

Tales of Herding Gods Chapter 891-895

Chapter 891: The Arrival of Darkness

What was Ah Chou?

Ah Chou was just a man who had lost everything.

For the Ah Chou that was transformed by Earth Count, his parents were killed as part of the celestial heavens' plot against him. At that time, Earth Count's power prevented him from seeking revenge.

Ah Chou and Earth Count were two consciousnesses of the same life. Earth Count was restrained by rules, while Ah Chou wanted to break them. In the end, Ah Chou was beaten back to Youdu by Celestial Emperor. He was suppressed by Earth Count at Youdu's Jade Lock Pass, lonely and miserable.

Now, Qin Mu was also Ah Chou. They were similar—both appendages of the original bodies. Ah Chou was Earth Count's reincarnation, while he was Qin Fengqing's second consciousness, born from his baby body after he was sealed.

Ah Chou didn't have a soul of his own, and neither did he.

Ah Chou was a guardian and an avenger. He fiercely wanted to protect his family but failed, ultimately falling into the hands of the ancient Celestial Emperor.

Qin Mu also wanted to protect Eternal Peace and wanted to avenge the people who suffered and died from this calamity.

In the end, Ah Chou was suppressed at Jade Lock Pass, subjected to endless hellfire and powerless to do anything.

In the end, Ah Chou became a sinner under the rules of Youdu.

He should have been Earth Count, impartial and possessing god nature. Instead, he developed humanity.

Qin Fengqing was Little Earth Count. Qin Mu, who was his other consciousness born from his shell, should have had god nature as well. Instead, Qin Mu had Little Earth Count's humanity.

Because of their similar predicaments and encounters, he was Ah Chou—a man who wanted to protect and avenge but was powerless to retaliate.

Qin Mu laughed, his hand clutching Celestial Venerable Ling's peachwood hairpin tightly. He pointed at the space between his eyebrows, which used to house his third eye but had now become a deep, empty socket.

“Ancient Celestial Emperor, you have been waiting instead of making a move. Are you waiting for me to grow desperate and ultimately submit to you?”

Fresh blood was still flowing out of his third eye socket, streaming down on both sides of his nose. Even so, his hands were steady as they inserted the peachwood hairpin into his empty eye socket. He laughed softly. "I am left with nothing without Eternal Peace. Once I activate Celestial Venerable Ling's hairpin, water from the celestial river will gush out to destroy my body and consciousness. You will have no chance of coming back to life!"

A powerful consciousness surged from the sky and thundered within his head. The ancient Celestial Emperor's voice was cold and emotionless. "You shouldn't have dug out your eye. You are now left with no soul and are useless, with no power to solve Celestial Venerable Ling's divine art. Why should I help you when you can't retrieve my corporeal body?"

His voice became colder. "You thought that you could control everything—giving my imperial decree to a black demon boar, negotiating with me, making me your arm and your pawn. However, you were ultimately short a move. Do you remember Wei Suifeng?"

Qin Mu was stunned.

"My Right Commander of the Feathered Forest Guards, Wei Suifeng. He used to command the right regiment of the Feathered Forest Guards on my behalf. He is like you, full of himself."

Celestial Emperor's voice was filled with mockery. "He is as arrogant as you. He thought he could infiltrate the Heaven Alliance and deceive everybody. He believed he could do something for the lower bound. However, he was unable to fool me because I was the one who appointed him as an official! I saw through him the moment he entered the Heaven Alliance and arrested him immediately. He also comprehended Celestial Venerable Ling's divine art, and I have ordered the Green Deity of the Eastern Sky to drown him in the river, in exchange for the Ghost Ship."

He laughed heartily. "If I can exchange for the Ghost Ship, I can trade for the corporeal body locked under the celestial river by Celestial Venerable Ling. I can then coerce Celestial Empress with her body. Also, I have the help of Dao Ancestor, and I can make things difficult for Earth Count's daughter as a way to threaten Earth Count!"

"Why do I have to rely on you? I made use of you to reconstruct my souls, now my three souls are complete. I also used you to severely injure Celestial Venerable Hao, forcing him to return to the celestial heavens and be unable to interfere with the Primordial Realm. I even utilized Celestial Venerable Hao to get rid of Mother Earth and obtained her corporeal body. With it, the entire Primordial Realm is mine. Half of this universe is under my control!"

"Celestial Venerable Mu, do you think you are qualified to negotiate with me?"

He was the biggest winner of the battle for the Primordial Realm!

Be it Qin Mu, the living beings of the Primordial Realm, the great army of gods and devils of the celestial heavens, the four deities of the celestial heavens, or even Mother Earth and Celestial Venerable Hao—they were all his pawns!

He planned to make a comeback, and half of this universe would be his!

In the past, he failed because he was above board, out in the light. Everyone was plotting against him. Be it half-gods, lifeforms after the beginning, or the ancient gods, they all wanted him dead.

Now that he was in the dark, who could plot against him?

He was the winner, the sole and biggest winner of the battle for the Primordial Realm!

Qin Mu said indifferently, “The Green Deity of the Eastern Sky? He is just behind me. Why doesn’t Your Majesty ask him the outcome of the exchange?”

The voice of Celestial Emperor disappeared as his consciousness left. He was apparently going to ask the Green Deity of the Eastern Sky, who was approaching Qin Mu from the east, how it went.

After some time, Qin Mu felt a consciousness returning to his mind.

This was Celestial Emperor’s consciousness. However, it didn’t have the arrogant, incessant chatter of a victor like before.

Instead, he fell silent.

Qin Mu spoke coldly, “Wei Suifeng is my big senior brother. He is the most paranoid person under the heavens, as well as the wiliest. He has been unrestrained for a million years, there is no way you can keep him.”

The four deities of the celestial heavens were approaching—they could capture Qin Mu at any moment, or kill him at will.

The voice of Celestial Emperor rang out again. However, it wasn’t within Qin Mu’s mind but from afar. “Four deities, stop.”

Qi Xiayu, Son of Heaven Yin, and the rest stopped. They raised their heads and saw a lush Primordial Tree descending from the sky, stabbing into the heart of the Primordial Realm.

The other Celestial Venerable Yu descended together with the Primordial Tree, looking majestic and dignified as his body radiated ten thousand rays of light.

The ball of Primordial Tree roots gently relaxed, the gigantic roots extending and burrowing deep into the ground.

As the roots burrowed beneath the earth, mountain ranges that measured over 10,000 miles rose on the surface.

A majestic-looking scene of mountains was created. The life force contained within the Primordial Tree filled these mountain ranges with lush flora and dense forests, like a beautiful painting.

This strange phenomenon demonstrated Mother Earth’s power. However, it wasn’t Mother Earth who controlled this power but the ancient Celestial Emperor.

That Celestial Venerable Yu walked over and told the four deities of the celestial heavens, “You are dismissed. He is already not the Son of Youdu.”

Qi Xiayu and the rest were stunned.

Son of Heaven Yin said, “This person is one of the three heroes of Eternal Peace’s reform, the famous Overlord Body of Eternal Peace, and a survivor of the Founding Emperor Era, he cannot be kept alive...”

Celestial Venerable Yu glanced at him and smiled ambiguously. “Yin Chaojin, he has another identity—Celestial Venerable Mu.”

Son of Heaven Yin’s expression changed, his face pale.

Celestial Venerable Yu said indifferently, “Celestial Venerable Mu’s merits are unrivaled—imparting teachings at the Jade Pool and benefiting countless future generations. How many people are qualified to kill him? If you kill him, you will suffer infamy. Step back now, he’s already useless. With no soul and only spirit and flesh, he’s no longer the overlord body.”

Son of Heaven Yin was in a daze.

He wanted to examine Qin Mu carefully, but he felt guilty and didn’t dare to make eye contact with him.

He was the Black Deity of the celestial heavens, an existence at the Emperor’s Throne Realm, and he ruled Mingdu and had power over all levels of society. However, when he made eye contact with Qin Mu, he couldn’t help but recall what happened a million years ago.

Qin Mu, however, was calm.

The ancient Celestial Emperor was correct in that he was without a soul and was left with only spirit embryo and a corporeal body.

He was a consciousness born out of Qin Fengqing’s body after he was sealed. To put it harshly, even his body didn’t belong to him but to Qin Fengqing.

All along, he was just an orphan.

On that night 32 years ago, when Granny Si picked him up from the basket that was sailing down the river, his consciousness was born.

Qin Mu was the name given to him by Village Chief.

Son of Heaven Yin turned and left, while Qi Xiayu stared at Qin Mu for some time before flying off.

“Celestial Venerable Mu? Overlord Body Qin?”

Green Deity and White Deity both shook their heads and left apathetically. “He’s useless.”

Celestial Venerable Yu held Qin Mu up in his palm, examining him from left to right, and shook his head. “You are without a soul, so how can you help me get back my corporeal body? Celestial Venerable Mu, I find it very hard to believe you.”

Qin Mu put away the peachwood hairpin and sat down on his palm, coldly saying, “Yes, had I not mastered the undying god consciousness, I could have died when I dug out my third eye, my consciousness dispersing. It’s understandable that Your Majesty is worried. However, Your Majesty needs to take a gamble.”

Celestial Venerable Yu revealed a smile. “I usually don’t gamble, but after I met you, I realized I made the right gamble. The threat to the celestial heavens and the Heaven Alliance is very low—the descent of the strongest divine weapons to the lower bound was merely a splitting of benefits by the celestial heavens. Some got Youdu, some got Xuandu, some got the Great Ruins, and some got the Four Great Celestial Poles. For myself, I wrestled back the Primordial Realm from the hands of Celestial Venerable Hao. In the future, I will gain even more.”

Qin Mu was breathless and forced a smile. “Your Majesty has the Primordial Realm. In that case, Eternal Peace...”

“I won’t destroy Eternal Peace, I have promised you that.”

Celestial Venerable Yu smiled faintly. “My words still hold true, and I won’t renege. The power of the Primordial Realm is too diverse and complicated, making it very difficult to govern. I will give your people a tiny place. Letting them live is also the heavens’ virtue of loving all living beings. Moreover, I am the heavens.”

Qin Mu let out a sigh of relief.

“However, the reform needs to stop, and the leader of the three heroes of the Eternal Peace reform needs to be killed and paraded on the God Execution Stage. Otherwise, where is the prestige of the celestial heavens?”

Celestial Venerable Yu looked at his face and smiled. “You can live, the people of Eternal Peace can live. The new sky map will encompass the entire Primordial Realm. This is the future I plan to give to the people of Eternal Peace and the Primordial Realm.”

Qin Mu’s heart was sinking.

An extremely hopeless future encompassed by the sky map.

Emperor Yanfeng and Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor would become the sacrificial offerings to end Eternal Peace’s reform.

“There are still powers within the Primordial Realm that need to be suppressed and subjugated, like Mahakala, Crimson Light Son of God, and Fengdu.”

Celestial Venerable Yu placed him down and laughed. “Your friend is here for you, go with him.”

Qin Mu saw Cripple running towards him, as swift as wind and lightning, fear and panic clearly written all over his wrinkled face. He looked as though he had made up his mind and summoned enough courage to charge towards Qin Mu and Celestial Venerable Yu.

Cripple was the most timid in the Disabled Elderly Village. However, to save Qin Mu, he was willing to sacrifice his life.

Celestial Venerable Yu laughed and flew off.

“Grandpa Cripple.”

Qin Mu smiled as he looked at the oncoming old man. “I’m fine, I’m just tired.”

“Don’t say anything!”

Cripple carried him on his back and ran with all his might towards the east. He felt warm blood flowing down his back onto his chest, and Qin Mu’s breath becoming weaker.

“Grandpa Cripple, I remember when I was small, every time Granny gave me to the people outside the village, you would steal me back.”

Blood wouldn’t stop coming out of Qin Mu’s mouth, and his voice was getting softer. “I originally didn’t want to recall the incidents from when I was young. At that time, I was just a weak consciousness of this body. I suddenly thought of it now... I am just a consciousness born out of this body. As I slowly grew up, I was able to remember many things.”

“Don’t say anything.”

Cripple’s eyes widened, and he ran as fast as he could.

“Mu’er, don’t say anything. I will bring you to see Apothecary... Apothecary, f*ck, why are you still not here? My speed is too slow!”

He ran with all his might and was exhausted to the point that he felt like vomiting blood. Qin Mu, who was on his back, was quiet, causing Cripple to worry again. “Mu’er, talk to me. Don’t sleep. Mu’er?”

Qin Mu opened his eyes and looked forward groggily. The dragon sparrow flew and danced in the sky. Yan Qiling was with the dragon qilin, standing on the dragon sparrow’s back.

Chapter 892: If You Manage to Die, I Lose

Cripple placed Qin Mu on Yan’er’s back, urging the dragon sparrow to fly faster.

Since Yan Qiling was ancient Celestial Emperor’s disciple, they didn’t face any problems when they encountered checks or patrols.

Yan'er carried them and flew towards Eternal Peace as quickly as she could. The dragon qilin carefully examined Qin Mu's wounds and shook his head. "Cult Master's wounds are nothing serious. His Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique is very strong and contains powers of creation, so his flesh wounds are capable of being healed. Cripple Old Master, you don't have to worry."

Cripple said coldly, "Do you understand the art of healing?"

The dragon qilin quickly shook his head and replied carefully, "I don't understand. However, when Cult Master battled Celestial Venerable Yu of the celestial heavens in the palace of Mahakala, he suffered severe injuries and injured the origin of his spirit. After sleeping in the moon palace for a night, he basically recovered. High Emperor Sword God knew of this. If Cripple Old Master doesn't believe me, you can ask High Emperor Sword God."

Cripple half-believed and half-doubted his words. However, he saw that Qin Mu had stopped vomiting blood and was sleeping soundly, his weak breath slowly stabilizing.

He noticed that beneath Qin Mu's eyelids, his eyeballs were moving, which meant he should be dreaming.

The dragon qilin said, "When Cult Master was speaking with High Emperor Sword God, I was behind pretending to sleep. Hence, I know of certain matters. High Emperor Sword God said that Saint Woodcutter checked on him when he was sleeping after he was injured. He discovered that when Cult Master was dreaming, there was Dharma circulating. Cult Master later said this could be Brahma Buddha's Boundless Calamity Sutra."

Cripple carefully examined Qin Mu and said angrily, "Where is the Dharma? Why am I unable to see it?"

The dragon qilin awkwardly said, "Brahma Buddha's Emperor's Throne true scripture is very powerful. Maybe Cripple Old Master isn't as skilled as Saint Woodcutter, which is why you are unable to see it."

Cripple was incensed. He suddenly coughed and spat out blood.

The dragon qilin quickly said, "Cripple Old Master, you ran too fast and for a few days without rest, leaving your soul and lungs damaged. I'm unable to heal souls, but for physical injuries, you should take dragon saliva, which I have plenty of..."

"I won't drink your saliva! My creation technique is very strong, so I don't need your saliva to recover!"

Cripple cursed under his breath, his eyes falling on the soundly sleeping Qin Mu. The heart of his brows had an eye-shaped wound, which was expectedly just a shriveled eyelid since it was missing an eye.

Cripple was heartbroken, wanting to heal his forehead but being unable to do so.

At that moment, flesh started growing in the heart of his brows, slowly filling up the eye socket. His eyelid and the area around his eyes also healed and melded together.

The wound on his forehead now looked like a small lump bitten by a mosquito.

Cripple touched the small lump, which felt hard inside, making him unsure whether it was flesh or an eyeball.

Yan Qiling also carefully examined Qin Mu's wounds, her face carrying a puzzled look. "There was indeed Dharma circulating within his body."

Cripple snorted angrily. "You can see that too?"

Yan Qiling said, "I have studied Dharma. It was the only Dao after the beginning that wasn't deconstructed by Dao Ancestor's algebra, so I studied it for a while, trying to comprehend the marvel within."

Cripple's expression softened. He usually smiled when interacting with people, but because of Qin Mu's injuries, his smile was now gone, and he wasn't giving anyone pleasant looks.

"However, the strange thing is..."

Yan Qiling continued to inspect Qin Mu's wounds carefully, her expression growing more and more puzzled. "He doesn't have a soul! His primordial spirit was dispersed, leaving only a spirit embryo. The strange thing is that he should've died, I don't understand why he's still alive."

Cripple looked at Qin Mu and was relieved when he saw his breath stabilizing.

There was tenderness, as well as a slight twinkle at the corner of his eyes. "Being able to survive is good enough. Since he's recovering, it seems that Dharma is effective. In that case, we don't have to go to Eternal Peace to look for Apothecary. He's unable to help much since he doesn't understand Dharma. Let's go to the Great Thunderclap Monastery instead. Old Ma is sure to understand."

They turned towards Mount Meru.

The Primordial Realm was unsealed, and Mount Meru had surfaced. Twenty heavens of Buddha Realm had been constructed along the mountain, spiraling upwards layer by layer and making this divine mountain even more majestic.

The portion of Mount Meru in the Primordial Realm was the Great Thunderclap Monastery, with the rest of the 20 heavens outside of the Primordial Realm. As this was the territory of Brahma Buddha, no one dared to trespass. Therefore, millions of people of Eternal Peace were hiding there, waiting for the calamity to pass.

"This is the Boundless Calamity Sutra, Cult Master Qin's life isn't in danger."

Within the Great Thunderclap Monastery, Rulai Ma called over Devil Ape Zhan Kong and Monk Ming Xin to check on the sleeping Qin Mu. Only the two of them had learned Brahma Buddha's Emperor's Throne true scripture.

Monk Ming Xin said, "Cult Master Qin has a spirit embryo but no soul. I don't have much knowledge of this phenomenon. Senior Brother Zhan Kong, you have deep knowledge of the Dharma, what do you think of his condition..."

The devil ape said, "Kindness."

Rulai Ma frowned and said, "Disciple, how do I interpret the word 'kindness'?"

Monk Ming Xin said, "Teacher, Big Senior Brother is saying that doing good turns calamities into blessings. There is no danger to his life."

Rulai Ma was still uneasy. "Brahma Buddha resides within the Brahma Heaven. I will send Mu'er up to meet him. His abilities are remarkable, and he will definitely have a solution."

Cripple nodded his head and was about to agree. However, he saw the devil ape lean over and softly whisper a word into Qin Mu's ear. Suddenly, Qin Mu started to wake up, opening his eyes.

The devil ape clasped his palms together and smiled. "Kindness."

Monk Ming Xin sighed. "Big Senior Brother has such great wisdom."

Qin Mu still didn't look good as he struggled to get up and pay his respects to Rulai Ma. "I was awake during my dreams and heard Old Ma's words. I am aware of my injuries, and there's no need to meet Old Buddha. Old Buddha has already imparted me his techniques, so there's no difference whether we meet him or not. I'm returning back to Eternal Peace."

He then turned and paid his respects to the devil ape and Ming Xin, who returned the courtesy.

"Mu'er, you're really going back to Eternal Peace?"

Rulai Ma suddenly took off his cossack and removed his prayer beads. "I promised my teacher to impart his teachings so that the Great Thunderclap Monastery would survive. Today, Zhan Kong and Ming Xin have already greatly surpassed me in terms of Dharma, so I have performed my duties as a promulgator of knowledge. It's time to return to my original self. From today onwards, I am the original Old Ma, Divine Constable Ma. Ming Xin, help your big senior brother put on the cossack and prayer beads."

The devil ape bowed while Ming Xin opened and put the cossack on his body, hanging the prayer beads on his neck.

Old Ma laughed. "Find one's true self and battle the restless mind. Ming Xin, you must help him conquer his restless mind. Zhan Kong, you are now Rulai. Venerables, farewell, our Dharma fate has ended."

The devil ape got up and clasped his palms together. "Farewell, benefactor."

Old Ma returned the courtesy and followed Cripple, Qin Mu, and the rest down the mountain.

Eternal Peace's capital city...

The convoys of people of Eternal Peace from all over the world were increasing, and there were even refugees from Crimson Light. There were camps full of people around the capital city, which were guarded nervously by around 200 gods of Eternal Peace.

There were too many people, so the food supply was a huge problem.

The scholars of every academy were skilled in the art of creation, so they opened up the fertile farmland and used the art of creation to speed up the growth of the crops, which were then harvested and processed into food.

However, the soil could only support three to four crop cycles before the fertility was depleted. Therefore, they had to keep on cultivating new farmland.

With the turmoil and chaos of war outside, along with the gods and devils of the celestial heavens appearing and disappearing unpredictably, it was very easy to be killed while cultivating new farmland. A lot of scholars had lost their lives because of this.

Be it inside or outside the capital city, there was an atmosphere of panic, despair, and gloom.

This day, the sky was filled with battleships of the celestial heavens, with countless awe-inspiring and dignified-looking gods shining brilliantly. Their weapons were gleaming, and their divine might was overbearing, suffocating the people of Eternal Peace.

Although the great army of gods and devils of the celestial heavens had arrived, they didn't attack. Rather, they restrained the gods and devils of the celestial heavens that were scattered all over the land, preventing them from hurting the people of Eternal Peace. Their discipline was evident.

Both inside and outside the capital, there were many people who bowed and offered incense to these mighty gods, praying for peace.

"When people are suffering, evil nature will flourish."

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor stood at the top of the city and looked at the great army of the celestial heavens. He then looked down at the countless people praying to the great army of the celestial heavens. He smiled bitterly. "Your Majesty, it seems like it's impossible to change this in our lifetime."

Emperor Yanfeng stood behind him and sighed painfully, his voice hoarse. "From the ancient times through the generations, revolutions and reforms were never bloodless. During the second dynasty of Crimson Light, Crimson Emperor died with his corpse destroyed, and no generation of High Emperor has had a good ending. During the destruction of the Founding Emperor Era, 33 heavens were wiped out in an instant, and a generation of mighty rulers had to put up with Carefree Village. The resistance to Eternal Peace's reform was greater, so if there's blood to be spilled..."

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor laughed. "It would have to start from you and me."

Emperor Yanfeng laughed heartily, then suddenly sighed. "I'm worried that after we die, there won't be any successors. After all, there are a lot of foolish people in the world. The gods want the people to be stupid, not daring to resist and revolt, while foolish people will willingly remain stupid, not wanting to resist and revolt. Imperial Preceptor, since the start of our reform until now, there have been people worshipping these gods and devils. The greatest resistance to reform, sometimes, is from these people."

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor felt dejected. "To sacrifice your life for these people, is this worth it?"

"Worth it!"

Emperor Yanfeng raised his voice and said, "To destroy gods in the temple and within their hearts, there are people who hesitate, but there are also people who don't kneel down!"

His eyes brightened as he smiled. "There are people who kneel down again after standing up, but there are also people who will never kneel down. Even if you and I become the sacrificial offerings for this reform, there will be people who continue the path we took until this world is changed! This is worth it!"

A majestic god flew up and appeared in the sky above Eternal Peace's capital city.

His sheer size distorted the space around him, and the fleet of battleships of the celestial heavens circled him like stars orbiting the sun.

This was the Green Deity of the Eastern Sky.

He was so tall that he reached the clouds, his face sitting among the heavens, and the white clouds becoming ornaments around his waist.

He displayed an air of awe-inspiring righteousness as ten thousand rays of light glowed from him. He had immeasurable strength and power and could eradicate Eternal Peace's capital city and its billion people with a finger.

A god official flew and landed on the palm of the Green Deity of the Eastern Sky, kneeling and kowtowing respectfully as he called forth an imperial decree scroll. He then kowtowed again, raising the imperial decree above his head before bowing and flying off.

"I never had such rules here." Emperor Yanfeng laughed upon witnessing the scene. "The rules of the celestial heavens are just too strict and rigid."

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor laughed in reply. "Your Majesty must have forgotten. When Cult Master Qin and I were accused by the contrarians of the imperial court, we were sorry figures caught in a difficult situation, and we almost had to kowtow until our heads bled."

Emperor Yanfeng's face darkened, and he said resentfully, "I want your head, please remember that."

"Your Majesty won't have the chance anymore." Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor smiled. He saw his wife and daughter in the city and felt pain in his heart, but he turned without changing his expression.

"Sinners of Eternal Peace, receive the imperial decree!"

The god official carried the imperial decree in his hands, his voice booming like thunder, resonating among the clouds.

Countless people, including some divine arts practitioners among them, knelt upon hearing the voice. Emperor Yanfeng and Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor felt pain in their hearts, but they felt better after seeing that there were many who refused to kneel.

The god official took a glance at the two of them and laughed coldly as he unfurled the imperial decree and read it out loud. “By the will of the heavens, the people of Eternal Peace didn’t think of the kindness of the heavens and acted against the heavens. The reform has disrupted the Heavenly Dao, resulting in the wrath of the heavens and the resentment of the people, with the masses destitute and struggling to survive. However, the heavens have the virtue of loving all living beings. His Majesty decreed to only punish the leaders and not the masses. The will of the heavens is as follows:

“One—confiscate all books and records on reform from every college and academy to be burnt in front of the people. Future generations shall not be able to reform.

“Two—Eternal Peace shall restore the ancient system, keeping the position of emperor to govern the country. All sects and cults shall worship the gods, and all the people shall worship and pray to the gods.

“Three—Eternal Peace’s authority to issue coins shall be handed over to the celestial heavens. The coins of the celestial heavens shall be circulated among the people. The Eternal Peace Empire shall not compete with the people for profit.

“Four—Eternal Peace shall not forge heavy divine weapons. For those who forge, their families will be executed.

“Five—Eternal Peace shall follow the teachings of the ancestors and not tamper with the paths, skills, and divine arts.

“Six—Every year, the Eternal Peace Emperor shall hold a grand festival to thank the heavens for its kindness.

“Seven—The people of Eternal Peace whose houses contain artifacts that are able to perform any strange tricks shall destroy them and not hide them.

“Eight—Emperor Yanfeng and Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor disrupted the order and spread lies, causing chaos and turmoil. They shall be seized and escorted to the God Execution Stage, where their corporeal bodies and primordial spirits will be executed to serve as a warning to others! End of imperial decree—”

There was a commotion within and outside Eternal Peace’s capital city. Countless divine arts practitioners and gods and devils of Eternal Peace felt a sense of humiliation, anger, and resentment. They couldn’t wait to charge forward and attack the heavens.

Emperor Yanfeng laughed loudly and bowed. “Your criminal accepts the imperial decree!”

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor passed down an order—no one was to move or take action.

A few ships of the celestial heavens flew over, dragging the God Execution Stage. The blood on the stage gleamed across the sky, the two blood knives moving like blood trails, embroiling incessantly with one another.

The god official said, "The two of you, please get on the God Execution Stage."

The inside and outside of Eternal Peace's capital city fell silent as countless people stared at the God Execution Stage in the sky.

"If you want to kill the leader, so be it."

Suddenly, the silence was broken by laughter. The people and divine arts practitioners looked furiously towards the sound and saw Qin Mu appearing behind the fleet of ships of the celestial heavens. He stood on the forehead of the dragon qilin, his face pale as though he was seriously ill.

The dragon qilin stepped on fire clouds and moved calmly into the midst of the fleet. He then looked sideways at the face of the Green Deity of the Eastern Sky, who was towering high above.

"The God Execution Stage is scary."

Qin Mu looked towards the God Execution Stage and laughed. "You speak as though they are dead with their souls dispersed, as though I am unable to bring them back to life."

He didn't look at the Green Deity of the Eastern Sky. Instead, he waved at Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor and Emperor Yanfeng, saying with a weak tone, "Imperial Preceptor, Emperor, please go ahead and die. If you manage to die, I lose."

Behind him, the Green Deity of the Eastern Sky raised his hand, stopping the gods and devils of the celestial heavens who were drumming up their rage to kill. "This is Celestial Venerable Mu, please show him some respect."

Chapter 893: To Fall Behind Is Not a Sin, Being Weak Is

The gods of the celestial heavens struggled to hold back their anger, but the Green Deity of the Eastern Sky remained composed. He revealed an imposing expression and said, "Celestial Venerable Mu, there's nothing wrong with what you've just said. After all, as an esteemed Celestial Venerable, you have remarkable abilities. However, right now, you are already a useless person. There's a saying that goes—a heroic spirit would never be extinguished. You have no soul, so what you are relying on is merely your heroic spirit."

Emperor Yanfeng and Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor felt a shudder in their hearts, and they looked towards Qin Mu.

The heroic spirit would never be extinguished. What he meant was that Qin Mu's soul had already been dispersed, leaving behind only his spirit and no soul.

What this also meant was that the Qin Mu of the three heroes of Eternal Peace's reform was already dead!

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor suddenly wept as he thought to himself, 'Did Senior Brother force himself to hold on until he got here—with his unextinguished attachment and undispersed consciousness—because he couldn't bear to leave Eternal Peace behind?'

He had seen too many people who were like that, who even though they had already died in battle, they had a strong attachment within their hearts that supported them so that they wouldn't collapse. Even in death, they still wanted to continue fighting.

However, Qin Mu's situation was a little unique, and it wasn't as he had imagined.

Green Deity of the Eastern Sky was growing more dignified and solemn. His voice rumbled through the skies, and echoes that sounded like a huge bell ringing could be heard from all directions. "Celestial Venerable Mu, Eternal Peace is just a small country, and it takes up only a tiny space within the Primordial Realm. I am here on orders to clean up the mess in Eternal Peace and have already given you, Celestial Venerable Mu, face by not annihilating this place. Celestial Venerable Mu, please do not make it difficult for me. Due to what happened with Wei Suifeng, I am already guilty of not fulfilling my mission. Thus, the execution of the heads of the rebellion is a must!"

Qin Mu turned around and displayed an unreadable expression. "If I don't make it difficult for you, it will be difficult for me."

Green Deity of the Eastern Sky said, "If their corporeal bodies are completely destroyed without even leaving blood vessels behind, will Celestial Venerable Mu still be able to reforge their corporeal bodies and revive them?"

Qin Mu shook his head. "I can only help them gather their souls and let them reincarnate. Twelve years later, I will guide them and let them regain the memories of their past life so that they can make a comeback. If their corporeal bodies are still intact, the second you leave, I can revive them. It would be much easier."

Around them, the gods yelled out in rage.

Green Deity of the Eastern Sky raised a hand and replied coldly, "Celestial Venerable Mu, you are being impudent! Where do you intend to put heaven's might? Do you wish to destroy the authority and dignity of the celestial heavens?"

Qin Mu waved a hand. "Since you can't make the decision, then get lost and find someone who can make the decision and have them meet me!"

The gods flew into a fury—dark clouds filled the sky as thunder and lightning crossed and struck ceaselessly.

"Celestial Venerable Mu, stop resisting heaven's might!"

Suddenly, from within the group of kneeling citizens of Eternal Peace, one elderly man started to kowtow repeatedly as he cried out shrilly, "That's the heavens! To resist the heavens is to be treasonous!"

Qin Mu was startled, and everything in front of his eyes turned black. Only after a while did he recover from it.

Even more citizens of Eternal Peace started yelling out from below.

“That’s right! What right do you have to make the decision for us? If they want to kill anyone, let them kill Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor and Emperor Yanfeng!”

“They caused this disaster with their reforms! Just kill those two rebels!”

“Pray for the heavens to bring forth their wrath and kill this rebel Celestial Venerable Mu as well!”

...

The corners of Qin Mu’s eyes twitched violently once, and immediately after, his expression was composed again. Green Deity of the Eastern Sky laughed out loud. “Celestial Venerable Mu, these people that you want to protect, they don’t seem to be appreciative of you. You are protecting a group of livestock and even killing yourself for them. You dug out your own eye, abandoning your status as the Son of Youdu and resulting in you just having your unextinguished heroic spirit left. Is it worth it?”

Qin Mu sneered. “Get lost and find me someone who can make decisions!”

Green Deity of the Eastern Sky snorted coldly. He got up and was about to give the order for the troops to retreat when a leisurely sounding voice traveled down, saying, “Green Deity of the Eastern Sky, if you give the order for the troops to retreat just like that, you will undermine the dignity and authority of the celestial heavens! If you recall your troops, the authority of the celestial heavens will be swept away, and there will be even more rebels who will go against the heavenly might from today on.”

Green Deity of the Eastern Sky was astonished, and he hurriedly bowed and kowtowed.

Whoosh. Innumerable gods turned around and bowed. A Celestial Venerable Yu that was of similar build to Qin Mu walked over with broad steps and laughed. “Celestial Venerable Mu really knows how to make trouble for me. Such a small land like Eternal Peace still requires me to come down here personally.”

Qin Mu coughed violently and replied, “It’s just because Dao brother is going too far.”

This Celestial Venerable Yu smiled. “Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor and Emperor Yanfeng can avoid death. However, they defied heaven and went against the mandate of heaven. If they are not dealt with, the authority of the celestial heavens will no longer exist. I can spare their lives and simply trap them. This would be giving Celestial Venerable Mu face and saving the face of the celestial heavens. What do you think about this?”

Qin Mu replied, “There has to be a year limit, or else Dao brother should just kill them.”

Celestial Venerable Yu replied coldly, “You are asking for too much.”

Qin Mu didn't say another word.

After a period of time, this Celestial Venerable Yu laughed. "There are many rebels in the Primordial Realm, and they can't all be killed anyway. It's my intention to build a large prison within the Primordial Realm, where they shall be suppressed. On your account, I will only imprison them for two hundred years. This is non-negotiable."

Qin Mu was about to speak when Celestial Venerable Yu continued indifferently, "Even if you can revive them, don't forget that the celestial heavens has all sorts of tricks to stop you from gathering their broken souls. Aren't you still unable to find that missing piece of Lan Yutian's broken soul?"

Qin Mu was in shock, and his gaze landed on him.

The real Celestial Venerable Yu had a piece of his broken soul suppressed within the Hall of Fragrance in the celestial heavens, leaving him a little dim-witted. It also stopped him from returning to what he was like in the past.

The celestial heavens did have the ability to seal the souls of Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor and Emperor Yanfeng, and there was nothing he—the Great Wizard—could do about it.

Celestial Venerable Yu rose to the skies of the capital city, and his gaze landed on Emperor Yanfeng as he laughed. "The heavens have the virtue of loving all living beings. You may be exempted from death, but you cannot escape punishment. You will be forever suppressed within the great prison. Eternal Peace cannot be without an emperor. Go and choose a successor."

Emperor Yanfeng turned around and looked at his children. His gaze landed on Ling Yuxiu, and immediately after, it moved away from Ling Yuxiu and landed on Ling Yushu. He smiled and said, "Yushu, come up here. After I am gone, you shall be Emperor of Eternal Peace."

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor understood his intentions, and he felt a sense of sorrow in his heart.

Ling Yushu stepped forward, bowing and kneeling down.

At this very moment, Celestial Venerable Yu flicked a finger, and Ling Yushu's corporeal body was instantly reduced to powder with his soul disintegrated.

Celestial Venerable Yu smiled. "The child that you picked is definitely the best one who inherited your ambition, so I cannot be assured. Pick another one."

Emperor Yanfeng collapsed to the ground, crying, tears streaking down his face. After a long time, he got up, and his gaze wandered about the rest of his children.

"Yuxiu, come up here."

With tears streaming, Emperor Yanfeng said, "From now on, Eternal Peace Empire is in your hands. Don't be too good at it, be a little muddle-headed and useless. From today onwards, you are Emperor of Eternal Peace!"

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor sighed in his heart. He knew why Emperor Yanfeng had picked Ling Yushu first and not Ling Yuxiu.

His goal was to protect Ling Yuxiu.

The gods of the celestial heavens took Emperor Yanfeng and Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor into custody, and they boarded a ship that would take them towards the prison. Meanwhile, the other celestial troops and generals stayed behind. They planned to destroy the system of primary schools, colleges, and the Imperial College. The books and records on reform were also to be burned, while heavy-duty divine weapons such as the Sunshot Divine Cannon, Sun Ship, and Moon Ship would be destroyed. On top of that, they would support the sects and supervise Eternal Peace.

Ling Yuxiu succeeded the throne. The title of her dynasty was Yanxiu, and she was named Emperor Yanxiu.

“A tiny Eternal Peace Empire has tied me down for such a long time. The lower lifeforms of the human race really give one a headache.”

The Celestial Venerable Yu that was transformed from Celestial Emperor laughed as he spoke to Qin Mu, “I should return. Celestial Venerable Mu, I very much look forward to you walking out of your trauma so that you can retrieve my corporeal body. Do you know why I want to imprison Emperor Yanfeng and Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor for two hundred years and why I am giving you two hundred years of time?”

Qin Mu walked out of Eternal Peace’s capital city with him, and with a calm and composed expression, he replied, “After two hundred years, Heaven Duke will be dead and replaced. At that time, I, the invincible Great Wizard, will cease to exist and will no longer have the ability to revive anybody.”

Ancient Celestial Emperor burst into laughter. “Talking to a smart person truly saves effort and energy. Within two hundred years, there won’t be any secrets in Xuandu’s Great Dao. Heaven Duke will become history, and the new Heaven Duke will emerge in the world. You won’t be able to borrow any power from Xuandu, and your spell of revival will cease to exist. At that time, you will no longer be qualified to make any negotiations, nor will you have any assets to negotiate with.”

He stopped walking and smiled gently. “Celestial Venerable Mu, let me tell you an absolute truth.”

Qin Mu also stopped walking. “I’m all ears.”

Ancient Celestial Emperor replied leisurely, “To fall behind is not a sin, being weak is.”

“The new sky map is already being forged. In a few dozen years, it will be hung back into the skies and become the star atlas that will envelop the entire Primordial Realm.”

He raised his head to look at the sky. A sun appeared in the sky, the true divine sun of the Primordial Realm.

“Enjoy all of this.”

Ancient Celestial Emperor laughed. “For the next few decades, you will get to see the real starry skies. After that, there will be no one who is able to remember what the real starry skies looked like. There’s no need to send me off, please return.”

His figure floated into the sky and vanished on the horizon.

Qin Mu raised his head and pondered over his words. Falling behind would result in getting a beating, but Eternal Peace wasn’t behind in times—Eternal Peace’s skills, divine arts, and philosophies even surpassed those of the celestial heavens.

The sole reason Eternal Peace was beaten up until it couldn’t stand was that it was weak.

It had too little time to develop and didn’t have the power to go against the celestial heavens. This was why it was utterly defeated by the absolute power of the celestial heavens.

He stood there in silence and didn’t move for a long time, remaining motionless until night fell and lights were lit up.

At this time, the darkness before him opened up, and a faint light shone over from another world, shining onto his face.

Qin Mu saw a piece of land floating within another world, and the mountains in this land formed a “Qin” word. Sitting cross-legged on the ground was an enormous big-headed baby, who had his hands hugged in front of his chest as he looked at Qin Mu.

Qin Mu’s gaze landed on him, and the big-headed baby snorted, hugging his arms even tighter and turning his head to look away from him in anger.

Qin Mu revealed a smile. “Brother, I’m sorry that I have taken over your corporeal body.”

He could see that the big-headed baby had made use of that third eye, transforming it into flesh and blood to reforge his corporeal body.

“Humph!” The big-headed baby pouted, and he was even angrier now.

The light came from the hands of an Elder Messenger of Death. The Elder Messenger of Death held a lamp as he stood within the Qin word land. Beside him stood Celestial Venerable Yu, who waved at him.

The clone of Heaven Duke, Lava Earth Count, Crimson Emperor, Great Sun Sovereign, and the Old Buddha were no longer in the Qin word land. He didn’t know where they had all gone.

Qin Mu waved towards the Elder Messenger of Death and Celestial Venerable Yu.

A treasured ship sailed over, and there were numerous figures on board.

Qin Mu saw Princess Consort Zhen and a tree man—they were once his parents.

“Mu’er, Earth Count has released us. We intend to return to Carefree Village, do you want to go back with us?”

Princess Consort Zhen stood at the head of the ship and continued gently, “There is too much danger and evil in this world, with the dangers of the mortal world surpassing that of Youdu. Although there may be some dangers in Carefree Village, in comparison to the outside world, Carefree Village is the safer of the two.”

Qin Mu waved vigorously and smiled. “I am not Qin Fengqing, I am not your son. I am Qin Mu, an orphan of the Great Ruins, a child that Granny Si picked up from the riverbank. I yearn for Carefree Village, but my heart is still in the mortal world. After a few years, I will go to Carefree Village to find you, but the time is not now!”

He pulled out the Carefree Sword and threw it out with all his might.

The divine sword of Founding Emperor drew a long arc and landed on the treasured ship of Carefree Village. Qin Hanzhen picked up the Carefree Sword.

“You are my child.”

Princess Consort Zhen cried as she waved with great strength. “You are flesh and blood that I gave birth to. You have a home, kin, and you have our bloodline!”

The treasured ship of Carefree Village sailed far away, and Princess Consort Zhen’s voice traveled back, saying, “You have to come home, you must come back!”

With a smile on his face, Qin Mu waved his hand with all his might.

Kin.

Kin from Carefree Village.

He had previously wanted to find Carefree Village countless of times, wanting to return to his hometown, to go and see Founding Emperor and his kin. However, at present, in the Primordial Realm, there were still his kin and those who needed him more.

He turned around, and Emperor Yanxiu stood not far from him.

“I thought you would leave,” the previous sixth princess and the present Emperor Yanxiu said softly.

“If I leave, what would you do?”

Qin Mu walked towards her and smiled. “Go back. From today onwards, I am your Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor!”

Chapter 894: To Deal With the Problem From the Root

Within the palace, Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu invited Yu Chen’zi, Dao Master Lin Xuan, Wang Muran, Si Yunxiang, and many others. Many of them were members of the Heaven Alliance from back then, and

they were all youths. They were all here to discuss how Eternal Peace Empire should function following these drastic events.

When the Heaven Alliance was first founded, there were only four members—Qin Mu, Lin Xuan, Wang Muran, and Xu Shenghua.

After that, Qin Mu and the rest were roasting fish in the Imperial College, and Ling Yuxiu, Si Yunxiang, Hu Ling'er, Monk Ming Xin, Mu Qingdai, and Long Yu joined them. Qin Mu had also then asked Devil Ape Zhan Kong to join the Heaven Alliance.

As for Hu Ling'er, she liked crowds and had joined the Heaven Alliance to make up the numbers. She didn't take it seriously, and Qin Mu and the others didn't take it seriously either.

At that time, Xing An and Emperor Yanfeng were present as well, but they viewed the Heaven Alliance with some disdain and thus didn't join.

In this palace meeting, Xu Shenghua and Hu Ling'er were absent, while Ming Xin and the devil ape didn't make it there in time. However, there was the addition of Yu Chen'zi.

Yu Chen'zi said, "The new sky map is extremely vast, and it will be very difficult to forge it. Even with the Dao Sect of the celestial heavens forging it, it will take at least thirty to fifty years to be completed. In addition, Clear Sky Heaven is the designer of the new sky map, so naturally, we can leave some loopholes. Although the new sky map may be very dangerous, it's not without the possibility of survival. At present, the eight rules of the celestial heavens' imperial decree are the most problematic."

Ling Yuxiu replied, "Actually, there are only seven rules. My father and Imperial Preceptor Jiang are imprisoned, so we don't have to consider them for now and can just focus on the first seven rules and possible countermeasures. We should consider whether Eternal Peace will continue the reforms from today onwards. And, if we are to continue the reforms, how we will overcome these seven rules."

Yu Chen'zi looked towards Qin Mu, and Qin Mu replied, "Of course we will continue on the path. If we don't continue, just the annual Emperor sacrificial offerings will be enough to destroy the foundations of Eternal Peace's survival."

Everyone was confused.

Yu Chen'zi explained, "The powerful half-gods of the celestial heavens feed on meat, and the annual Emperor offerings to the celestial heavens are comprised of virgin males and females. Offering virgin males and females to the celestial heavens as food is sufficient to destroy the support of the people. After all, the people dare not be angry at the heavens and would thus direct their rage at Eternal Peace."

"That's too ruthless."

Wang Muran frowned. "Just this rule alone is enough to destroy Eternal Peace."

Ling Yuxiu said, "That's why it's necessary to come up with countermeasures. The celestial heavens want to take away Eternal Peace's authority to issue coins. Saintess Xiang, how would you counter this?"

Si Yunxiang thought about it and smiled. “Will the currency of the celestial heavens only be circulated within the borders of Eternal Peace, or will it be circulated amongst the entire Primordial Realm?”

Qin Mu replied, “The celestial heavens won’t create a currency specifically for Eternal Peace. Now that they have taken over the entirety of the Primordial Realm, naturally, the same currency will be used throughout.”

Si Yunxiang clapped her hands together and smiled. “If the currency was uniquely designed for Eternal Peace and the authority to issue coins was in the celestial heavens’ hands, then the economy would cease to exist, and Eternal Peace would be unsavable. However, if the entire Primordial Realm is using the same currency, then it won’t actually be a bad thing!”

The rest didn’t have much of an understanding in this area, so they asked her to explain further.

“If the entire Primordial Realm uses the same currency, the celestial heavens can just leech off of the Primordial Realm. They just have to create the currency, and then they can plunder all the wealth of the Primordial Realm. However, the celestial heavens must also ensure that the currency can be used to buy and sell things.”

Si Yunxiang smiled. “The people of Eternal Peace are most proficient in doing business. Through doing business, they can earn more money from the other areas of the Primordial Realm so as to ensure the livelihood of their own people. The celestial heavens leech off of the entire Primordial Realm and take the resources of the Primordial Realm for their own, but we can absorb resources from the other powers within the Primordial Realm through doing business. Emperor Yanfeng once said that the great abundance coins should be circulated to the other countries, and he fought for this goal for many years. With the standardization of currency in the Primordial Realm, his dream has been fulfilled. It’s just that there’s an extra heavenly master above our heads now.”

Qin Mu replied, “You shall be in charge of trade, commerce, and doing business.”

Si Yunxiang said, “I will need the help of your fox demon.”

Qin Mu nodded. “The authority to issue coins is the third rule. This shall be handed to Si Yunxiang to settle and plan for so as to stabilize the lives of the people. The first rule is to burn the books and records on reform and to stop the reforms. There are spare copies of all of the records, so we can ignore this rule. The second rule is to reinstate the system set by the ancestors, where the sects govern the country and where all people and sects worship the gods. Using the sects and the people to control Eternal Peace—this is a strategy to tire and fool the people. How should it be countered?”

Wang Muran questioned, “In these seven rules, is there one that forbids the establishment of primary schools, colleges, and an Imperial College?”

Ling Yuxiu replied, “There’s no such rule. However, the Imperial College, as well as the primary schools and colleges across Eternal Peace, have been destroyed by those gods. Even the books were burned.”

Wang Muran laughed. “Then we’ll just rebuild them! But we won’t call them primary schools, colleges, and the Imperial College anymore. We can just change the names, for example, Jade Capital Sect,

Heavenly Saint Clan, Dao Sect Side Palace, and so on. They can just be named to sound like sects. The primary schools, colleges, and Imperial College were originally no different from sects in essence.”

Qin Mu replied, “Let’s do it that way then. The fourth rule regarding the forging of heavy-duty divine weapons, we can just temporarily not forge any, so we can ignore this rule as well. The fifth rule states that we cannot tamper with the paths, skills, and divine arts. Since there are very few who have the ability to change the paths, skills, and divine arts, we can also ignore this rule. The sixth rule is regarding sacrificial offerings to the heavens. This rule is too heart-crushing, how should we counter it?”

Yu Chen’zi pondered over it and replied, “I have some connections in the Dao Sect of the celestial heavens. Perhaps I can ask for some individuals with authority within the celestial heavens’ Dao Sect to come out and change the requirements for the sacrifices. At the very least, we cannot let the Emperor treat the human race as livestock to be offered to the heavens.”

Qin Mu said, “Thanks for the trouble, Senior Brother Yu Chen. The seventh rule is regarding the destruction of any artifacts that are able to perform strange tricks. This rule isn’t really of much significance. After this calamity, the good stuff that the people owned is basically already gone.”

He looked around and revealed a smile. “Now, let’s start to think about how we are going to retaliate.”

Everyone was astonished.

Retaliate?

What kind of big talk was this?

How would they be able to retaliate?

Qin Mu continued, “These few days, I have been toying with an immature idea. I wandered about the capital city and saw that there were many celestial troops and generals that had barged into the homes of rich families to take away those so-called fancy and ingenious artifacts. The gods of the celestial heavens seem to fancy these things quite a lot. In that case, we will create them for free and only accept the coins of the celestial heavens, the lower the price the better. There’s an abundance of skilled workmen in Eternal Peace, and by letting them create useful things for the people, we can maintain the abilities of these skilled workmen.”

The rest still didn’t quite understand.

Qin Mu continued, “Senior Brother Yu Chen, could you arrange for Eternal Peace to forge some of the divine weapons of the celestial heavens through the use of your connections within the celestial heavens’ Dao Sect?”

Yu Chen’zi furrowed his brows. “You want to have Eternal Peace forge the new sky map? That’s impossible! The celestial heavens would never let Eternal Peace forge the new sky map! This sort of divine weapon can only be personally forged by the celestial heavens’ Patriarch Creation Palace! The Patriarch Creation Palace of the celestial heavens is the place where the most important divine weapons are forged! Almost all heavy-duty weapons of the celestial heavens are forged there, and it’s heavily guarded! Working there, one must affirm their identity using the Life and Death Book daily!”

Qin Mu laughed. "What I meant was that Eternal Peace would first create some daily necessities for the celestial heavens. For example, things like the ice fridge and windmill. After that, we can create the divine armor, divine weapons, ships, and formation diagrams that the army of the celestial heavens requires. The celestial heavens can use the currency that they created to purchase the treasures that we created directly from Eternal Peace."

Yu Chen'zi was stumped.

The rest frowned, still not quite understanding.

"This sort of good deal, the celestial heavens will naturally be willing to accept. It's just that..."

Yu Chen'zi was in a dilemma. "The workmen of Eternal Peace will have to painstakingly forge these treasures, yet they will only be able to trade for the coins from the celestial heavens. This is a little..."

Qin Mu replied, "As long as the currency can be circulated within the Primordial Realm, it will be good enough. We don't have to bother with how much can be earned. Can you do it?"

Yu Chen'zi replied resolutely, "Yes!"

Qin Mu sighed in relief. "Then, how long will the manufacturing factories of Eternal Peace need to squeeze out the manufacturing factories of the celestial heavens such that the celestial heavens will only be left with the Patriarch Creation Palace that forges the heavy-duty divine weapons?"

Yu Chen'zi was startled, and then he laughed. "What you're suggesting is dealing with the problem at the roots by destroying the foundation of economic livelihood for the celestial heavens! The forces of the celestial heavens are multifarious. With divine weapons that are practically free being readily available, the manufacturing factories of the celestial heavens won't be able to hold on for long and will ultimately be replaced by Eternal Peace! By then, across all of Eternal Peace, there will be manufacturing factories capable of forging divine weapons, while the celestial heavens will no longer have any manufacturing factories they can make use of!"

He paced back and forth. "Under the celestial heavens are the four extremes, Xuandu, the Primordial Realm, Youdu, Mingdu, Southern Heaven, Northern Heaven, Eastern Heaven, and Western Heaven. There are also thirty-six celestial palaces and seventy-two throne halls, as well as the tens of thousands of worlds and heavens! If Eternal Peace can supply all of the necessities, armaments, and military provisions for the celestial heavens, the properties of the tens of thousands of worlds and heavens will be gradually hollowed out, and they will no longer have any wealth. At that time, the lives of the people in the tens of thousands of worlds and heavens will be destitute, and they will definitely revolt."

Qin Mu replied, "I only asked you how long would be needed."

Yu Chen'zi replied earnestly, "At most, a hundred years!"

Qin Mu pondered. "A hundred years, it's enough. Will you be able to use the free divine weapons to negotiate for the annual Emperor sacrificial offerings to not require virgin males and females as blood sacrifices?"

Yu Chen'zi thought about it for a while, then said, "I can try."

"Regarding the other various details, you are all much more proficient than I am. With regards to how to settle down the citizens, how to revive the family businesses of the people, and how to cultivate farmland and plant crops to get through the current famine—there are many proficient civil officials in the imperial courts, so you can all ask them for advice. My elders are proficient in the various ultimate arts of Sword Dao, formations, forging skills, the art of healing, calligraphy, and painting. Feel free to ask them for help and advice."

Qin Mu stood up and bowed. "Then, Eternal Peace shall be entrusted to you all!"

Everyone was astonished and hurriedly got up to return his bow. Dao Master Lin Xuan said, "Why did Cult Master say such a thing? Are you not going to stay in Eternal Peace? Now that you are the Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor and have the status of Celestial Venerable Mu, there are countless people who are watching you. You aren't in the proper condition right now, so you probably shouldn't go out and run around anymore."

Qin Mu straightened up, and he felt a little dizzy as he smiled and said, "If I stay in Eternal Peace, the celestial heavens will never take their eyes off of it. What they are watching isn't Eternal Peace but me, Celestial Venerable Mu. As the Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor, if I roam about the lands, Eternal Peace will have the opportunity and time to take a breather. You all need not convince me further."

Si Yunxiang looked towards Ling Yuxiu, who had a complicated expression as she said, "The Imperial Preceptor is leaving the capital city, when will you return?"

Qin Mu replied, "After I return, I will come and find all of you. Regarding when I will return, I haven't decided yet."

"Return here on this day next year, how is that?"

Ling Yuxiu looked at him and continued in a gentle voice, "I know that your body isn't in good condition. Come back at this time next year so that I know that you're still alive."

Qin Mu burst into laughter and nodded his head vigorously. "This day next year, I will return!"

He turned around and walked out. At the palace gate, he woke up the dragon qilin, and they walked towards the Imperial Preceptor's manor together.

"Is Cult Master Qin's situation dangerous?" Wang Muran watched him leave and then whispered.

"He no longer has a soul."

Yu Chen'zi said in a low voice, "I have never met anyone without a soul who managed to stay alive."

"Cult Master doesn't intend to hide in a corner by himself to die quietly, right?"

Si Yunxiang was suddenly worried, and her eyes turned red as she said in a low voice, "I'm afraid that he's worried that we will be sad, so he's going to hide himself to die slowly. Even if his corpse is found, no one will know that he is Celestial Venerable Mu, Cult Master Qin, the Imperial Preceptor of Eternal Peace..."

Ling Yuxiu shook her head. "He will return. One year from today, he will return here to meet us again!"

There were two Imperial Preceptor's manors within the capital city. One was the manor of the previous generation Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor, Jiang Baigui, while the other was Qin Mu's side palace, which contained a verdant and lush Primordial Tree.

Qin Mu came to the foot of the Primordial Tree and touched its body. Suddenly, Gongsun Yan, who was in a green skirt and holding a little kettle, came around from behind the tree with a smile. "Younger Brother, you have returned? Yan'er, your young master has returned!"

From the nest in the crown of the tree, Yan'er stuck out her head, and following that, a chubby green sparrow flew down and landed on Qin Mu's shoulder. She laughed and said, "The nest here is really comfortable, I don't even want to get up anymore. Young Master, do you intend to leave?"

Qin Mu nodded and smiled. "Sister Yan'er, since the nest here is comfortable, you can remain here, and you can also look after Eternal Peace."

Yan'er hesitated for a moment before she shook her head. "Goddess asked me to follow you around, so I cannot remain here. Also, Yan'er (Gongsun Yan) is even better at taking care of people than I am, and even I have been waited upon by her comfortably. There's everything within the phoenix's nest—she prepared all sorts of fruits for me, and there are even worms for me to eat! I haven't met someone who is even more considerate than myself, and now I'm even fatter."

The dragon qilin stuck his head out from behind Qin Mu and was about to speak when the round green sparrow glared at him and barked, "Fatty Dragon, shut up!"

The dragon qilin didn't dare speak.

Gongsun Yan said in a troubled tone, "I also want to leave with all of you, it's just that I'm rooted here..."

Qin Mu smiled warmly. "Then, just remain here. This is also where my roots are, so I'll return."

Chapter 895: The Third Writing of Calamity Sword, the Writing of Facing Calamity

Gongsun Yan was feeling a little reluctant, but all she could do was send Qin Mu off.

"He said his roots are here. He is indeed a tree... When can my phoenix nest attract phoenixes?" The girl looked longingly into the future.

Qin Mu arrived at former Imperial Preceptor Jiang Baigui's manor. The Imperial Preceptor's wife was teaching Jiang Yunjian how to cultivate the paths, skills, and divine arts. They also had a young daughter of five years old named Jiang Qingzhou.

“Sister-in-law, Junior Brother won’t be trapped in the great prison for too long.”

Qin Mu guided Jiang Yunjian in cultivation, imparting Celestial Venerable Yu’s Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure and the Celestial River Divine Treasure techniques to him. He then told the Imperial Preceptor’s wife, “Don’t worry, he’ll be back. In the meantime, I will have people send food and clothing so that you and the children don’t have to worry. Just focus on teaching and guiding my nephew and niece well.”

The Imperial Preceptor’s wife gave her thanks, but she had some doubts. She asked, “Why are there only two divine treasures? What about the others?”

Qin Mu laughed. “We have to wait for someone to create them, then we’ll know. I hope it will overturn my divine treasures. If Yunjian is able to open up these two divine treasures in the next few years, that would be very impressive. Let him train. I’ll come back next year and find him a silly teacher.”

The Imperial Preceptor’s wife didn’t know whether to laugh or cry. “Silly teacher? I wonder who Cult Master is referring to...”

...

Qin Mu reached the outskirts of the capital city, where he saw new cities being built outside the existing city, one every thousand miles. They were meant to give people a place to stay and were still very plain and simple, only suitable for resting.

Also, there were divine arts practitioners opening up farmland, doing irrigation work, and arranging transportation. These tasks couldn’t be hurried but were ironically the most urgent.

Qin Mu had found the elders of Disabled Elderly Village. Apothecary was leading many scholars to work on the farmlands, using the art of creation to plant crops and hence holding off pressing needs, while Mute and some others were rebuilding the manufacturing factory. As for Village Chief and the rest, they also had their own respective jobs.

Apothecary inspected Qin Mu’s body and laughed. “Nothing serious. You should eat and drink and go wherever you want to go.”

Qin Mu said, “I’m fine, Village Chief and the rest are always worrying.”

Apothecary watched him as he left. Village Chief said, “Apothecary, I didn’t hide the matter of the Overlord Body from you, so you cannot hide things from me. How is Mu’er’s condition?”

Apothecary hesitated and shook his head. “Not too good. His Undying God Consciousness is very strong, but it’s not strong enough to reach the level of everlasting. He is like a weak candle in the wind and could be extinguished at any moment.”

Village Chief was stunned.

Apothecary said, "I also felt a source of life gestating in his body, as though something was growing—a different kind of power from the art of creation. There is hope, a budding hope. Whether his body can break out of the cocoon, I'm not sure."

Village Chief was silent for a while before he said, "Suddenly, I hope that the Overlord Body is real..."

Qin Mu found Yan Qiling again, who said, "I have to go back to the celestial heavens, back to His Majesty's side. I am unable to remain in the lower bound."

Qin Mu said, "Your master's wife asked me to take care of you before she died..."

"You should take care of yourself!"

Yan Qiling smiled ambiguously and said, "Even though Celestial Emperor doesn't wish for you to die, there are still many people who are hoping for your death. Although the Primordial Realm has fallen into the hands of the celestial heavens, Celestial Emperor is unable to completely control the great army of the celestial heavens who have taken over the Primordial Realm. The big shots of the Heaven Alliance will never let Celestial Emperor swallow up the Primordial Realm, and they will definitely plant an unknown quantity of eyes, ears, and powers. You are without a soul now, so they will destroy your consciousness, and you will die. You may be a treasure to Celestial Emperor, but not to them."

It appeared that she had heard many rumors and had some inside information. "The Primordial Realm already has gods and devils who plan to deal with you, so you have to be careful. Farewell!"

Qin Mu waved goodbye.

Zhe Huali walked over and looked deeply into Qin Mu's eyes. He then asked, "Cult Master Qin, for Eternal Peace as it is now, is there hope?"

"As someone who entered the path through knives, you shouldn't ask this question."

Qin Mu said, "You have disgraced your demon knife by asking that."

Zhe Huali laughed. "I was only worried about you. If you are alive, I believe Eternal Peace can be saved and that there is still hope. However, if you die, I'll leave this place and never return."

Qin Mu laughed heartily. "Don't worry, you will forever be tied to this land."

Zhe Huali laughed loudly as he left.

Qin Mu left the capital city atop the dragon qilin's head. Yan'er was feeding the dragon qilin spirit pills as the sky gradually darkened. When the darkness arrived, Qin Mu took the opportunity and pulled out an artifact left behind by Ling Yushu. He executed the Soul Guide, helping Ling Yushu gather his broken soul.

Qin Mu was without a soul, but he still had his cultivation abilities and his knowledge and horizons. Soon, he gathered Ling Yushu's soul.

Ling Yushu's soul stared at Qin Mu from among the gloomy clouds, and Qin Mu said, "Your Majesty, The Messenger of Death will rush over to guide you towards Youdu. Please do not hate Emperor Yanfeng, he was only thinking of Eternal Peace."

Ling Yushu continued to stare at him, his body faintly discernible. "I could never compare to my younger sister. She, like my father, has a drive that I have always lacked. When he called me up that day, I knew that he was going to sacrifice me to protect Yuxiu. However, I was willing."

At this moment, within the darkness, a thread of light shone over. Elder Messenger of Death was steering his paper boat from Youdu towards them, guiding Ling Yushu to board the boat.

Ling Yushu remained staring at him, not willing to board.

Qin Mu said, "What unfulfilled wishes do you have?"

"Stay away from my younger sister!" Ling Yushu said.

Qin Mu's face darkened as Elder Messenger of Death shined a light on Ling Yushu, taking him away. Ling Yushu stood on the boat and shouted, "You either marry her now or stay away from her! If I find out that you have been flirting around, I will haunt you after I become a ghost! Haunting you every day in your dreams!"

Elder Messenger of Death got off the paper boat and tossed him a jade pendant out of nowhere. Qin Mu was slightly stunned. He saw that there was a "Qin" word on the surface of the jade pendant. It was the jade pendant that hid the Qin word land.

"Your elder brother has left Youdu. He and your parents have gone to Carefree Village. There, Founding Emperor can protect him."

Elder Messenger of Death said, "He will be safer there, so there is no need for Earth Count to worry about him. According to Earth Count, he is already a competent Little Earth Count. Following by your side, he grew quickly. This jade pendant is the horn of Earth Count, which was originally used to suppress him. The jade pendant is also what allowed you to be inextricably linked to Youdu. Earth Count said that this jade pendant is for you."

Qin Mu took the jade pendant and examined it carefully. He saw that the Qin word land in the jade pendant was empty except for some mountains, the abyss iron that he plundered from the Ruins of End, and Mistress Yuanmu's crystal coffin.

Heaven Duke, Earth Count, Crimson Emperor, Great Sun Sovereign, Old Buddha, and the rest were gone.

Qin Mu sighed ruefully as he took out a silk ribbon, coiled it, and hung it around his neck.

"Heaven Duke and Earth Count have gone back, while Great Sun Sovereign also went back to Youdu. As for Crimson Emperor, he returned to the floating world after he found Crimson Light Son of God. Brahma of the Buddha Realm has woken up from his sleep and took away Old Buddha."

Elder Messenger of Death said, "The Slaughter Cauldron is an object that belonged to Ah Chou Earth Count. Earth Count said that he's not Ah Chou anymore but that you are. Hence, the Slaughter Cauldron is for you. Maybe it will help you tide through a few difficult encounters in the future."

He kept on looking at Qin Mu. After some time, he suddenly bowed. "Celestial Venerable Mu, take care!"

Qin Mu returned the courtesy.

When he straightened his body, Elder Messenger of Death and the ghost ship had already disappeared without a trace.

"Don't try to circulate your vital qi, it will damage your consciousness." Elder Messenger of Death's voice traveled from the other world.

Qin Mu coughed violently and felt his divine treasures shaking fiercely as he coughed. It was also hard to stabilize the Undying God Consciousness.

After some time, the divine treasures became calm. However, he still felt his vital qi leaking.

Without a soul, the corporeal body was like a tree without its roots. Even the Undying God Consciousness was unable to restrain the enormous vital qi within his body, resulting in its slow leakage.

Brahma Buddha's Boundless Calamity Sutra could slow down this leakage, but no more than that.

If Qin Mu had cultivated to the Emperor's Throne Realm, he could have perfected the Undying God Consciousness like Crimson Emperor. Then, even without a soul, he could survive for a long time. However, he was unable to achieve this.

He could only rely on the Three Primordial Spirit Undying God Consciousness and the Boundless Calamity Sutra to stabilize his consciousness, preventing it from dispersing.

Qin Mu sat on the dragon qilin's large head, closing his eyes to rest. Unknowingly, he fell asleep. The dragon qilin floated forward aimlessly, from night to day and day to night.

Qin Mu woke up occasionally, eating the delicious meals that Yan'er prepared. These were pleasant and content days.

...

Today, a crescent moon rose in the sky. Within the moonlight, there was a woman extending an invitation, so the dragon qilin ran onto the moonlight. This crescent moon was the horn of the sky map, and there was a moon place inside.

The prior sky map that covered Eternal Peace was destroyed by the flames of battle, leaving only scattered formations.

Qin Mu and the rest stayed at the moon palace for a period of time. All the while, his vital qi was leaking, and his cultivation was decreasing with each passing day.

The primordial spirit was the combination of spirit embryo and soul. His spirit embryo originally stood on the celestial river, very close to the Southern Heavenly Gate. Now, without a soul, it was difficult to restrain his magic power. Therefore, the spirit embryo gradually moved further from the Southern Heavenly Gate.

From the perspective of his spirit embryo, the Southern Heavenly Gate had become obscure and hazy.

The girl in the moon palace said to him, "Please stay, I can take care of you for life."

Despite that, Qin Mu chose to leave. He laughed and said, "Life is full of uncertainties, I can't hold you up."

The girl stood before the moon palace and shouted, "I don't care, I have already waited for 40,000 years, I don't care at all!"

"But I care." Qin Mu waved at her before turning to leave.

After coming down from the moon palace, he seemed dispirited for a while. His vital qi leaked faster, and his spirit embryo had fallen from the celestial river to the Builder Tree, with the descent showing no signs of stopping.

If the descent continued, next would be Youdu, then the Life and Death Divine Treasure.

...

Today, Qin Mu was suddenly full of vigor, with his prior depression swept away. He executed the Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique to cultivate, but that caused his vital qi to leak even faster!

Qin Mu immediately stopped, his mouth chanting some phrases. At the side, the dragon qilin and Yan'er were listening. What Qin Mu was chanting were cultivation tricks and techniques of all types—not forming any system. It was as though he had fallen under the devil's influence.

After two days, when Qin Mu fell asleep, the dragon qilin and Yan'er saw a shapeless bubble coming out from the heart of his brows. Many dainty Qin Mus burrowed out of his head, chattering inside the world of bubbles using an incomprehensible language.

These Qin Mus each cultivated different techniques—Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique, Three Primordial Spirit Undying God Consciousness, Anasrava Creation Mysterious Scripture, Ancestral Dragon Supreme Mystery Technique, Sakra Scripture, Sacred Secrets of Heaven and Earth Heart, Martial Arts Heavenly Technique, Youdu Devil Dao, Dark Mo Jia Sutra. There were even some dainty Qin Mus cultivating the Boundless Calamity Sutra, creating an even smaller world of bubbles within the world of bubbles!

"Fatty Dragon, what is he doing?" Yan'er asked.

The dragon qilin gave it some thought and said, "Cult Master is deducing the possibility of his survival, searching for a path of survival from countless possibilities."

"Fatty Dragon knows so much," Yan'er praised, giving him a spirit pill as she continued to observe the Qin Mus in the world of bubbles nervously.

Within the world of bubbles, she saw the dainty Qin Mus dying one after another in various ways. It was a horrible scene to watch.

Some were in the middle of cultivating when their consciousnesses disappeared, dying with their tongues out. Some suffered from qi deviation. Suddenly, there was an explosion resulting in a loud bang. Some died in their dreams, while some suddenly caught fire and were burnt to a crisp!

The mini Qin Mus in the world of bubbles were decreasing. After more than 10 days, the world of bubbles was littered with corpses. However, there was a dainty Qin Mu who stubbornly survived. Although his breath was weak, he was smiling.

Suddenly, the world of bubbles exploded with a "bo" sound and disappeared. Qin Mu opened his eyes, waking up from the dream with a yawn and a smile. "Sister Yan'er, I'm hungry again."

Yan'er hurriedly prepared a meal, and Qin Mu went back to sleep after he ate.

The dream world again transformed into bubbles, and many dainty Qin Mus once again burrowed out of his eyes, ears, mouth, and nose. These Qin Mus didn't try to look for a path of survival but solemnly gathered together and chattered in a language that was incomprehensible.

Following this, these tiny people cultivated sword skills within the dream world, fighting one another. Sword skills burst forth one after the other, and very soon, many dainty Qin Mus died fighting among themselves.

"Fatty Dragon, what is Young Master doing?" Yan'er asked.

The dragon qilin was unable to comprehend what he saw. He shook his head and said, "I don't understand either."

Yan'er narrowed her eyes, holding on to the food, not feeding him the spirit pills.

The dragon qilin hung his head in disappointment.

Finally, a ray of sword light appeared. The remaining mini Qin Mus unexpectedly swung their swords and cut open Qin Mu's dream world, attacking the outside from within the dream!

Qin Mu suddenly woke up from his dream and rose to his feet. The dainty Qin Mus had disappeared.

"Strong I may be, but hesitant I was when facing calamity!"

Qin Mu pulled his sword and let out a loud roar, suddenly plunging his sword into his divine treasures and celestial palace!