below the coffin was a stone well.

Chapter 850: Meeting an Old Friend in the Coffin

Qin Mu looked at that coffin, and the coffin was suspended in the air without touching the ground. The multicolored rays in the surroundings just floated here and there around the coffin and the stone well. It was very tranquil.

It was as if everything here had stopped, and no other voices could be heard. The pitch-black coffin hung there and faced the well directly.

The multicolored rays were coming out from the well, and they were very light and faint.

Qin Mu asked suspiciously, “Xing An, the coffin hasn’t been opened yet, so where did you pick up that token from?”

The coffin was still bound by the chains and wasn’t open yet. Other than the black coffin and the well, there was nothing else, so he was a little puzzled.

Xing An placed down the chest, and the chest opened up with a clack.

“The token was placed on top of the coffin.”

He didn't know what kind of technique Xing An had used for the corporeal bodies of half-gods to jump out from the chest. The chest was slightly uneasy and kept jumping to and fro, wanting to swallow up these gods again.

After a moment, there were a hundred gods standing around Qin Mu.

These gods had no more breath as they had already been refined by Xing An.

Xing An raised his sword fingers and moved around like a phantom, tapping on the heart of the brows of every half-god before standing still once again.

“Open!”

The heart of his brows suddenly split apart and revealed a pitch-black eye. The eye rolled one round, and a black line shot out from it to swim through the air like smoke. The line tunneled into the heart of these half-gods' brows.

'Spell of Youdu.' Qin Mu was astonished.

The vertical eye in the heart of Xing An's brows was like his third eye. They were both used for controlling Youdu's power, but Xing An's eye was still at an elementary stage. It wasn't as exquisite as Qin Mu's third eye.

Yet Xing An's Youdu divine art had a very eye-catching point.

“Cult Master, he's imitating you,” whispered the dragon qilin.

Qin Mu remained unmoved and said, “Don't speak nonsense.”

Even though he had said so, he became a little warier. Xing An's third eye was indeed imitating his, which meant that Xing An valued Qin Mu's body very much.

With Xing An's character, he definitely had to get anything that caught his eye!

What astonished him even more was that these half-gods that had jumped out of Xing An's chest were all extremely strong. They were actual existences on the true god realm, and they actually got captured by Xing An. This showed how terrifying Xing An's abilities were.

Xing An finished his spell, and suddenly, a half-god opened its mouth wide to swallow a half-god in front of him!

Qin Mu was alarmed, and yet he saw another half-god swallowing up this half-god, which was later swallowed up by the half-god behind. In the blink of an eye, only one half-god was left from the hundred half-gods.

This kind of situation was like a big fish eating a small fish before getting eaten up by another bigger fish right after.

The remaining half-god instantly leaped up and sprinted furiously down the mountain peak, heading straight for the ancient well below the coffin.

This half-god ran and ran while the flesh and blood on his body fell off. However, he only managed to rush midway down the mountain before getting turned into a running white skeleton by the power of the multicolored rays.

Right at this moment, the white skeleton burst apart, and another half-god rushed out of the white bones. He continued to run and quickly turned into a skeleton in the multicolored rays.

The skeleton exploded apart, and the third half-god rushed, followed by the fourth, the fifth...

These half-gods appeared from the white bones one after another and ran towards the ancient well like a relay race.

Xing An had a slightly nervous expression. When he counted to one hundred and seven, the last half-god rushed to the well and turned into a skeleton in the multicolored rays.

That skeleton half-god leaped and jumped into the well.

A soft thud came from inside the well.

Xing An let out a sigh of relief and lifted up the chest. "The other sword bridge is appearing soon, follow closely after me! Now, jump!"

Light suddenly rose from the well, and it had the shape of a sword light. There was no physical substance. This sword light just floated in the sky and hung there with the sword tip pointing down.

Suddenly, the sword light moved, and countless swords appeared in all directions to spread out horizontally. The sword lights that were spread out vibrated, and even more sword light spread out. In that instant, countless swords were spread throughout Fallen God Valley!

Qin Mu jumped up the instant Xing An said jump. The dragon qilin was a step behind and didn't come back to his senses, so he was grabbed by Qin Mu immediately.

Swoosh—

Sword lights spread out under their feet, and Xing An landed on them gently. Standing on the sword light, he said solemnly, "The sword light spreading throughout Fallen God Valley will vanish soon and go back into the well, let's hurry!"

Qin Mu hurriedly ran to the coffin with the dragon qilin. Xing An jumped onto the coffin and said, "This is the only safe place."

Suddenly, that valley filled with sword light retracted and returned back to that sword light hanging above the well.

The sword light gradually sank back into the well and vanished. The multicolored rays rose up once again and shrouded the valley. On the other hand, there were no multicolored rays in the surroundings of the coffin.

This kind of multicolored sunlight was extremely peculiar, and when one walked into the light, their corporeal body would melt continuously. The death was too miserable to look at.

And at this moment, Yan Qiling, Mu Qiubai, and Dragon King Tian had rushed to the cliff only to look at Qin Mu and the others from far away. Every one of them frowned.

Mu Qiubai raised a door again and opened the door. As for Dragon King Tian, he roared continuously as his dragon beard flew backward. Incomparably heavy and dull sounds came from the air, and it was actually the brute strength of this old dragon king that was pulling over the world where the fire dragon crows delved in by force!

“They are just pushing forth with lives. They might just be able to push out a path to activate the sword in the well, but I don’t how many lives must end for them to reach here.”

Xing An’s gaze twinkled, and he looked at Qin Mu. “If it were Cult Master Qin here, how would you have broken the seal without my lead?”

Qin Mu pondered for a moment and said, “I would try to find the marvel of the divine art hidden inside the multicolored rays and solve it. If I could recognize the divine art inside these multicolored rays, they wouldn’t be able to hurt me.”

Xing An gave a slight smile. “You still don’t want to admit you are inferior to me. The token was picked up from atop this coffin, lower your head to take a look.”

Qin Mu lowered his head and was slightly stunned.

The top of the coffin was very wide and had a radius of four feet. It wasn’t cramped even though they were standing there, and other than the beautiful markings on top of the coffin, there was still a line of fine writing.

Beside the fine writing was a notch, and the token of a celestial venerable could fit perfectly inside.

Qin Mu read it and said, “Open when Qin, Mu is here.”

He raised his head and looked at Xing An with a smile that was yet not a smile. “So you gave the token to me not entirely in exchange for your life. It was also to lure me over to open this coffin for you. Xing An, you are very smart, killing two birds with one stone. The reason why I couldn’t understand the map that you drafted for me was probably also your doing, you purposely didn’t want me to understand it so I would have no choice but to get you to bring me here.”

Xing An revealed a smile and rubbed his palms in glee. “It’s too late for you to understand now. Now that you are already here, what can you do? When I was first here, I obtained that token and also saw your name on the coffin. When I couldn’t open this coffin with that Qin word token, I thought that maybe only you would be able to use this token to open the coffin, so I came looking for you.”

Both of them stood on the coffin, and there were countless fire dragon crows and bird-winged half-gods rushing towards the ancient well below the suspended coffin frantically. However, their flesh and blood dissolved in the multicolored rays and turned them into countless white bones.

Even so, there was still an uncountable number of fire dragon crows and bird-winged half-gods rushing straight at the ancient well. They saw the white bones below start to pile up before rolling forward with a rattle. It wouldn't be long before the white bones piled up to the extent where they would be able to roll down to the opening of the well.

"Fallen God Valley isn't huge, it's surrounded by mountains in all directions, so it wasn't difficult to search throughout the place. However, I felt that coming to Fallen God Valley was only reaching the entrance of the true treasure."

Xing An stared at Qin Mu and said leisurely, "Cult Master Qin, make your decision when it's time to, otherwise, the hundreds of thousands of lives could also pile up and activate the sword light in the well."

"Xing An, if you had put your intelligence on the righteous path, your achievements wouldn't be inferior to Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor. It's a pity that you always use your smarts on the evil path."

Qin Mu shook his head and took out the token of Celestial Venerable Mu. He said indifferently, "I can't use the Qin word token that you received, the Qin Mu written on this coffin refers to two people, one is me, the other is the owner of this Qin word token. To open this coffin, I have to use my own token."

He slotted his token into the notch, and it was stuck perfectly. Right at that moment, the white bones had formed a mountain below them, which had pushed its way to the side of the ancient well. Suddenly, several sets of white bones fell into the well.

In the well, the sword light rose up once again and suspended below the coffin.

Celestial Venerable Mu's token was jammed in the notch, and the chains started to vibrate. A chain fell down with a crash as it undid itself, and it was followed by another chain.

Qin Mu stood at the top of the suspended coffin, which started swaying, and another chain opened up automatically. On the other hand, the sword light below suddenly burst forth and spread throughout Fallen God Valley.

Dragon King Tian, Yan Qiling, and Mu Qiubai immediately stepped on the sword light to rush towards the suspended coffin.

Finally, all of the chains were undone, and the suspended coffin sank down. It was suddenly empty below Qin Mu's feet, and he fell down with the dragon qilin and Xing An with a whoosh. In front of his eyes was nothing but darkness.

'We have fallen into this suspended coffin!'

A searing pain spread throughout his shoulder. It was because the green sparrow Yan'er on his shoulder had become nervous and dug her claws into his flesh.

Qin Mu hurriedly pat Yan'er's back, and only then did this green sparrow come back to her senses and release her claws.

They were still falling, and even though the suspended coffin didn't look huge, the space inside was truly astonishing. Qin Mu raised his head to take a look and saw a square-shaped light at the top of the coffin. The light immediately turned dark, and there were some people that had managed to take the chance to slip in before the coffin was shut.

The moment those few people rushed into the coffin, the suspended coffin closed.

Thump.

The sound of something falling into water came from outside, and Qin Mu's heart stirred slightly. 'This coffin has fallen into the ancient well.'

The vertically suspended coffin fell into the well and sank to the bottom. Even though they were in the pitch-black darkness, they could still feel the suspended coffin sinking down faster and faster.

Not only that, but they were also continuously falling in the coffin. The depth of the coffin was astonishing.

Finally, Qin Mu saw light coming from below, and he hurriedly executed his magic power to stabilize his body. Not long later, his feet touched solid ground, and he raised his head to look forward. He saw that there was actually an octagonal pavilion inside this coffin. Eight lanterns hung at the eight corners of this pavilion, and the light from the lanterns was very faint.

Xing An was apprehensive, and he carefully examined the pavilion. He didn't go forward.

This coffin was too peculiar. There were no terrifying corpses, and it only had a pavilion, but he still had to be careful.

There was light coming from the pavilion, while the surroundings were completely dark. Who knew if a zombie would suddenly jump out from the darkness?

On the other hand, Qin Mu walked forward and came to the pavilion. He saw that there was only a stone table and four stone seats.

There were two teacups placed on the table and a pot of tea. One of the cups was empty, while the other cup was full. The tea had a jade green color, and it was giving off steam.

Qin Mu sat on the side with tea, and he raised the teacup with both hands towards the opposite side. He lowered his head slightly and bowed to the air.

He raised his head and sighed ruefully in his heart. "When we first met, you kept calling me junior brother, and I kept being fierce to you, so you blamed me for being prideful. You didn't know there was

a gap of a hundred generations between us, but I did. When you met Niu Ben, Niu Sanduo, again, you should have known. Leaving this cup of tea behind, could you want to have a drink with me?"

Xing An walked over, and he said coldly, "Cult Master Qin, you even dare to drink the tea here? Be careful of poison!"

Qin Mu raised his head to gulp it down, and he was overwhelmed by emotions. The tea had a sweet aftertaste, and it was still warm. It was as if the person drinking opposite to him had just poured this cup before getting up to leave.

Qin Mu had a complicated expression, and he put down the teacup. He raised the teapot and poured a full cup of tea for the empty teacup on the opposite side before pouring another cup for himself. He said gently, "How I wish you could be sitting in front of me and we could exchange cups of tea. It's a pity you're not here."

He raised his head to gulp it down, and even though it was tea, he seemed to be a little intoxicated. He drank by himself and asked softly, "Will you still come back?"

Even though it was empty on the opposite side, Xing An didn't dare to sit down. Instead, he stood outside the pavilion.

At this moment, Yan Qiling and Mu Qiubai landed down with several maids, and those maids looked warily at the surroundings. Dragon King Tian also brought several strong practitioners under Mother Earth to land, and divine light burst forth from the eyes of those few strong practitioners as they peered through the darkness to look for any danger.

Meanwhile, Yan Qiling, Mu Qiubai, and Dragon King Tian had their gazes on Qin Mu, who was drinking by himself beside the stone table.

On Qin Mu's shoulder, the green sparrow flew up and transformed into an obedient looking girl on the stone seat beside him. She poured the tea for Qin Mu before raising the cup to Qin Mu's mouth.

With a beauty nestling up beside Qin Mu, it looked like he was abandoning all restraint.

"There's a very big secret hidden in Fallen God Valley."

Mu Qiubai suddenly said, "We, senior brother and junior sister, have come to explore this place on His Majesty Celestial Emperor's orders. Dragon King Tian, you should be on Mother Earth's orders, am I right? Mother Earth resided in the Primordial Realm for a long time, the secret in Fallen God Valley naturally couldn't escape her eyes."

Dragon King Tian was silent for a moment before answering. He said, "Mother Earth told me that a celestial venerable is buried here, therefore, she got me to search for this celestial venerable."

Suddenly, Xing An twitched his nose, and he asked suspiciously, "Did any of you bring one more person to search for this celestial venerable that is already dead?"

Everyone was slightly stunned.

Xing An said, "I can smell the breath of another person. Could someone have taken the chance and slipped in while you guys were entering the suspended coffin?"

When he said that, everyone could sense another person in this coffin immediately, and they couldn't help becoming nervous.

They were all remarkably strong practitioners, so who could have mingled in behind them without them noticing anything?

"Everyone, there's no need to worry."

A chuckle came from the darkness, and the sound of laughter came nearer and nearer to this pavilion. Gradually, a young face was lit up by the light from the lanterns.

That was a familiar face that was full of smiles. He bowed towards everyone and said, "I don't have any ill intentions, I'm just here to meet an old friend."

"Pak!" The teacup in Qin Mu's hand suddenly exploded, and tea splattered everywhere.

His chest heaved up and down violently, as the face in the darkness belonged to none other than 'Celestial Venerable Yu'. It was a 'Celestial Venerable Yu' that was exactly the same as Lan Yutian!