

My Crown 481

Chapter 481: Deep Sleep

Qiao Mu also knew that she had actually unreasonably displaced her anger.

What did this have to do with Lady Holy Water? It had obediently stayed put in the Holy Water Sect all this time. It didn't go out to stir up trouble, nor did it ever reveal its true form before outsiders.

After all was said and done, it was all because of humans' atrocious nature.

But she... at least for now, she was unable to look at this drop of water at all. She really didn't want to see it!

The sapling extended two branches and dragged Lady Holy Water over, slapping it on the head without room for objection.

"Why are you blubbering? Can't you see that Master isn't in a good mood!" After speaking, it kicked the water doll's butt and signaled it with a look.

Lady Holy Water pitifully ran several steps away while sobbing. A glistening water bead swelled outwards with a gurgle before converging into a trickling brook that emptied into a creek leading to the jade lake.

"Master, wuwuwu." The little water child strode with its short little legs and turned its head around to gaze pitifully at where Qiao Mu was lying.

"Master, Master!!" Yet, the sapling jolted in shock.

It turned out that Qiao Mu had suddenly shut her eyes without saying a word. It was like she had completely lost consciousness, and it made the sapling so anxious that it paced back and forth on the spot for a while.

The little water child rolled back to Qiao Mu's side while gurgling. It morphed into an aqua liquid blob and nuzzled Qiao Mu's body. "Qiuqiu, is it because I'm useless that Master fainted from anger?"

The sapling looked at it, depressed. The sapling had originally wanted to give it a beating to get the stuffiness out of its chest, but after thinking about it carefully, it was actually completely unreasonable to thrash it, so it decided to leave it be.

Instead, the sapling lifted up Qiao Mu while weaving a comfortable hammock with branches in passing, setting her down in it.

The two black beady eyes on its trunk gazed fixedly at its master for a while before releasing a long sigh. "Dottie, don't blame Master."

"I'm not blaming her."

"She's only too sorrowful and broken-hearted, so give her some time. I know that she will be able to overcome this! She certainly will." The sapling patted the water blob.

While releasing an indistinct blue glow, the little water blob hopped twice as it gurgled.

“How is Master?”

“She fainted from overusing her conscious...” All of a sudden, the sapling gave a light exclamation of surprise and clapped its branches, saying, “But this may probably be a good thing.”

“Let’s go. We shouldn’t disturb Master’s rest. Come help me deal with the remaining fellows on the snowy peaks.” A vicious current surged forth from the sapling.

“Kill them!”

A fantastic phenomenon appeared on the Holy Water Sect’s five peaks.

One branch after another suddenly shot out from the snowy ground without forewarning. Accompanied by an encircling dynamic water stream, the branches grew at a terrifying speed that reached high into the sky.

Qingluan had already lost track of how many mystic beasts it had tussled with. At this time, it was currently at its last gasp as it lay at Ao’ye’s feet. It awaited its elimination by the remnant Anyi Prefecture forces.

All of a sudden, a sharp branch penetrated several enemies’ chests.

On the other end, two to three of the Anyi Prefecture’s men could only watch on as a strange water stream passed in and out of their bodies. All of their orifices bled instantly, and they crumpled to the ground with a thud.

The branches dragged over Chirpy, the little white squirrel, and threw it into Paradise Planet before starting to glide over to Qingluan.

Because Qiao Mu had led away the majority of the Anyi Prefecture’s forces to Sky Peak, only forty to fifty people were left remaining in this group.

Chapter 482: Darling Qiao Has Vanished

But it was truly an extremely bitter battle. Ao’ye and his several dozen team members had to fend off forty to fifty great mystic cultivators levels 12 and above, in addition to more than a hundred mystic beasts.

The Night Pavilion’s three teams amounted to several dozen members, but only three people, including himself, were left.

Ao’ye didn’t know how he descended the snowy peaks. Yet when he finally struggled to open his eyes after someone shook him back and forth, he saw several familiar faces.

He recognized them as people from the Three Sects.

“Young Brother, how are you? Why are you here?” Daybreak Sect’s Sect Master Liang Wanshan asked him anxiously, “Do you know what happened on these snowy peaks?”

Ao’ye was at a loss from the sudden series of questions.

“Who are you?” Duan Yue abruptly hoisted him up, his peach-blossom eyes glossed with cruelty. “You?”

“Clang!” An identity pendant fell to the ground, and the others picked it up.

It was only after Duan Yue swept it a glance that he loosened his grip on Ao’ye’s collar. “You’re one of the crown prince’s men?”

“Cough cough cough.” As Ao’ye lay on the ground, he was so exhausted that he didn’t want to move at all. He lifted his eyelids and looked towards the top of the snowy peaks.

With a single look, he understood why the Daybreak Sect’s Sect Master and the others had such flabbergasted expressions.

The five peaks were completely enveloped by vines and thistles, and the originally snow-white summits were not to be seen. Rather, intertwining branches and thick brush towered high above.

It was like, all the snowy peaks transformed into an ancient thicket in the span of a single night.

“How? ...” Ao’ye struggled to get up, but Duan Yue had already paid heed to him no more and flew towards the summits of the snowy peaks with a leap.

When Situ Yi saw this, he hastily followed after him. Many others from the two sects also followed along.

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Unfortunately, when they flew halfway up the mountain, they were obstructed completely by vines as thick as a person’s wrists.

They chopped at these branches, intending to open up a path. Even though everyone was slightly puzzled by the situation, their movements didn’t slow down.

On the other end, Mo Lian, who was currently rushing towards the Holy Water Sect at top speed, started panicking.

Originally, his thread of remnant divine conscious had been able to sense the little fellow’s existence.

But just now, he couldn’t sense anything at all.

It was like the little fellow had disappeared from the world all of a sudden. Her presence had completely vanished from the face of the earth!

Seventh Yan knew the apprehension in his master’s heart. With a whip of its dragon tail, it darted towards the Holy Water Sect at a speed comparable to that of light.

The two sects’ people had already summoned their mystic beasts to help chop and claw at the obstructing ancient vines and old trees. They wanted to open up a path towards the Sect Master’s Peak as soon as possible.

Suddenly, they heard a dragon’s cry. When they raised their heads, they saw the crown prince standing on the golden dragon’s back while facing the wind. The dragon was currently spiraling around the dense thicket of ancient vines, seemingly unable to find a suitable landing.

Duan Yue waved vigorously at him and then shouted one word: “Fire.”

An incinerating red blaze shot out from the crown prince's hands. It landed on the patch of vines in front of Duan Yue and the others, burning out a path in its wake.

The group of people increased their speed at clearing a path. With the raging and scorching blaze, in addition to the mystic beasts' fierce advance, they were able to forcibly open up a path in this cocoon of ancient vines.

However, when everyone rushed to the Sect Master's Peak, they were all involuntarily dumbstruck.

Where the branches encircled the summit, the ground was completely empty. They didn't even see a single corpse. A majority of the snowy peaks had already been flattened, and they could only see some building ruins.

Looking into the distance, they saw that the ground was strewn with broken branches. It was a desolate sight.

Chapter 483: Can't Find Her

"Qiaoqiao!!" Mo Lian pressed down on the golden dragon, and the man and beast landed on the snowy peaks.

Everyone was chopping away at the surrounding vines to open up an area that they could stand in.

Mo Lian clenched his fists and stood there for quite a while. The consciousness he sent out could not sense his darling's presence.

She really disappeared, she really did disappear!

How did this happen?

Mo Lian's heart was in a complete panic. He had thought that he had sensed wrongly.

However, the truth proved that even though he had swept his conscious far and wide, above and below ground, he did not sense her existence.

"Master, there's nothing." Seventh Yan, in his youth form, shook his head solemnly at him.

Seventh Yan's consciousness could extend to cover at least ten thousand feet.

Which meant that, his Qiaoqiao really did vanish from the Holy Water Sect...

Mo Lian was unresigned and turned to look at Duan Yue and the rest.

"Nothing, how is it possible that there's nothing?" Duan Yue hastily said. He suddenly turned to look at Ao'ye. "Where's Qiaoqiao?"

Ao'ye was even more perplexed. "I only saw Miss go towards that center snowy peak. Afterwards, when I woke up, I was already at the foot of the snowy peaks. Cough cough. And encountered you all from the two sects."

Everyone's gazes simultaneously turned to look at the central peak, Sky Peak.

Mo Lian flew in that direction without a second word, while a raging blaze incinerated the obstructing branches and vines along the way.

As everyone was an excellent cultivator, they all followed him closely towards Sky Peak.

“Qiaoqiao!” Mo Lian unsheathed his sword and chopped at the intersecting vines before him. After charging onto Sky Peak, he halted his steps.

It was possible to see the traces of a fierce battle on Sky Peak.

A lot of reddish-brown blood and flesh had mixed in with the snow on the ground.

“Qiaoqiao!”

“Qiaoqiao!”

He gave one shout after another, but there was no response at all.

All of a sudden, Duan Yue abruptly dashed forward and lunged beside a shallow, small human-shaped pit. “Come over quickly.”

He frantically groped about the snow with his hands. He finally felt a piece of something and dug it out from the snowy ground.

Mo Lian snatched the metal piece from his hands and grasped it tightly, his eyes about to spit out a skyrocketing blaze.

It was a fragment from the small golem!

His Qiaoqiao had definitely stopped here for a period of time.

But where was she now?

She was gone!! She had completely vanished...

“Qiaoqiao!” Mo Lian took to his heels and ran towards the higher part of the summit.

He was beside himself with panic. It felt like five to six terrifying hands had tightly gripped his heart, so painful that he was practically unable to breathe.

Why did this happen, why?

When they parted, she was still alright, and nothing was wrong at all.

His darling had even smiled adorably at him.

But now!

When he thought about how his Qiaoqiao was now stranded alone somewhere, he was panicked beyond belief, his heart torn from the pain.

He should have accompanied her, he should have accompanied her the whole time. Mo Lian regretted it unimaginably in his heart.

“More people came.” Situ Yi glanced frigidly at the meandering hundred-person procession at the foot of the snowy peaks.

“They’re from Luotian Prefecture.” Daybreak Sect’s Sect Master Liang Wanshan recognized them at a glance.

“Hah, wanting to take advantage of someone’s misfortune? Then might as well remain here forever!” Duan Yue snorted as his eyes flared in anger.

All of a sudden, he stretched out his hand to summon his contract beast. This was the first time everyone saw him summoning his mystic beast.

It had a snow-white body that was as humongous as a hill.

“Seven... Seven-Tailed Heavenly Fox?” Daybreak Sect’s Sect Master stammered in stupefaction.

He knew that this disciple of his was quite gifted.

Chapter 484: My Lian is Furious

But... The Seven-Tailed Heavenly Fox, this legendary ferocious beast, was actually Duan Yue’s contract beast that he had never summoned before.

“Chestnut, these people are all your food.” Duan Yue pointed directly at the Luotian Prefecture’s men on the mountain path.

“Thank you, Master. I can finally eat my fill!” A cruel glint flashed past the Seven-Tailed Heavenly Fox’s eyes. It abruptly moved its humongous body and pounced towards the people on the mountain path.

A bunch of Luotian Prefecture blockheads were presently daydreaming about benefiting from others’ dispute.

They knew that Shuntian Prefecture and Anyi Prefecture’s men had already arrived first. They purposely came later so that they could fish in troubled waters after the fighting had pretty much died down.

It couldn’t be helped, as their Luotian Prefecture lost out slightly to Shuntian Prefecture and Anyi Prefecture’s forces. Since fortune favors the bold, Luotian Prefecture’s manager had mobilized his brains and staked it all on this plan to obtain the sacred water.

However, it was unfortunate that they encountered Duan Yue and Mo Lian.

After all, enraged men don’t have any rationality to speak of.

At the same time the Seven-Tailed Heavenly Fox ran down the mountain to subdue the Luotian Prefecture’s men, the golden dragon had also arrived.

The Seven-Tailed Heavenly Fox spat out a mouthful of reddish-purple lightning, and it was followed by a raging inferno that covered the earth and blotted out the skies.

That acute aching feeling... don’t even mention it!

The Seven-Tailed Heavenly Fox and the golden dragon practically killed a large portion of Luotian Prefecture's forces upon clashing. Duan Yue also didn't sit out on the bullying and quickly followed up with a large batch of concealed weapons.

Luotian Prefecture's manager had already been sheared to the point that he was about to suspect life.

Could it be that these youths from the Lower Star Domain were born as monsters? They could even sense the five spirits and contract with such powerful beasts in such a place as the Lower Star Domain? They were way more outstanding than those so-called prodigies in their Middle Six Prefectures!

Why? This didn't conform to the laws of the Star Domain. Was this suitable?

Mo Lian was currently filled with an immense rage that he had nowhere to expel. His fingers ruthlessly clutched the neck of the Luotian Prefecture's manager as he questioned severely, "Tell me, why did you come to the Holy Water Sect? From where did you receive the news?"

The Luotian Prefecture's manager was practically about to cry. It seemed like he had brought a group of people here only to look for a beating, wuwuwu!

Luotian Prefecture's manager, who felt that he was extremely wronged, quickly elucidated with sincerity, "Our Luotian Prefecture had planted a spy in Shuntian Prefecture. We were informed a few days ago that the Shuntian Prefecture was up to something unusual. It was only after a secret inquiry that we found out that sacred water had appeared within the Holy Water Sect. Will this young master spare my life! We only came to see if there were easy pickings and didn't have bad intentions at all."

"Shuntian Prefecture! We want you all to have neither the mercy of life nor death!" A strong murderous intent burst forth from Mo Lian's eyes. With a light swipe of his slender sword, the head of Luotian Prefecture's manager severed from his neck.

These past days, Five Moon City's citizens had been on tenterhooks the entire time.

A terrifying commotion would occur every few days over at the Holy Water Sect's snowy peaks. Booming and thunderous snowstorms would sound again and again.

The weak common people didn't dare to go and check. On the other hand, Five Moon City's City Lord Wu Mantian had already sent people to examine the situation many times, but the results were always the same.

There was not a soul in sight at the Holy Water Sect.

Such a large sect had toppled in an instant. Wu Mantian and his madam lamented with sighs, and they sent people to Xianghe Village to cursorily bury the villagers' skeletal remains.

Day after day, and month after month. Five Moon City seemed to have settled down as the Holy Water Sect incident faded from the common people's memories.

But in fact, in places unknown to commoners, a foul and bloody storm had struck again and again with vengeance.

Chapter 485: Hand Her Over

Sikong Planet's eastern region, in a hidden manor.

No one knew that this place was actually one of Shuntian Prefecture's larger bases on Sikong Planet.

That is, until the crown prince of Northern Mo completely expunged this area with a force comparable to that of thunder.

The originally elegant courtyard had turned into a bloody mess. A hundred people from the Hidden Pavilion, who were all experts level-12 and above, had enacted a one-sided slaughter.

When it was daybreak, clusters of flames were burning indistinctly inside the manor. The thousand plus people inside the whole manor had died, all except for one last person.

The manor lord was forced to kneel before a black-clothed youth. With bloodshot eyes, he clawed at the ground until his fingers were bleeding, and he demanded furiously, "Why."

"Hand her over." That person had turned his back to him apathetically and only threw these three words at him coldly.

Hand who over!!! The manor lord glared at the person's back with bloodshot eyes. If looks could kill, that devil would have at least been punctured with a thousand holes by now.

A thousand plus people in the whole manor, as well as his family of twenty plus people, had all died by these people's hands!

Ah!! Who exactly did they want him to hand over?

"She's mine." The youth suddenly turned his head around, and his icy pair of phoenix eyes fixed on him emotionlessly. "Hand her over."

The manor lord wanted to howl angrily at the skies and cry out his grievances mournfully.

He really didn't know who this youth wanted him to hand over!

These last two years, the two great countries of the north had joined hands with Southern Baili to expunge Shuntian Prefecture's forces all over Sikong Planet.

Previously, he had already been informed that this fire was going to come after him sooner or later.

Yet even though he had already brought his subordinates to such an impossibly remote manor in the eastern region, why did those people still not let them off?

Recalling his current bleak situation, his old tears involuntarily streaked down his face.

Thinking about it now, his friend was right: Regardless of how strong the Middle Six Prefectures were, it was best to be careful in all matters since they weren't on their home territory.

It was often said that you can't beat someone on their home turf. This Lower Star Domain may not be as weak as it seemed. Perhaps, there were several strong powers lurking there.

Crying? He actually had the guts to cry?

Who exactly was the more miserable one?

No one was clearer than himself on how he had spent these past two years!

Mo Lian kicked the manor lord's chest ruthlessly. "Hand her over!"

"Wah!" The old man vomited a mouthful of blood on the ground. He chortled while clutching his chest miserably. "Devil, you devil! What do you want me to hand over? I didn't take anything!"

Devil? Mo Lian raised his phoenix eyes as he gazed coldly at him.

So what if he became a devil?

"Insolent!" The Hidden Pavilion captain stepped on the old man's back with his foot. "You dare speak rudely to His Highness!"

"Not talking, huh?" Mo Lian narrowed his phoenix eyes before sneering. "We will refine the flesh and blood of your entire family into golem puppets. You people from the Shuntian Prefecture will have to forever obey others' orders, unable to reincarnate for all of eternity!"

The old man's pupils contracted and he screamed, "No, don't, don't! What do you want me to say? Venerable One! I didn't take anything, I didn't take anything!"

"You took her away!!" Mo Lian swung his sleeves and slapped the manor lord's face heavily. "You bunch of vermin from the Shuntian Prefecture snatched her away and haven't returned her to me in these two years! Hand her over!"

"Puh." The old man caved to the ground. He didn't catch his breath and rather just sprawled there without moving.

A Hidden Pavilion member checked his pulse before turning around to report to the crown prince. "He died, Your Highness."

Mo Lian's cold gaze landed on his body, and he declared dryly, "Continue looking. We will not even spare chickens and dogs in the whole of Shuntian Prefecture!"

Chapter 486: Retreating from the World

An evening breeze arose, lightly whisking through the woods.

Like fluttering snowflakes, sprinkling peach blossom petals scattered onto that suit of red clothing.

The surface of the crystalline lake sparkled in the sunlight as schools of fish swam within it, the creek flowing into it meandering under the refreshing breeze.

At this time, a small, fragmented peach blossom petal fell gently onto her naturally rosy lips.

Her crescent brows stirred, and she lifted her eyelids. A pair of eyes, pitch-black like a deep pool of water, opened slightly.

"Master, you've already laid here for two days and two nights!" A little treant ran over while skipping and swaying its tree limbs. "If you keep lying there, your whole body will be overgrown with small mushrooms."

"Qiuqiu. How long have I slept."

“Two days and two nights.” The little treant hopped a few times beside her. “Master, you should get up.”

Qiao Mu stretched out her hand to pluck the fragmented petal sticking to her lips. Her eyes, like ice beads, moved apathetically as she turned her head to look at the sapling.

“What do I have to do today?”

“Master, there’s actually not much else to do. You’ve already sowed all the seeds into the earth these past few days. Many of the medicinal plants have already started sprouting vigorously, and the vegetable fields are already ready for several rounds of harvesting.”

“You go harvest them then.” Qiao Mu grabbed a thin book to cover her face. “I’ll sleep for a while more.”

The sapling: ...

“Gurgle!” A small ice bead rolled to the little treant’s feet. A small paw suddenly extended from the ice bead and scratched the little treant’s trunk.

However, the little treant brusquely whipped it with one of its branches.

“Gurgle!” That ice bead thought that it had concealed itself very well, hiding underneath the little treant’s leaves the whole time.

When they occasionally approached their master, it would only glance at her secretly before withdrawing its head and going back into hiding.

“Don’t act so sneaky like that!” The little treant reprimanded it in both annoyance and amusement. “You think Master is a fool? She has long known that you haven’t scammed.”

“Gurgle?”

“Speak in the human language!” The little treant was so irritated that it clenched its tree hand and clobbered the ice bead with its fist.

“Master has laid there for two days and two nights. Is she not hungry?” The small water blob asked pitifully.

The little treant sighed. When it turned its head around, it froze all of a sudden. Those red robes had long disappeared from underneath those peach blossom trees.

She didn’t know how very long it had been since she had come to this hillside.

It faced the peach blossom forest and was encircled by a jade lake. The hill was covered with green grass, as well as luxuriant flowers that gave off an intoxicating fragrance.

Qiao Mu stood before a nameless burial mound. She stood there for a long time, completely motionless.

Her slim figure, imposing and upright, stood before the grave. Ten slender fingers peeked out from her fiery-red sleeves.

With a motion of her hand, two jugs of wine appeared in her hands.

After breaking the seal, Qiao Mu took a sip. She then inverted the jug, letting the wine splash into the dirt.

Fellow sect members, Qiaoqiao will drink first to show respect!

“Master.” The little treant hopped as it jogged over. “Master, you?”

“I haven’t visited in a long time, right?”

The sapling answered “Mhm” dispiritedly. Master, ever since you buried everyone from the Holy Water Sect here, you haven’t dropped by at all!

“Qiuqiu, how long have I stayed here?”

“It’s been a long time, Master. It’s already been a bit more than two years.” The sapling gently tugged at her sleeve with its branches.

Its heart ached for its master when she was like this.

Qiao Mu walked several steps forward and stopped before an ice-sealed coffin. She stared dully past that thick layer of ice at Xu Shanshan, the person lying in there.

With a motion of her fingers, she placed a peach blossom on top of her ice coffin.

Chapter 487: You Still Loathe the World?

“Master, you should go out now.” The sapling said feebly as it gazed at its little master, who was gently caressing the ice coffin. Its tree face was practically scrunched together.

“The sun rises and sets, day after day. Master, you’ve already holed up in here for more than two years. Besides the first six months, when your conscious advanced a level while you were unconscious, afterwards, I’ve felt that you’ve been sleeping as much as you’ve been awake.” It was like she was lifeless, no, it was more like she loathed the world.

“Qiuqiu, are you disappointed in me.” Qiao Mu murmured faintly.

The sapling shook its pointy tree head like a rattle-drum. “I’m not! Qiuqiu loves Master so very much, forever and ever.”

“Don’t hang out with that water blob in the future.” The sapling’s tone of voice was getting more and more influenced by it.

Qiao Mu stood up and walked towards the treehouse she dwelled in.

She skillfully climbed up to her treehouse and carried out the little white squirrel. She fed it several mouthfuls of medicinal solution as usual and rubbed its round belly.

These two years, the little squirrel had never regained consciousness.

Two years ago, that middle-aged mystic cultivator from the Anyi Prefecture had practically shattered all the bones in the little white squirrel’s body with his fatal strike.

Afterwards, she patched up the little squirrel needle by needle, and she continuously poured precious medicinal solutions into its belly as if they were plain water.

These two years, although its condition had turned slightly for the better, it had never regained consciousness.

Hence, Qiao Mu fed it a medicinal solution every day, three times a day.

“Qiuqiu, don’t forget to feed it medicine in the future.” Qiao Mu swaddled the little white squirrel and set it inside the treehouse.

On the other end, a little cyan-blue chick flew to her arm with a coo.

Qiao Mu stroked its feathers. Before she could say anything else, she heard the sapling, Qiuqiu, scream while bawling.

“Master, where are you going?” Why does Qiuqiu have to feed it medicine? Master, you’re not thinking of? ...

“Master, don’t die! Master! You can’t go commit suicide! I won’t let you die. Qiuqiu won’t let Master die, wuwuwu!” As soon as Qiuqiu started wailing, the little water ball immediately popped out from under the few leaves sprouting from the sapling’s head.

When it saw Qiao Mu, it aggrievedly started producing splattering tears. The blob of water wanted to approach her but didn’t dare to, so it could only cry out pitifully, “Master, Master, don’t die. I-I’ll leave, okay. I’ll leave, I’ll leave right now, wuwuwu...”

Qiao Mu looked speechlessly at these two little ones and clobbered the little treant’s head with her fist. “Who’s going to die?”

The little treant and the little water ball sobbed for quite a while before reacting. They simultaneously ceased their sobs and shouted in unison, “Master, you’re not going to die?”

Qiao Mu simply didn’t feel like conversing with these two dumb cutie pies.

“I’m going home.” Qiao Mu said faintly. “In the future, I may not enter Paradise Planet every day, so I’ll leave the important mission of taking care of Chirpy to you two.”

“Master!” The little treant and the little water ball hung onto her sleeves, one above and one below. They once again shouted joyfully in unison, “You’re going out!”

“What, you don’t want me to leave?” Qiao Mu reclined against a tree and said faintly, “This, is certainly quite a good place. It’s carefree and without worries, and it’s detached from worldly affairs. There’s no need to worry here.”

“Master...”

“Of course I will go out.” Qiao Mu slowly pulled out an iron tablet from the cloth folding in her chest and gazed icily at it. “I have to go settle scores with them, don’t I.”

“Even if I’m the only person left in the Holy Water Sect!”

“The Holy Water Sect still exists.”

“As long as I don’t die, the Holy Water Sect will one day emerge anew...”

Chapter 488: The Blaze of Vengeance

She was only in too much pain and wanted to escape too badly.

The moment she went out, the first thing she would see was certainly the devastation and wreckage on Sky Peak.

Because the sapling had only pulled her into Paradise Planet, she would still be on the Holy Water Sect’s Sky Peak upon coming out.

She didn’t want to, nor did she dare to, go out!

She even fully loathed this world tainted by the ugly nature of humans.

If it were possible, she really wanted to peacefully spend the rest of her days alone by herself in Paradise Planet...

However—

The hatred in her heart would not allow her heart lasting peace.

The 800 disciples of the Holy Water Sect were united in one life!

One day, she would definitely settle these scores with their enemies one by one!

None of them should hope to have an easy time!

Today, let’s start with you! Qiao Mu clutched the iron tablet in her hand, almost crushing it into pieces.

She had repeatedly examined this iron tablet that she had picked from the collapsed Holy Water Sect’s ancestral temple. The back of the tablet was inscribed with the name of Guanlan City’s Qin Estate.

Qin Estate...

What was their relation to those people from the Shuntian Prefecture? Or perhaps, could it be that Shuntian Prefecture had hidden its forces within Guanlan City’s Qin Estate?

That hunchbacked old geezer who appeared in Xixia Valley, have you died yet?

If you haven’t died yet, then are you prepared for me to grind your bones into scattering dust, and for me to drink your blood and consume your flesh? ...

The fiery-red robes were like a mass of scarlet blood out for vengeance. It was so dazzling that it was almost comparable to the brilliance of the universe, the sun, and the moon.

“Caw?” The weak little chicken hopped onto her shoulder and nuzzled her head.

“You shouldn’t go out either. Stay here.” Qiao Mu said faintly and rubbed the weak little chicken’s chubby body with her hand.

That year, Qingluan challenged a hundred beasts by itself. It was incomparably valiant but had suffered heavy injuries.

Although it had slowly recovered during these past two years, Qiao Mu still had a bit of trauma.

“Caw!”

“Speak in the human language!” The sapling swatted the weak little chicken’s head in irritation.

Why did these bunch of scoundrels that made people’s hearts melt always like to chirp and caw, unwilling to speak in a language others could understand?

Even if you were trying to act cute, you had to find the right target!

Didn’t you know that Master was an oddball that disliked cute creatures the most?

“Master, I’ll send you there, send you there. I’m fast at flying.” The weak little chicken flapped its small chicken wings, prattling incessantly.

“No need. It’s been so many years. There’s no need to rush these few days.” Qiao Mu spoke with a dull expression, “I’ll just go buy a horse from Five Moon City.”

The little water blob shrunk behind the little treant and didn’t dare to speak much. However, it gazed cutely at its master with two rounded eyes that sprung out of the blob of mist.

Qiao Mu suddenly beckoned it over with her hand.

The little water blob instantly flew over excitedly, throwing itself into her embrace.

“Sorry.” She had long known that it was completely unreasonable for her to vent her anger on it. It was only that she really didn’t want to see this blob of water at that time.

Sacred water really could cause the people from the Six Prefectures to be obsessed to this extent?

Ah, its little master finally wasn’t driving it away?

“Wah!” The little water blob was both aggrieved and happy. Just as it wanted to bawl out loudly, it saw its little master pull out a large bottle abnormally quickly.

The little treant: ...

The little water blob suddenly restrained all its tears and forced them to return.

Mhm, for some reason, when it saw that large bottle, the little water blob just didn’t really want to shed tears!

Qiao Mu glanced at it regretfully before putting the bottle away. She turned to the little treant and said, “Send me out.”

The little treant immediately nodded with watery eyes. It had hoped for so long that its master would finally be willing to let it go and walk out by herself.

But had she really let it go? ‘Letting it go’ was easier said than done.

Once the seed of vengeance was planted in the heart, it would grow and thrive with each passing day...

Chapter 489: The Maple Pavilion Has Returned

Once she reappeared on Sky Peak, even Qiao Mu couldn't help being taken aback by the sight before her eyes.

Intertwined ancient trees and vines blanketed all of Sky Peak.

With a slight pull of her white hand, Qiao Mu pried apart two branches blocking her way and threaded her way through the intersecting vines.

Gazing into the distance, she saw that the sapling had enveloped the entire Holy Water Sect with its vines.

Qiao Mu looked dazedly for a while. All of a sudden, she felt her wrist heating slightly. When she looked down, she saw the jade bracelet carved with a green pine tree abruptly scattering a lustrous shimmer.

Qiao Mu raised her left wrist and saw a strong light suddenly activating.

Like it had received some kind of response, a ring of circular jade talismans the size of a fist flew out from below the vine-enveloped snowy peaks with a swish.

The circular jade talismans gathered into a cluster and swiftly soared to Qiao Mu's fingers. They released a faint glow and vibrated gently.

Qiao Mu held them in her hands. Her pupils shifted gently, and her gaze was slightly sorrowful.

How could those people from the Shuntian Prefecture and the Anyi Prefecture not find their treasure pavilion? It turned out that at the critical juncture that day, the talisman matrix had encircled the Maple Pavilion and stored all the secret techniques and mystic weapons that the Holy Water Sect had passed down these past three hundred years into jade talismans.

Until, she appeared.

Qiao Mu stroked the glistening jade bracelet, which was also the key to the Maple Pavilion, that was on her left wrist.

If she didn't have this key, all of the Maple Pavilion's inheritance would probably have been forever buried under the snowy peaks, never to see the light of day again.

When she thought about it, it really was aloof, preferring death over dishonor. Even if the whole Holy Water Sect were to be razed, it wouldn't let those people profit at all.

"Qiuqiu, put them in there, okay."

"Okay, Master." The sapling knew that its little master's mood certainly would be far from good upon coming out. It hastily replied and stretched out its branches to carry the faintly glowing jade talisman matrix cluster in Qiao Mu's hands.

"Master, I can build a wooden pavilion." The sapling said hurriedly. "Although it might not be like the previous Maple Pavilion, but at least, it could be considered similar in form and style."

Qiao Mu nodded faintly. "If you want."

After the sapling dragged the Maple Pavilion into Paradise Planet, the jade bracelet on her left wrist ceased its resonance with it. It dimmed slightly and continued hibernating silently on her wrist.

Qiao Mu stroked it again, then looked up at the sky that was blotted out by the ancient vines.

She only saw minute traces of sunlight streaming down through the gaps between the intersecting leaves. Even though small specks of light shone onto the ground, the surroundings still looked extremely gloomy and dim.

"Murong Xun, it'll be my coming-of-age hairpin ceremony in three months." Qiao Mu murmured to herself.

Her figure flitted out from between the vines and branches, gently floating down the snowy peaks.

She looked to be floating extremely slowly, but it actually only took several seconds for Qiao Mu's slender figure to land at the foot of the mountain and enter Xianghe Village's vicinity.

Xianghe Village's interior was desolate, completely lacking signs of human activity.

As she walked, she saw the ground blanketed with fallen leaves among the crumbling fences and dilapidated walls.

At this time, several soft voices could suddenly be heard from behind a collapsed house.

Qiao Mu's expression became dazed.

She had not seen anyone for more than two years. Subconsciously, she still wasn't too inclined to meet people.

This region around the Holy Water Sect had long been deserted, so why would there be human voices?

With a flash, her slender figure abruptly disappeared from her spot.

When she appeared again, her lonely and somber gaze landed on the small dirt slope behind the wreckage.

Chapter 490: The Pure Land in Her Heart

There were four people sitting there, a typical small adventuring team.

These four people were currently roasting simple food around a bonfire.

One person sighed and said, "It's been harder to get by recently. I heard that City Lord Wu has already given the order to relocate the city starting today. All of Five Moon City's citizens will migrate towards the large fortifications in the north."

"Since we can't grow anything, all the people in the city will starve to death if this continues."

"Sigh!" Another person let out a long sigh, and he jabbed at the bonfire with the branch in his hand while poking the short fatty beside him.

"Lad, what are you daydreaming about?"

There was nothing growing on the short fatty's smooth head. His figure was as round as a ball, his white face was beardless and incomparably clean, and he was even carrying a large iron pot on his back.

"What is it? You've been lost in thought the whole time."

"It's nothing." The short fatty picked up a small piece of yam and fiddled with it for a bit. It was only after a long while had gone by that he raised his head and said, "Eldest Brother, I came here before when I was little."

"You've been to the Holy Water Sect?" Eldest Brother was stunned. He then laughed, saying, "When was that?"

"Quite a few years ago." The lad with the iron pot scratched his hairless head, then smiled candidly. "At that time, I was young and wasn't sensible, even pretending to be a girl to participate in the Holy Water Sect's test."

After being taken aback, the three brothers abruptly exploded into uproarious laughter.

"You punk, that truly was a novel approach!" Second Brother smacked the lad's smooth head with his palm, remarking with a loud laugh.

"What are you laughing at?" The lad with the iron pot swatted their hands away and pursed his lips, saying, "With the environment at that time, you could at least eat your fill and be clothed warmly by joining the Holy Water Sect. Besides, the Three Sects were so amazing. Everyone yearned to go there, and I wanted to, as well."

"And then? You? Even passed the test?"

"Hah? What are you saying! Don't say it like that! I indeed passed the test!" The lad with the iron pot lifted his head, and his white dumpling-like face revealed a bright smile.

"Little Zhang, don't shoot your mouth off! It's not like I don't understand the lowdown on the situation. I heard that at that time, although the Holy Water Sect opened the mountain gate to accept disciples every few days, there were only very few people who could pass the holy water's test each year!"

"I didn't shoot my mouth off; I did pass." Zhang Yue huffed and continued speaking, "At that time, I had even been chosen by one of the three peak masters. Sigh, but in the end, First Peak's Peak Master Murong still saw through me and booted me and my old man out."

Zhang Yue jabbed at the flames and sighed. He said, "Now that I think about it, it's quite an amusing memory. My old man, he's already been gone for two years."

Seeing that he was feeling somewhat sentimental as he spoke, everyone involuntarily reached out to pat his shoulder. "These years, it might be possible that it'll be our turn sometime."

"Second Brother, what kind of unlucky words are you spouting. Alright, alright. Hurry and finish eating, and then we'll go up the mountain to take a look. Although the Holy Water Sect has been sealed off, we might be able to dig up something to eat on the snowy peaks."

“That’s right. I remember in the past that the people in Xianghe Village often climbed the mountain to look for food. Apparently, the animals and plants on the mountain didn’t mutate much. You could even consume the wild mushrooms that you dug up without further preparation.”

“Mushrooms? Gosh, don’t say anymore. I’m about to start drooling!”

Just as the four people were bantering, they suddenly felt a gale sweeping over. It instantly sent them rolling, and even the bonfire extinguished completely.

“Don’t go up the mountain.” Like a jade bead falling onto a plate, an icy voice splintered in their ears.