

## Martial 3271

### Chapter 3271 , Exorcism

It was as though somebody had sprinkled a pinch of salt into a frying pan. When that light dissipated, an incredible scene appeared. The bodies of those ten thousand Demons were glowing bright red as though they had been pumped full of vitality. Their auras concurrently increased with great momentum.

The expressions on Wen Zi Shan, Ma Qing, and Xiao Yu Yang's faces changed drastically all at once to reveal extremely horrified expressions. Ma Qing even blurted out, "What Secret Technique is that!?"

This Secret Technique was simply unheard of and never seen before. When that red light flared brightly, the auras of those ten thousand Demons increased significantly, increasing their overall strength to a whole new level in an instant. A Secret Technique like this was simply a miracle. Just imagine; if two groups of people were evenly matched in battle and one side suddenly received the support of this Secret Technique, the outcome of the battle would become a foregone conclusion. Not to mention, Yang Kai's Secret Technique could cover ten thousand people at once.

Neither Ma Qing, Xiao Yu Yang, nor Wen Zi Shan had ever seen anything like it before; thus, all three of them were dumbfounded.

On the other hand, the Three Divine Spirits, who had followed along, glanced at each other in surprise with Cang Gou frowning as he muttered, "Why does that seem like..."

The words that came after that were too soft to hear despite Ma Qing, Xiao Yu Yang, and Wen Zi Shan listening intently.

Fan Wu nodded in agreement, "It does look like it."

Luan Feng furrowed her delicate brow deeply as she commented, "It can't be. How could he possibly cast that technique?"

Although the three of them had never seen this Secret Technique before, they had seen something similar in the memories passed down to them through the inheritance of their Divine Spirit Source, making them uncertain.

Their conversation went back and forth, leaving Ma Qing and the others dying of curiosity. They were almost at the point where they wanted to scratch their cheeks in frustration. [If you have something to say, say it clearly! Why do you have to act so mysterious about it!?]

Nevertheless, they did not dare to act so presumptuously in front of the three Divine Spirits.

At this moment, the chanting coming from Yang Kai's mouth suddenly changed. He pointed downward again and a clean and pure light at the tip of his fingers flared out brightly. The tens of thousands of

Demons all groaned in pain when the milky white light swept over them. Following that, traces of Demon Qi began to leak out of their bodies and dissipate into nothingness.

Ma Qing stared wide-eyed, "He actually did it!"

It wasn't that they had not tried to force out the Demon Qi from the bodies of these demonified cultivators before, it was just that nothing they tried had succeeded. The strange Demon Qi was very hard to deal with, and even if they managed to expel some of it, they couldn't purge it completely, much less extract it with ease like Yang Kai had just done. They could only perform painstaking cleansings one by one, but Yang Kai had covered ten thousand people all at once with his strange Secret Technique. The gap between these two methods were incomparable.

"An Ancient Shamanic Spell!" Fan Wu exclaimed softly, looking shaken. It had only been a suspicion before, but he was certain now. It was no Secret Technique that Yang Kai was casting, but a genuine Ancient Shamanic Spell!

"An Ancient Shamanic Spell?" Ma Qing widened his eyes and looked at Fan Wu curiously before he humbly asked, "Brother Fan, do you mean to say that this Secret Technique is an inheritance from ancient times?"

Fan Wu glanced sidelong at Ma Qing before promptly ignoring the latter. He was a Divine Spirit; moreover, each and every one of the Monster Kings under his command could rival a Third-Order Emperor Realm Master in power. Ma Qing himself was nothing but a mere Third-Order Emperor Realm Master. In the Ancient Wild Lands, Ma Qing's status would at best be equal to Fan Wu's subordinate, so how dare he act so friendly! It would be strange if Fan Wu did not ignore Ma Qing.

Seeing the disdain in Fan Wu's eyes, Ma Qing's face flushed red in response; unfortunately, he was helpless since he knew the other party's strength. As such, he didn't dare to act out here, making him feel incredibly embarrassed.

Wen Zi Shan secretly laughed in his heart but spoke calmly on the surface, "That little boy is extremely blessed. To think he even got his hands on some Ancient Secret Techniques. This will be a great help to us."

Fan Wu replied indifferently, "This has nothing to do with obtaining Ancient Secret Techniques."

"What do you mean?" Wen Zi Shan looked at Fan Wu curiously.

Perhaps it was because of his relationship with Yang Kai, but Fan Wu's attitude towards him wasn't as aloof. As such, Fan Wu pondered for a moment before explaining, "It's not like there are no Ancient Secret Techniques inherited from the ancient times in the Star Boundary, but have you ever seen anybody use them before?"

Wen Zi Shan frowned, "No, I have not. Perhaps those who had inherited them treasure them so greatly that they hide those techniques away?"

Luan Feng laughed lightly, "No, in fact, it's simply not possible to cultivate them."

Wen Zi Shan was taken aback by those words and couldn't help asking, "Why?"

Luan Feng explained, "Every era has its own unique World Principles. Accordingly, the corresponding Secret Techniques of those eras correspond to those specific World Principles. A Shamanic Spell is something from ancient times and can only be cultivated in an environment with World Principles akin to those ancient times. The World Principles in the Star Boundary of today simply cannot meet the requirements for the cultivation of those Secret Techniques."

Ma Qing and Wen Zi Shan looked at each other, "There's something like that?"

Although their cultivations were quite high and they were rather knowledgeable, they had never heard of such a theory before. Only beings like Divine Spirits, who were peculiar existences that had inherited memories of their ancestors through their Sources would grasp such concepts.

Xiao Yu Yang nodded lightly, "I have heard the Great Emperor mentioning something similar before. The Great Emperor once said that there was no way for the many Secret Techniques of our current era to bloom if we were to enter a new era."

Fan Wu nodded, "Exactly."

Ma Qing uttered in astonishment, "But... That means Elder Yang managed to successfully cultivate and cast a technique impossible to cultivate or cast... How did he do it?"

[That's right. How was this possible?] Ma Qing wasn't the only one who couldn't figure it out. Even the three Divine Spirits did not understand. They even suspected that Yang Kai had encountered other opportunities when he was roaming the Ancient Wild Lands. Perhaps, these Ancient Shamanic Spell were something he successfully cultivated there.

The reason why the Ancient Wild Lands received its name was that it was a place that inherited the aura of the Ancient Star Boundary. It remained unchanged over the aeons, so the World Principles in the Ancient Wild Lands were slightly different from those of the rest of the Star Boundary.

Ordinary cultivators were suppressed to a certain extent upon entering the Ancient Wild Lands because of this variance in World Principles. If there was any place in this world where Yang Kai could cultivate an Ancient Shamanic Spell, it would be the Ancient Wild Lands.

However, Fan Wu and the others had never heard of any inheritance related to Shamanic Spells in the Ancient Wild Lands. Furthermore, the time Yang Kai spent in the Ancient Wild Lands was not that long, so the question remained, just where did he cultivate these Ancient Shamanic Spells?

"Since the three of you know that these are Ancient Shamanic Spells, do you know which specific Spells he is using?" Ma Qing asked again.

Fan Wu replied, "If my guess is correct, then the first one he casted is called the Bloodlust Spell."

"Bloodlust Spell?" Ma Qing raised an eyebrow in response.

Fan Wu continued, "It stimulates the Blood Essence in a target's body and can greatly increase that person's physical strength for a certain period of time. I believe you can use similar Secret Techniques yourselves."

Ma Qing was taken aback. After feeling so envious of that Secret Technique for such a long time, it turned out to be a Secret Technique like that. It was only natural that they knew similar Secret

Techniques. In fact, most cultivators could master such Secret Techniques, let alone the few of them. It was only a matter of how useful such a technique was. Be that as it may, stimulating one's Blood Essence might increase one's strength for a short period of time, but they would be weakened after using it and forced to recuperate for varying lengths of time as a result.

"This is one of the fundamental Shamanic Spells that the Ancient Barbarian Race used in order to survive," Luan Feng continued, "The Ancient Barbarian Race did not cultivate the Martial Dao we currently thrive on. Only a few of them had the aptitude to cultivate Shamanic Spells while the rest focused on Body Tempering. It was also said that some of them could achieve Sanctification purely through Body Tempering. Such Masters had power no less than those of the Great Emperors of today. It is precisely because of the strong bodies of the Ancient Barbarian Race that they could withstand the Bloodlust Spell time and time again and survive in the harsh environments of that era. With the current physical prowess of most cultivators in the Star Boundary today, I'm afraid they won't be able to bear the effects of the Bloodlust Spell more than a handful of times before permanent damage is done to their foundations."

"I can't believe that such a technique used to exist." Ma Qing sighed. Upon learning the truth behind the Bloodlust Spell, there was no need to covet it anymore as it could only be used if one had a strong enough body to support it.

"The three of you are really well-informed." Despite knowing that the three Divine Spirits only learned about this through their Source Inheritances, it didn't hurt to maintain good relations with them. Besides, it was not as if flattery cost anything.

Although Fan Wu and the others did not bother to explain the second Spell, everyone understood that it was probably similar to a heart purifying technique; however, it seemed to be more effective than that and could almost be said to be the nemesis of Demon Qi.

Yang Kai patiently performed the Demon Exorcism Spell over and over again. Low roars and howls of pain rang out endlessly from the mountain valley while at the same time, traces of Demon Qi escaped from the bodies of the ten thousand cultivators and melted quickly like snowflakes under the scorching sun.

Half a day later, the situation of the ten thousand in the mountain valley was much better than before. Some of them were gradually regaining their senses; thus, they sat down cross-legged and coordinated with Yang Kai's Spell to speed up their recovery.

After an entire day, Yang Kai had no choice but to stop and rest for a while. The continuous use of the Demon Exorcism Spell nearly exhausted his entire reserve of Emperor Qi. He consumed several Emperor Spirit Pills and took out some Source Crystals to recuperate before continuing with his efforts an hour later.

It took three whole days for all the Demon Qi within the bodies of those ten thousand cultivators in the mountain valley to be completely purified. Unfortunately, not all of them could be saved. At least a thousand of them had been completely corrupted by Demon Qi and even Yang Kai's Demon Exorcism Spell could not save them. Performing this spell now only caused harm to them without any healing effect.

For a time, the mountain valley was filled with a miserable aura. The cultivators that had recovered were taken away by their Elders or comrades to rest in a different area. Meanwhile, Xiao Yu Yang and the others had long concluded what had to be done regarding the remaining thousand Demons. Since they could not be rescued, then they could only give them a painless death.

Xiao Yu Yang personally took action, flattening the entire mountain valley in a single move, burying the one thousand Demons together in an instant. Then, the scene became even more tragic than before, and soft sobbing sounds could be heard everywhere. All the major Sects that came to participate in the Southern Territory Martial Gathering this time, regardless of whether they were strong or weak, all had suffered serious losses. Some of the worst-hit Sects were nearly wiped out, leaving only a few survivors left alive.

Azure Sun Temple also suffered some losses. One Emperor Realm Elder died, and among the disciples who came to participate in the Martial Gathering, nearly half of those in the Origin King Realm and Origin Returning Realm had perished while slightly fewer Dao Source Realm disciples had died. If Wen Zi Shan had not noticed that something was wrong and immediately taken measures to protect the disciples, the results would have been much worse.

Many lamented how this event had destroyed the foundations of the Sect or clan.

“Elder Yang, we still need your assistance with these people.”

While Yang Kai was resting, Ma Qing, Wen Zi Shan, and Xiao Yu Yang came to meet him together. There was a group of Emperor Realm Masters escorting two groups of people behind them. There were not many people in these two groups. One group had eight people in it, while the other had a dozen.

On the surface, nothing peculiar stood out about these people. It was just that their cultivations had been sealed. The group of eight on the left had gloomy expressions and looked like dead men walking. On the other hand, the dozen people on the right were yelling about injustice. Most of these people were in the Emperor Realm but some were weaker as well.

Chapter 3272, Sure Enough; There Is a Problem

The Abyssal Returner, Ah Wang, had also followed them over. She was currently being held in Liu Yan’s arms and was baring her fangs and growling at the second group of a dozen people. Those dozen seemed to be extremely afraid of her and each one of them had eyes that were filled with a deep sense of fear.

Yang Kai glanced at them pensively. Fixing his gaze on the first group of eight people, he asked, “Have they all been possessed by Demon Spirits?”

Wen Zi Shan nodded with a grim expression, “Yes. Do you think you can save them?”

“It will be difficult.” Yang Kai shook his head slowly. Although he had not tried it before, he knew that those who had been possessed by Demon Spirits were fundamentally different from those who were

corrupted by Demon Qi. Even if he used Ancient Shamanic Spells on them, the chances of success were slim to none.

“Please give it a try,” Ma Qing begged. One of those people was an Elder of Heavenly Martial Holy Land and Ma Qing could not bring himself to watch such a tragic ending.

Yang Kai nodded, “En. But please don’t get your hopes up, Holy Master Ma.”

“Please make every effort, Elder Yang.” Ma Qing smiled bitterly.

Yang Kai got up, walked over to those Demons, and studied them closely. If he had to be honest with himself, he could not detect any traces of corruption from these people even now, they all just looked like ordinary Humans. It was no wonder that the entire Southern Territory was still in the dark about the situation when Orthodoxy Temple had already fallen.

Those eight people included men and women, young and old. Yang Kai circled around them once and randomly stopped in front of a young man. When their gazes met, the young man’s eyes revealed his nervousness.

Yang Kai smiled at the young man and began chanting. He then touched a finger to the young man’s forehead and a milky white light on his fingertip burst out, penetrating into the young man’s head.

The light was cleansing and that young man suddenly began shaking all over in fear. His expression became savage and horrendous and a beast-like howl came out of his mouth as he struggled even harder than before. Nevertheless, he was helpless. He had many seals placed on his body, so how could he escape?

Under the Demon Exorcism Spell, Demon Qi soon burst forth from the young man’s body. Although the Demon Qi in his body began to dissipate at a constant rate as the Demon Exorcism Spell took effect, his Spiritual Essence also wilted accordingly. His complexion turned deathly pale and in a very short period of time, he was sweating so profusely that he looked like he had been fished out of the sea. His clothes were soaked through and after a while, his eyes rolled back and he completely lost consciousness.

Yang Kai stopped and stood there, slowly shaking his head.

Seeing this scene, Ma Qing and the others let out a long sigh. They had mentally prepared themselves before they asked, but they could only give up when they saw that Yang Kai’s methods could not work on these people.

These cultivators had been possessed by the Demon Spirits after all and their own consciousness had long been devoured. Hence, they had been fundamentally changed from the roots up. The Demon Exorcism Spell Yang Kai cast was capable of removing Demon Qi from their bodies, but it was simultaneously damaging their Souls. Even if he purged all the Demon Qi, it would simply turn them into walking corpses without a functioning consciousness of their own.

That was something Yang Kai knew best as the memory of the time when Feng Ming had taken out a Demon Seed and tried to attack his Knowledge Sea before in order to possess his body was still fresh in his mind.

“They can’t be saved.” Yang Kai turned to Ma Qing and asked, “Did you get any useful information from them?”

Wen Zi Shan sighed, “No. These guys are all tight-lipped and not afraid of death, so we couldn’t get anything out of them at all.”

“Is that so?” Yang Kai stretched out his hand to Liu Yan who immediately walked over and handed the Abyssal Returner in her arms to him. Holding Ah Wang in one hand, Yang Kai stood in front of a demonified cultivator and swept his gaze over them, “If you want to live, tell me what you were plotting. If your information turns out to be useful, I might just spare your life.”

The eight people, aside from the young man that had lost consciousness, looked at him quietly, but nobody answered.

Yang Kai nodded, “You truly do not fear death. Very good.”

While speaking, he gently patted the Abyssal Returner on the head. The black puppy roared wildly in response before it suddenly stuck its head out, opened its mouth wide, and swallowed up one of the Demons standing in front of her in a single gulp.

Upon seeing that scene, Ma Qing and the others jumped in fright. Although they had witnessed what the strange black puppy was capable of before, it was still a shocking sight. It wasn’t strange for a Monster Beast to prey on Humans, but the key point was that the Abyssal Returner did not feed on Humans but only Demons. Moreover, it was completely immune to demonification. Not too long ago, it even devoured all the Demon Qi in the mountain valley.

Wen Zi Shan wore a thoughtful look. He had known about the existence of the Abyssal Returner for some time now after all. Gong Yue was the one to discover this Abyssal Returner in Azure Sun Temple back then, and at the time, it had tried to devour Feng Ming in one bite. More than a dozen Emperor Realm Masters working together to attack it had also had their attacks all swallowed into its belly before those same attacks were spat back out. According to Gong Yue, the little beast seemed to have the bloodline of a legendary Monster Beast from the Demon Realm; thus, it was not strange for it to have such a bizarre ability.

When one of the Demons was swallowed down, the rest of the Demons became agitated. They glared at the Abyssal Returner as though they were looking at their natural enemy, their eyes filled with horror and fear; however, their cultivations were all sealed so they couldn’t run even if they wanted to.

Yang Kai looked at them in a leisurely manner and said indifferently, “Take your time to think it over. Whoever has made up their minds can go ahead and talk. This Yang always means what he says; as long as you can provide me with some useful information, you may survive.”

While he was speaking, the Abyssal Returner opened its mouth again and swallowed up another Demon. Yang Kai didn’t say anything else after that and simply walked down the line, step by step, with Ah Wang in his arms. Whenever he arrived in front of a Demon, Ah Wang would devour that Demon in one gulp. Just like that, she ate five Demons in the blink of an eye and there were now only three left, their eyes filled with hatred, but none of them speaking a single word.

Looking at the situation, Yang Kai sighed in frustration, “Truly a bunch of stubborn and rigid people.”

Turning to look at Ma Qing and the others, he added, "I'm afraid we won't be getting anything out of them."

Ma Qing replied with a cold expression, "In that case, there's no reason to let them live anymore."

If they were not demonified, he might have suggested trying to use Secret Techniques such as the Soul Scouring Technique on them to investigate the secrets of their minds; however, this was related to the Demons, so who would dare do that? What if they were infected by the Demon Qi as a result? The potential gains were not worth the risks.

Since there was no point keeping these Demons alive, then they could only get rid of them once and for all. Ah Wang swallowed the remaining three Demons into her belly in one swift motion. Nevertheless, she still looked unsatisfied and her gaze now turned towards the other dozen people standing to the side.

"And, what's up with them?" Yang Kai asked curiously.

"You have to ask that pet of yours." Wen Zi Shan frowned, "She keeps barking at them. We don't know what's wrong with them either."

When the dust of the battle in the mountain valley settled, all the major Sects summoned the remaining survivors to help collect the remains of the injured and dead, but to their surprise, the Abyssal Returner suddenly ran up to a cultivator and barked at him non-stop. In view of the spectacular performance of the Abyssal Returner previously, Wen Zi Shan and Ma Qing became alert and ordered that cultivator to be detained.

Who could have known that the Abyssal Returner would continue making its way through the crowd, sniffing out these dozen people? Subsequently, that led to the current situation they were facing right now.

"I have been unfairly accused, Temple Master Wen! I am a disciple of Blue Cloud Sect! Why am I being detained like this!?" A young woman with a youthful-looking face complained bitterly, trying to defend herself. The rest also began talking all at once, agreeing with her statements.

Yang Kai said, "Whether something is wrong or not, we only need to test it out to know." Striding forward, he came to stand directly in front of the young woman.

The young woman instantly reacted in fear, trying to step back as she spoke in a horrified voice, "W-What are you trying to do!?"

Yang Kai didn't waste any time on talk and simply reached out his hand to grab her head while casting the Demon Exorcism Spell. When he began chanting, the young woman's expression changed greatly and she wailed as wisps of black Demon Qi poured out of her body.

When everybody saw this, their expressions sank.

"There really is something wrong with them..." Ma Qing looked stern.

Similarly, Wen Zi Shan also had an expression of lingering fear as he turned a look of wonder at the Abyssal Returner. [If not for this little beast's strange behaviour, I'm afraid everybody would have been deceived again.]

When was a person most relaxed and unguarded? It was when they emerged victorious after a difficult battle. When the dust settled over the battle of Orthodoxy Temple, nobody expected Demons to still be hiding among them. Nobody had the means to distinguish between the Humans and the Demons either, so if these people had been allowed to leave this place alive, a second or a third Orthodoxy Temple could have appeared in the future.

Yang Kai continued checking these dozen people, one by one and soon determined that every single one of them had been quietly taken over by a Demon Spirit. Nobody knew whether they had been possessed before the battle or whether it happened during the commotion. Seeing as these dozen people came from different backgrounds and had varying cultivations, it was probably the latter.

There was nothing much to say since these people had been possessed and it didn't take long before all of them ended up in Ah Wang's belly.

Wen Zi Shan said, "Should we let your pet look around again? Just in case there are still some Demon Spirits left..."

Previously, they had no way of determining who had been possessed by a Demon Spirit, but now that they had a weapon like the Abyssal Returner on their side, it was only natural that they screened the remaining survivors carefully.

Yang Kai nodded, "That's probably for the best."

After saying that, he tossed the Ah Wang to Liu Yan, "Take her out for a walk."

Liu Yan took the Abyssal Returner, turned around, and left.

Not far away, Wu Chang watched the entire scene with a stoic expression while in his heart, tumultuous waves were brewing.

When everybody ran into each other at the gates of Orthodoxy Temple just slightly over a month ago, he had spoken disdainfully to Yang Kai. He arrogantly believed that Yang Kai still did not have the qualifications to face him, but who could have imagined that in just the span of a month, that opponent he looked down on would be speaking to his Sect's Holy Master on equal terms? Moreover, Yang Kai had, more or less, single-handedly resolved the entire Orthodoxy Temple incident. If not for him, almost all of the Southern Territory's Masters and elite disciples would have been wiped out.

While thinking about how Yang Kai had casually gathered and brought more than two hundred Emperor Realm Masters as reinforcements here, Wu Chang's thoughts drifted to the unruly thirty-two Monster Kings, then to the three Divine Spirits who obeyed Yang Kai's every word...

For somebody as proud as Wu Chang, those thoughts made him feel a pang of helplessness. At some point in time, this person, who was supposedly one of his peers, had gone far beyond his reach. They were now two people living in two different worlds.

When he thought back on the arrogant words he uttered more than a month ago, he discovered that he had been acting absolutely ridiculous and childish back then. At the time, Yang Kai probably didn't even put him in his eyes.

Wu Chang couldn't help feeling a deep sense of frustration in his heart, like he had made a fool of himself in front of everyone.

Chen Wen Hao stood beside Wu Chang, seemingly aware of the changes in his Junior's heart, and patted him on the shoulder, "Everyone has their own path to walk. He is just truly blessed. He is a rare existence that only appears rarely throughout history. He is not someone anybody can compare to."

Wu Chang sighed softly, "I know."

He paused for a moment before he continued, "I'm going to enter retreat upon our return. After achieving a breakthrough in my cultivation, I'm going out to wander the world."

Chen Wen Hao turned and glanced at Wu Chang; then, he nodded in agreement, "Good."

Flowers grown in a greenhouse cannot withstand the harsh elements of the outside world.

Chapter 3273, The Dead Are Gone

Yang Kai strolled over to the main gates of Orthodoxy Temple and headed directly to a small slope. Lowering his head, he studied the cold corpse lying there and a trace of sorrow flashed across his eyes. The corpse was covered in a layer of ice, so it showed no signs of decay or being eaten by wild beasts even though several days had passed.

The fatal injury was located on her chest. Yu Zhuo had been pierced by some kind of sharp weapon, such as a sword, and judging by the injury, Yang Kai could tell that she had not suffered any pain before she died. It was just that her wide-opened eyes were still full of fear and helplessness still.

"Palace Master!" Hua Qing Si walked over and called out softly.

"Why are you here?" Yang Kai asked. Squatting down, he brushed his hand over the cold corpse. The layer of ice melted instantly and he gently closed Yu Zhuo's eyelids before tidying up the messy strands of hair stuck to her forehead.

"Elder Ji asked me to guard this place," Hua Qing Si replied as she secretly observed Yang Kai's expression and realized that what Ji Yao said was correct. [Palace Master really does know this dead woman. I wonder what kind of relationship they had? The guilt and sorrow on his face indicates that their relationship was not quite one of normal friendship but not at the level of romance between a man and a woman either.]

He nodded at those words. When Ji Yao passed the border of Orthodoxy Temple's Sect Defending Array and charged into battle with him, he noticed her casting a Secret Technique to freeze Yu Zhuo's body. Sadly, they were facing an imminent battle at the time, and he had no time to worry about anything else. It wasn't until everything was resolved that he had the time to come and check on the situation here.

The dead were gone; nevertheless, Yu Zhuo's laughter and smiling face constantly appeared in his mind. If she had not died in this place, the possibility of her becoming an Emperor Realm Master one day was very high based on her performance in the Martial Gathering. Unfortunately, one had to overcome many obstacles in the Martial Dao, and the slightest bit of carelessness would mean death.

Yang Kai could not say that he had much of a friendship with Yu Zhuo, and during this incident, the Southern Territory had suffered casualties numbering from twenty to thirty thousand. Even Azure Sun Temple lost more than a third of its top disciples. Nevertheless, Yu Zhuo's death was the only one that made him feel truly regretful and sad.

It was an inexplicable feeling. Looking at this person in front of him, he recalled the scene where she suddenly turned around and waved goodbye at him after he refused to meet with her that day. Who could have expected that that moment when she turned around to leave would be their final goodbye?

"Palace Master, the people over there are her Sect members. They seemed to be waiting to collect her body." Hua Qing Si had waited for some time before finally reminding him when she saw that Yang Kai showed no signs of moving.

Lifting his head, Yang Kai saw about ten individuals standing anxiously not too far away. The person leading them was a young woman who looked to be in her thirties and the group behind her were all women. Each of these women wore a depressed expression while some of the younger ones were weeping softly.

"Bring them over." Yang Kai nodded.

"Understood," Hua Qing Si responded and walked over in that direction. She arrived in front of that young woman leading the group, spoke a few words, and then brought them over with her.

"Luo Sha Sect Qin Pei greets Elder Yang," The leading young woman bowed, her eyes reddening instantly when they swept over Yu Zhuo's corpse. However, she held back her tears somehow since Yang Kai was in front of her.

Yang Kai glanced at this group and discovered that Qin Pei had the highest cultivation out of them. Even then, she was only a Second-Order Dao Source Realm cultivator. There was only one other woman in the First-Order Dao Source Realm among the others while the rest were Origin Kings or Origin Returning Realm Juniors.

"Are you Yu Zhuo's fellow Sect members?" He asked.

Qin Pei nodded, "Yes. I am Yu Zhuo's Senior Sister."

"Where is your Sect Master?" Yang Kai looked at her and asked. Although Luo Sha Sect was neither a large nor powerful Sect, he recalled that they at least had a Sect Master in the Emperor Realm. Moreover, their Sect Master was the one to lead them here to participate in the Martial Gathering.

Qin Pei lowered her head and replied in a choked-up voice, "Sect Master fell as well."

As soon as those words left her mouth, the few girls whimpering behind her couldn't hold back anymore and burst out wailing.

Luo Sha Sect was an all-female Sect, and an all-female Sect would always draw much attention from the outside world. It was inevitable that some lustful men would try to get their hands on a Sect like that. In the past, Luo Sha Sect had a Sect Master in the Emperor Realm protecting them while they also had alliances with the surrounding Sects and clans, so they were fairly safe from assault.

Unfortunately, their Sect Master had died a tragic death and only two among all the disciples in the Dao Source Realm who came to participate in Martial Gathering survived. It could be said that the foundation of Luo Sha Sect had been severely damaged. It would be hard for them to gain a foothold in the Southern Territory again. Furthermore, the female disciples of Luo Sha Sect would face a worrying fate if word got out about their situation. Combined with their grief, how could this group of women hold back their sorrow when they thought about what the future held for them?

Yang Kai was silent.

Qin Pei took out a cloth bag suddenly from her Space Ring and handed it to him.

“This is...” Yang Kai glanced at her questioningly.

Wiping away her tears, Qin Pei forced a smile to her face, “A few days ago, Junior Sister Yu Zhuo asked me to keep an eye out for seeds and to collect them if I found any. I think she wanted to give them to you. I was a bit late in collecting them, so I didn’t have time to hand them to her before...”

Yang Kai pursed his lips and reached out his hand to take the cloth bag, but when he held it, that small bag somehow felt extremely heavy.

Qin Pei added, “Junior Sister Yu Zhuo admired Elder Yang very much. Just recently...” She couldn’t continue speaking anymore. Covering her mouth with her hand, she broke down sobbing while the dozen or so girls behind her also covered their faces and wept with grief.

Under these circumstances, even Hua Qing Si was affected by the situation and her eyes slightly reddened.

A while passed before Qin Pei managed to collect herself again. Taking a deep breath, she smiled and said, “It was a blessing for Junior Sister Yu Zhuo to meet Elder Yang before her death.”

Yang Kai’s hand that was holding the cloth bag clenched slightly and his chest felt incredibly tight and stuffy.

Qin Pei waited a moment before continuing, “Elder Yang, if you don’t mind, I would like to bring Junior Sister’s body back to the Sect for burial.”

Yang Kai nodded lightly in response, unable to speak.

Only then did Qin Pei crouch down and gently stroke Yu Zhuo’s hair. Afterwards, she placed Yu Zhuo’s corpse into her Space Ring.

“Many thanks, Elder Yang!” Qin Pei bowed again and turned to leave with the rest of her Sect members.

“Wait,” Yang Kai reached out his hand and called for her to stop.

Turning back, Qin Pei asked, “Is there anything else you need, Elder Yang?”

“What are your plans for the future?” He asked, looking at her.

A look of confusion flashed across Qin Pei’s eyes before she shook her head. She had been worrying about this issue over the past few days. Now that their Sect Master was dead, what was going to happen to the roughly thousand disciples of Luo Sha Sect? The person with the highest cultivation left in the Sect was an Elder in the Third-Order Dao Source Realm who had stayed behind to guard the Sect. Unfortunately, such strength was not enough to protect their foundation. There were several Sects and clans that Luo Sha Sect was allied with, but it no longer had the protection of an Emperor Realm Master so forget about providing shelter and protection, those allies would likely be the first to try and swallow up Luo Sha Sect.

Therefore, Luo Sha Sect’s fate was certain and the only way to gain safety was to somehow bring in a powerful and influential external force to shelter them. Be that as it may, doing so might just be inviting a wolf in the flock of sheep. All those scruples to consider had left the Sect’s future looking rather bleak.

“Do you plan to revive your Sect, or merge it with another?” Yang Kai asked, “If it’s the latter, I can help introduce you to a reliable force. Both the Southern Territory and the Northern Territory are fine. You will have limited choices in the Southern Territory, but you can choose any Sect you want to join in the Northern Territory.”

Upon hearing those words, Qin Pei’s eyes lit up, “Elder Yang, are you willing to help Luo Sha Sect?”

Yang Kai replied, “Yu Zhuo and I... Can be considered friends. Although she has passed, I cannot just stand by and do nothing when her Sect is in trouble.”

Qin Pei couldn’t help feeling beside herself with joy when she received an affirmative answer. Similarly, the dozen or so disciples of Luo Sha Sect looked at Yang Kai in amazement. In their experiences, Emperor Realm Masters had always stood far above people like them. One did not have the right to speak with Emperor Realm Masters on equal terms unless one was also in the Emperor Realm. That was why they had been standing so far away and did not dare to come forward while Hua Qing Si was watching over Yu Zhuo’s body; it was because she too was an Emperor Realm Master.

Although their Sect Master could be considered amiable when she was still alive, her status as an Emperor Realm Master was still intimidating and nobody dared to act presumptuously in front of her.

They were already so cautious around a First-Order Emperor Realm Master, so what more needed to be said about a Second-Order or Third-Order Emperor? Moreover, Yang Kai was an Elder of Azure Sun Temple. That title itself carried more weight than an ordinary Emperor Realm Master in the Southern Territory. For that reason, Qin Pei had been rather cautious while speaking to Yang Kai just now. Who could have known that the other party would be so approachable? He even claimed that he was friends with Yu Zhuo.

The simple word ‘friend’ was a very big deal; after all, how many Emperor Realm Masters would willingly acknowledge a mere Dao Source Realm cultivator as a friend? Even if there were any, they would be very rare cases. If Yu Zhuo had heard those words, who knows how ecstatic she would have been?

At the thought of Yu Zhuo though, Qin Pei’s expression filled with sorrow again as she resolutely stated, “I want to revive the Sect!”

Luo Sha Sect was the place where they grew up together. It was also home to this group of young girls. If they could preserve and revitalize their Sect, who would be willing to abandon their home and seek shelter somewhere else?

The group of women behind Qin Pei all nodded vigorously.

“Hmm...” Yang Kai pondered for a moment before asking, “Has Luo Sha Sect ever hired a High-Rank Guest Elder before?”

Qin Pei shook her head. There was only one Emperor Realm Master at Luo Sha Sect, so if they were to hire a High-Rank Guest Elder, they had to choose from those that were in the Emperor Realm; however, most Emperor Realm Masters were attached to their own Sects, so who would go to Luo Sha Sect just to be a High-Rank Guest Elder there? On the other hand, hiring a Dao Source Realm cultivator in such a position was completely redundant.

“Hire me then. I’ll be Luo Sha Sect’s High-Rank Guest Elder from now on,” Yang Kai forced a slight smile onto his face.

Qin Pei was stunned by those words and after realizing the implication and meaning behind them, she knew that Yang Kai was lending them his assistance in order to save their Sect. Even so, she never expected him to use such a method to help them. She thought that he would, at best, announce to the public that their Sect was under his protection so that people with malicious intentions would be deterred from harming them, she never imagined that he would be willing to abase himself and become a High-Rank Guest Elder at Luo Sha Sect.

[We are talking about a High-Rank Guest Elder! Even though it comes with the title of ‘Honoured Guest’, it is tantamount to becoming attached to Luo Sha Sect! If the Sect ever encounters trouble, he will have no choice but to help us!]

Seeing as Qin Pei was not answering, Yang Kai touched his nose awkwardly and said, “Does the Luo Sha Sect only allow women to join? If that’s the case, I can recommend somebody else for you. Her cultivation is no worse than mine.” Naturally, he was referring to Ji Yao. He was certain that Ji Yao would not mind lending them her name.

“No! That’s not it!” Qin Pei hurriedly waved her hands in denial. [Are you joking!? Even if Luo Sha Sect really had such a rule, rules were dead while people were alive!] Who was Yang Kai? He was the saviour of the Southern Territory, a Master who could assemble a force of more than two hundred Emperor Realm Masters, thirty-two Monster Kings, and even three Divine Spirits at will! Moreover, he was a powerful Emperor Realm Master himself! Just one of those titles would be enough for no one in the world to dare look down on him... With someone like him as a High-Rank Guest Elder of Luo Sha Sect, who will dare try to harm them?

Chapter 3274, So What if We Are Having an Affair

“Elder Yang, it is Luo Sha Sect’s greatest blessing if you are willing to come and serve as the Honoured Guest of our Sect. It’s just that our Sect is slightly on the poorer side so we don’t have much in terms of income either. About what we can offer as compensation... It may be unfair to you, Elder Yang.” Qin Pei’s voice got softer and softer the more she spoke, blushing furiously by the end of her sentence. She was truly worried that they could not afford to hire Yang Kai. It would have been one thing if he had been an ordinary Emperor Realm Master, but the key point was that he was not an ordinary Emperor Realm Master. If they really hired him... It would be embarrassing to pay him too little, but Luo Sha Sect simply could not afford to pay him more.

Yang Kai held up the cloth bag in his hand that was filled with seeds and commented lightly, “This is enough.”

Qin Pei looked at him with a mixture of emotion and gratitude. That bag of seeds was nothing special and had cost her less than a hundred Source Crystals in total. She knew that Yang Kai would never have agreed to such a poor deal if not for his consideration towards Yu Zhuo. [It seems he really considers Yu Zhuo as his friend.]

Qin Pei felt both sad and grateful at the same time, [If Yu Zhuo was still alive, she would have been incredibly ecstatic to learn of this.]

Then, Qin Pei suddenly asked, “About Azure Sun Temple...” [He is an Elder of Azure Sun Temple, so will they allow him to be a High-Rank Guest Elder at Luo Sha Sect?]

To which Yang Kai replied, “It’s alright, Temple Master Wen won’t object to this.”

“Many thanks, Elder Yang,” She bowed deeply.

He raised his hand and said, “Bring your Sect members and find a place to rest for now. I will travel with you to Luo Sha Sect once I finish handling matters here.”

“Yes,” Qin Pei responded respectfully before leading the group of women away.

Afterwards, Yang Kai turned to Hua Qing Si and instructed, “Inform me when the Great Emperor arrives.”

Yang Kai had asked an elderly man to head to Star Soul Palace to report the situation and ask for assistance, and based on his estimations, it should be almost time for them to arrive. Xiao Yu Yang had already set off to meet up with the Great Emperor, so it would only take two days at most.

Hua Qing Si nodded before watching Yang Kai leave.

Things at Orthodoxy Temple were more or less settled by now. With Ah Wang’s ability to distinguish between Humans and Demons, there was no need to worry about the existence of more hidden Demons. Hence, it was not proper for the Emperor Realm Masters of the Northern Territory and the Monster Kings of the Ancient Wild Lands to remain here for much longer. Yang Kai summoned them over and led them back to where he had set up the Space Array before sending them all back.

The people from the Northern Territory were much more cooperative this time around, especially after seeing what kind of force Yang Kai was capable of summoning at whim. They stayed when he asked them to stay and left when he asked them to leave without any complaints whatsoever. On the other

hand, the Monster Kings of the Ancient Wild Lands looked at him with reluctant gazes, as though he was a piece of meat pie that they didn't want to let go of. If not for the three Divine Spirits watching nearby, they would have rushed over to try and win him over a long time ago.

When he was sending them away, the Monster Kings' expressions became more and more resentful; meanwhile, the female Monster King, Du Mi'er, became more openly affectionate. She even brazenly teased him, "Sir, come over to the Ancient Wild Lands whenever you are free to visit me. I will miss you greatly."

Luan Feng's expression immediately darkened while Fan Wu and Cang Gou also had worried looks on their faces as they constantly sighed in their hearts.

It was a lot of work, but Yang Kai finally managed to send everybody off before he turned around and sighed, "Junior Sister Yao, why are you sneaking around? Do you take me for a blind man?"

Ji Yao appeared from behind a tree not far away and walked over to him. Not many people from Ice Heart Valley had joined this expedition, but when he sent those from Ice Heart Valley back, Yang Kai had not seen Ji Yao around. A slight check with his Divine Sense immediately told him that she was hiding close by, but he didn't expose her until now.

When their gazes met, he asked helplessly, "Aren't you going back?"

Ji Yao said, "I want to accompany you."

While speaking, she took the initiative to take his hand and lead him in a certain direction with light movement. Her jade-white hand was so soft that it almost felt boneless to the touch, and it was extremely smooth and pleasant to feel. An enticing scent lingered at the tip of Yang Kai nose, making him relax involuntarily and feel refreshed. He did not know what Ji Yao wanted to do, but he did not resist and allowed her to pull him along.

They soon arrived on a certain mountain peak. Currently, Orthodoxy Temple was all but empty. The surviving cultivators who came to participate in Martial Gathering were mostly concentrated in the mountain valley while almost all of Orthodoxy Temple's disciples were dead, so the buildings on top of this mountain were all deserted.

Yang Kai did not know whether it was a coincidence that Ji Yao chose this mountain or not, but it happened to be the place where the people from Azure Sun Temple had been staying previously.

Heading straight into one of the rooms, Ji Yao closed the door before she finally released Yang Kai's hand. Then, she took a deep breath, closed her eyes, and just stood there. At the same time, her heart rate suddenly began to speed up.

Yang Kai turned to look at her, and seeing her posing as though she was at his mercy, he failed to stifle his laughter and asked, "What are you doing?"

Ji Yao opened her eyes and looked at him, answering his question with another question, "What do you want to do?"

Her expression seemed to say 'you can do whatever you want with me.'

Yang Kai felt a little speechless all of a sudden. [You are the one who dragged me here, so why are you asking me what I want to do?]

Nevertheless, an idea suddenly came to mind and he guessed what she was thinking, the very thought warming his heart a little as he chuckled amusedly, "I'm not that weak."

Ji Yao stared at him with wide eyes. He couldn't tell whether she believed him or not, but he soon pulled her into his arms while her guard was lowered, and she instantly stiffened, exclaiming in shock, "Didn't you say..."

To which Yang Kai grinned, "I'm not that weak, but since you've already offered a meal, it would be rude to not eat."

He exerted some strength, and the two of them fell back onto the bed.

Ji Yao suddenly felt desperate to cry but was unable to shed any tears. Her entire body trembled, and she could feel a large hand fondling her body. Those fingertips felt like they were imbued with lightning and everywhere they touched became stimulated. It made her nerves that were already strained even tenser than before.

Hot and heavy breaths travelled upward from her lower abdomen, brushing against her chest and her neck. At last, his breath blew against her face. Ji Yao quickly closed her eyes, and her long lashes trembled uncontrollably. In the next moment, she felt her lips being violated unscrupulously as a suppressed voice escaped from her throat.

Yang Kai's actions this time were extremely rough, clearly having no intention of being gentle. His hands kneaded her body so hard that she felt a slight tinge of pain and the force on her lips made her feel like she was going to suffocate. It felt as though she could die at any moment.

A long while later, their lips parted and Ji Yao gasped for breath. Although she had not opened her eyes, she could feel a sharp gaze drilling into her. It made her blush furiously as a result, and she did not dare to open her eyes to look at him. Just as she thought that it was impossible to escape from him, he unexpectedly lay down sideways, rested his head on her lower abdomen, and stopped moving for a while.

Ji Yao opened her eyes suspiciously, then sat up slowly and moved his head to her lap. Lowering her head to study his face, she met his gaze and he smiled at her, and she asked, "Are you feeling better?"

While speaking, she reached out and slowly tidied his slightly dishevelled hair that had gotten tangled. Her actions were as gentle as if she were caressing her lover.

Yang Kai stretched out his hand and grabbed her soft hands. Placing her cool hands into his palm, he gently patted her and said, "When we go back, I'll go and talk to Senior Bing Yun."

Ji Yao's tender body trembled and she nervously asked, "Talk to her? What... for?"

Yang Kai lifted his gaze to look at her and answered matter-of-factly, "Of course, it's about us. I believe Senior Bing Yun won't be opposed."

He was not willing to have so many lovers all over the place; however, his mentality had changed a little after the incident with Yu Zhuo. He no longer wanted to be indecisive and instead gained some extra determination.

The blush on Ji Yao's face immediately faded and she became rather pale instead as she muttered, "Don't."

Yang Kai was surprised and asked back, "Don't?"

She shook her head, "Don't tell Honoured Master."

Yang Kai was completely stunned for a moment, then he smiled again, "Do you think Senior Bing Yun is blind? I'm afraid she has seen through your feelings a long time ago. It's just that if you really continue like this, then you will be the one who suffers. As you know, I still have Su Yan and the others..."

"I know. But, don't tell the Honoured Master."

Yang Kai was very curious now and couldn't help asking, "Why?"

"There's no why. In any case, you are not allowed to say anything."

Yang Kai didn't know whether to laugh or cry, "Things have already reached this point, so why do we need to hide it? We might as well come clean and be upfront? Won't that be better?"

Ji Yao, however, kept silent and shook her head repeatedly.

Yang Kai's heart sank, and he felt a little hurt as he asked, "Is it that you don't want to be with me..."

"No, that's not it."

He continued, "Are you aware that what we are doing right now is considered having an..."

Out of consideration for her pride, he could not bring himself to finish his sentence.

But to his shock, she lowered her head at those words and muttered, "So what if we're having an affair? Things are fine as they are right now..."

He stared at her in amazement, wishing fervently that he could open her head to see what was going on inside.

Seeing the way he was looking at her, Ji Yao suddenly responded coldly, "If you let anybody know about us, I will shut myself in retreat until I die and never meet with you ever again."

Shocked, Yang Kai quickly tried to soothe her, "Alright, alright. I won't say anything."

Only then did her expression go back to normal. She sat there quietly, lowering her head to stare at his face, her eyes filled with tenderness in the silent room. Yang Kai lay on her supple thighs, his entire body was wrapped in a faint fragrance, feeling all the tiredness he accumulated over the past few days melting away. Both his body and mind were completely relaxed.

Yang Kai did not know how long had passed, but opening his eyes abruptly, he took out a communication artifact from his Space Ring and poured some Divine Sense into it. A moment later, he stood up, "The people from Star Soul Palace are here."

“Your hair!” Ji Yao shouted.

His hair was currently a dishevelled mess, and if he went out looking like that, everybody would know what he had been up to. Thus, he hurriedly sat down on the edge of the bed. Kneeling behind him, Ji Yao tidied up his hair before pulling him to his feet and straightening out the wrinkles in his clothes with a serious expression, causing Yang Kai to smile and reach out to pull her into a hug.

In response, Ji Yao warily put her hand against his chest and frowned, “Business first.”

Before she could finish speaking though, he leaned down and kissed her, but only briefly. A short while later, the two of them walked out of the palace together and flew towards the mountain valley.

Somewhere in the mountain valley, Wen Zi Shan, Ma Qing, and the other leaders of the Southern Territory had gathered together. Xiao Yu Yang, who had previously gone to meet the Great Emperor, was back too. In addition, there was a burly elderly man who certainly could not be called young despite having a head of black hair and a dense aura surrounding him. There was also a white-haired elderly man with sharp and gleaming eyes. These two were none other than Great Elder Lei Hong and Second Elder Xue Zheng Mao of Star Soul Palace, both of whom were Third-Order Emperors. If they included Xiao Yu Yang, then there were three Third-Order Emperor Realm Masters in Star Soul Palace. It could be seen just how amazing the heritage of a Great Emperor Sect was from this alone.

Chapter 3275, Making a Guess

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This group of people had clearly learned about what happened in Orthodoxy Temple on their way here and at this moment, they were scowling with solemn expressions. When they heard the sound of something slicing through the air, they turned to look in the direction and Wen Zi Shan muttered, “Yang Kai is here.”

It was not Lei Hong and Xue Zheng Mao’s first time meeting Yang Kai as they had met each other before when the latter went to Star Soul Palace to enter the Five Coloured Treasure Pagoda, but at this moment, they were feeling rather astonished. If Xiao Yu Yang had not told them everything in advance, they would not have believed that Yang Kai had single-handedly resolved the entire Orthodoxy Temple incident.

He was able to gather so many reinforcements in a single day; moreover, he was capable of arranging a Cross-Territory Space Array. A talent like him was simply blinding. Thinking back on it, Lei Hong and Xue Zheng Mao paid no attention to him when he entered the Five Coloured Treasure Pagoda at Star Soul Palace; however, they now had to regard him as an equal.

“Temple Master, Holy Master Ma, Golden Envoy Xiao...” Yang Kai landed and greeted them, one by one. Then, he bowed to Lei Hong and Xue Zheng Mao in greeting.

Lei Hong and Xue Zheng Mao exchanged a glance with each other before they both bowed so low that their backs were almost parallel to the ground, "Elder Yang, you turned the tide and rescued many of our fellow Southern Territory cultivators from a great catastrophe. We of Star Soul Palace are extremely grateful to you."

Protecting the Southern Territory was Star Soul Palace's responsibility, but they never imagined that they would be completely oblivious to a conspiracy of this scale going on inside Orthodoxy Temple. Their ignorance resulted in heavy casualties across the Southern Territory and it was a huge blow to the prestige and reputation of Star Soul Palace. If the conspiracy at Orthodoxy Temple had succeeded, however, it wouldn't just end with Star Soul Palace losing face, it could have shaken the very foundation of the Southern Territory. For that reason, their gratitude at this moment was extremely sincere.

Yang Kai raised his hand to stop them, "Please, you are being too polite. I was only doing what I should have done."

Sighing, he continued, "It's a pity that everything happened so suddenly and I couldn't react swiftly enough, or the Southern Territory would not have suffered such great losses. I am truly ashamed."

Xue Zheng Mao shook his head in response, "If it wasn't for Elder Yang, the Southern Territory would have been in far greater trouble. It's all thanks to you that so many people survived this ordeal."

Yang Kai smiled modestly, "It's thanks to some friends I know; I don't dare take credit for it."

Xue Zheng Mao and Lei Hong fell silent. They used to look down on Yang Kai in the past. They had not liked him or taken him seriously the last time he visited Star Soul Palace because another Elder of Star Soul Palace, Tan Jun Hao, had died at his hands. Regardless of whether Tan Jun Hao was guilty of committing a crime or not, he was still an Elder of Star Soul Palace and had close ties with both of them. Therefore, Yang Kai's act of killing Tan Jun Hao was equivalent to insulting Star Soul Palace. Although the Great Emperor had been tolerant and did not hold this act against Yang Kai, Xue Zheng Mao and Lei Hong had been unable to let it go. They had always secretly despised Yang Kai for what he had done. It wasn't until today that their impression of him changed for the better. He was neither arrogant nor ill-natured despite his astonishing means and strength. It was no wonder he could advance so much faster and farther than his peers.

"Is everyone from Star Soul Palace here?" Yang Kai glanced at a group of people standing not far away. Emperor Realm Masters were abundant among them, at least a hundred in total. With so many Emperor Realm Masters present, it was clear that they did not solely belong to Star Soul Palace and were probably gathered from a number of other Sects as well.

Xue Zheng Mao looked ashamed as he replied, "When we heard the news, we travelled day and night to reach this place as fast as possible while along the way summoning up all those from other Sects we could. Unfortunately, we were still one step too late." The main reason was that Star Soul Palace was too far away from this place; moreover, the person who went to report the news had also taken several days to arrive at Star Soul Palace which was why they only arrived now.

Upon arrival though, they learned that the matter had been resolved and they had rushed here for nothing. Nevertheless, they couldn't just return home empty-handed like that. It was true that

Orthodoxy Temple's conspiracy had been foiled, but the incident this time had to be investigated thoroughly.

"Where is the Great Emperor?" Yang Kai asked suspiciously. He saw neither hide nor hair of the Great Emperor anywhere. Logically speaking, such a major event would warrant the Great Emperor making an appearance personally. Yang Kai sent somebody to report to Star Soul Palace in hopes that the Great Emperor himself would show up. As long as Bright Moon Great Emperor came, Lei Gu's plans would not have stood a chance whatsoever.

As soon as those words left Yang Kai's mouth though, Wen Zi Shan and Ma Qing also showed doubtful expressions, with the latter asking, "That's right. Why don't we see the Great Emperor?"

Xue Zheng Mao replied, "When the Great Emperor heard that everything had been resolved, he immediately returned to Star Soul Palace."

Everybody felt a little speechless at those words. [If you're already here, then why didn't you come and check on the situation? It's not like this is a trivial matter. Don't you think you should see it for yourself? But, the Great Emperor actually turned back halfway... How odd of him.]

Even if they thought so, since this was related to the Great Emperor, nobody dared to say anything.

Yang Kai casually asked, "Did Princess Lan Xun not come along?"

Lei Hong answered, "Her Highness is currently in retreat, but thank you for your concern, Elder Yang."

Yang Kai made a non-committal sound in response.

Xue Zheng Mao added, "Although the Great Emperor did not come, the Great Elder and I will be enough to handle things here now. There are some things we would like to ask you, Brother Yang."

He quietly changed the way he addressed Yang Kai to 'Brother Yang', which showed how much warmer he was towards him now.

Yang Kai cupped his fists, "Elder Xue, please ask anything you want. I will explain to the best of my ability."

Xue Zheng Mao nodded and said, "We've heard the general story from Elder Xiao, but we are clueless about what happened on your end. If you don't mind telling us, Brother Yang..."

Yang Kai smiled slightly, "Good, it's like this. During the banquet on the last day of the Martial Gathering, I suddenly received a thought message from Luo Chen of Azure Sun Temple asking me to go somewhere with him..."

He then briefly recounted the story of how he was led outside by Luo Chen without hiding anything, including the fact that he had been ambushed and nearly assassinated.

"In fact, there's something I want to ask you." Yang Kai frowned deeply, still unable to shake the lingering sense of fear that remained whenever he recalled the events of that night.

Xue Zheng Mao seemed pensive, "What is it?"

Yang Kai said, "The person who tried to assassinate me that night was far too skilled. I didn't even notice him when he was standing right behind me. Furthermore, he became even more elusive after I counterattacked. His body dissipated into a cloud of smoke, and he was completely unaffected by brute force. Somebody like that can't be completely unheard of. I wonder if any of you have any impression of somebody like that in the Southern Territory.

If anything had slipped through the cracks during this incident, it was the assassin that had attacked him. Yang Kai had been severely injured by this person, yet he never even caught a glimpse of that person's face. He couldn't even tell if that person was a man or woman. He had truly suffered a great loss this time; however, he was certain that that person was a Third-Order Emperor. Moreover, that person was well versed in the art of assassination. He even suspected that that person was one of those existences who was almost a Great Emperor that Yang Yan mentioned to him.

According to Yang Yan, there were a few old monsters in this world that had reached the limits of their cultivation and could not improve any further. They were stuck at a bottleneck, unable to become Great Emperors due to the limits of the world. Most of these people lived in seclusion or quietly immersed themselves in their cultivation, rarely showing themselves. It would make sense if the person who attacked Yang Kai had been a Master like that. It was just that Yang Kai did not sense any Demon Qi coming from that person. In other words, that person was not acting under the influence of demonification, so why were they colluding with Orthodoxy Temple?

Everybody frowned when they heard those words with Ma Qing being the first to speak up, "Such methods are truly unheard of."

He turned to look at Wen Zi Shan, "Do you have any ideas?"

Similarly, Wen Zi Shan shook his head slowly.

Xue Zheng Mao on the other hand suggested, "Perhaps... it was not done by someone from the Southern Territory."

Lei Hong looked shocked and muttered, "You don't mean..."

Yang Kai looked at them and frowned, "Do you two have some sort of idea?"

Xue Zheng Mao pondered in silence for a long while before he explained, "Such a mysterious and powerful assassination technique cannot be cultivated overnight. As far as I know, there is only one place in this world that can produce someone like that."

Upon hearing those words, Ma Qing and Wen Zi Shan seemed to think of something too and were dumbfounded as a result, "That's impossible... isn't it?"

Likewise, Yang Kai realized what they were suggesting, "Elder Xue, you are talking about the West..."

Xue Zheng Mao immediately raised his hand to stop Yang Kai, "We shouldn't jump to conclusions without any evidence."

Yang Kai understood what Xue Zheng Mao was worried about, so he dropped the topic. Nevertheless, it seemed quite possible now that he had been reminded of that place. The assassination techniques used

by that person were extraordinary, and most ordinary people were incapable of even possessing such ability.

A cultivator in the Third-Order Emperor Realm who was proficient in assassination; all these signs were pointing to that specific force. But... why would they involve themselves in the affairs of the Southern Territory? Not to mention, they were colluding with the Demons too.

Lei Hong furrowed his brow, "It shouldn't be them. That place is located in an entirely different Territory. Why would they do this?"

"Let's leave this matter aside for now. Pay more attention to what you say in the future and don't let your guard down either. Brother Yang, you were lucky to escape alive. If that person had targeted anyone else with such intent..." Xue Zheng Mao shuddered and did not finish his own sentence.

An enemy hidden in the dark was the most terrifying kind. The person who ambushed Yang Kai had been extremely proficient in the art of assassination, and if the target had been anyone other than Yang Kai, then they would have a hard time falling asleep at night. Be that as it may, the other Third-Order Emperor Realm Masters believed that they could handle it since even Yang Kai managed to escape from that person alive. The only problem was... just because they would be okay did not mean their fellow Sect members would be as lucky. After all, how many Third-Order Emperor Realm Masters were there?

There were simply too few clues. Yang Kai had only fought with that person for a brief moment and couldn't be sure if they were man or woman, so what clues could they go on?

Next, Yang Kai talked about what happened after the assassination attempt. The others were incredibly amazed upon confirming that he was capable of arranging Cross-Territory Space Arrays. Although they had investigated the Space Array before coming here, a conjecture was not the same as verifying the truth. It was thanks to that Space Array that Yang Kai managed to gather so many reinforcements within a day and save those trapped in Orthodoxy Temple.

The situation Yang Kai described was not that different from what Xiao Yu Yang and the others already knew. The only difference was that they had been unaware of what he personally experienced. When they learned that he had gone to the Southern Swamp with Lei Gu and even managed to set up a trap to kill Lei Gu, they sighed in amazement again.

There were not many Third-Order Emperor Realm Masters in any one place, so most had built up some degree of friendship with each other. Hearing that Lei Gu had been possessed by a Demon Spirit, lost his conscious mind and autonomy, and eventually suffered a tragic end naturally made them feel a bit sad inside.

The next step was to deal with the survivors of the major Sects in the Southern Territory. With time, what happened in this place gradually spread to the entire Southern Territory. The Masters guarding their respective Sects rushed to Orthodoxy Temple upon receiving the news to get a better grasp of the situation and confirm the number of casualties they suffered. For that reason, people were entering and exiting Orthodoxy Temple every day. In less than 10 days, Orthodoxy Temple became peaceful again as those that could leave had left.

The Southern Territory would probably be stuck in a period of recovery for a long time after this incident.

## Chapter 3276, Luo Sha Sect

If anybody were to ask who had benefited the most from the incident at Orthodoxy Temple, it had to be Yang Kai. Practically all the Sects, large or small, across the entire Southern Territory now owed him a favour. It had also elevated his name and reputation to an unbelievable level.

Sect Masters and Patriarchs specially came forward to thank Yang Kai profusely. Ultimately, they would say something along the lines of, 'Don't hesitate to speak up if you need anything in the future. We will do our best to assist you.' Regardless of if those words were sincere or not, all his future actions in the Southern Territory would never be hindered again with these promises.

After a busy period lasting for half a month, Orthodoxy Temple finally became peaceful again. Those that were supposed to leave, left and the enormous Sect suddenly became empty. It was hard to imagine that this place used to be bustling as one of the top three Sects in the Southern Territory.

At this moment, Yang Kai was already on his way to Luo Sha Sect with Qin Pei and the other young female disciples. It was only natural that he did not delay matters since he had promised to become their High-Rank Guest Elder, and now that he was in the Southern Territory, he might as well settle this matter first. He was originally a High-Rank Guest Elder of Azure Sun Temple, and now, he was going to serve as the High-Rank Guest Elder of another Sect as well. In theory, what he was doing was rather inappropriate.

There had never been any known precedent of any other Emperor Realm Master doing this before.

However, Wen Zi Shan was not particularly bothered by this. He probably heard something from somewhere. On the contrary, he even told Yang Kai not to hesitate if there was anything he could help with, which Yang Kai was naturally very grateful to hear.

Compared to a top Sect like Azure Sun Temple, Luo Sha Sect could only be regarded as second-class or even third-class in the Southern Territory. Even so, it was stronger than the previous Blue Feather Sect or Thousand Leaves Sect because it had an Emperor Realm Master overseeing it. However, everything was different now that the Sect Master of Luo Sha Sect had fallen and many of its elite disciples in the Dao Source Realm had been killed, leaving its overall strength greatly reduced. It could almost be said that if Yang Kai had not intervened, the Sect would not last for more than half a year before being swallowed up by another great force nearby.

The cultivation among this group of women was uneven so some would obviously be able to fly faster than others. Since Yang Kai did not want to waste too much time, he decided to take out his Flowing Clouds Shuttle and brought everyone aboard to head towards Luo Sha Sect. The Flowing Clouds Shuttle was a flight type Emperor Artifact that Hou Yu had tailored for his use; therefore, there was no need to explain just how fast it was.

After flying for seven days, a Spirit Mountain appeared in the distance and Qin Pei pointed to the front to announce, "We're here."

Yang Kai looked around and discovered that the place occupied by Luo Sha Sect was not bad. Needless to say, it could not compare with Orthodoxy Temple or High Heaven Palace; however, it was more than enough for a small force like Luo Sha Sect.

After everyone disembarked, Yang Kai put away the Flowing Clouds Shuttle. When the women saw the familiar sight, and smelt the scent of home, they felt relaxed, but soon recalled their fellow Sect Sisters that had died and their own near-death experiences. Each and every one of them couldn't help feeling as though they had passed through a great trial and a sense of sorrow washed over them, nearly causing them to burst into tears again.

Yang Kai felt troubled when he saw this as he was quite helpless to do anything about a woman's tears; as such, he hurriedly changed the topic, "It looks like news of your Sect Master's death has spread."

Qin Pei was taken aback by his words for a moment, but she immediately understood what he meant after taking a look at the surrounding area. At this very moment, Luo Sha Sect's Sect Defending Array was activated. In addition, many stealthy figures were hiding among the trees outside the Spirit Array. Qin Pei could sense the auras of many Dao Source Realm Masters among those figures.

Feeling a bit startled, Qin Pei realized that what Yang Kai said was true. News of the Sect Master's death had truly spread and the surrounding great forces that used to be allies of Luo Sha Sect couldn't wait to get their hands on their property. Otherwise, why were the mountains and forests crawling with so many spies?

Qin Pei felt a great disgust in her heart seeing this; after all, many disciples of Luo Sha Sect had married into these great forces that used to be their allies. When the Sect Master had been alive, they often interacted with each other and helped one another; however, those ugly faces were revealed so quickly the moment the Sect Master died. It was extremely hurtful and made her heart turn cold, leaving a bad taste in her mouth.

While her thoughts were drifting though, Qin Pei suddenly felt a terrifying aura burst out of Yang Kai. That invisible and intangible aura radiated through the surroundings, covering a vast region in an instant. The aura was majestic, but also filled with a cold murderous intent that sent chills down one's back. The dozen or so young women shivered in unison when they were covered with this aura and couldn't help staring at Yang Kai in fear.

After interacting with each other for so many days, these women had thought that Yang Kai was very different from the Emperor Realm Masters they had heard about in rumours. He was approachable and easy to talk to. A few female disciples also asked him some questions regarding cultivation and he had answered them with great patience; thus, the disciples of Luo Sha Sect had benefited greatly from just talking to him. Worried that he might not have time to rest, Qin Pei had issued a strict order so that the disciples did not disturb him. If not for that, Yang Kai would not have had any time to rest whatsoever during their return trip.

But, at this moment, that amiable young man had turned into an existence similar to a bloodthirsty and vicious devil. Just the aura leaking out of him made it hard for them to breathe while at the same time, their hands and feet grew cold with fear. Only then did they realize that an Emperor Realm Master would always be an Emperor Realm Master, no matter how friendly they were with each other. They were people they could only look up to.

\*Puchichi...\*

The birds in the forest took flight in alarm, but despite fluttering their wings, they couldn't move. It was as though an invisible force had stolen their ability to fly from them and they all crashed to the ground.

At the same time, the figures hidden in the forest retreated, one after the other, as though they were facing a great enemy. They didn't even bother to remain hidden anymore and immediately activated their Movement Skills to flee from this place.

News of the Sect Master of Luo Sha Sect's death in Orthodoxy Temple had spread throughout the area; after all, much time had passed since it first happened. It was impossible to conceal that fact with so many witnesses. Many had also heard that an Emperor Realm Master had agreed to serve as a High-Rank Guest Elder of Luo Sha Sect. What's more, that Emperor Realm Master seemed to be the Second-Order Emperor Yang Kai, who became famous during the Orthodoxy Temple incident.

It was just that nobody knew the authenticity of the news. That information came from within Luo Sha Sect itself, so it was not trustworthy. It might have been a rumour Luo Sha Sect spread in order to protect itself; therefore, it was only natural that they came to verify the information. If the news turned out to be true, then it wasn't too late to make adjustments to their plans. If the news turned out to be fake, then Luo Sha Sect was a juicy piece of meat that everybody wanted a bite of. Luo Sha Sect did not have a long history, but it still had nearly a thousand years of accumulation. The Sect would certainly have built up a small fortune by now. Not to mention, the thousand or so female disciples themselves were a huge source of wealth.

Unfortunately, upon feeling Yang Kai's Emperor Realm aura, all their delusions and dreams were destroyed in an instant. These spies realized that the news was true and that the man known as Yang Kai, who had shined brightly in the Orthodoxy Temple incident, had come to Luo Sha Sect. Whether he was here to be the High-Rank Guest Elder or not, nobody would dare to lay a hand on Luo Sha Sect with him around.

These spies couldn't help feeling a little jealous. Luo Sha Sect was an all-female Sect, and Yang Kai was a man who managed to get his foot in the door. That was the most tantalizing fantasy a man could ever have.

Looking down at the figures below them that were fleeing like stray dogs, Qin Pei's expression became extremely complicated. She even saw several familiar figures among them. She knew the names of those people and which great forces they came from. When the Sect Master was still alive, she had interacted with those people and built up some friendships with them. Even so, it was precisely these 'friends' that couldn't wait to lay their hands on Luo Sha Sect after learning of its misfortune. Clenching her fists tightly, Qin Pei had a sudden realization: Only the strong are qualified to survive in this world!

"Let's go," Yang Kai's voice brought her back to the present. The terrifying aura around him had vanished at some point in time and he was back to his former friendly and warm self.

Some of the female disciples with lower cultivation straightened their backs and gently patted themselves on the chest in relief. Glancing at each other, they stuck out their tongues but looked at Yang Kai's back with a little more awe than before.

“Sir, please wait for a moment. I will ask Great Elder to open the Spirit Array immediately,” Qin Pei said as she took out a communication artifact and contacted somebody.

Several moments later, the Sect Defending Array gradually deactivated and Qin Pei quickly led the group inside, heading towards an open square on top of a certain mountain.

A charming woman who looked to be in her thirties stood on the platform. She had a curvy figure and a dignified temperament. She was the prime example of a noble lady. The pale blue dress she was wearing was extremely simple, but that only emphasized the lines of her body even more. The aura around her indicated that she was a Third-Order Dao Source Realm Master.

She was the Great Elder of Luo Sha Sect, Tao Ying Ruo, and behind her stood hundreds of girls wearing pink uniform dresses. They were split into two sides, and every one of them was beautiful; however, they were all silent. At this moment, they were looking up at the sky with wide and beautiful eyes full of expectation and curiosity.

Yang Kai landed with Qin Pei a moment later and, sweeping a glance around, he smiled slightly. [Luo Sha Sect sure values me highly. There are only a thousand disciples in the Sect, but they mobilized more than 70% of them just to welcome me. It looks like everybody is here, except for those in retreat and those with duties to fulfil.]

While he was busy settling all sorts of matters back at Orthodoxy Temple, a disciple in the Dao Source Realm had hurriedly returned to Luo Sha Sect to report that Yang Kai had offered to serve as a High-Rank Guest Elder, allowing Luo Sha Sect to make preparations in advance.

Qin Pei stepped forward and spoke to Tao Ying Ruo quietly, after which Tao Ying Ruo strode forward and gave an elegant bow, “Luo Sha Sect’s Tao Ying Ruo greets Senior. Many thanks for coming today.”

Yang Kai raised his hand and smiled, “Great Elder, please don’t stand on ceremony, we will all be one family in the future.”

Upon hearing those words, Tao Ying Ruo finally breathed a sigh of relief. Even though she had long heard that he was coming to serve as their High-Rank Guest Elder, she still couldn’t quite believe it. He was a Second-Order Emperor Realm Master, a man whose influence spread across the entire Southern Territory. Even if it was because of Yu Zhuo, there was no need for him to come to Luo Sha Sect to take on this burden. For that reason, Tao Ying Ruo had been extremely uncertain before meeting Yang Kai in person and couldn’t help wondering if he had any other intentions towards them. Many had their eye on Luo Sha Sect after all, and they would have no way to resist if he had malicious intentions.

Now though, Tao Ying Ruo felt much more assured when she saw that he was polite, courteous, approachable, and genial.

Chapter 3277, Warm Hospitality

“I’m sure you know the reason for me coming here,” Yang Kai went straight to the point.

Tao Ying Ruo nodded, "Sect Master unexpectedly passed away, leaving Luo Sha Sect without a leader. Sir, thank you for coming to serve as a High-Rank Guest Elder of our Sect and protect its foundation at this time. It is a great blessing for Luo Sha Sect and our greatest honour. This Mistress and all Luo Sha Sect disciples are eternally grateful and will forever obey Sir's commands."

While speaking, she gave another low bow again.

Yang Kai, however, waved his hand casually, "That's not necessary. From now on, you can continue administering Luo Sha Sect as you have been, I am simply lending you my name."

Lifting her gaze to look at him, Tao Ying Ruo looked like she was about to speak again when he cut her off, "I know the current crisis Luo Sha Sect is facing, but I am not familiar with Luo Sha Sect's inner workings. It would be inappropriate for me to suddenly start dictating how the Sect operates. That's all there is to it. Great Elder, there is nothing more to say."

Upon hearing those words, Tao Ying Ruo finally understood that Yang Kai really had no interest in interfering with Luo Sha Sect whatsoever. It was only because of his guilt towards Yu Zhuo that he came all the way out here to protect them.

Tao Ying Ruo felt extremely grateful and any residual worries she had disappeared. She was not afraid that Yang Kai was planning some elaborate plot to gain their trust before taking advantage of them; after all, his cultivation was no secret. If he really wanted something from them, no one in Luo Sha Sect could resist. Combined with his current reputation, nobody in the Southern Territory would stand up for them even if he did do something excessive to them.

[There really is such a man in this world...]

For a moment, a strange look crept onto Tao Ying Ruo's face as she studied him. She had intentionally phrased her words in a suggestive manner just now to subtly probe Yang Kai's intentions, but the results were quite surprising to her.

At that moment, Qin Pei suddenly spoke up in reminder, "Great Elder, we should invite Sir inside to rest. He has had an arduous journey here."

A trace of embarrassment appeared on Tao Ying Ruo's face as she embarrassedly spoke, "This Mistress has been negligent. Please come inside, Sir."

While speaking, she stepped to the side to give way.

Yang Kai nodded and strode forward with his gaze fixed straight ahead. Hundreds of female disciples on either side of the road turned their gazes on him, their beautiful eyes filled with curiosity and scrutiny. Meanwhile, Tao Ying Ruo secretly observed him and saw that he walked with a powerful gait and gave off a naturally imposing aura. But the most remarkable thing was that he didn't even glance at any of the female disciples here, not even in the slightest. This wasn't due to arrogance or feigned indifference, he simply wasn't moved in the slightest even when faced with so many readily available beauties. At that moment, Tao Ying Ruo finally managed to put her heart back into her chest and stop worrying.

After inviting Yang Kai into the palace to talk, Tao Ying Ruo had tea served. The few remaining disciples in the Dao Source Realms also accompanied them so that they could get to know each other better. Luo Sha Sect used to have one Emperor Realm Master and thirteen Dao Source Realm cultivators, but after

the incident at Orthodoxy Temple, they lost their Sect Master, who was their only Emperor, and more than half of their Dao Source Realm cultivators.

At present, there were only five Dao Source Realm Masters left. Tao Ying Ruo, who was in the Third-Order, had the strongest cultivation among the five, followed by Qin Pei and another in the Second-Order Dao Source Realm. The remaining two were only in the First-Order Dao Source Realm. With its current strength, Luo Sha Sect couldn't even compare to the past Blue Feather Sect, so it was only natural that the surrounding great forces couldn't wait to conquer or assimilate them.

Yang Kai truly knew nothing about Luo Sha Sect other than what Qin Pei had told him during their trip here. Luo Sha Sect did not have a long history as its founder was none other than the late Sect Master, Yu Luo Sha. Its entire history was less than a thousand years, which for a Sect, was quite short.

Most of the disciples were orphans who had basically been brought back by disciples who were travelling outside. Generally, the atmosphere in the Sect was rather harmonious as the relationship between Senior Sisters and Junior Sisters was kind and friendly. Even if they had minor disputes with each other, it was nothing serious. In addition, Luo Sha Sect held jurisdiction over a nearby city, and most of the Sect's income came from there along with a local mineral lode.

Since Yang Kai was going to become a High-Rank Guest Elder of Luo Sha Sect, Tao Ying Ruo naturally wanted him to know more about it; therefore, she prepared a full inventory of the Sect's holdings and began explaining many things to him, one by one. Under normal circumstances, the position of a High-Rank Guest Elder was inferior to that of an actual Elder; however, Yang Kai's cultivation was so much higher than hers and Luo Sha Sect would be taking shelter under his protection in the coming future, so they subconsciously considered themselves lower in status than him. If he was not a man, they might have even asked him to assume the position of Sect Master.

There were so many reports, however, that Yang Kai soon became sleepy just from listening to them, and when Tao Ying Ruo saw this, she couldn't help sighing in her heart as she truly realized how overly suspicious and pessimistic she had been before. Just looking at Yang Kai, it was clear he thought it was nothing but a bother to control Luo Sha Sect. It made it seem her previous worries about him having malicious intentions were utterly ridiculous.

Nevertheless, it was precisely for this reason that Tao Ying Ruo was feeling more and more at ease with Yang Kai. With a man like him, who wanted nothing from them, protecting Luo Sha Sect, there was no need to fear that they would not be able to revitalize the Sect given enough time. Tao Ying Ruo paused her reports and tentatively asked if he wanted to be an official Elder at Luo Sha Sect, but he quickly declined the offer; thus, she immediately gave up on the idea.

"We have made preparations for the Grand Canonization Ceremony in advance. This Mistress was planning to hold the ceremony in half a month. Can you wait that long, Elder Yang?" Tao Ying Ruo asked.

Yang Kai pondered for a moment after hearing those words then nodded, "Good."

He could guess her intentions. It was nothing more than wanting to make a grand statement with this Grand Canonization Ceremony; after all, Tao Ying Ruo had ordered people to spread the news that he was coming to serve as a High-Rank Guest Elder of Luo Sha Sect already. Unfortunately, those were nothing but words and nobody believed what she said entirely. On the other hand, a Grand

Canonization Ceremony was different. It was an extremely formal event and as soon as it took place, it would show definitively that Yang Kai was part of Luo Sha Sect.

Yang Kai had the feeling that Tao Ying Ruo was going to send out many invitations and invite many people over to witness the ceremony. This wasn't a big deal for him though, so he left it up to her. Her actions carried no malicious intentions nor greed after all, she was simply doing it for the sake of protecting Luo Sha Sect.

Seeing that Yang Kai had no objections to her plans, Tao Ying Ruo smiled and stood up, "In that case, please rest here for a few days, Elder Yang."

After saying that, she signalled Qin Pei with a look.

Qin Pei immediately stood up and said, "Elder Yang, please follow me."

Yang Kai nodded, stood up, and said his goodbyes to the others before following Qin Pei out of the palace.

Luo Sha Sect might not occupy a large area, but it was not small either. It was naturally not as grand as High Heaven Palace which had over a hundred Spirit Mountains, but even so, it had about twenty or thirty Spirit Peaks. Yang Kai followed Qin Pei, flying all the way to the highest Spirit Peak with the densest World Energy. They landed lightly in front of several beautiful buildings atop the Spirit Peak where more than ten female disciples immediately stepped forward to greet him.

Qin Pei waved at them to indicate for them to forgo the formalities. Then, she pointed to Yang Kai and said, "This is our Luo Sha Sect's High-Rank Guest Elder, Elder Yang. Serve him diligently in the future."

"Yes!" The dozen or so female disciples replied respectfully with one of the more courageous young women among them sneakily raising her gaze to peek at Yang Kai before quickly lowering her eyes.

Only then did Qin Pei turn around to look at Yang Kai, "This used to be the place where Sect Master lived. When Senior Sister Tao heard that Elder Yang was coming, she ordered it cleaned up. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you find anything undesirable and I will do my best to fix it."

Yang Kai was slightly surprised and asked, "The place where your Sect Master used to live? Isn't this a bit inappropriate?"

This was their Sect Master's residence, so how could he, a mere High-Rank Guest Elder, stay here? Although Yu Luo Sha was gone, it would certainly appoint a new Sect Master in the future. Wouldn't he be usurping something that rightfully belonged to another by staying here?

Pursing her lips, Qin Pei smiled, "This was what Senior Sister Tao decided. Elder Yang, please don't refuse."

Yang Kai pondered in silence for a moment before he nodded, "Very well. Many thanks, Junior Sister Qin."

Hearing him addressing her in such a manner, Qin Pei couldn't help being stunned for a moment. Nevertheless, she soon broke out into a wide smile, "Senior Brother Yang, please have a good rest. If you require anything at all, please let these disciples know and they will fulfil all your needs."

After bowing, Qin Pei took her leave. Even so, Yang Kai couldn't help but get the feeling that the way she looked at him just before she left spoke volumes. Moreover, the last sentence she spoke was extremely enticing. A group of female disciples serving him who would meet all his needs... It was difficult not to overthink things.

Rubbing his chin, Yang Kai turned and glanced at the dozen or so female disciples standing before him. His gaze caused them to lower their heads immediately in response, while on the contrary, his eyes lit up brightly.

Leaving aside the cultivation of these young women, each and every one of them had exquisite beauty and a voluptuous figure. This was no surprise as Luo Sha Sect was an all-female Sect, so finding a few pretty faces among them was not a problem.

Yang Kai had not noticed before, but now that he got a closer look, he realized that these disciples each had a different flavour of beauty. Some were dignified, some were seductive, some were vivacious, some were innocent. The most notable were the two women standing at the head of this group. One of these young women had watery and lovely eyes, as though they were inherently covered in a layer of mist. When he fixed his gaze on her, she quickly lowered her head shyly while biting her red lip. Her every movement exuded a strong sense of allure, tempting a person to hold her in their arms and make her their own.

Yang Kai had seen many people who possessed innate charm, but this young woman was quite outstanding even among them, only second to Shan Qing Luo, his Beguiling Demon Queen. This woman was not deliberately trying to act seductive and enchanting, but instead had a kind of naturally overflowing allure that stimulated a man's desire.

Yang Kai was somewhat surprised. He had no idea if Luo Sha Sect had Charm Techniques in their library, but if it did, then this girl would obtain twice the result with half the effort if she cultivated them.

Meanwhile, the other lead woman gave Yang Kai a sense of purity. Her entire person seemed to contain no trace of mortal trappings, making her appear weak and gentle, arousing an instinct to protect her. It was as though just looking at her was blasphemy. Unfortunately, it was precisely this level of purity that made a man want to defile her.

Needless to say, all of these young women had clearly been carefully selected from among the disciples of Luo Sha Sect, with the two in front probably being the most attractive out of all the thousand female disciples in Luo Sha Sect.

Realizing what was happening, Yang Kai smiled wryly to himself. [It looks like Tao Ying Ruo took great pains for my sake.]

Tao Ying Ruo arranged for these two seductresses to be sent here and supplemented the idea with the words Qin Pei uttered before she left. If he had the slightest inclination, he could easily sleep with these two disciples, and if anything more were to happen between them... He would surely give more consideration to Luo Sha Sect in the future.

[Women... They really like to overthink things.] Nevertheless, he could understand Tao Ying Ruo's and the upper management of Luo Sha Sect's thinking; after all, from a purely practical standpoint, there was nothing worthy of Yang Kai's attention or interest in Luo Sha Sect aside from their beauty.

This could be said to be a trap to ensnare him with a beautiful woman; however, Yang Kai could not blame them for doing this. Besides, it was better to have so many beautiful women accompanying him than being all alone or having a bunch of old men serving him. At the very least, it was very pleasing to the eye.

“Disciple Ran Yi Rou greets Elder Yang,” The pure female disciple bowed generously.

Immediately following that, the other woman, who was so charming that she was practically dripping with it, hurriedly bowed too, “Disciple Yu Ke Ran greets Elder Yang.”

Chapter 3278, Luo Sha Sect’s Restricted Area

The voices of these two women were a reflection of their temperaments. One was elegant and graceful while the other was sweet and pleasant. Yu Ke Ran’s voice, in particular, made Yang Kai feel as though his bones became lighter and it filled his entire body with a sense of ecstasy.

The cultivation of both women was not high, but it was not bad either. They were both in the Third-Order Origin King Realm, which was only one step away from the Dao Source Realm. With the current condition Luo Sha Sect was in, those in the Dao Source Realm were truly the pillars of the Sect. Tao Ying Ruo’s willingness to ‘offer’ these two women went to show just how much importance she attached to Yang Kai. She could not act indifferent to him; after all, the safety of the Sect was tied to him. Forget these two disciples, she would even offer herself up to him if he really had any intentions.

Yang Kai nodded, “You must be aware of this King’s circumstances, so there’s no need to be so formal. Let’s get along with each other, okay?”

“We dare not,” Both women lowered their heads.

Yang Kai smiled slightly but did not force them, simply turning around and heading inside. When Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran saw him enter the palace, they quickly followed after him while the rest of the disciples remained outside.

Upon entering the palace, the two women followed Yang Kai wherever he went. They only spoke when he asked them something and at other times, they remained silent and assumed an attitude suitable for disciples. Although Ran Yi Rou acted warm and friendly on the outside, Yang Kai could feel the tension and anxiety coming from both of them.

These two women had been ordered to serve Yang Kai, and before coming here, they had received a direct order from Tao Ying Ruo in no uncertain terms that they could not refuse any request Yang Kai might make of them. They were no longer children, so they naturally understood what Tao Ying Ruo meant. They had grown up in Luo Sha Sect, and although they encountered some men on their travels outside, those men had all made them feel extremely uncomfortable. The looks those men gave them were lustful and possessive; moreover, none of those men fit their ideals. They even formed an

instinctive rejection of other men as a result. However, Luo Sha Sect was their home and they could not stand idly by when it was in peril.

When they accepted this task, they had resigned themselves to their fate. How could they treat an Elder who could do anything he wanted with them at any time as an equal? It was only natural that they were cautious of him.

This place used to be where Yu Luo Sha, the late Sect Master of Luo Sha Sect, had lived; therefore, the décor was on the feminine side. Be that as it may, most of these traces had been removed under Tao Ying Ruo's instructions. Most of the items inside the palace should have been newly purchased, though a faintly feminine scent still lingered around the place.

It didn't take long before Yang Kai finished touring the palace, and afterwards, he leisurely walked out again, leading the two young women around Luo Sha Sect as he explored aimlessly. Although it had been a long trip here, Yang Kai had not found it strenuous so he was in no hurry to rest. Since he was going to be shielding Luo Sha Sect from now on, he had to learn more about this place. Besides, it was also a kind of life experience to appreciate a different scenery and custom once in a while.

There were twenty-six Spirit Peaks, large and small, in Luo Sha Sect, each one having its own specialty, so Yang Kai started with Luo Sha Peak where he was staying.

While he was touring, Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran accompanied him. They answered all his questions but did not speak unless spoken to. It wasn't until they reached a certain place that Ran Yi Rou had to speak up, "The Restricted Area is located up ahead. We disciples are unable to accompany Elder Yang inside. Please forgive us." While speaking, she and Yu Ke Ran both stopped walking.

"Restricted Area?" Yang Kai stopped and looked up ahead, but could not detect anything special about this place. Nodding, he continued, "Let's go somewhere else then, since this is a Restricted Area."

Every Sect had its own Restricted Areas, and Luo Sha Sect was no different. Most ordinary disciples had no right to enter such places.

Yu Ke Ran followed up, "Elder may enter if he wishes to."

Yang Kai pondered for a moment before commenting, "Would that not be inappropriate?"

[They already mentioned that this is a Restricted Area, so how could I just stroll inside?]

Yu Ke Ran smiled sweetly, two small dimples appearing at the corners of her mouth, "It's okay. Martial Aunt Tao has already said that Elder Yang is allowed to go anywhere he wishes in Luo Sha Sect."

Since they had already said so, Yang Kai didn't hold back. In any case, whatever secrets Luo Sha Sect might be hiding probably wouldn't be of much interest to him, so he might as well casually check out what the Restricted Area was like. Nodded, he instructed the two women, "Wait for me here. I'll be right back."

"Understood!" The two women respectfully bowed, but by the time they looked up again, Yang Kai was gone. Turning to look at each other, the two of them secretly felt stunned. Although they could not say they met many Emperor Realm Masters in the past, they had at least encountered a handful before.

Even so, none of those Emperors had ever given them such a profound and mysterious impression. Compared to Yang Kai, their late Sect Master didn't even feel like she was on the same level.

With that thought in their hearts, Yu Ke Ran secretly sent a Divine Sense transmission, "Senior Sister, Elder Yang seems to be quite amicable."

The two of them had been on edge for the past few days; after all, Tao Ying Ruo had suddenly assigned them to serve the new High-Rank Guest Elder who would be arriving soon at Luo Sha Sect. In addition, she had warned them about many things. They had been somewhat worried that the person coming here might be a rough-tempered and violent man. It wasn't until they met Yang Kai that they realized he was completely different from what they were imagining. He was not ugly, rather, he was on the handsome side. Plus, his personality seemed to be extremely relaxed and easy-going.

"Elder Yang might be easy to get along with, but we must not overstep our boundaries," Ran Yi Rou replied with a stern expression, "You better stop talking so much as well, or, if you must, then you should change your voice a little. Otherwise, Elder Yang might think that you are trying to seduce him."

Yu Ke Ran blushed at those words and looked like she was about to cry, "But this is how I naturally speak! What should I do?"

Ran Yi Rou looked at Yu Ke Ran with a troubled expression, "You're doing it again..." [Forget a man, even I feel my heart racing when I hear her voice!]

That sweet and gentle melody was like an invisible little hand that continuously stroked at a person's heart.

Yu Ke Ran lowered her head with an anxious look, "Good. I won't talk in front of Elder Yang anymore."

Ran Yi Rou sighed, "The Sect is currently taking shelter under Elder Yang's protection, while you and I have been assigned to serve him. We are currently representatives of the Sect. Of course I know what you are like since we have been sisters for so long, but Elder Yang has only been here for a day, so if he misunderstands your actions, he might look down on both you, me, and the Sect.

"En en, Senior Sister is right." Yu Ke Ran looked up and nodded repeatedly. Stretching out her hand, she pinched her lips and muttered, "I will act like a mute from now on!"

Ran Yi Rou shook her head, "You don't need to go that far. If Elder Yang asks you anything, you should still answer him."

"Good," Yu Ke Ran nodded vigorously like a chicken pecking at rice. Then, she suddenly thought about something, bit her red lip softly, and whispered, "Senior Sister, there's something I want to ask..."

"What is it?" Ran Yi Rou saw the strange expression on Yu Ke Ran's face and suddenly got a bad feeling.

Yu Ke Ran hesitated for a moment, clearly feeling shy, before she eventually stuttered, "W-When night comes... if Elder Yang really... really..."

She couldn't bring herself to finish her sentence anymore.

Ran Yi Rou was also blushing furiously and she swiftly reached out and poked Yu Ke Ran in the head, speaking to her through gritted teeth, "You silly girl! What are you thinking!?"

Yu Ke Ran clutched at her head with both hands, "But, Martial Aunt Tao said all that! Besides, it's not like you don't know... Those Emperor Realm Masters have countless wives and concubines, and I heard that every night, they..."

"Every night, they... What?" Ran Yi Rou's voice trembled slightly. She could feel her cheeks burning like they were on fire when she asked that question.

"Aren't satisfied unless they have a woman beside them..." Yu Ke Ran lowered her head and blurted out a few words.

Ran Yi Rou fell silent. Yu Ke Ran looked up and tilted her head to look at her Senior Sister before reaching out her hand and waving them in front of Ran Yi Rou, calling out, "Senior Sister..."

Ran Yi Rou chuckled faintly, "The joining of Yin and Yang is a part of the Grand Dao, pure and natural. If it really comes down to that, is he not worthy of us given his status and position? In fact, we would be the ones seeking that which is beyond our station!"

Yu Ke Ran's eyes suddenly twinkled with stars as she directed a look of admiration towards Ran Yi Rou, "Wow! Senior Sister, you are so open-minded!"

Ran Yi Rou reached out and pinched Yu Ke Ran's cheeks. Gritting her teeth slightly, she chided, "It's all because you keep asking so many silly questions! You are not allowed to ask any more! Don't talk about this anymore either."

Yu Ke Ran's eyes were watery as she was in so much pain that her tears threatened to fall as she begged, "Senior Sister, please forgive me! I'm sorry, okay?"

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The so-called Restricted Area was just a mountain valley located behind Luo Sha Peak. Yang Kai walked around and found nothing worthy of attention. The World Energy here was not much richer than any other area, and there was nothing in the mountain valley that could increase one's cultivation progress. That made him feel rather curious. If it was a Restricted Area, then it must have some sort of secret hidden within. However, the mountain valley seemed completely ordinary no matter how he checked.

Glancing around, his eyes eventually landed on a certain cliffside. If there was anything worthy of attention in this mountain valley, then it could only be this cliff. The cliff was as smooth as a mirror and it was hard to imagine how it could have been formed.

Yang Kai stepped forward and knocked on the cliff lightly, quickly determining that this was not the work of man, but a mystery of nature. Thus, he couldn't help marvelling at the formation of the cliff. Nevertheless, the cliff was just an ordinary cliff and he did not discover any hidden barriers or alcoves.

It wasn't that he was deliberately prying into Luo Sha Sect's secrets, it was purely out of curiosity. Besides, Tao Ying Ruo had said that there was no place in Luo Sha Sect off-limits to him, so there was no reason to restrain himself when they were being so generous.

After investigating for a while though, Yang Kai returned to where he came from with a sullen expression. He was certain that the mountain valley was just an ordinary mountain valley, and the cliff was also just an ordinary cliff. There were no secrets to speak of in there.

[Why is such a place a Restricted Area?] He was puzzled. Needless to say, he could probably learn the truth if he asked Tao Ying Ruo about it. Briefly considering for a moment though, he decided to forget it. [What I can find depends on my own ability. If I deliberately ask about it after I've failed to discover anything, won't it seem like I am coveting their secrets?]

When Yang Kai returned, Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran were still standing in the same spot where he left them earlier, but when he walked up to them, he couldn't help giving them a second glance as both women were blushing and there was an unusual air about them. It made him reluctant to look away. They were obviously aware of this too and seemed a little apologetic.

Afterwards, Yang Kai continued to tour Luo Sha Sect under the guidance of the two young women. They occasionally encountered disciples patrolling along the way, most of whom had seen Yang Kai before while those who hadn't could infer his identity from the attitudes of Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran, so it was only natural that they were allowed to move freely without any hindrance.

Chapter 3279, Publicity

Half a day later, Yang Kai finished touring the entire Luo Sha Sect. Then, he headed straight out the main gate, bringing Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran outside with him.

Inside the main hall, the five remaining Dao Source Realm Masters of Luo Sha Sect were busy preparing for the Grand Canonization Ceremony. All of a sudden, a female disciple walked in, came to Qin Pei, and whispered a few words to her regarding the traffic and the main gate.

Qin Pei waved the female disciple away and let out a light laugh, "Our High-Rank Guest Elder sure isn't one to sit around idly."

Tao Ying Ruo asked, "What happened?"

Qin Pei replied, "He went out with two disciples."

Tao Ying Ruo's eyes lit up when she heard those words, "Where did he go?"

Qin Pei explained, "Supposedly, he is just taking a stroll around. He probably headed towards Luo City."

Luo City was a city within the jurisdiction of Luo Sha Sect with a population of about a million. Most of Luo Sha Sect's income came from this city.

"He went to Luo City..." Tao Ying Ruo fell silent for a moment, thinking hard. A moment later, her beautiful eyes became brighter, and she nodded, "Good. That's good."

Several Dao Source Realm Masters looked at her with curious expressions while Qin Pei asked, "Senior Sister, what do you mean..."

Tao Ying Ruo put down the invitation card in her hand, took a sip from her teacup, and said, "We are taking such great pains to prepare for the Grand Canonization Ceremony and sending out so many invitations for what reason?"

Qin Pei thought for a while before commenting, "To build up publicity."

After their Sect Master, who was the only Emperor Realm Master they had, passed away, Yang Kai had voluntarily asked to become their High-Rank Guest Elder. How could Luo Sha Sect not take advantage of such a good opportunity? They had to create as much momentum as possible right now so that none of the great forces surrounding Luo Sha Sect dared to look down on them in the future.

Tao Ying Ruo nodded, "Yes, and all of this is based on Elder Yang's reputation. The ceremony is simply us borrowing his name to create a shield for ourselves, but it is different if he makes an appearance on his own. Elder Yang's trip to Luo City is equivalent to announcing his relationship with Luo Sha Sect in advance. Let's see who dares to look down on our Sect after today?"

When the Dao Source Realm Masters heard that, their eyes lit up and Qin Pei asked, "Senior Sister, are you saying that Elder Yang is doing this on purpose?"

Tao Ying Ruo nodded and smiled, "If not, why didn't he just take a good rest after arriving here? It seems we've received another huge favour from him."

When realization dawned on the others, they all had looks of gratitude on their faces.

Two days later, Yang Kai returned with Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran. Since then, he stayed on Luo Sha Peak to cultivate in retreat and did not come out again. Even so, the effect of his little trip soon became apparent. Although Luo City was managed by Luo Sha Sect, most of the shops in the city were not owned directly by them. Many of the great forces in the surrounding areas had established businesses in the city, so when Yang Kai took Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran with him for a stroll through town, those with ears and eyes couldn't ignore the trio even if they wanted to and it was only natural that they report such news back to the forces behind them.

Meanwhile, the disciples of Luo Sha Sect who returned after delivering invitations reported back that the various great forces that received them all treated them with the utmost courtesy. Those forces all stated that they would attend the Grand Canonization Ceremony and some of them even sent out their Emperor Realm Masters to personally accept the invitations. All these signs indicated that the crisis Luo Sha Sect had been facing was over. With Yang Kai's protection, nobody else dared to target Luo Sha Sect again.

When the news was reported back to Luo Sha Sect, Tao Ying Ruo and the others were beside themselves with joy. They poured even more effort into preparing the Grand Canonization Ceremony, so much so that their preparations for this event were grander than the succession ceremony of the Sect Master. Then again, Luo Sha Sect had no leader right now. They had no Emperor Realm Masters among their ranks and there was nobody with the qualifications to become Sect Master either. For the time being, Tao Ying Ruo was temporarily taking on the duties of the Sect Master as the strongest among them and only when she became an Emperor would she officially assume the position of Sect Master.

One day, Tao Ying Ruo was busy with something when Yang Kai suddenly came over uninvited. She did not dare to be disrespectful toward the great hero who saved Luo Sha Sect; thus, she hurriedly invited him in and personally served him tea.

After taking her seat, Tao Ying Ruo asked, "Elder Yang, have you gotten used to living here? Are there any issues with how our disciples' service?"

Yang Kai smiled and waved his hand casually, "I'm used to roaming the world, so where I live makes no difference to me. Yi Rou and Ke Ran are also very hardworking."

"That's good." Tao Ying Ruo smiled, "If there is anything you need, please don't hesitate to let them know."

There was one thing Tao Ying Ruo was rather curious about though. According to the daily reports from Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran, Yang Kai had been cultivating ever since he returned from Luo City the other day and had not met them at all since that day.

It seemed men who were indifferent to the beautiful women in front of them really existed in this world! Just this point alone was enough to gain Tao Ying Ruo's respect and admiration. She was certain that Yang Kai understood her intentions behind sending Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran to him and nothing would stop him if he had the desire to possess them. Be it Ran Yi Rou, Yu Ke Ran, or the other female disciples, none of them would have resisted his advances.

As time passed, however, Tao Ying Ruo became more and more satisfied with this High-Rank Guest Elder. Despite giving them so much, he did not ask for anything in return. What else but gratitude could she have towards somebody like that?

"I came here today because I wanted to ask you something, Acting Sect Master." Yang Kai had a solemn expression.

Tao Ying Ruo replied, "Elder Yang, please don't hesitate to speak freely. Everyone in Luo Sha Sect will comply with your wishes."

Yang Kai laughed heartily, "It's not such a big deal. It's just that I wish to leave something behind in Luo Sha Sect."

"Something?" Tao Ying Ruo was curious.

Yang Kai explained, "I'm sure Acting Sect Master has heard about how this King cultivates the Dao of Space and can arrange Cross-Territory Space Arrays, yes?"

Tao Ying Ruo nodded in response. This information was no longer a secret after the incident at Orthodoxy Temple. Yang Kai had brought in more than two hundred Emperor Realm Masters, three Divine Spirits, and thirty-two Monster Kings as reinforcements in the span of a day, and what allowed him to do that was a number of Cross-Territory Space Arrays. If not for this, how could Yang Kai have travelled back and forth between the Eastern Territory, the Northern Territory, and the Southern Territory in just one day?

When Tao Ying Ruo heard Yang Kai mentioning this though, she couldn't help but brighten up suddenly and excitedly say, "Elder Yang, you don't mean..."

Yang Kai nodded, "En. I would like to set up a Space Array in Luo Sha Sect that connects directly to High Heaven Palace in the Northern Territory. As you know, I can't stay here year-round. I will be leaving once the Grand Canonization Ceremony is over, so Luo Sha Sect will have to rely on itself in the future. Still, it is better to plan ahead. If Luo Sha Sect runs into any kind of danger one day and I am not around to help, you might not be able to defend yourselves on your own. But, it will be a different story if you have a Space Array here. You will be able to go to High Heaven Palace in the Northern Territory to ask for help at any time."

Even though Tao Ying Ruo had some guesses, she still felt extremely grateful when she heard Yang Kai speak about this. If she was being honest with herself, it wasn't as if she had not considered this possibility before. Since Yang Kai was willing to come and serve as the High-Rank Guest Elder of Luo Sha Sect, she felt there was also a chance she could successfully ask him to connect Luo Sha Sect and High Heaven Palace for long-term and effective protection. Unfortunately, she did not know what it took for Yang Kai to arrange such a Space Array. In her mind, something as mysterious as a Cross-Territory Space Array would surely consume a massive amount of resources and it might be so costly that even selling the entire Luo Sha Sect would not be enough to cover the expense. More importantly, she did not want to give Yang Kai the impression that she was being excessive or greedy.

She could never have imagined that Yang Kai would bring it up himself, and for that reason, she immediately exclaimed happily, "Elder Yang, you really are a good person!"

Yang Kai laughed out loud, "It's no big deal. It's just that I still need your agreement to do this, Acting Sect Master."

"Of course! Of course, you can!" Tao Ying Ruo quickly nodded, nearly losing all the composure she gained after so many years of cultivation. At this moment, she looked like a child who had just received a new toy and wanted to show off and celebrate. But then, she suddenly thought of something and asked, "But, what will you need, Elder Yang? Please write up a list of materials and supplies and I will have my people collect them."

"I don't need much. It's enough if you can bring me some Space Spirit Crystals or Space Spirit Jades." He had gathered a lot of the materials required to arrange Space Arrays and in fact had more than enough to set up a hundred of them in his possession. Even so, he felt it would be for the best if he accepted some of their kindness since they offered it.

"Good, I will think of a way to gather these two items."

"There is one more thing. Do you have any suggestions regarding where I should arrange the Space Array?"

The place chosen as the location of the Space Array should be a place that was tightly guarded.

Tao Ying Ruo understood this and asked, "Where do you think would be suitable to set up the Space Array, Elder Yang?"

Yang Kai pondered for a moment before replying, "I've toured the entire Luo Sha Sect, and the most suitable place to arrange the Space Array would be in the Restricted Area behind Luo Sha Peak... but that's a Restricted Area after all..."

Tao Ying Ruo immediately waved her hand, "If Elder Yang thinks that place is suitable, then please proceed, this Mistress has no objections."

She agreed to it so readily that Yang Kai was taken aback but still nodded, "Good. I'll arrange it there then."

All of a sudden, Tao Ying Ruo broke out into a wide smile and asked, "Elder Yang, since you visited the Restricted Area before, were you perhaps disappointed?"

Yang Kai looked slightly embarrassed as he coughed, "I'm not disappointed per se, I'm just a little curious about it."

Tao Ying Ruo pursed her lips in amusement and nodded, "It's normal to feel disappointed. There is generally nothing special about the Restricted Area, but if you really want to know its secrets, Elder Yang should visit it on a night with a full moon."

Yang Kai raised his brow, "The night of a full moon?"

Shaking her head, Tao Ying Ruo explained, "I don't know the exact details either. I only heard Sect Master mention it once when she was still alive. Only during the night of the full moon will unimaginable changes occur in the Restricted Area. Elder Yang, if you wish to learn more, there will be a full moon in five days."

"En, then I'll have to take a good look when the time comes." He suddenly became interested. When he investigated the Restricted Area previously, he had been greatly disappointed at the results, but to his surprise, there was a special condition behind the Restricted Area and it would not reveal its mysteries unless those conditions were met. This immediately aroused his curiosity, so he made up his mind to take a closer look at the Restricted Area on the night of the full moon five days later.

It could be seen that Luo Sha Sect had left itself completely unguarded to him in order to repay the favour they owed to him. Putting himself in their shoes though, he could understand their thoughts; after all, a one-way relationship where only he kept giving could not be sustained for long.

After asking a few more questions, Yang Kai was surprised to learn that Tao Ying Ruo herself had never been to the Restricted Area during a full moon; therefore, she had no idea what would appear. It seemed Yu Luo Sha was the only one qualified to step foot into the Restricted Area of Luo Sha Sect.

Yang Kai said his goodbyes to Tao Ying Ruo and went directly to the mountain valley of the Restricted Area. He proceeded to take out a large number of materials and got to work. Half a day later, the Space Array was completed and he casually refined a Transmission Token before calling both Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran over. Telling them the purpose of the Transmission Token, he taught them the method to activate the Space Array then told them to report everything to Tao Ying Ruo.

With this Space Array in place, Luo Sha Sect had nothing to worry about anymore. Once Tao Ying Ruo received the Transmission Token, she immediately came to thank Yang Kai in person and he decided to let her experience the cross-territory teleportation, sending her directly to High Heaven Palace in the Northern Territory.

The experience amazed her so much that she couldn't calm down for a long time.

## Chapter 3280, The Night of the Full Moon

Five days passed in the blink of an eye. The trees were verdant in the mountain valley of the Restricted Area and the air was refreshing as a spring day. Meanwhile, Yang Kai was sitting cross-legged, looking up at the sky.

Night fell, and the weather was still clear, allowing the bright moon and glowing stars to gently illuminate the surrounding valley. There was nothing out of place in the surroundings and as time flowed by, the full moon slowly climbed high into the sky. At that moment, a strange power began subtly fluctuating. The power was so weak that Yang Kai would not have noticed it if he had not been paying close attention.

“Is this it?” Yang Kai muttered to himself under his breath. Focusing, he began paying more attention to his surroundings than before. He was extremely curious about the strange changes that only occurred in the Restricted Area of Luo Sha Sect on the night of a full moon. Under his perception, a sense of calm fell over the mountain valley again, almost as if the fluctuations just now were nothing but an illusion. A few moments later though, the same strange fluctuations appeared again. It was much clearer than before, but disappeared again in a flash.

“Where is it coming from?” Yang Kai pondered as he studied his surroundings with great interest, his eyes shining brightly. The third wave of fluctuations soon appeared, and this time around, he was prepared. Instantly, Yang Kai cast his gaze in a certain direction and was stunned. When he visited this place five days ago, a certain cliff in this place had left the biggest impression on him as it was clearly naturally formed but was as smooth as a mirror; now though, it would appear that the strange energy fluctuations were coming from this extremely flat cliff wall.

Yang Kai was surprised and thoroughly scanned the entire cliff with his Divine Sense, wondering if there was some sort of sophisticated barrier that had escaped his prior investigation; however, he found nothing even after careful study.

Fortunately, the frequency of the appearance of the peculiar fluctuations increased over time until, finally, a wondrous scene appeared on the smooth wall of the cliff. It was as though the cliff wall had transformed into a mirror, a blurry and somewhat vague one. Following those changes in the cliff wall, a sizable amount of World Energy appeared out of nowhere and filled the entire mountain valley to the brim.

Yang Kai couldn't help feeling surprised as a brief scan of his surroundings told him that the World Energy in this mountain valley was now no inferior to Spirit Lake Palace's Heaven Grade Cultivation Rooms located just outside of Maplewood City. If an ordinary cultivator were to cultivate in this place, a day's effort in this place would be equivalent to 10 days' worth of effort in other places.

That was not the case in the mountain valley during the day as the World Energy here was not much stronger than the surrounding region; thus, it was simply amazing for this place to experience such

shocking changes on the night of a full moon. Nevertheless, Yang Kai had the feeling that this change was simply scratching the surface of this mystery. The most important revelation might still lie in that smooth cliff wall, so he focused his gaze and stared intently at the cliff in hopes of stumbling upon its hidden secrets.

A moment later, Yang Kai made a soft exclamation of surprise because he witnessed something inexplicable coming from the light pulsing from the cliff wall. As his attention focused, the folding and flipping light transformed into a set of characters, and the more he focused, the clearer the words became. Not daring to be negligent, he carefully wrote down this text.

After a while, he realized that this was an extremely profound Secret Art, astonishing him greatly. On the night of a full moon, a Secret Art would appear on this sheer cliffside in the mountain valley of Luo Sha Sect's Restricted Area. If he had not seen it for himself, he would never have believed it.

Yang Kai could not get a complete picture of the Secret Art; however, a careful study revealed that it was a cultivation technique suitable for women. It was somewhat similar to Luo Sha Sect's core inheritance in fact, and upon further thought, Yang Kai surmised that the Secret Arts that were cultivated in Luo Sha Sect probably came from this cliff wall.

In the past, Yu Luo Sha probably discovered the anomaly in this place and obtained this opportunity, which allowed her to cultivate until she became an Emperor Realm Master. It was precisely because of this reason that she established Luo Sha Sect here.

While Yang Kai was immersed in his thoughts, the scenery on the cliff wall changed again. It was no longer a wall of vague and distorted text but instead a vague figure. That figure seemed to be dancing atop the cliff under the moonlight; however, that figure revealed mysterious Divine Abilities with every move it made, mesmerizing anyone who watched it. If a person immersed themselves in this dance to gain enlightenment, they would surely be greatly rewarded.

Yang Kai did not know how this strange scene was formed. It might have been man-made, or it could have been caused by nature, he could only say that the world was truly full of surprises.

Immersing his mind into the dance, he carefully comprehended its secrets. Confirming what he learned, one by one, turned out to be very rewarding in itself; thus, he couldn't help sighing in amazement. Yu Luo Sha was extremely unlucky it seemed. Given enough time, she would definitely have become a Third-Order Emperor Realm Master if she continued studying this opportunity. It was a pity that she died in Orthodoxy Temple and passed away before she had the chance to flourish. Nevertheless, Yang Kai understood why Yu Luo Sha had turned this place into a Restricted Area, even barring Tao Ying Ruo and the others from approaching it.

It was always better to keep these sorts of things for one's exclusive use, and if news about this were to leak out, many would have coveted it for themselves. This was in part due to Yu Luo Sha's selfishness, but it was also just human nature. Then again, Yu Luo Sha was only a First-Order Emperor Realm, which showed that her comprehension of this Secret Art was far from sufficient; otherwise, it was impossible for her growth to stop in this Realm with such an opportunity in her hands.

All of a sudden, the light coming from the cliff disappeared, vanishing without any warning. Yang Kai, who was immersed in various stages of comprehension, noticed the change and turned his head to look

in a certain direction. His gaze was penetrating, almost as though he could stare directly at something through the barriers of space.

Frowning in thought for a moment, he stood up and vanished from where he was standing, arriving at the edge of the mountain valley by the time he reappeared again. He quietly stared at the space in front of him and Space Principles fluctuated wildly as he slowly reached out both hands. Then, his hands disappeared as he inserted them into the Void.

“Open!” Following a loud shout, space was ripped apart and a Void Crack appeared on the spot which Yang Kai plunged headfirst into. The surroundings were filled with nothingness and chaos and there were terrifying Void Turbulences surging everywhere. Anyone who came here would find it difficult to move freely and the slightest bit of carelessness would cause them to be devoured by the Void Turbulence, losing their way forever.

Yang Kai was not afraid of this place, however, as it wasn't his first time coming to such an environment. The Principles around his body oscillated, and the Void Turbulences surging towards him were guided by an invisible force to slide around his body. Immediately following that, he enveloped his Divine Sense in the Space Principles before spreading it out in all directions to investigate his surroundings carefully.

A long while later, Yang Kai revealed a disappointed look, slowly shook his head, and returned to where he came. Upon his return to the mountain valley, he suddenly realized that the night had passed without him knowing and it was now almost daytime. Standing in place, he looked around and lifted his head to look at the sky. Then, he looked back at the smooth cliff wall in the distance, a thoughtful expression flashing across his face. An extremely bold conjecture formed in his heart. If he had guessed correctly, then he had a vague understanding behind the changes in the mountain valley of the Restricted Area. It was a pity that he had failed to grasp the truth behind the phenomenon all night. It wasn't until it was almost over that it dawned on him. If he wanted to thoroughly understand this phenomenon, then he would have to wait a month until the next full moon to study it again. As such, he couldn't help feeling a little frustrated. Nevertheless, he quickly came to terms with his frustrations when he thought about the benefits he gained from this venture.

Upon Yang Kai's return to Luo Sha Peak, Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran both welcomed him back respectfully. They immediately bowed when they saw him. He passed them and headed directly into the room, his voice floating out, “Inform me when it's time for the ceremony.”

“Yes.” Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran responded respectfully.

For the next few days, Yang Kai remained behind closed doors to cultivate and didn't take a single step outside. It wasn't until the day of the ceremony that he dressed in formal robes with Ran Yi Rou and Yu Ke Ran's help.

It was not his first time experiencing a Grand Canonization Ceremony as he had participated in one at Azure Sun Temple before. Speaking of which, it was rather amusing that, while both times were the same Grand Canonization Ceremony to become a High-Rank Guest Elder, it only became increasingly grand each time.

Any other Sect would not have held such a large ceremony like this even if they hired a High-Rank Guest Elder; at most, they would send out an announcement to the surrounding Sects that were on good

terms with them, telling those Sects something along the lines of ‘this person is now the High-Rank Guest Elder of our Sect. Please show some respect if you run into them in the future’.

On the contrary, Yang Kai was highly valued by both Azure Sun Temple and Luo Sha Sect. Leaving aside Azure Sun Temple for the moment, Luo Sha Sect’s very future was tied to him, so how could they not hold a grand celebration for him?

Guests from all around came to offer their congratulations. It wasn’t just those from the nearby great forces who had received invitations who came as many people whom Luo Sha Sect had never even had dealings with before appeared. Facing a stream of Emperor Realm Masters who arrived uninvited, the disciples in charge of welcoming guests in front of the main gate were under a lot of pressure. Similarly, Tao Ying Ruo, Qin Pei, and the others didn’t know whether to laugh or cry as they did not expect so many people to attend the Grand Canonization Ceremony.

There were only five Dao Source Realm Masters in the entire Luo Sha Sect now, but even so, they had no choice but to send out three of them to welcome guests at the front gate while the other two were busy ushering people into the ceremony grounds. They were so busy that their feet barely touched the ground and they couldn’t excuse themselves from their duties. Nevertheless, they knew the reason these people came without invitation was not out of respect for Luo Sha Sect but for Yang Kai.

After such a long time, news of the incident at Orthodoxy Temple had spread throughout the entire Southern Territory. Not to mention, most of the influential Sects in the Southern Territory had been involved in the incident. All those who survived that incident basically owed Yang Kai a life debt; therefore, it was only natural that they come to offer their congratulations on this occasion.

The disciples in charge of recording down the gifts various guests brought were almost numb from shock by the generosity of these offerings. The giant pile of precious treasures left the group of Luo Sha Sect disciples, who had little experience in the outside world, feeling utterly dumbfounded. Even their hands holding their brushes trembled as they recorded down the gifts.

There were so many guests that the seats originally prepared for the ceremony were far from enough. Tao Ying Ruo urgently mobilized the disciples of Luo Sha Sect to increase the number of seats by nearly five times, which barely made up for the insufficient supply.

On that day, the thousand or so disciples of Luo Sha Sect, regardless of their cultivation, worked around the clock with no time to rest at all. After the ceremony, the records showed that hundreds of Emperor Realm Masters had come to offer their congratulations to Luo Sha Sect. In addition, there were countless other cultivators with varying cultivations who came as well. The total number of guests reached around fifteen hundred, a number so large it was greater than the total number of members of Luo Sha Sect. This truly showed Tao Ying Ruo and the others what it meant by ‘being influential’.

The ceremony was held as scheduled, and under countless congratulatory wishes, Yang Kai became Luo Sha Sect’s High-Rank Guest Elder. When his position was confirmed, Tao Ying Ruo and the others finally breathed a sigh of relief.