

## Refining 101

### Chapter 101 – Spiritual Objects of the Five Elements

The street was spacious and straight, and the wooden pavilion was gorgeously built. Although the name of Heavenseek Pavilion was widely known, it didn't have any of the expected mystical and mysterious atmosphere.

Of course, this wasn't Canyonwell City, but a large cultivator city within the boundaries of the Northern Dynasty called Song City.

The reason he had come this far wasn't because he had extra time on his hands. Rather, since he had no choice but to visit Heavenseek Pavilion again, he certainly didn't want to do so with his original identity. Since he had come much farther north and had even changed his appearance, even the ever-resourceful and knowledgeable Heavenseek Pavilion shouldn't be able to find out his true identity, right?

"Welcome to Heavenseek Pavilion!" A female cultivator respectfully bowed, her warm voice as pleasant as a spring wing. Her appearance and clothing were all perfectly selected to match her surroundings. Forgetting all other aspects, Heavenseek Pavilion was actually quite adept at receiving guests. At the very least, this scenery left a person relaxed.

Qin Yu nodded. "I have some matters that I would like to find answers to through Heavenseek Pavilion."

The female cultivator smiled. "Our pavilion will surely not leave you disappointed. Please follow me."

She turned and led the way in. Just like in Canyonwell City's Heavenseek Pavilion, they arrived at a separate room.

Scented teas, sumptuous desserts, everything was promptly and properly arranged.

The female cultivator knelt to the ground, her open white chest an eye-catching sight. She said in a soft voice, "Guest, please ask what you came for."

Qin Yu hesitated. He slowly said, "I want to know how you can cultivate five different elemental sources of magic power."

The female cultivator wrinkled her eyebrows, looking a bit perplexed. She hesitated for several moments and then said, "This question seems to involve extremely profound and intricate principles. I will need to consult with others on this matter for a moment. Please wait."

Qin Yu nodded.

The female cultivator bowed and drew backwards. As she left the private room, she vanished from sight and walked into a corridor deeper in. Quickly, her smile disappeared, replaced by a dignified expression. She pulled a guard close and gave him an order in hushed whispers. Then, without stopping, she arrived at a black wooden cabin in the rear courtyard, and bowed, saying, "Master, there is a guest who wishes to inquire about the five elemental magic power sources."

After a brief pause, a hoarse voice echoed out from the wooden cabin. "Determine his status first."

The female cultivator bowed his head. "I have already passed down the order. There will soon be an answer."

Just as she finished speaking, the guard she spoke to before came hurrying in. He bowed towards the wooden cabin, handed over the jade slip with both hands, and then left.

From start to finish he didn't say a single word.

The female cultivator probed the jade slip, and then a look of astonishment crossed her face. She said in a soft voice, "Reporting to master, this person is the disciple of the mysterious alchemy Grandmaster. He is Qin Yu, from the destroyed Eastern Mountain Sect of the Southern Empire. Many years ago, he visited a branch division in Canyonwell City and there he purchased information on difficulties related to breaking into the Golden Core realm as well as four different solutions. According to our information network, Qin Yu's status is currently that of Immortal Eclipse Valley's Junior Uncle. He once succeeded in refining a fifth-grade pill and drawing down pill tribulation."

If Qin Yu were here, he would definitely be left panic-stricken. This was almost all his background information, none of it omitted, in the jade slip.

The wooden cabin fell silent for a long time before the voice sounded out again. "Qin Yu comes from Immortal Eclipse Valley and is also inquiring into information related to five different elemental sources of magic power. If this is related to the Five Element Sword Array, then this is actually quite interesting."

Whoosh –

The doors to the wooden cabin seemed to ripple and then a jade slip flew out. It seemed as if this wooden cabin wasn't made from solid materials, but was actually condensed from some strange strength.

The hoarse voice continued, "Pass the information within the jade slip to him. At the same time, raise the rank of all information related to Qin Yu to...the second level."

The female cultivator's pupils shrank. She took the jade slip in both hands, bowed, and retreated.

"Immortal Eclipse Valley...it seems that we are connected by an inevitable fate!" For some unknown reason, hearing these words made a chill creep up from one's heart.

As the female cultivator pushed open the door, her gentle smile had already returned. "I apologize for having you wait. I beg your forgiveness."

Qin Yu waved his hand. "It's fine."

The female cultivator knelt down and placed the jade slip on the table. "The information that you want is in this jade slip. The price is marked at 100,000 spirit stones." This wasn't some lion opening its jaws for a greater price, but was the lowest price she could offer since the information was bestowed by her master. This price was only given after factoring in Qin Yu's second level status.

Qin Yu frowned. He hesitated for a long time and finally nodded. "Alright. But I will need to use several treasures in place of spirit stones."

The female cultivator smiled. "That is possible."

Qin Yu pulled out a storage bag. There were more than 80,000 spirit stones inside. Then, after a brief moment of thought, he took out another storage bag and retrieved three magic tools from within.

The female cultivator inspected them. "Without a doubt, these three magic tools are top quality Golden Core rank treasures. They can be exchanged for 20,000 spirit stones."

Qin Yu let out a breath of relief and pointed his finger.

The female cultivator nodded. "Guest, please feel free."

Qin Yu took the jade slip and probed it with his divine sense. Soon, he was engrossed in it, constantly praising the contents in his heart.

Sure enough, this was the Heavenseek Pavilion that was renowned for knowing all!

The jade slip contained a detailed and comprehensive method of cultivating five different elemental magic power sources. The summary was as follows: by using spiritual objects of the five elements as the root, one could use a secret method to refine them into one's dantian sea and condense five different elemental magic power sources.

Of course, it was impossible for the process to be this simple and it had extremely strict demands on the cultivator.

But this was enough!

This was because the greatest request in refining the five elemental spiritual objects was how powerful one's soul was. And for Qin Yu, this wasn't a problem.

Qin Yu read through the jade slip for a long time. After thoroughly memorizing everything within, he finally drew back his divine sense.

Kacha –

The jade slip shattered.

For some unknown reason, as Qin Yu looked at the shattered pieces of jade slip in his palm, he suddenly felt his heart beginning to race, as if a strange nervousness was getting ready to overtake him. He maintained his composure and said, "Your jade slip is quite mysterious. Although I didn't feel any spell or aura on it, it was actually able to self-destruct."

The female cultivator smiled. "You are not the first one to inquire into this matter, but since this involves secrets of Heavenseek Pavilion, I had no choice but to utilize this option."

Qin Yu nodded. "As it should be." He stood up and said, "The transaction is complete, so I will bid my farewells."

The female cultivator led him out, smiling all the while.

After leaving Heavenseek Pavilion, Qin Yu didn't stop. He sank into the crowds of people, soon disappearing from sight.

A moment later, he appeared outside Song City.

He looked down at the shattered jade slip pieces in his hands. A light flashed in his eyes. Along the way, he had tried several methods to investigate it, but he hadn't managed to discover anything.

As if this were nothing but a pile of ordinary jade slip fragments.

But if they were, why did his heart race just now?

After mulling it over for half a minute, Qin Yu shook his head and suppressed these thoughts. Magic power roiled in his palm and the jade slip fragments were crushed into powder.

Whoosh –

He shot up into the skies!

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In the rear courtyard of Heavenseek Pavilion, within the black wooden cabin, a hoarse voice chuckled. "What a smart and perceptive child. But if I couldn't hide things from the likes of you, how could I have established myself in Heavenseek Pavilion? Interesting, how interesting! Perhaps this old man should lend you a helping hand one more time."

The surface of the wooden cabin shimmered. A man with gray eyes and dressed all in black emerged. He knelt down on one knee and said, "Greetings, master."

"Ghost, pass Qin Yu the information concerning the matter that is occurring in the demonic path's sea region. Remember, be extra careful and make sure that he doesn't discover anything is amiss."

The black-robed man respectfully bowed. He drew back several steps and entered into the shadows of the trees and bushes. Like a mass of black water, he directly melted into them.

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Not too long after leaving Song City, Qin Yu fell to the ground. He made sure that no one followed him and then he changed direction, hurrying that way with all his strength.

Five elemental spiritual objects...

In Heavenseek Pavilion he had found a way to condense five different elemental sources of magic power. But even with a road opened in front of him, there were still countless hurdles hindering his way.

Spiritual objects. The reason they were called 'spiritual' was because they had developed their own spiritual wisdom, and thus had formed their own consciousness.

In a way, they were similar to spirit treasures, but the chances of them being born were actually far, far lower!

They needed to be formed through pure heaven and earth energy, bred by the world, and finally give birth to spiritual awareness.

But not all objects of the heavens and earth had the qualifications to be promoted to spiritual objects.

And most important of all, the rank had to be high enough!

The higher rank an object was, the more difficult it would be for it to give birth to its own spiritual awareness!

Otherwise, once a tree gave birth to its own spiritual awareness, it wouldn't be a spiritual object, but a monster.

Ordinary cultivators might never see such a spiritual object in their entire lives.

And what Qin Yu needed to prepare was five of them, and these five needed to have attributes according to the five elements.

The difficulty of this was no different than ascending to the heavens!

If he were to search all by himself, he was afraid that even if he spent all his years doing so, he wouldn't be able to collect them all. Thus, from the very start, Qin Yu planned to purchase them at exorbitant prices.

When he was at Heavenseek Pavilion and replaced spirit stones with magic tools, he had done so deliberately. There was still a small mountain of spirit stones in his storage ring. And even if he didn't have enough spirit stones, he also had a massive number of top grade pills, and if he didn't have enough top grade pills, he could continue refining them.

In short, as long as he could purchase something with spirit stones, Qin Yu need not worry about it.

A day later.

Northern Dynasty's Green Duck City.

Even though the name of the city was quite strange, it was actually very large. At this time, the sun was falling over the western skies and the fading light was stretching down the city walls, creating shadows that extended as far as the eye could see.

Qin Yu followed the light into the city. As he entered, a few stars were lighting up the skies.

A large cultivating city didn't follow the usual cycle of day and night. It was still incomparably lively, and the city was lit up just like daytime.

Qin Yu found an inn to rest at. He passed over several spirit stones and the grateful servant quickly followed his orders, slapping his chest in guarantee that he would accomplish it. Soon, a detailed and comprehensive list of the city's auction houses was respectfully handed to Qin Yu.

After sending the young servant away, Qin Yu sat down in front of a table and started carefully going over it.

Later, he rubbed his temples and mumbled, "I hope that there will be some harvests."

He pressed his fingers down and the paper dissolved into powder.

The next day, Qin Yu left the inn. He spent 10 spirit stones to buy an admission ticket into an auction.

This was a small auction without anything outstanding. Correspondingly, those participating also had average cultivations. Only a young man and woman at the early Golden Core realm were sitting in the front, their eyes closed and their expressions cold.

There were a great number of Foundation Establishment cultivators in the back, and they spoke quietly.

Qin Yu was brought in by an auction house worker.

“Senior, the auction will start soon. Please sit at the front.”

Qin Yu nodded and took a seat.

The auction house worker bowed before leaving.

The two Golden Cores beside him opened their eyes in surprise. They were also long-time patrons of the auction house but they had never received such a courteous reception before. This person looked strange and seemed to have an average aura. He also seemed to only be at the early Golden Core realm. Could it be that he had some amazing background?

As these thoughts appeared, a smile appeared on their previously cold faces. These days, it was extremely easy to offend or provoke someone. It was always best to be careful.

Qin Yu nodded back in return.

Seeing that Qin Yu didn't have any intention of talking, the two Golden Cores turned back after they made their greetings. They were even more sure that this person had some astonishing background.

Not mentioning anything else, just that calm demeanor was something ordinary cultivators couldn't compare with.

Soon, the auction began.

The bids were fast. Most of them were competed over by the Foundation Establishment cultivators in the back. No turbulent waves occurred, and the auction progressed quickly.

It was only when an old, deep sea blue shell came out that the eyes of the two Golden Cores brightened up. They began to bid.

At the same time, they couldn't help but glance at Qin Yu. Seeing that he had no intentions of bidding, they relaxed a little.

Finally, the sea shell was won by the female Golden Core cultivator. Although the other person was a bit disappointed, they could only force a smile and cup their hands in congratulations. The female cultivator was happy beyond compare. She nodded and then left. It was clear she had come for this item. After obtaining it, she had no intention of staying any longer.

Soon, the auction ended.

The cultivator responsible for managing the auction hesitated for a moment and then walked out. He cupped his hands together and asked, “Honored guest, may I ask how I can help you?”

A Golden Core cultivator's time was precious. How could they waste away two hours alone and bored?

Qin Yu said, "I have a transaction that I want to discuss with your auction house manager."

He had expressed his sincerity with his previous actions, so the auction house soon responded.

Two Golden Cores led Qin Yu into a chamber for further discussion. But soon after, the chamber opened and Qin Yu cupped his hands and bid his farewells.

As he left, the auction house manager could only bitterly smile. This was indeed a wealthy master, a truly wealthy master. Unfortunately, his standards were too high.

Five element spiritual objects. Even they had only ever heard of these things before and had never seen or handled them, so they naturally weren't able to offer them for sale.

### **Chapter 102 – Snowfall City**

As Qin Yu stepped out from the main gates, he frowned. He had chosen the city's largest auction house, but even they didn't have any news of what he wanted, much less the smaller ones. But since he came, he might as well try. After all, he never knew if there would be some unexpected harvests.

For the entire day, Qin Yu visited all the city's auction houses. He even stopped by many of the larger treasure shops. But, the reality proved that unexpected harvests weren't so easy to find.

He obtained nothing in the end.

Luckily he had already expected this. After cultivating for a day, he left right after. Although the Northern Dynasty was larger, there were relatively more cultivators in the Southern Empire, and the area down south was also more prosperous. The chances of him finding his five element spiritual objects would hopefully be higher.

Qin Yu travelled about for a month and a half. Slowly, the fatigue of travel appeared on his face as well as hints of weariness. Five large cultivator cities were each incomparably lively, but he didn't find anything in any of them.

But just as Qin Yu was left crestfallen, he inadvertently obtained some news from an auction house. Several days ago in Snowfall City, a phenomenon occurred; it was suspected that an ice-attribute spiritual object had been born.

The ice-attribute stemmed from the water-attribute, and could be considered one of the five elements. With hope rising in his heart, Qin Yu soared directly to Snowfall City.

Although the Southern Empire and Northern Dynasty were large territories, the size of the world was actually beyond imagination. The usual state of the land was a warm climate, and Snowfall City was no exception. Despite Snowfall City's name being snowfall, the truth was that snow hadn't fallen there for the last 100 years. The reason it had this name was because there was an eternally cold ice lake outside the city. For some unknown reason, this lake would remain ice cold all year round, and the surrounding hundred miles was also dropped to freezing temperatures. This was a climate change that occurred in a small scope.

A beam of light fell down, revealing Qin Yu's figure. He let out a breath and watched as the water vapor turned to white fog. He smiled.

He had arrived at Snowfall City!

Yun Xueqing seemed to have said that her family was in Snowfall City. But, he had come here for the express purpose of the ice-attribute spiritual object. If it wasn't important, he wouldn't bother her.

Qin Yu stepped forwards, soon appearing outside the city gates. The guards sensed his aura and hurriedly cupped their hands together in respect.

Shua –

Shua –

Two pairs of eyes swept over him. Qin Yu frowned. He didn't know why, but two masked Golden Core cultivators had looked at him with hostility in their eyes. However, this was only a glance and they soon turned away and entered the city.

After thinking about it a moment, Qin Yu realized what might have happened. It was likely that news of the suspected existence of the ice-attribute spiritual object had spread to the higher level cultivators, and those two people thought he had come for it, thus they subconsciously looked at him with some hostility.

Qin Yu's eyes brightened.

If he could meet two Golden Cores at the city gates then it could be imagined how many powerhouses had gathered within. If so, then it was likely this was more than a rumor. He had finally found a hint concerning the five element spiritual objects. Qin Yu's mood perked up. He looked towards the direction that the two Golden Cores departed in and smiled.

Not wrong, I also came here for the spiritual object. The rest of you can all stop here!

He strode into the city. First, he looked for a place to stay, and then he tried to find a way to obtain some news.

Qin Yu didn't want to bother Yun Xueqing, but he never imagined she would jump in front of him on her own initiative.

Yes, that was right, she jumped right in front of him.

He had taken a seat on the restaurant's second floor, near a window. The food and wine had been served up and he was preparing to quietly listen to all the rumors and gossip passing through when at this time the window suddenly broke apart and a pale-faced Yun Xueqing leapt through, falling straight on top of him.

In the final moments, Yun Xueqing forcefully changed directions. But the fluctuations of magic power still sent the table covered with food and wine scattering all over the place. If Qin Yu hadn't drawn back fast enough, he would have suffered a miserable fate.

"Fellow daoist Qin!" Yun Xueqing's angry expression turned to one of surprise.

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. "Miss Yun, I must say I am extremely flattered by such a unique welcoming method."



Yun Xueqing's face blushed red. But before she could say anything else, two more figures rushed in from the shattered window.

"Where do you think you're going?!"

"You're staying!"

Qin Yu frowned. He stepped forwards and punched out.

Bang –

The two figures froze, as if they had run into an invisible barrier. Then, they were sent flying out at a faster speed than they came in.

They spat out a mouthful of blood. Then, with looks of shock and horror, they turned and fled.

Qin Yu hesitated for a moment but didn't chase them down. He turned and asked, "Miss Yun, is there a problem?"

Yun Xueqing wryly smiled. "It's a long story. I'm lucky to have bumped into fellow daoist Qin here, otherwise I would have been in a great deal of trouble." She looked around. "This isn't a place to be talking. Fellow daoist Qin, please follow me back home."

Realizing that these words were a bit improper, she blushed red. She hurriedly explained, "After I returned, I reported to the family how fellow daoist Qin helped me. Father said that I have to express my thanks, and with what just happened today, fellow daoist Qin surely cannot refuse."

Qin Yu thought for a moment and nodded.

It's not that he really wanted to accept the Yun Family's thanks, but according to what he learned so far, the Yun Family could be considered a powerful force within Snowfall City, so they should have some understanding towards the ice-attribute spiritual object. If he could learn a bit from the Yun Family, it would be much more useful than him randomly wandering about and investigating on his own.

Yun Xueqing was overjoyed. "Fellow daoist Qin, please follow me!"

People from the Yun Family had already gathered at the restaurant's first floor. The only reason they hadn't run up earlier was because they saw that their family's miss was safe.

When they saw Yun Xueqing leading Qin Yu downstairs, they hurried forwards to ask about him.

Yun Xueqing gave them a simple explanation and sent them away. Then after thinking a bit, she said, "Fellow daoist Qin, please enter the carriage."

The carriage was in front of the restaurant and was being pulled by an exotic blue-haired beast. Its aura indicated that it was unexpectedly at the Foundation Establishment realm.

Without a doubt, this proved that Qin Yu's original guess was correct. This Yun Family had a considerable background.

The little tussle had already drawn a great deal of attention. Qin Yu didn't delay any further; he directly boarded the carriage.

Several of Yun Xueqing's personal maids seemed to stand behind him, their mouths subconsciously hanging open.

After boarding the carriage and sitting across from Yun Xueqing, Qin Yu finally realized why she had appeared slightly uncomfortable when she mentioned the carriage.

The space within the carriage was considerable. It could definitely be considered the personal room of a large family's daughter. The smell of fragrant warm incense filled the air, and the scent of a young girl was everywhere. In particular, there was a rack hanging off a screen that had several undergarments placed within. Although they were folded, this still left Yun Xueqing blushing deep red.

As Qin Yu watched her stuff all the clothes into a storage bag in a flustered panic, he closed his eyes and pretended as if he hadn't seen anything.

Yun Xueqing glanced at Qin Yu. As she noticed his closed eyes and how he seemed to be meditating, she immediately thought that he was a broad-minded person who knew how to act in situations. Although there wasn't any infatuation or deep sentiment between them, this didn't stop her from appreciating Qin Yu that much more.

She originally thought of having a nice talk with Qin Yu along the way, but she realized it wasn't good to say anything in such a situation. Fortunately, the Yun Family household wasn't too far away, so the young man and woman quietly waiting in the carriage weren't left too embarrassed.

The carriage came to a stop and the voices of the servants sounded out. Qin Yu opened his eyes.

Somehow, he could feel eyes on him. Yun Xueqing lowered her head and said, "Fellow daoist Qin, we've arrived. Please go first."

In this environment, Qin Yu was left fully uncomfortable. He quickly stood up and stepped off the carriage.

Before he could even get a good look around, the large gates leading to the Yun Family were pushed open and a youth in a red robe rushed out. As he saw the carriage, his eyes brightened and he loudly said, "Cousin, I heard that there were some people trying to take advantage of you in the city. Just tell me who they are, and I'll show...them..."

The youth suddenly froze in his steps, his eyes popping open as he saw Qin Yu step out of the carriage. He rapidly gesticulated. Although he didn't say anything, his eyes spoke loud and clear enough: who is this bastard!?

Qin Yu didn't say anything as he stepped out from the carriage.

Yun Xueqing followed behind.

The youth saw the blush that still hadn't left her face, and he suddenly turned red. He roared out, "Cousin, just who is he and why is he in your carriage!?"

He forgot his last question.

Yun Xueqing frowned. "Cousin, mind your manners. This is fellow daoist Qin Yu. I already mentioned him before. He was very helpful when I was forming my Golden Core."

The youth had a suspicious look. "Really?"

Yun Xueqing coldly coughed. "Do I need to lie to you? Get out of the way, I have to lead fellow daoist Qin inside. Is Father in? Or is he still in seclusion?"

The youth had no choice but to step back. Although he now knew who Qin Yu was, he couldn't help but remember the fact that had come out from Yun Xueqing's carriage. A trace of ill intent lingered in his eyes.

"Uncle is still in seclusion. This is a critical moment, so I fear he cannot greet any random guests!"

Yun Xueqing hurriedly said, "Fellow daoist Qin, please come in first. I will have people immediately inform Father. If the timing isn't good right now, then please stay here for some time and allow me to express my gratitude."

The youth shouted out, "How can you let unknown people stay here? I don't agree!"

"Fang Huohuo!" Yun Xueqing gnashed her teeth. "If you keep on causing a scene I will tell Aunty that you have been bullying me and have her send you away!"

Fang Huohuo finally shrank back.

Yun Xueqing revealed an apologetic expression. "My cousin is crude and impolite. I ask that fellow daoist Qin forgive him."

Qin Yu smiled. "It's fine."

Walking into the Yun Family, he realized that they had an unusually deep background. In these past days, Qin Yu hadn't set aside a period of time to thoroughly focus on array formations and spells, but he had glanced through many of the jade slips that Gu Shengping had left behind and his eyesight for these things was much sharper than before. At this time, he could see that throughout the beautiful and elegant Yun Family dwelling there was a light aura of exquisite array formations.

Clearly, if a powerful enemy were to invade, the beautiful scenery within this household could immediately transform into a terrifying, life-reaping slaughter machine!

Fang Huohuo coldly coughed. "The Yun Family household was personally designed by the old master of my Fang Family. Once the array formation is activated, anyone below the Nascent Soul realm will die!" As he spoke, there was a bit of contempt, two points of taunting, and a trace of self-satisfaction. Of course, these words also served as a warning.

Yun Xueqing's eyes widened. She immediately turned and glared at him, as if warning this brat to mind his own status and not develop any ill thoughts in his heart.

Qin Yu sighed inwardly, helpless with the situation. He even had doubts. How could someone with such a disposition and such emotional intelligence have cultivated to the Golden Core realm? Although he was only at the early Golden Core realm and his aura was clearly weak and shaky, he was still a Golden Core. As he recalled the pain and struggles he had to go through to reach Golden Core, he could only bitterly smile. He even had an impulse to hold the boy down and beat him senseless.

He turned around and looked at the array formation, not caring to respond.

Fang Huohuo's complexion darkened and he felt as if he had punched empty air. He found Qin Yu even more displeasing to the eyes.

Yun Xueqing noticed Qin Yu's indifferent expression and let out a sigh of relief, appreciating him even more. Then, she glared at her bastard cousin who had managed to step into some dogshit luck and accidentally achieve Golden Core somehow, and found him displeasing to her eyes. She wanted to drive him away but was also afraid of causing a violent reaction, so she could only ignore him.

The Yun Family main hall was almost the size of a small temple. It possessed considerable grandeur. Several Yun Family members had been informed by servants and were walking out with smiling expressions.

"Fellow daoist Qin's visit is a true honor to my Yun Family's humble home. Please come inside for a chat!" The second master of the Yun Family emphatically said as he cupped his hands together. From Xueqing's description, it was easy to piece together that Qin Yu was a tyrannically strong and mighty wandering cultivator. This sort of person had no worries or cares and acted entirely on their desires. These types of people that didn't have a foundation or origin were most difficult to deal with, and although the Yun Family didn't fear him, he had still rescued Xueqing in the past. So, it was best to be on good terms with him if they had the opportunity to make it so. This was the best choice for a large respected family.

### **Chapter 103 – The Killing Outside the City**

Qin Yu smiled and bowed in return. After exchanging several greetings, he entered the hall and took a seat.

Some casual talk later, Yun Yi suddenly switched to a different topic. He spoke with deep respect, "Xueqing is the youngest daughter of my older brother. Even amongst the many talented juniors, she stands out in particular, and can even be called the future hope of my Yun Family. Fellow daoist saved her from danger and even helped her during her Golden Core tribulation. This is a great graciousness towards my Yun Family, and one that must be repaid. My Yun Family has prepared a small gift, and I hope that fellow daoist Qin won't decline it."

Yun Yi clapped his hands. A Yun Family junior walked out, passing over a storage bag with both hands.

Qin Yu waved his hand. "I am friends with Miss Xueqing, so saving her was a matter of course. I only came here as a guest visiting a friend's family, so please take the gift back."

Miss Xueqing, Miss Xueqing, you sure like to refer to her in such an intimate way. This damned bastard, could it be that he really came here for her!?

Fang Huohuo gnashed his teeth together. He couldn't help but bare his teeth. "Could it be that it's not good enough for you, so you have something else you want?"

Yun Yi and the several other people revealed awkward expressions. However, Fang Huohuo had a special status here, so they couldn't publicly admonish him. Instead they just pretended they didn't hear him. Yun Yi coughed and said, "Fellow daoist Qin, do you have anything you need? As long as it is within the power of our Yun Family, we will try our best."

Qin Yu thought for a moment. Then he cupped his hands together and asked, "I do have something I've been thinking of."

Fang Huohuo sneered twice. The meaning behind this was that he had been right all along!

Yun Yi extended a hand. "Fellow daoist Qin, please speak."

Qin Yu said, "I heard that an ice-attribute spiritual object appeared in Snowfall City some time ago, and I have some interest in that. I wonder if you have any information concerning this?"

The hall suddenly quieted down and the atmosphere turned strange.

Yun Yi's complexion darkened. He coldly said, "Fellow daoist Qin, our Yun Family cannot agree to this request."

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows. He didn't know why, but the Yun Family's attitude had undergone a massive change.

Seeing his confused expression, Fang Huohuo curled his lips. Keep acting, keep acting! Just wait for grandfather to come and tear you down!

"Qin Yu, I really do admire you for being such a greedy lion! You rescued my cousin one time, so on that alone you want to take away the Yun Family's treasure?"

Qin Yu instantly realized what the problem was.

Yun Xueqing had an awkward expression. "Fellow daoist Qin, this ice-attribute treasure belongs to my Yun Family."

Qin Yu bitterly smiled. He had come to someone's house and had unknowingly inquired into their family's treasure, so it was no wonder that they all had ugly complexions. If it were anyone else, they would also be reacting in the same way! He cupped his hands across his chest and earnestly said, "I apologize. I was being reckless. I just arrived in Snowfall City, so I didn't know this."

Yun Yi nodded. "So that's how it is. Since I cannot provide any information, I ask fellow daoist Qin to accept the gift." His words seemed a bit distant and estranged. These days, who in Snowfall City didn't know that the ice-attribute treasure was in the Yun Family? Why else would they need to open the array formation in the household? He simply didn't believe Qin Yu.

Qin Yu fell silent.

Fang Huohuo thought Qin Yu was embarrassed and immediately revealed a happy smile. With what happened today, this brat was no longer a threat!

Yun Xueqing didn't believe that Qin Yu was some conniving individual who would try to take advantage of saving her to seek out the treasure of her Yun Family. She tried to explain, "Fellow daoist Qin has always been in seclusion in a distant mountain range, so it isn't surprising that he doesn't know this information."

Qin Yu looked up. "I don't need a gift. But, since the ice-attribute spiritual object is in the Yun Family, I wonder whether we can make a transaction?"

Fang Huohuo's eyes popped open. How could this bastard have such thick skin? Even after having his plot exposed, he still openly and honestly proposed something else instead.

Transaction? He just wants the ice-attribute spiritual treasure!

Yun Yi's voice sank. "Fellow daoist Qin, please watch your words!"

The several other Yun Family elders also had grim expressions.

Qin Yu said, "I know how offensive my sudden request may be, but this treasure is extremely important to me. If the Yun Family is willing to sell it, I am willing to pay an equally great price."

Fang Huohuo chuckled. "Great price? Fellow daoist Qin is a wandering cultivator, so you might not know how deep our family's background is. I apologize for my rudeness, but I really cannot imagine what fellow daoist Qin can offer that will move the Yun Family."

Qin Yu lifted a finger. "One million spirit stones."

The hall fell deathly silent once more.

Even the young and arrogant Fang Huohuo was left dumbfounded with a completely stunned expression.

A million spirit stones. No matter who it was, this was an extremely vast amount of wealth. The Yun Family might be able to take out such an amount, but they would definitely have to sell off all their property and possessions.

Gudong –

It was unknown who gulped, but it was particularly loud in the silence.

Yun Yi regained his composure, but he still had a bewildered look. "Fellow daoist Qin, this joke isn't amusing."

Qin Yu said, "If the Yun Family agrees, I will come back in one month with the spirit stones."

At this point, no one thought he was joking any longer.

The eyes of several Yun Family elders glowed with a burning heat. They never imagined that such an ordinary-looking cultivator would have such astonishing wealth.

One million spirit stones!

This vast amount of wealth was enough to spur even an old Nascent Soul monster to action. If they were to make him stay...

The atmosphere in the hall became increasingly heavy.

Qin Yu looked as if he hadn't sensed anything at all.

Suddenly, a calm voice echoed from outside. "No matter how many spirit stones it is, our Yun Family will not sell the ice-attribute spiritual object!"

A middle-aged cultivator strode in. Within his pupils was a deep majesty and dignity.

This aura...

Hollow Nascent Soul!

Yun Xueqing hurriedly stepped forwards. "Father..." She hesitated.

Yun Fan lifted a hand. "Fellow daoist Qin has saved my daughter and I am deeply grateful for that. As long as it is something else besides the ice-attribute spiritual object, I will try my best to not refuse!"

Qin Yu sighed inwardly, finally understanding a little of why the Yun Family would have such a firm attitude about this. The Yun Family master had likely prepared this ice-attribute spiritual object in preparation for a Nascent Soul breakthrough. Compared to a Nascent Soul cultivator, even a million spirit stones weren't enough.

He stood up and cupped his hands together. "If so, then I apologize for disturbing you all. Farewell."

Yun Fan nodded in return. "My words remain true. If fellow daoist Qin decides to change your decision in the future, feel free to tell me. Men, come and deliver fellow daoist Qin from our household!"

Qin Yu walked away.

Yun Xueqing started to chase after him but was stopped by Yun Fan's shout. "Stop!"

"Father!"

Yun Fan frowned. "Sit down!"

Yun Xueqing's eyes turned red, but in the end she didn't dare to disobey. She sat down, a bit depressed.

Yun Yi and the others bowed. "Greetings, Patriarch."

Fang Huohuo's face was full of smug satisfaction. "Uncle, it was I who discovered that person's reckless ambitions first!"

Yun Fan nodded and sat in the seat of honor.

An elder hesitated repeatedly before saying, "Patriarch, if Qin Yu dared to offer a million spirit stones, he must be wealthy. Why did we let him leave so easily?" As the elder sensed Yun Xueqing's angry eyes on him, he coughed awkwardly and said, "Moreover, he was the first to have thoughts for my Yun Family's treasure."

Yun Fan frowned. "There is no need to mention this anymore. Qin Yu saved Xueqing, and our Yun Family has never been one to repay graciousness with enmity. And, do you really think he can come up with a million spirit stones?"

Yun Yi gasped, "Does Patriarch believe he was probing us?"

The other elders were suddenly enlightened. They clenched their jaws, feeling as if they had been played with.

"Just what sort of vast wealth is a million spirit stones? Even a Nascent Soul cultivator might not be able to take it out, much less a wandering cultivator that lives in seclusion!"

“My mind was shaken for a moment so I wasn’t able to think of such a possibility. To think how that person must have looked at us like a joke, how hateful of him!”

“That must be it!”

Fang Huohuo relaxed a little. So that wolf Qin Yu was actually pretending to have a large tail! Indeed, how could someone like that actually be richer than himself?

“Uncle, that Qin Yu must be probing our Yun Family for others!”

Yun Fan nodded. “That is a possibility.”

“Humph! I think that Uncle’s cultivation must have scared Qin Yu so he left without saying a word.” Fang Huohuo sneered.

Yun Yi and the others nodded in agreement.

Yun Fan turned, “Xueqing, in the future don’t associate with that person anymore.”

Yun Xueqing was left panic-stricken. “Dad, fellow daoist Qin is not that kind of person!”

Yun Fan shouted, “Dad doesn’t care who he is, but from what I can tell, he is not an ordinary person of his generation. Do you understand me?”

Yun Xueqing opened her mouth to speak, but, not knowing what to say, she finally fell silent.

.....

After leaving Snowfall City and looking at the great icy lake, Qin Yu shook his head and bitterly smiled.

The ice-attribute spiritual object was actually in the hands of the Yun Family...

Yun Xueqing has saved his life, and even if she didn’t know about it, he couldn’t pretend that he didn’t.

Great waves surged in the depths of his heart as he struggled with his morals. But in the end, he finally gave up any thoughts of moving against the Yun Family.

If it were anyone else, so what if they had a Hollow Nascent Soul? Did they really think he would fear them?

It was time to go. Since he couldn’t move to steal it, staying in Snowfall City any longer was just a waste of time.

Shua –

With a flash of light, Qin Yu shot into the skies. But soon, his complexion changed. He grimaced as he looked forwards.

The light smell of blood flowed in the wind. The sounds of cries and wails could be heard nearby.

If these were ordinary killings, Qin Yu had seen these things many times before, so he wouldn’t even pay attention.

But these cries and screams seemed to be coming from women and little children.



Whoosh –

Qin Yu's speed quickened. After crossing over a steep slope, he saw what was occurring.

This was clearly a deliberate killing.

The guards were all being killed. Only a few men were still fighting a dying battle. The caravan had been cut off into sections and several carriages were burning, and the sight was even more eye-catching as it reflected against the blood. The corpses of women and children were lying all over the ground. As Qin Yu saw this, his pupils shrank.

Bang –

The ground disintegrated. Qin Yu rushed forth, his fist rumbling out. A black-clothed man slashing about with a saber was sent flying backwards as he shouted out pitifully. The sounds of breaking bones filled the air and the man became a pile of ruined meat before he even landed on the ground. Like a tiger breaking into a flock of sheep, Qin Yu angrily attacked. In several breaths of time, several more black-clothed men died on the spot.

"There's a master!"

"Run!"

The leftover black-clothed men turned tail and fled.

Qin Yu chased them down, killing three more. After thinking about it, he didn't continue his slaughter.

Cries came from the caravan.

Several of the fighting men fell to the ground, wounds all over their bodies. They bowed in gratitude, saying, "Thank you for saving us, senior!"

A trace of anger flashed in Qin Yu's eyes. "What happened that these people would be so ruthless?"

Several men revealed looks of hesitation.

At this time, a young woman staggered forwards. Her hair was scattered and she carried a little bloodied corpse against her chest. She fell to her knees, "Senior, my Li Family unintentionally obtained a messaging jade slip, so we suffered this great calamity. My family's master died long ago, leaving just me and my son. But now, even my son has died, and I have nothing left to live for. I am willing to give this jade slip to my lord in the hope that you will take revenge for my fallen son and family!"

Puff –

She thrust a dagger into her heart. Blood dripped down from the corners of her lips and she fell over, dead. Her hand opened to reveal a black jade slip that still had demonic energies lingering on it.

"Mistress!"

With sad cries, several guards knelt down. They bowed, "My lord, please take revenge for my Li Family!"

The entire caravan was full of sobbing cries.

Qin Yu looked at the dead woman's wide eyes and the child corpse she still held against her chest. After a long moment of silence, he slowly said, "I will help you with this."

He reached out and took the jade slip.

This was his payment. Only after taking it would he have the justification to kill others.

Qin Yu didn't know what was in the jade slip nor did he have any intention of examining it. "Who killed the Li Family? Tell me."

Moments later, he shot up into the skies. Winds swept against his face, curling away his hair to reveal the cold killing intent surging in his eyes!

#### **Chapter 104 – Demonic Path News**

800 miles south of Snowfall City, there was a small city called Green Forest. There was a large clan within the city called the Dou Family. On this day, the doors of the Dou Family were tightly shut and all guards inside and out were on high alert. Every master of the family had been summoned back on emergency, and they were urgently discussing matters within a meeting chamber.

"According to the report of the clan members, the one who rescued the Li Family must be a Golden Core cultivator!"

"And they are no ordinary Golden Core cultivator. I estimate that they are at least at the middle stage boundary."

"They might even possibly be at the late stage boundary. You've all seen the corpses that were brought back. A single punch shattered every bone in their bodies. This sort of strength is too terrifying!"

The more they discussed, the more the Dou Family was left flustered in a panic, until they eventually began dripping sweat from their foreheads. Since when had the Li Family found such a formidable friend? As longtime enemies, the Dou Family had an extremely deep understanding of the Li Family. After a great deal of discussion later, they concluded that the one who saved the Li Family must have been a powerhouse that was passing by. That powerhouse should have been unhappy with the ruthless actions of the Dou Family, so they chose to interfere.

This point left everyone within the Dou Family slightly more relaxed.

If it were a passerby, then killing those they found abhorrent at the scene would have been enough. Why would they continue to stand up for the Li Family and even create difficulties for their Dou Family? The only pity was that the juniors of their family had died too tragically. Still, the high level figures of the Dou Family understood that no matter how angry they were, no matter how much they fumed, they could only choose to swallow this insult and not do anything.

The Dou Family Patriarch said in a low voice, "Enough. Three days have passed and that mysterious powerhouse still hasn't come, so this matter should have already ended. But, to prevent any accidents, we will push back the matter of exterminating the Li Family. All that is left of them are some women and children. We will look for an opportunity in the future to finish them off."

"Yes, Patriarch!" The Dou Family masters all rose up and bowed.

Suddenly, a bone-chilling voice sounded out from the other side of the door. "For many years the Dou Family has maliciously encroached upon the property of the Li Family, and for that reason alone, you have even decided to murder them all. For such a reprehensible and depraved crime, all of you deserve to be executed!"

"Who is it!?" Dou Zhan roared with anger.

The doors to the chamber swung open. Qin Yu walked in, his face cold and heartless, no emotions showing.

After a moment, he turned and left. The doors to the chamber closed behind him.

Afterwards, as the dark night arrived and the Dou Family members didn't hear any sounds coming from the chamber, they tried knocking and calling out. But when no response came, they carefully pushed open the doors.

Then, everyone froze in place and their complexions turned paper white.

Dou Zhan had been beheaded. It wasn't just him, but the 17 other Dou Family masters within the chamber had all died brutal and violent deaths, all of them having their heads and bodies separated!

By this time, Qin Yu had already left Green Forest City. He chose to execute the villainous masterminds behind the killings and didn't involve the ordinary clansmen of the Dou Family.

The reason he waited for three days to pass was because he had to carefully investigate the relationship of grudges and enmity between the Li Family and Dou Family. He didn't want to wrongly murder anyone.

This was extremely simple. In a single day, Qin Yu had thoroughly verified all the deeds of the Dou Family. Their conduct was simply disgusting, with acts of evil committed everywhere. For the remaining two days, he left the Dou Family alone as they called in their masters. Since he was going to kill these people, he might as well finish them all off. If he killed one more evil person, then, in this world, that might mean several other innocent individuals may live on in the future.

Qin Yu never thought he was some selfless and righteous hero that stood on the moral high ground.

But, there were always some things he could not endure.

Perhaps, this could be called a bottom line.

Light flashed in his hand and a black jade slip appeared. Qin Yu softly said, "Li Family, I have taken revenge for you. Please rest in peace."

Hu –

Winds stirred up the air and the leaves rustled, as if the dead were expressing their thanks, or even their vindication.

Qin Yu was silent for several moments. Then, he probed the jade slip with his divine sense. He wanted to take a good look at just what sort of news would cause the Dou Family to be so ruthless, to the point where they would even utterly annihilate the Li Family!

After some time, Qin Yu laid down the jade slip. A complex color lit up his features. He didn't know just what he should be feeling right now.

After meeting failure at Snowfall City's Yun Family, he had left the city, whereupon he encountered a killing taking place. By saving their remnants he obtained a jade slip, and this jade slip unexpectedly contained secret news related to the demonic path.

There was heavy movement occurring in the demonic path's sea region. It seemed that some sort of treasure was involved, and these were...five element spiritual objects!

Yes, that was right, it was five element spiritual objects.

And there was more than one of them.

Qin Yu never imagined he would obtain such precious information in such a manner.

Could this be the dark and silent call of fate, finding a way to give back to him for his good deeds?

After thinking for a long time, Qin Yu let out a deep breath. A new resolution filled his expression.

It seemed that he would need to make a trip to the sea region.

.....

The Southern Empire was to the south and the Northern Dynasty was to the north. Both of these landmasses were enormous, so enormous that a normal cultivator would never be able to travel the length of the land in their entire life. As for the common people, it was even more impossible.

But even if both landmasses were combined together, it was still less than a tenth of the sea region's size, in fact, it wasn't even 1%! This was because through the endless years, there had never been anyone who had managed to cross the ocean. It seemed to stretch infinitely far, as vast and unending as the endless starry skies.

Islands would occasionally emerge in the vast sea region. They were like pearls that dotted the deep endless blue. Since ancient times, there were cultivators who entered the sea area and would settle in and live on these islands. In general, these people were called oversea cultivators.

Of course, they were at most considered guests, and not the true masters of the sea region. The ones that truly controlled the entire sea region, the ones that were the overlords of the sea, were the monster race, a race with a terrifying population – a population so large that it was uncountable! Many years ago, there were human cultivators who already predicted that if it weren't for the mere fact that the monster races of the sea were unable to leave the sea for too long, the Southern Empire and Northern Dynasty would have long since been annexed by them.

At this time Qin Yu was in this sea region, and below him was a small island around 10 miles large. This island had clearly been terraformed through the hands of others. Verdant green trees swayed in the gentle sea breeze.

"Fellow daoist, come down and take a rest! After this island, there isn't another place to stay for the next several thousand miles!" Beneath a tent, a sea supplies-selling cultivator shouted out loudly in

greeting. His skin had been tanned dark by the constant sun, and his white eyes stood out in stark contrast.

Sea supplies sounded like a very general term, but in fact, it was essential equipment for all cultivators stepping foot into the sea region.

For instance, a simple directional compass. With this simple magic tool one could maintain direction in the directionless sea region.

There was also a Thousandcraft House. This was a type of treasure that was woven and refined with special types of vines. It could be folded and unfolded at will and after opening, it would transform into a small wooden house. This house could float on the sea for several years, and was unaffected by seawater or ordinary waves. It was an excellent choice for temporarily resting.

Finally, there was the Windhearing Conch. There was a special type of sea life form that would leave behind a conch shell when it died, and by listening to this conch, one could hear the sounds of storms from far away. Cultivators who had never experienced a sea storm before would never understand just how terrifying they truly were! If one were unlucky, then even a Golden Core cultivator would disappear in the raging winds.

Qin Yu fell down. He cupped his hands together, "I'm afraid I must leave fellow daoist disappointed. I already purchased everything I needed before coming here."

The cultivator beneath the tent grinned. "It's fine. As long as you come down I can sell you some other small things. It doesn't matter how small the profit is; gathering a few small grains of sand at a time will eventually form a mountain."

This person was actually quite direct.

Qin Yu smiled and sat down. "My name is Qin Yu. Fellow daoist is considerably confident. I would like to see just what sort of good items you have."

"My name is Hu Three. Yes, I know it sounds like a fake name, but it really is my real name. If I have to blame someone, it would be my old father and mother. When they gave me a name they were too flippant about it." Hu Three's honest disposition and seemingly genuine attitude made it easy to have a favorable impression of him. He suddenly lowered his voice, "There are many cultivators that pass by the island every day, but I rarely greet them. Does fellow daoist Qin know why?"

Qin Yu raised an eyebrow.

Hu Three smiled in self-satisfaction. "When I look at someone, I can get an approximate judgement of them, and seven or eight times out of 10 I will be correct. Fellow daoist Qin, you have an average aura at the Foundation Establishment realm and there isn't anything too conspicuous about you, but, I am sure that you absolutely are an unordinary person. Don't ask me how I can tell, because this sort of thing is only a feeling that I have. It isn't something I can explain."

Qin Yu's expression didn't change. "If so, then does fellow daoist Hu have something good to trade with such an unordinary person like me?"

Hu Three nodded. "Netherworld Ship." The earnest expression lasted for less than a second on his face before it was broken apart. He smiled, "What about it? Do you have any interest?"

Qin Yu's eyes brightened. Since he stepped into the sea region, he had naturally carried out his own investigation and study of the area. He of course knew of the illustrious reputation of the Netherworld Ship.

Moreover, the place he wanted to go needed the Netherworld Ship to open the way!

In the legends, it was said that in ancient times, there was a ship with 10,000 people that had gone missing at sea. The ship reappeared hundreds of years later, and besides a ruined hull, it was actually in nearly perfect condition. However, the 10,000 people on board the ship had vanished without a trace. Some people boarded the ship and found that it was actually able to pull those on board to an area of the sea region that was filled with hidden rocks and the cold strength of the sea. In this place, ghosts flitted in and out and there was a massive number of variation sea monster beasts, all of them vicious and bloodthirsty beings. But at the same time, there were also countless precious treasures to be found, so many that it left the eyes of innumerable cultivators red with greed.

This ship was called the Netherworld Ship and the strange sea region was called the Netherworld Sea. The demonic path jade slip mentioned a great deal of information, and although it didn't directly state anything, clues and hints continued referring to the Netherworld Sea!

Hu Three waited patiently, with a fully confident expression, unafraid that Qin Yu didn't want to make a trade.

Qin Yu's thoughts raced. He lightly asked, "There is no cultivator who steps into the sea region that isn't interested in the Netherworld Ship. But, how do I know your information is correct?"

Hu Three raised a finger. "Fellow daoist Qin should ask around. I have been here for dozens of years and never have I sold any false news. If I had, then my reputation and even my body would have long since been torn to pieces and fed to the fishes."

Qin Yu suddenly stood up. As Hu Three was confused, he saw that Qin Yu had headed over to another merchant cultivator like Hu Three and was starting to talk to them in a low voice.

This person, he really was asking around!

Hu Three's lips twitched. Could you make it a bit less obvious that you didn't trust my words?

After a moment, Qin Yu strolled back. He nodded, "Fellow daoist Hu, I will purchase your information."

Hu Three's complexion changed several times. Then, he squeezed out a smile and said, "Fellow daoist Qin is quite careful."

Qin Yu said, "I also think that there is never a time when it is wrong to be too careful."

Hu Three immediately decided to not talk any more nonsense. Otherwise, he was afraid he wouldn't be able to suppress his anger and would ruin this business transaction.

He stretched out a hand, "1000 spirit stones, this is not a fake price."

Qin Yu didn't bat an eyelash. "300."

Blue veins popped up on Hu Three's head. He had seen low counteroffers before, but never one so low!

Cutting in half was fine, but he actually dared to instantly ask for a 70% reduction.

Hu Three sucked in a deep breath. "800. If it weren't for the sake of friendship, I would never make such a low exchange with anyone else!"

Qin Yu's expression didn't change. "400. That's the limit."

Hu Three sucked in a deep breath. He growled out, "Fellow daoist Qin, this is the Netherworld Ship, the Netherworld Ship that represents countless opportunities! If you are late, you might not be able to catch up!"

Qin Yu said, "But, there is also a chance that it is the real Netherworld Ship, a journey of no return."

Hu Three was left dumbfounded. Every time the Netherworld Ship appeared, there would always be some people that gained massive fortunes.

But there were even more that died.

He clenched his jaws. "600. If it is even a little less, then I won't make the sale!"

Qin Yu faintly smiled. "Deal."

After a moment, the hopeless beyond crying Hu Three sent the rested fellow daoist Qin Yu away.

But as Qin Yu's figure disappeared from sight, his sorrow turned to sly joy. "Hehe, brat, you want to fight with me? You are too na?ve!"

## **Chapter 105 – Killing Intent**

At this time, the 'brat' that Old Hu spoke of had calmly left the islands. Using the guiding compass, he soared straight towards the place where the Netherworld Ship would appear. He was naturally aware that 600 spirit stones was already a great loss for the merchant. After all, once information was spread out, its value would rapidly diminish.

When Qin Yu had haggled with Hu Three, he had done so observing the merchant's actions. This was all in order to determine just how much residual value was left in this news. Finally, he was able to feel a bit more peace in his heart. The news of the Netherworld Ship shouldn't spread out too widely. While he wasn't the first, he also wouldn't be in the last group of people that knew.

Of course, another reason was to inform the surrounding people that he was disgustingly poor, that he was just some skinny sheep that could only afford several hundred spirit stones. The sea region was unfathomably fast, and to some degree, the chaos and lurking dangers far surpassed those of the land. Although he wasn't afraid, it was better if there was less trouble incoming.

As he sped along, he didn't encounter any strokes of bad luck. He didn't see the horrifying tsunamis that the people in the sea region spoke of, nor did he encounter any bandits trying to kill him and steal his possessions. Besides some unlucky sea monsters that leapt at him and were easily solved with a few punches, his journey went inconceivably smoothly.

Half a month later, he had travelled at least 100,000 miles and reached the range of the deep sea. Of course, this so-called deep sea was only a point of reference used by cultivators. In the context of the entire sea region, this depth might only be considered the very edge of the periphery.

Three black islands were gathered in a triangular formation. Vortexes often appeared in the surroundings before vanishing, proving just how harsh the underwater environment was. Qin Yu carefully looked over the islands before determining that these were the Three Mountain Islands, and he smiled happily.

He had finally arrived!

The three islands were extremely close to each other, and each island had an active volcano situated atop it, thus together they were called the Three Mountain Islands. Due to the instability of the underground volcanoes, the surrounding sea reef area was filled with treacherous and complex terrain. Although the three islands weren't small, only a very small number of people ever visited, and even then they mostly stopped for the night to rest before leaving again. These could be called relatively abandoned islands.

But at this time, there were pavilions built up all over the three islands. In just a dozen some days, several streets had formed, all of them lively. There were trading fairs all over and countless cultivators were visiting, with boisterous and bustling activity everywhere.

Qin Yu fell down. Although he wasn't surprised by what he saw, he still sighed inwardly. The Netherworld Ship had a limited carrying capacity. No one knew what this limit was, but once enough people stepped on board, no one else would be able to join.

And first come first serve was not an absolute principle here. As long as a cultivator outside the ship could kill a cultivator on the ship, then they could automatically replace them. And, the time that the ship would remain docked for from the moment it appeared wasn't consistent either. If one was lucky it might set sail after an hour, and if one was unlucky, it could stay for a day or even longer.

But no matter how long the ship stayed, the only difference was how much blood flowed. There would always be people that died, and those interested in the Netherworld Ship were all aware of this. Thus, the atmosphere atop the islands was also quite solemn. Besides friends and companions, people would look at strangers with cold intent in their eyes. Perhaps not too long from now, these strangers would be pointing swords in their direction!

Qin Yu melted into the stream of people as he headed to the islands. Suddenly, he frowned. He could feel a cold chill percolate in the air. He turned around to look, but all he saw were people surging around him and that uneasy feeling had already disappeared. However, Qin Yu didn't believe that his feeling had been wrong. Someone had noticed him and had revealed killing intent too.

Just who was it?

Qin Yu carefully looked about. Even after looking as far as he could, he couldn't spot a single familiar face.

Taking a deep breath, he gathered his thoughts and turned to leave.

He had already raised his guard.



He had just arrived at Three Mountain Islands and someone had revealed killing intent towards him. No matter how he looked at it, the situation was just horrendous.

It seemed that he would need to be much more careful.

At an inn that had temporarily opened up on Three Mountain Islands, Qin Yu purchased a room to live in until the Netherworld Shop appeared. The arrangements were simple and crude, yet the price was ridiculously high. But at the very least, using these spirit stones had bought him a slightly safer place to live, so he considered it money well spent.

The atmosphere on the island remained tense. Unless anything happened, Qin Yu didn't want to get to know anyone and he didn't plan on leaving his room either. He simply calmly waited for the Netherworld Ship to arrive.

....

On another island, several cultivators entered a room and tightly shut the door behind them. The one leading them turned and said, "Fellow daoist Qi, why did you suddenly expose killing intent to someone? That person had sharp senses and nearly locked onto us."

Qi Quan had an ugly complexion. He took out a bronze mirror with a mottled surface. "Senior-apprentice Sister Xiang perished soon after she passed this treasure to me, and when I saw that cultivator today, the bronze mirror fluctuated. I am positive that this person killed her!" He clenched his jaws. "Elder Han, we must take revenge for her!"

Han Shanye frowned. After several moments of silence he said, "Fellow daoist Qi, the Saint Lord has placed great expectations upon us, and we cannot be the least bit careless in our actions! In these past days the sea monster royal family has already detected us, so we cannot allow further complications." He paused for a moment and then continued, "If you want to take revenge, then you can do so once the Netherworld Ship arrives. There won't be any more opportunities once we enter the Netherworld Sea."

What he said was the truth. And, the most important reason of all was that Qin Yu emitted a feeling that he was incredibly tricky to deal with. So, if he couldn't provoke this person, it was best to stay as far away from him as possible. If there were someone that was capable of killing Xiang Ruyun, that person inevitably had to have some methods of their own. If this Qi fellow was willing to risk his life for his dead love, then he simply wasn't worth the trouble!

Qi Quan felt hurried. Once the Netherworld Ship arrived and thousands of cultivators boarded at the same time, there would inevitably be a bloody slaughter. At that time it would be far more difficult to lock onto Qin Yu. And after entering the Netherworld Sea, the chances of meeting him would be astronomically low.

He had already guessed that Han Shanye wasn't willing to provoke this person. With his thoughts racing, he said, "Elder Han, you have personally witnessed the strength of my bronze mirror. And according to what I know, Senior-apprentice Sister Xiang obtained this mirror by cooperating with some people and delving into the cave dwelling of an ancient cultivator. This person is likely one of the cultivators that Senior-apprentice Sister Xiang worked with."

Han Shanye shook his head, "If we can definitely obtain some harvests, then killing him is a possibility. But, no one can be sure whether or not this is the case."

Qi Quan felt his heart fall to his stomach. "Elder Han might as well try first. If there are no harvests to be found, then I will give you this bronze mirror as compensation."

Han Shanye's eyes brightened. "Are you serious?"

Qin Quan growled, "I want him to die without a grave!"

Han Shanye laughed, "Good!"

.....

Beyond the borders of the Three Mountain Islands, within the murky ink-dark seawater, several huge shadows were hidden beneath the surface.

"Have you found anything?"

"We've already locked onto them. They are on the Three Mountain Islands right now."

"There are many cultivators on the islands. If we were to directly take them away, I fear we would arouse trouble."

"What kind of trouble can there be? These human cultivators are moving about in the territory of us sea races, do they dare to disrespect us?!"

Fluctuations of divine sense silently passed through the water as the shadows communicated with each other.

The largest shadow said, "Enough. These human cultivators are not easy to deal with. These days, their relationship with us sea races is considered relatively stable, so we should try to avoid conflict if possible. We will move in secret to avoid alerting them."

The other shadows nodded.

Whoosh –

The water's surface broke apart. The shadows hovered for a moment before diving deeper into the sea and vanishing from sight.

....

Qin Yu prepared for the arrival of the Netherworld Ship. He continued to adjust his condition to its peak state even as he remained as low key as he could be. He didn't reveal his strength to anyone. This was because after entering the Netherworld Sea region, it would be a cruel and brutal slaughterfest, and that would be the time to display his true abilities. It was because of this reason that he stayed in his room and meditated. However, things never went the way one expected. As Qin Yu was refining some pills, he suddenly frowned.

Pa –

He slapped his hands on the ground and moved several feet to the side, avoiding a black stick of iron that pierced into the ground.

Bang –

The round cushion was pierced through. It was torn into pieces as it couldn't withstand the powerful waves of strength.

Qin Yu's heart chilled. This wasn't because the person was unable to control their strength, but because they had intentionally destroyed the round cushion to interfere with his line of sight.

As this thought formed, there was the sound of breaking air. Several dark beams of light appeared behind him, soaring straight towards his head!

Before they arrived, a faint smell entered Qin Yu's nose. Qin Yu slapped out with his palm and a vast wave of strength gushed out and imprisoned the beams of dark light.

But in the next moment, his complexion changed. He stepped backwards, retreating until he smashed back through the wall.

Bang –

Bang –

With a low burst, the beams of dark light exploded at the same time. Small fragments blew out in all directions with a terrifying destructive strength.

Qin Yu flicked his sleeves, sending all the fragments flying away. His eyes instantly locked onto a shadow. Although there wasn't anyone there, there was clearly a quiver in his divine sense.

A fist smashed out. It was violent and ruthless like a raging river, carrying forth unprecedented momentum.

The shadow distorted. A black-robed figure appeared. With a cold snort, the figure thrust out his hand.

But, it seemed that he had underestimated the power of Qin Yu's fist. With one stuffy cough after another, anger shined in the mysterious figure's eyes.

However, this figure was clearly wary. His eyes flashed and he turned to leave.

Qin Yu stepped forwards and he soared up like an eagle. He was sure that this black-robed figure was absolutely related to the killing intent he had sensed earlier. Since the other party had revealed themselves, there was no way he would let them go!

As for exposing his strength...Qin Yu suddenly thought that this might be a suitable time to do so. He could avoid many future troubles before he boarded the Netherworld Ship. Now that he was sure of what he wanted to do, he moved even quicker. Boundless energy roiled within him, so much that everyone on the Three Mountain Islands could sense him!

Countless cultivators looked up, their pupils shrinking.

What an excellent cultivation! What a dreadful slaughter energy!

Instantly, countless people memorized Qin Yu's face. They secretly resolved not to provoke this person in the future.

But there were also many cultivators that smirked in contempt.

Just because he was a little bit strong, this person didn't have any scruples in hiding his strength. It was clear he was nothing but a muscle-brained idiot.

This sort of person often died the quickest. There was simply nothing to fear!

Han Shanye's complexion sank. If he wasn't afraid that his movements would cause too much of a stir and he would be found by the sea monster royal family, he wouldn't fear this person behind him at all!

But now, he had failed and was being chased instead. Not only did he obtain no advantages, but he was even losing face. This was just too hateful!

Shua –

Han Shanye stopped. He sneered and thrust out his palm.

His momentum was magnificent, vast and unstoppable as if a mountain were coming crashing down, impossible to block!

Qin Yu's fist came rumbling out.

Bang –

An explosion erupted in midair. Terrifying air waves whipped up debris as several houses were smashed apart.

The cultivators living within hurriedly dodged and fled. Although they all had ugly complexions, once they saw the power of the two people fighting, they could only accept their fate.

Han Shanye sneered, "Brat, if you don't die then we will meet again!"

Shua –

His body parted into several phantoms as he fled in all directions.

Qin Yu's face darkened. All those phantoms had the same aura, so it was impossible for him to determine which was the true one.

However, what was the meaning of his final parting words?

But he soon found out!

The master of the inn, a sixth level Golden Core cultivator, spoke with respect as he led a young girl and six more large fellows behind her. He pointed a finger, "Everyone, this is the cultivator renting the room that you were looking for."

The young girl had bright teeth and delicately patterned scales between her eyebrows that glistened like a rainbow beneath the sunlight. She coolly looked at Qin Yu and waved her hand, "Catch him!"

**Chapter 106 – A Storm Is Coming**

“The sea monster royal family!” Within the crowd, people began to shout out.

Countless eyes turned blazing hot. But as their gazes fell on the bodies of the six large fellows in the back, those eyes suddenly filled with awe and dread.

“Although the six people are in human form, their auras are terrifying and their blood energy is incredibly deep. They must be whale monsters!”

“In the rumors it is said that every grown whale monster is comparable to a Golden Core, and those with the qualifications to become a royal guard are the most outstanding of the elites!”

“With six elite whale monsters working together, anyone beneath the Nascent Soul realm will be crushed!”

“This person might have a formidable cultivation, but what a pity, for some reason he managed to commit a crime against the royal family of the sea monsters. I wonder how he will escape this.”

Four sea monster race powerhouses stepped forwards together, the ground thundering with each step. Their overbearing and cruel auras came rushing forwards!

Hu –

Qin Yu’s black robes waved in the wind as his hair whipped backwards.

He narrowed his eyes. He didn’t know why this was happening, but at this moment he had no free time to think about these things.

A foot stepped forwards. As the ground disintegrated, Qin Yu hurtled forwards!

The crowd gasped out loud!

When facing four whale monster powerhouses, turning tail and running would be normal. But, this young man chose to rush forwards instead. Was he seeking death? Or seeking death? Or...seeking death on his own initiative!?

Facing the whale monster race, a mere human cultivator dared to attack them by himself. A whale monster on the left narrowed his eyes, a cold light flashing in his pupils, accompanied with a hint of anger. He moved forwards, slapping out his hands like a fan. The sound of breaking air followed. Although this was only a slap, it was inconceivably fast and contained a terrifying strength behind it.

Qin Yu didn’t dodge or evade. He lifted a fist and punched out.

Bang –

The bang was like the ringing of a great drum. Two ferocious forces slammed into each other. Qin Yu turned pale white as he stuffily coughed. He finally had a clear understanding of how strong the whale monsters were. But, the whale monster himself was even more surprised. His eyes were flooded with disbelief as they widened into full moons. Bang! Bang! Bang! He was forced backwards, each step leaving behind a deep imprint in the ground.

The most fearful aspect of the whale monsters lay in their mortal bodily strength. But, the scene that occurred in front of everyone seemed to indicate that there was a human cultivator who could force back a whale monster in a pure collision of bodies!

The crowd continued to shout out loud.

At this time, everyone was filled with shock.

The three other whale monster masters all had grim expressions, a dignified light in their eyes. Even so, they were still and solemn like mountains, their auras calm and unperturbed.

Bang –

The whale monster in the middle stepped forwards. He was larger than the last whale monster and his tight robes outline his incomparably formidable muscles. In final judgment, the strength of whale monsters was relatively simple, and their size often served as an indication of their strength.

With a deep roar and the sound of ripping, the whale monster's robes nearly tore off his body as his muscles inflated. He shook his fist and came rushing forwards like a yellow dragon, his momentum unprecedented!

The cultivators watching from all around were struck by this terrifying momentum, and they began to subconsciously retreat in alarm and fear. They flushed red as they realized how they had reacted, but none of them had any thoughts of being embarrassed right now, because all their eyes were locked onto Qin Yu.

After forcing away the first whale monster powerhouse, Qin Yu hadn't stopped at all; he continued his high-speed advance forwards like a galloping cheetah as he directly struck the fist of the second whale monster powerhouse. No one was able to clearly see what happened in that instant. All they felt was a wave of air rush over their bodies, and then saw a massive figure sent flying away.

Piki paka...this should be the sounds of breaking bones!

Qin Yu's complexion turned even whiter. But, the whale monster master who collided with him was vomiting mouthfuls of blood.

Countless eyes widened. No one expected that this would be the result.

The two other whale monster powerhouses were flustered. They quickly moved to catch their fellow clansmen, but Qin Yu took advantage of this moment. His body lit up with a brilliant flash of light and he instantly broke past the two of them.

When he came rushing forwards before, he had relied upon the strength of his body to overcome and roll over two whale monster masters in frontal collisions. But, what everyone forgot was that he was a human cultivator who excelled even more in magic power cultivation.

Princess Lushy had a calm expression. As she looked at the rapidly approaching Qin Yu, a trace of disdain flashed in her eyes.

He wanted to capture the leader?

If the sea monster royal family was so easily captured, then the entire royal family would have gone extinct long ago. How could they have lived until this day and ruled over the boundless sea region?

Stupid and ignorant human!

Behind her, two nine foot tall whale monsters stepped forwards. They had angry glares as they opened their mouths and shouted out together.

Weng –

Sound waves that were below the threshold of hearing began to viciously spread outwards, stabbing towards Qin Yu's soul like countless sharp bones. As for the crowds of people standing far away, even though they barely suffered from this attack, there were still several people that coughed and paled.

“Whale Cry!”

“Whale monster commanders!”

The hierarchy of the whale monster race was simple. There were the ordinary clansmen, the elite clansmen, the whale monster commanders, and then the highest level whale monster lords.

The whale monster lords were comparable to Nascent Soul cultivators. When they dwelled in the sea in their original forms, every movement they made had the potential of destroying the heavens and cracking open the earth. They were worthy of their reputations as overlords of the sea.

Whale monster commanders were at the second echelon, and they were all great figures amongst the whale monster race. Their strength was comparable to that of Hollow Nascent Soul cultivators.

Whale cry. That was an inborn divine sense attack that whale monster commanders could send out. It was an extremely horrifying and powerful attack. If someone with a weak soul were to be blasted by the whale call, then even if their soul didn't dissipate they would at least lose consciousness!

Qin Yu had revealed a potent mortal body and his magic power cultivation didn't seem weak either. If so, then it was likely his soul was his weak point. After all, humans lived a short life, and in their pursuit of constantly breaking through boundaries and obtaining a longer life, they were often limited in the number of things they could cultivate.

Qin Yu's face slackened and he seemed to be in pain.

A whale monster commander stepped forth, his fist aimed at Qin Yu's head. Another one stood quietly in a defensive position, no flaws in his posture.

Whoosh –

A blinding blood red light erupted. The Bloodstained Lock smashed into the whale monster commander. This was a one-time use demonic tool that possessed a killing power matched by its cost. The whale monster commander's fist was directly torn open by this light to reveal the white bones beneath as he was sent flying away.

Now, the only one blocking Qin Yu's path was the final whale monster commander. His expression was earnest as he shouted out loud. A deep blue light detonated around his body like billowing waves of the sea, protecting him and Princess Lushy standing behind him.

The whale monster commander wasn't afraid. Rather, as a royal guard, his top priority was to protect the royal family and ensure that they weren't injured. As long as he could stall Qin Yu for several breaths of time, the other whale monster masters would be able to catch up. At that time, no matter how strong Qin Yu was, he wouldn't be able to take another half-step towards the princess.

Qin Yu's eyes suddenly shined. He stepped in front of the deep blue light and punched out his fist without hesitation.

Bang –

The entire deep blue barrier of light trembled. It was torn apart as Qin Yu forced his fist inside.

For the first time, surprise appeared in the eyes of Princess Lushy. She never imagined that this human cultivator would possess such formidable bodily strength.

But as soon as it appeared, that surprise turned into disdain.

The Royal Barrier was something that only the royal guards could use; it was one of the royal family's strongest protective tools, so how could it be so easily broken? Once its true strength erupted, it would pull that human cultivator in and grind him to pieces!

However, Princess Lushy's cold sneer froze on her face. That reliable, mountain-like royal guard who stood in front of her suddenly toppled backwards, face up.

His body rapidly turned black, twitching even as foam and spittle gushed out from his lips.

This was...poison?

Just what kind of poison was so terrifyingly violent and swift? It was even able to instantly wipe out one of the whale monsters that were said to be able to swallow anything. But before Princess Lushy could wake up from her stunned shock, a strong hand suddenly reached out and grabbed her slender neck, dragging her forwards and into Qin Yu's chest.

Hu –

Hu –

Gasping breaths sounded out in her ear. She was held tightly against his body and she could clearly feel the strong heartbeat in his chest.

It didn't make him feel as if he were flustered or panicked. Rather, he exuded an incomparably fierce and formidable aura.

The entire scene fell deathly silent!

No one had expected this result.



A human had passed by six great whale monster powerhouses and single-handedly captured a sea monster royal!

These types of situations should only occur in stories or daydreams, but now it was occurring in front of everyone's eyes, and it was far more impactful than they imagined.

"Don't move." While his voice wasn't pleasant to hear, it was calm and steady, like the water beneath a thick layer of ice, without a single ounce of emotion.

And, it made everyone understand just how deadly serious he was.

The hairs finally rose up all over Princess Lushy's body; she could feel a faint killing intent in his voice. But as a member of the royal family, she had sufficient confidence and pride. Her icy complexion didn't change as she said, "If you harm me in the least, you will forever be chased down by the races of the sea. They will never give up on you!"

Qin Yu lightly said, "I know."

What was this reply?

It was completely disregarding her!

Princess Lushy was suddenly enraged. But then, she stiffened.

At the nape of her neck, the hand grasping her suddenly tightened. A pale blue aura tinted her skin and breathing became difficult.

"Stop!"

"If you harm the princess, you will die without a grave!"

The whale monster powerhouses were panic-stricken. Besides the one who had been poisoned, the rest came rushing forwards. However, none of them dared to move. They were already ill with regret. If they knew this would happen they would have all moved to kill the bastard and wouldn't have allowed the princess to fall into such a trap. If anything were to happen to the princess, their best fate would be to commit suicide as an apology!

Thinking of this, the eyes of the five whale monsters turned bloodshot.

Qin Yu said without expression, "Everyone, I don't know how I have offended the sea monster royal family, but with things having come to this point, there is clearly no repairing our relationship. So to prevent an even worse situation, I hope that you will all restrain yourselves and not come over here. Otherwise, while it is still unknown whether or not I will escape, your princess will surely die."

He grabbed Princess Lushy and started to retreat. The crowd parted behind him as they tried to keep as far away as possible. They were afraid that if they neared him, they would be treated as accomplices.

After the initial shock, everyone regained their composure. As they looked at Qin Yu, there was surprise, admiration, and even a faint trace of pity that they couldn't conceal. The situation had been blown completely out of control and even a sea monster royal had been captured. It was impossible for things

to end peacefully. Perhaps he might be able to live today, but in the end...everyone knew what the most likely outcome was.

The five whale monster powerhouses watched helplessly as Qin Yu led the princess further and further away. Their faces flushed red and they roared with thunderous anger, but none of them dared to take a single step forwards.

Finally, the whale monster commander shouted out, "We're leaving!"

Lifting up their poisoned comrade, the whale monsters shot up into the skies and left the scope of the Three Mountain Islands. Then, in the skies, a dim light flashed and massive figures appeared. These figures were great whales that were dozens of meters long with bodies weighing tens of thousands of jins!

For many cultivators, this was the first time seeing the true form of the whale monster race. They cried out in alarm, completely bewildered.

Bang –

Bang –

They crashed into the surface of the sea, stirring up wind and waves. Then, in the blink of an eye, the several large figures vanished from sight.

But everyone was well aware that the whale monster powerhouses wouldn't truly leave. They would stay close and keep an eye on the Three Mountain Islands.

At the same time, news of a royal being captured would reach the sea monster royal palace at the fastest speed possible.

A storm was coming!

## **Chapter 107 – Fishing**

Three days passed. All around the Three Mountain Islands, the number of sea monsters experienced a drastic growth and formidable auras would periodically appear, causing a panic amongst the island cultivators. Everyone was well aware of what the root cause of this was, and as more time passed, everyone began to worry that the large-scale mobilization of sea monsters would affect the arrival of the Netherworld Ship.

On Three Mountain Islands, several powerful and well known powerhouses gathered together to hold an urgent meeting. They came out from the meeting with one conclusion: the cultivator who was holding the sea monster royal captive could not be allowed to stay here. But, in that battle several days before, Qin Yu had revealed his horrifying strength, and asking someone like that to leave wouldn't be simple at all. Of course, the most important reason was that no one wanted to offend such a dreadful enemy.

After agonizing over this matter for a long time, a cultivator finally proposed that since no one wanted to notify Qin Yu, then it was best that they all go together.

With so many people to disperse the responsibility, it should be impossible to become angry.

No matter how arrogant or reckless Qin Yu was, he shouldn't form enmity against all of them just because of this single matter!

After a short discussion, a decision was passed and 13 cultivators were finally chosen. They respectfully approached Qin Yu's door and quietly knocked.

"Fellow daoist Qin, you and I are both human cultivators, so when it comes to grievances with the sea races, we should be standing on your side. However, the Netherworld Ship will soon arrive, and the other fellow daoists on the islands are quite worried over this. They believe that the tremendous gathering numbers of the sea races will affect it."

Several more people also spoke up. They spoke in turns, and although they didn't clearly specify their hands, the meaning was actually quite clear.

Hey, could you please leave the Three Mountain Islands?

Qin Yu fell silent. He cupped his hands across his chest and said, "I understand what fellow daoists are trying to say, but since I have also come here for the Netherworld Ship, I will not leave." After the faces of the cultivators paled, he continued, "However, I can leave the immediate vicinity of the Three Mountain Islands and stay in the nearby sea area."

Although this was a bit different from what everyone was hoping, if Qin Yu was to leave the Three Mountain Islands, the sea monster races shouldn't vent their anger upon them. Furthermore, since Qin Yu had already made a concession in this matter, they feared that their efforts might backfire if they pushed things too far.

The short discussion ended. The cultivators cupped their hands together in thanks, and after expressing their apologies, they left.

Qin Yu shook his head and returned to his room. There was a helpless look on his face, but it immediately vanished, replaced by calmness instead. He turned and said, "Princess, it seems we will be moving to another location."

Princess Lushy's cultivation had been sealed and her expression was cold and bitter. She immediately closed her eyes.

Qin Yu didn't care about this. He packed his things, picked her up, and left.

Picked her up, as if he were holding a chicken, or even a duck...

Princess Lushy's eyes popped open and her face immediately flushed red. In her entire life, when had she ever received such humiliation? This rude, cruel, brute of a human cultivator! He should be cut apart by a thousand sabers! Once she was free again, she would definitely tear off his limbs and deep fry him in oil!

The island cultivators had already heard the rumors, and they were all paying attention to Qin Yu's dwelling. As they saw him leave, they immediately smiled. But soon, this smile froze on their faces and their lips began to twitch.

This...wasn't this a royal princess of the sea monsters? Yet, she was being treated so rudely. Did he really plan on not leaving behind the tiniest chance of survival?

Along the way, countless eyelids popped up and innumerable jaws dropped. There were also many looks of pity that scolded Qin Yu for trying to ruin his own chances!

Qin Yu arrived at the seashore. Great waves crashed against the beach. Giant swirls suddenly appeared on the sea, seething with anger, as countless enraged roars sprung up from the seabed.

Rumble rumble –

Massive shadows, each larger than the last, rapidly rose from the seabed. As they struck the surface of the water, pairs of blood red eyes were revealed, all of them with death-like glares!

This human, this damned human, this barbaric and ignorant human, he actually dared to treat the pride of the sea races like this, the brightest pearl of the deepest sea – her highness, Princess Lushy!

Die!

He had to die!

Fierce killing intent accompanied with surging waves came from all directions. The sky rapidly darkened and countless plumes of mist rose up, as if a violent storming were brewing.

Princess Lushy shut her eyes tightly and shivered. Although the sea monsters were angry because of her and the humiliation she was suffering, they were still seeing her current disgraceful state. As an arrogant princess who always considered herself a proud daughter of heaven, how could she accept this reality?

Shame and anger rose to her head. Her hatred towards Qin Yu suddenly rose to the peak. But unfortunately, all of these swings in her emotions were far too fierce. She groaned, tilted her head, and fainted.

“Release the princess!”

“Brat, you are dead! Not even the highest heavens or deepest earth will be able to save you!”

“I will tear you to shreds!”

Endless curses echoed between the water and sky.

Qin Yu looked up, expressionless. “Shut up and draw back. Otherwise, don’t blame me for being rude.”

His fingers faintly moved and all the sea monsters sucked in a deep breath. None of them dared to curse at the heavens again.

This bastard was just despicable to the extreme! They wanted him to release the princess and fight 300 rounds with them!

Whoosh –

The sea surface suddenly broke open and a giant turtle rose up. Although only the shell was exposed, it was still over 300 feet high. If its entire body were to move out from the water, it would be as large as a hill.

Atop the turtle shell stood a middle-aged man. He had white-hair, white-clothes, and an impressive appearance. He cupped his hands together and said, “Fellow daoist Qin, perhaps there is a

misunderstanding between you and my sea monster races. Maybe you can release the princess and we can discuss this matter further?”

Qin Yu remained silent.

The middle-aged man frowned. “Or, how about this instead. If fellow daoist Qin releases the princess, I will take responsibility for all this and allow fellow daoist to leave. After three days, the sea monster races will begin chasing after you.”

Qin Yu shook his head.

The man’s voice turned cold. “Could fellow daoist really be planning on being mortal enemies with my sea monster races?”

Qin Yu lightly said, “Fellow daoist, do you really think that I would release my captive in the current situation? Whether or not I wanted to become enemies with the sea monster races, that has already turned into a fact. Thus, if you don’t want anything to happen to your princess, then you had best restrain yourself and not make any dangerous movements. I guarantee that once I am safe, I will personally send the princess away.

“Now, tell them to draw back.”

The middle-aged man looked deeply at Qin Yu. “Fellow daoist Qin, I hope you don’t regret this.”

Whoosh –

The giant turtle sank back beneath the sea.

In the area around the seashore, the roaring sea monsters quickly retreated. But, their ruthless eyes were locked onto Qin Yu the entire time, none of them looking away from him.

On the islands, whether or not the people were used to Qin Yu, they all couldn’t help but praise him for being so daring. Facing the sea monsters, he was able to force them back without batting an eyelash. Within the entire sea region there weren’t many cultivators that could accomplish this. Many people started to inquire into who exactly Qin Yu was, but unfortunately after a flurry of activity they weren’t able to come up with anything.

With a flick of his sleeves, a folded Thousandcraft House immediately popped open. It fluttered down atop the sea and gently rocked with the waves.

Qin Yu lifted Princess Lushy and leapt into the house. With another flick of his sleeves, the Thousandcraft House slowly fluttered away until it was 5000 feet from the island’s shore.

Qin Yu tossed the princess on the floor and then sat down. At the same time, he casually took out a fishing pole from somewhere and started to fish.

As the waiting sea monsters saw this, their lungs nearly burst apart with rage.

Arrogant! This was just arrogant to the extreme!

Every ordinary fish and shrimp in the sea had the potential to transform into a sea monster; in other words, they could be called fellow clansmen. Yet this brat had not only captured the princess but was also fishing right in front of their faces. This was just naked, taunting contempt!

Several swordfish monsters were furious!

Amongst the sea monster races, they were one of the fastest. They had a long and sharp spike and narrow bodies that gave them unparalleled advantages. At this moment, with a sneering swordfish monster in the lead, several others followed behind, rushing back and forth beneath the Thousandcraft House with astonishing speed. The furious undercurrents they left behind caused the fish and shrimp below the surface to be blown away.

Fish? Fish? Fish your mom!

As several swordfish monsters were arrogantly shuttling under the sea at high speeds and occasionally making provocative actions, Qin Yu suddenly moved. With a flick of his sleeve, a deep purple magic sword flew out and stabbed into the sea's surface. With loud crackling sounds, purple lightning spread outwards!

The swordfish monsters trembled and tumbled over. They floated to the surface belly-up, their mouths twitching and foaming.

Qin Yu shouted in admiration, "What big fish!" He rubbed his chin and muttered, "Steaming is too boring and frying would be too oily. What would be the best way to eat them?"

The swordfish monster powerhouse was enraged. He definitely wouldn't stare blankly on as his fellow clansmen were gutted and eaten. His powerful tail swung left and right as he exploded forwards, so fast that he left afterimages in the water. As he arrived within the range of the Thousandcraft House and the lightning released by the magic sword fell upon him, he only faintly trembled. Not caring about the vibrations racing through his body, monster power erupted, forcing away the lightning!

"Great!"

"Have this human junior see how fierce our sea monster powerhouses are!"

"You dare to be enemies with us sea monsters? This will be the greatest regret of your life!"

The sea monsters shouted out loud.

The swordfish monster powerhouse sneered. He opened his mouth and sucked in deeply, wanting to carry away his fellow clansmen.

However, things definitely wouldn't be so simple. That thunder magic sword also looked quite nice; he would take that as well!

Buzz –

Buzz –

Waves rose up and rolled in from all directions. The thunder magic sword trembled.

Qin Yu shook his head. "I can't even eat in peace." He flicked his sleeve and a hundred foot tall bamboo appeared in thin air, falling straight into the water surface. Its roots, branches, leaves, every inch of its body was covered with leaping arcs of deep and pure purple lightning.

Crackle –

Crackle –

The surrounding 1000 feet of the sea was instantly covered in lightning.

The sneering swordfish monster's inner monster power immediately disintegrated. Its body trembled and its fish eyes rolled backwards. Then, it slowly floated upwards, joining its fellow juniors.

Whoosh –

On the sea surface there was a giant splash of water.

Qin Yu's eyebrows leapt up. He cried out in praise, "This is truly worthy of being the deep sea. A fish here can actually grow so large! This might be enough for a village of hundreds to eat their fill. Tsk. But who knows how many years it took for this fish to grow so large. If the meat is too old then chewing on it would be as rough as chewing on the roots of an old tree. It wouldn't be good at all."

He furrowed his eyebrows, deep in thought. Then, he clapped his hands. "I'll cook it with a large fire. I'll let it roast a bit longer than usual, and then I'll add some peppers and spices. The flavor will definitely be great!"

The swordfish monster powerhouse had a deep cultivation. Although it had been paralyzed by the thunder, it was still able to maintain its consciousness. As it heard these words spoken out loud, its eyes went wide with rage.

Shame!

This was shame!

All of the face that the swordfish monster had earned through the several hundred years of its life had been lost today.

In a single shuddering gasp of anger, the swordfish monster powerhouse finally fainted.

## **Chapter 108 – Threatening the Sea Races**

The sea monsters were left completely bewildered!

The sea had always been their world, so when had they ever met such an arrogant human? But, the key problem was that this human male's strength was not only formidable, but he had far too many methods at his disposal. For instance, this bamboo; they had never seen nor heard of anything that could discharge such potent lightning!

For better or worse, that swordfish monster powerhouse was a relatively powerful figure. But, it had been instantly stunned by that electricity. From this alone one could understand how potent it was. Many eyes turned around, and several electric eel monsters were horrified. They shook their heads and

put on sad expressions. This purple thunder was just too ominous. Although they were born with natural skills in electricity, even they couldn't withstand something like this.

Deep beneath the sea, the giant turtle floated like a hill. It emitted a monstrous light, forming a barrier that pushed away the seawater. A white-haired white-robed man frowned. He was able to see everything beyond the barrier that occurred on the sea surface.

Across from him, a man in black armor was leaning back, his legs splayed out wide and his strong and sturdy figure like an iron tower. Just glancing at him made one feel apprehensive. Just sitting there without saying a word, a faint slaughter energy lingered about him.

"This junior, he's very strong." The black-armored man slowly said. His voice was as steady as a mountain, each word he spoke incomparably heavy.

The white-haired man cupped his hands across his chest. "Uncle Hai, do you not have full assurance against him?"

The black-armored man didn't lose his temper. He fell deep into thought for several breaths of time and then said, "Killing him isn't difficult, but to instantly kill him and ensure that no harm comes to the princess, that is indeed another matter altogether."

The sea monsters at the surface didn't know the judgment of this black-armored man, otherwise they would all be crying out in alarm. Just how prideful was this whale monster ruler? And yet someone like him had unexpectedly given a junior such a high appraisal.

The white-haired man forced a smile. "Can we allow him to be so dissolute? Then what face will my sea monster races have left?"

The whale monster ruler looked up, his gaze revealing a glint of sharpness that caused the white-haired man to stiffen and his heartbeat to nearly stop. "Prince Deepwhite, you are destined to inherit a great position and become a future lord of the sea, so how can you be so shortsighted? What meaning is there in face? As long as my sea races eventually kill that human and scatter his soul, there will be no other human in the world that will dare to taunt my people."

"Prince, I ask you to remember that in this world, the process will forever remain the process; only the result is what matters." The whale monster lord closed his eyes, his hard and callous face completely expressionless. "The princess being captured is a mistake of the whale monster race. I personally came here to correct this mistake. This junior will die."

The whale monster lord was a lofty character. Even if the sea monster royal family's prince was being admonished like this, he didn't feel any anger at all, and was instead secretly overjoyed. Prince Deepwhite turned around and sat down, finally calming down. Since the whale monster lord had said that he would kill Qin Yu, it would be done. All he needed to do was wait.

It was certainly impossible for Qin Yu to gut the several swordfish monsters and eat them. The reason he put on such a fierce display was to put pressure on the sea races. In the current situation, that was the only way he would have been able to guarantee a momentary peace. If he had revealed even the slightest intent of drawing back, well...would the sea monster races have just stood by and done nothing?



Qin Yu took back the magic sword and Skythunder Bamboo before returning to his room and sitting down. He couldn't really cultivate, but he could at least meditate. Princess Lushy remained by his side. With just a flick of his arm, he could grab onto her and instantly end her life.

This would be the worst possible outcome.

Although Qin Yu had previously said he had already become enemies with the sea monster races whether he wanted to or not, there were actually different levels of hatred. Capturing the princess and killing the princess, those were completely different matters.

He hoped that he could safely drag out the time until the Netherworld Ship arrived.

As long as he could board the ship and enter the Netherworld Sea Region, he would be safe.

Everyone knew that the sea monsters within the Netherworld Sea Region were not controlled by the sea monster royal family. Not just that, they were even incredibly hostile towards sea monsters from the outside.

That was a land the sea monster races weren't able to control!

Time passed a day at a time. Although the sea monsters all kept their attention on the Thousandcraft House floating nearby, none of them dared to casually approach.

The shadow of fear that the Skythunder Bamboo created in the hearts of the sea monsters was enough to restrain them. Occasionally, there would be some bold and newly-arrived sea monsters that would think themselves brave and try to intrude, but once they saw the trembling bodies of the unlucky swordfish monsters and how they had released their feces and shit around them, none of them dared to be impulsive again.

Six days later.

Qin Yu was sitting down, his aura calm and his heart steady. No one was able to sense how tense he was! Ever since leaving Three Mountain Islands, there was an absolutely bone-shaking terror that swelled up from deep in his heart, as if some peerless vicious beast had locked onto him from afar. If he were to reveal just the smallest of flaws, the fierce fangs of that beast would tear him to shreds and eat him up.

This feeling arrived in a strange manner, and no matter how Qin Yu sensed around him, he couldn't determine where the source was. But, this made him feel even more dread in his heart and confirmed his suspicions. A terrifying master must have arrived amongst the sea monsters, and was biding their time deep in the sea, waiting for a chance to move.

Up until today, nothing eventful had happened. It must be because this other party didn't have the full assurance to strike him down while ensuring Princess Lushy's safety. If so, then the chance this existence was waiting for was likely...the Netherworld Ship!

Once the Netherworld Ship arrived, countless cultivators would surge forth and this would inevitably affect his senses, giving an opportunity to this sea monster master. Moreover, Qin Yu couldn't forget another element of uncertainty by his side – Princess Lushy.

Although her highness the princess had remained relatively quiet and peaceful ever since she had been captured, as a sea monster royal, Qin Yu wouldn't believe it for a second if someone said she didn't have some other methods at her disposal. With everything considered, the arrival of the Netherworld Ship would be the riskiest time for Qin Yu.

His thoughts raced. Since he realized this, he wouldn't sit idly by and wait for death to take him.

After some time, a plan began to gradually take shape in his heart. After carefully considering and calibrating it for a day and making sure that there was nothing wrong with it, his heart finally calmed down.

Then, the Netherworld Ship arrived.

Two days later, at some random moment, the temperature within the world began to fall. A yin chill spread out, proliferating between the heavens and earth.

Qin Yu's eyes popped open. He grabbed Princess Lushy and stepped out from the Thousandcraft House. He looked up towards the skies. The sun still loomed large in the heavens, but the sunlight had turned pale and dim. As the rays fell upon his body, there wasn't any heat at all. Waves rose up in the originally calm sea, at first small, then larger, then finally growing into torrential waves!

All around the Thousandcraft House, countless sea monsters revealed disgust and loathing, as well as a fear they couldn't conceal. They turned and looked deep into the sea. At some unknown time, a massive pall of fog had appeared. The fog was dark gray and bleak, causing one to unconsciously shiver.

Crash –

Crash –

There was the sound of parting seawater.

A giant ship sailed out from the fog. Its hull was mottled, the bow was broken to the side, and the mast stood tall and erect, hanging with a tattered sail. Seeing it for the first time, one would imagine that such a dilapidated ship would break into countless pieces upon encountering a storm. But, the ship sailed atop the waves as if it were walking over flat land. The giant hull floated at the top of the waves, and although it was struck again and again, it didn't shake in the least.

The yin chill and the precipitous drop in temperature was all because of this ship. It seemed to drift out from the netherworld, tainted with the breath of death.

“Netherworld Ship!”

Shouts sounded out from the Three Mountain Islands.

Countless cultivators stared with wide eyes, their faces filled with wild joy and thrilling excitement.

Crowds started to gather and restlessly move about. However, no one dared to leave yet, because before the Netherworld Ship had anchored, no one could board it.

If a person were to recklessly approach, they might even be injured by the yin chill atop the ship!

All eyes followed the Netherworld Ship, waiting for it to dock. But, there was one exception.

Qin Yu looked down at Princess Lushy in his hands.

Whether or not his plan would succeed, it would all depend on how much worth this princess held in the hearts of the sea monsters.

Princess Lushy's heart sank as a foreboding feeling rose within her. But before she could say anything, magic power rushed into her body. Her eyes widened and she coughed before directly fainting.

"Brat, what are you doing!"

"If you injure the princess even the tiniest bit, I will flay you alive!"

"Bastard, you still haven't released her!?"

Even though the Netherworld Ship had arrived, the sea monster races still hadn't stopped observing Qin Yu. Every action and movement he took was watched by countless pairs of eyes, and as they saw Princess Lushy, these countless pairs of eyes suddenly turned blood red.

Qin Yu said in a low voice, "Fellow sea monsters, today, I would like to be the first one to step onto the Netherworld Ship."

He didn't conceal his intentions. With magic power supporting his voice, it reverberated through the air.

On Three Mountain Islands, countless cultivators were stunned briefly before immediately becoming incensed.

If you board first, then what about us?

In particular, some relatively stronger individuals that were confident in their strength had grim expressions.

The Netherworld Ship was difficult to board. One had to fight to earn their position, and the longer the ship remained, the more blood would be spilled. While there were many negative conditions, correspondingly there were also some benefits that served as compensation.

This benefit was prepared for the first cultivator to step atop the Netherworld Ship. The yin chill strength that hadn't yet dispersed from the ship would condense into a piece of 'black ice'. This thing was an incredible enticement for the various sea monsters of the Netherworld Sea Region. By relying on this 'black ice', if one's luck wasn't too bad, they could subdue a formidable and fierce various sea monster. Whether using it as a mount or minion, this was a powerful tool!

One of the main reasons so many people were brimming with energy was because they wanted to be the first to board the ship. But before things had even begun, Qin Yu wanted to be the first already?

What was the meaning of this? Surnamed Qin, what is the meaning of this!?

Angry cultivators glared at the Thousandcraft House. They hoped that they could use their eyes to dismember Qin Yu.

The sea monsters were dazed for a moment before they all flew into a blinding rage. What was the meaning of this? Did this Qin Yu think they were his slaves? That he could casually order them around?

This human cultivator deserved to be peeled apart!

Tens of thousands of cold eyes fell upon Qin Yu. If it were someone with a weaker mindset, they wouldn't have been able to withstand this at all. But, Qin Yu's complexion was calm and indifferent, as if he didn't notice anything at all. Before he spoke he had already expected this situation to occur. What was there to fear from looks? If looks could kill, he would already be invincible beneath the heavens.

Hum –

Magic power surged in his hands and a violent aura spread out, covering Princess Lushy. No one doubted that with just a single thought, the most brilliant pearl of the sea would turn into bloody meat.

The sea monsters shivered with rage and fear!

They had seen people who didn't care about face before, but they had never seen someone who was shameless to such a degree. He simply wanted to tear apart their bottom line!

Whoosh –

A giant turtle broke free from the water. Hai Deepwhite had a dark complexion, "Fellow daoist Qin, don't push things too far!"

Qin Yu lightly said, "I won't repeat myself a second time. Either the sea monster races help me be the first to board the Netherworld Ship, or I will kill the princess right now and then accompany her on the road to the yellow springs. The Netherworld Ship is docking soon; you don't have much more time to consider it."

He no longer spoke. His body roiled with killing intent, ensuring that everyone knew he wasn't joking around!

Hai Deepwhite's chest wildly fluctuated. He never imagined that as soon as Qin Yu took action, he would force him into a dead end. And, the strategies he had discussed with the whale monster lord had all been destroyed!

If he agreed and Qin Yu boarded the Netherworld Ship, it would be even more difficult to rescue Lushy. But if he refused...Hai Deepwhite believed that this Qin fellow truly would kill her.

Even if Qin Yu was faking it...he didn't dare to make the gamble!

The Netherworld Ship started to slow down. Soon, it would stop. If he continued to hesitate, there wouldn't be any more time.

### **Chapter 109 – Boarding**

Suddenly, several cultivators shot up from the Three Mountain Islands. Each one was at the late Golden Core realm, their auras sharp and straight, piercing into the horizon!

"Sea monsters, the Netherworld Ship is the only chance that us humans have to enter the Netherworld Sea Region. Never have you meddled in our affairs, so why must you make an exception today?" An old man leading the pack spoke. He was hidden in a halo of golden light that had faint images of people meditating within. This person was a Hollow Nascent Soul powerhouse!

In the past, the one that had advised Qin Yu to leave Three Mountain Islands was this man.

Hai Deepwhite drew in a deep breath, a chilling glint in his eyes. “Are you saying that you want a member of my sea monster royal family to perish here?”

The old man frowned. “I certainly don’t have that meaning. But, that cultivator Qin is simply trying to fool you all. If you are all so intelligent, how could you fall for such a ridiculous plan!”

Hai Deepwhite sneered. “Can you guarantee? Can any of you guarantee? If something were to happen to the royal princess, could any of you bear the consequences?”

The complexions of several people changed.

They were 99% confident that Qin Yu wouldn’t actually dare to kill the princess and perish together.

But just a 1% possibility of that happening was far too risky!

If they were all really blamed in this matter, none of them would live through the rage of the sea monster races.

The Hollow Nascent Soul old man’s complexion turned ugly. “It looks like you sea monsters are prepared to interfere.”

Hai Deepwhite said without expression, “I hope that everyone can consider the larger picture, and not make this difficult for us.”

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

The surface of the seawater broken apart and countless sea monsters appeared. They fiercely glared at the humans, killing intent naked in their eyes. After suppressing their raging anger for so many days, all of them wished they could engage in wanton slaughter.

The Hollow Nascent Soul old man roared, “Although the sea monster races are strong, we human cultivators of the Three Mountain Islands will not comply with this demand!”

Bang –

Bang –

The auras of powerhouses erupted from all over the Three Mountain Islands. This represented the tough posture and attitude of every Golden Core powerhouse.

What would soon follow was a massive frigid battle between the human cultivators and sea monster races.

Hai Deepwhite’s eyes blazed with anger. Although he was a royal prince and extremely trusted by his father, it was also because of this that he had to be more prudent and careful in his actions. He had several brothers, and none of them had ever given up their greed for his status. If he were to handle today’s matters improperly, it would affect the subtle and frail balance that existed between the human

cultivators and sea monster races. The drastic consequences that came from this would be something he wouldn't be able to withstand.

As if sensing the hesitation of the sea monsters, the human cultivators were even more daring. The Golden Core powerhouses continued to fly up from the Three Mountain Islands, their momentum rumbling through the air!

Qin Yu's pupils shrank and a bit of cold sweat dripped down his back. That feeling deep in his heart, where he felt as if he had been locked on to by some vicious beast, had become acutely intense. It was as if this terrifying power would soon arrive to grind him into pieces! Even so, he stood straight and tall, maintaining his composure the entire time.

Suddenly, the terrifying feeling disappeared.

Qin Yu's heart relaxed. He looked at the several Golden Cores, pity in his eyes.

Since he was fine, it should instead be these other fellows that would be in trouble.

Bang –

The surface of the water broke apart. A tall man in black armor stepped out. Without a single word, he punched out his fist.

The Hollow Nascent Soul old man's eyes widened, his face full of fear. Without any time to dodge, he was struck flying away.

The sound of broken bones and ruined meat rang through the air. The water was dyed red before being immediately washed away.

The whale monster lord had an indifferent expression. His eyes swept around, as sharp as sabers. "Now, who else disagrees?"

Several Golden Core cultivators that were standing near the Hollow Nascent Soul old man began to pale, their arms and legs shivering.

Just now, if the striking zone of that attack had been any wider, the several of them would have joined the old man along the road to the yellow springs.

On the Three Mountain Islands, the Golden Cores that had soared up immediately turned tail and fled back down without any shame.

This was a Nascent Soul! This was absolutely a Nascent Soul!

Before strength of this magnitude, who could still care about face? Maintaining their lives was all they could hope for.

Whoosh –

The final waves were parted and the Netherworld Ship came to a stop. But at this time, none of the human cultivators dared to step forwards.

The whale monster lord turned around, the black armor he wore emitting light friction sounds, his gaze as sharp as arrows shooting down from the heavens.

Qin Yu's face paled a tiny bit, but his back remained straight and steady. As he held Princess Lushy, he didn't tremble in the least.

The whale monster lord's face darkened. Then, he slowly said, "The sea monster races will agree to your request. After entering the Netherworld Sea Region, release the princess. Otherwise, I vow that even if you flee to the edges of heaven or the ends of the sea, I will find you, and I will kill you."

No one doubted the vow of a Nascent Soul powerhouse.

Qin Yu was no exception. "Senior, rest assured that I would also not like to completely doom myself with the sea monster races." He stared at the whale monster lord, completely still.

The whale monster lord turned around. "This matter has been settled. I will be leaving first."

Whoosh –

A monstrous light flashed and he disappeared.

Confusion reigned atop the Three Mountain Islands. But, no matter how restless the people were, no one dared to defy the will of the whale monster lord.

Hai Deepwhite's complexion was ugly. "Fellow daoist, if you will!"

Qin Yu retrieved the Thousandcraft House. A flash of light glowed within his body as he grabbed Princess Lushy and flew to the Netherworld Ship.

The human cultivators and sea monsters all had incomparably complex looks. From the time that the Netherworld Ship had first appeared until now, such a situation had never occurred.

Despicable little man!

He was just completely shameless!

Their hearts were full of envy and endless cursing, yet none of them could stop Qin Yu.

Pa –

He landed on the Netherworld Ship.

A yin chill aura snuck out from the deck, causing the hairs on his body to stand on end before immediately disappearing.

As if a mark had been placed on the cultivator's body.

Before Qin Yu could think further, the yin chill aura that hadn't fully dispersed from the Netherworld Ship began to rapidly gather, condensing into the form of a thumb-sized bead in front of him. The bead was pitch black and translucent, as if it were some sort of glazed jade. It clearly reflected the faces of those looking at it.

A faint fluctuation spread out from within Qin Yu's storage ring, extremely weak. If it weren't for Qin Yu being on full alert at this moment, he wouldn't have been able to sense it at all. A look of astonishment flashed in his eyes for a moment before he calmed down. Qin Yu reached out and obtained the black bead; it was icy cold to the touch.

Atop the Three Mountain Islands, the eyes of some cultivators that wanted to obtain this black bead immediately turned blood red!

Hai Deepwhite waved his head and led the sea monsters to draw back.

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

With the sound of breaking air, countless cultivators shot up into the skies, all of them hurtling towards the Netherworld Ship. Although the benefit from boarding the ship first had been taken, there was a limited number of people who could board the ship, and this fact hadn't changed. While boarding the ship didn't mean that they could manage to stay on, arriving earlier was still better than arriving later and fighting with people.

Bang –

Bang –

Vicious shockwaves of strength erupted. A fierce battle had begun, and it rapidly swept through the ranks of the cultivators like a swelling tide.

Qin Yu stood atop the deck, watching all of this occur. His complexion was tranquil and without a single wave. Yes, he had managed to board the ship without too much effort, but he had also paid a great price for this.

For instance, that black-armored Nascent Soul sea monster powerhouse with the incomparably deep aura. Although this person seemed casual and carefree, Qin Yu didn't doubt that he was enraged to the extreme. If that Nascent Soul powerhouse ever had the chance, he would definitely incinerate Qin Yu's body and soul to ashes if they were to meet again.

The affairs of the world were like this. There were gains and losses.

A massive number of cultivators started to board the ship. Soon the deck became crowded, but an area of 30 feet around Qin Yu was still clear of people. It wasn't that they feared him in particular, but they didn't want to approach and somehow provoke some trouble. The one Qin Yu held in his hands was a royal princess of the sea monster races, and if anything were to happen to her, who here could withstand the consequences?

Qin Yu was glad for the peace and quiet. He sat down. Of course, he also continued to hold the princess; she was his protective amulet.

The brutal battle continued.

On the Three Mountain Islands, a white-haired sword cultivator stepped forwards. His aura was filled with a dense sword aura, and anyone that approached within 50 feet of him was attacked by this sword



intent. Wherever he passed, a storm of blood would rage and severed limbs would fly about. Countless cultivators shouted out in pain and agony as they drew back in a flustered panic.

“That is Solitary Sword Island’s White Demonblade!”

“What a horrifying sword dao cultivation! He hasn’t even drawn his sword but his sword intent covers the world. I fear he has already reached the boundary of Sword Heart!”

“With his late Golden Core cultivation and the terrifying attacks of a sword cultivator, there are few people beneath the Nascent Soul realm that can challenge him!”

White Demonblade stepped on the void. As he looked at Qin Yu, his killing intent wasn’t concealed. He sneered, and the cultivators around him fled in fear.

“It looks like White Demonblade was extremely interested in the reward of being the first to board!”

“That Qin cultivator took advantage of the sea monsters races to be the first to board. But in doing so, he created many enemies for himself.”

“Tsk. After we enter the Netherworld Sea Region, if he doesn’t release the princess then the sea monsters will definitely kill him. But if he does release the princess...hehe, he’ll have enough problems to deal with.”

“This Qin cultivator has at least a 90% chance of not returning alive!”

Cultivators began to voice their opinions in hushed tones.

Qin Yu’s eyes suddenly shot open. He glanced at a pallid cultivator nearby and lightly said, “If fellow daoist returns alive, I’m sure we will meet again.”

The pale cultivator’s complexion changed and he revealed a bit of awkwardness. He quickly turned and walked away. The others also quickly shut themselves up and cursed Qin Yu’s hearing. They had spoken from so far away and so quietly, yet he had been able to hear them.

The air was filled with the smell of blood and the sea water was dyed red. As time passed, the sounds of slaughter began to gradually die down.

In two hours, at least hundreds of cultivators had died on the battlefield. Of course, most of these were at the Foundation Establishment realm. As long as a Golden Core master didn’t deliberately go around looking for trouble, boarding the ship was easy for them.

Occasionally Qin Yu felt several eyes sweep over him, many of them filled with hostility. Thus, he didn’t sense that some people were staring at him strangely.

Qi Quan clenched his jaws. “This bastard has such good luck! Even after framing him, he still managed to survive! Shit, those sea monsters are all useless!”

Han Shanye furrowed his eyebrows, “Fellow daoist Qin, be careful with your words!”

Qi Quan drew in a deep breath and nodded.

Han Shanye slowly said, “Fellow daoist Qin, there is no need to worry. Although we weren’t able to kill him with the original plan, I already have another idea in mind. After we enter the Netherworld Sea Region, this Qin cultivator will definitely die!”

Qi Quan brightened. “Elder Han, are you serious?”

Han Shanye whispered some more words and Qi Quan was immediately overjoyed. Qi Quan looked up at Qin Yu, a fierce smile playing on his lips.

If everything went smoothly, then even if this person who killed Senior-apprentice Sister Xiang had three heads and six arms, he would still be torn to pieces by the sea monster races!

Whoosh –

Without any warning, the Netherworld Ship began to move. The waves parted as it broke into the fog. The cultivators on the ship were stunned before they began to celebrate. No one imagined that the Netherworld Ship would be anchored for such a short period of time before it left again. Altogether, it was a bit more than two hours.

Outside the ship, many cultivators that didn’t have the chance to board were left in an anxious panic. Many of them had been injured and they were resting and gathering their energy before trying again. In a flurried haste, almost a hundred cultivators shot up into the skies, hoping to win one final spot before the ship disappeared.

Aboard the ship, the cultivators being attacked defended with all they had. They didn’t try to kill their opponents; as long as they could persist for several more moments, these people would naturally retreat.

“Ahhh!” Screams suddenly rang out from outside the ship. A cultivator didn’t notice as a mass of fog surrounded him. It was like he had been tossed into a pool of acid. His skin and flesh began to rapidly melt away, revealing his organs and bones. He tried to run away, but even after escaping the range of the fog, the corrosion still continued. In the end, he plummeted into the sea with a splash of red.

The cultivators chasing after the Netherworld Ship couldn’t help but stop in fear and alarm. They looked at the departing ship with unwilling eyes as it sailed into the fog. After several breaths of time, the sea breeze blew and the fog quickly dissipated, restoring the area to serenity.

But, the Netherworld Ship had disappeared without even its shadow left.

### **Chapter 110 – Thousandthread Everknot**

The crashing of the waves vanished as the Netherworld Ship sailed into the fog. Or, perhaps it was this strange fog that lifted it along the way.

Silently.

Qin Yu was keenly aware that there were even more eyes falling on him right now. There was a little bit less awe and a little bit less dread, replaced by a burning heat instead.

He wasn’t unfamiliar with this type of gaze. With a bit of thought, he looked at Princess Lushy.

In the rumors it was said that the women of the sea monster royal family were born with bodies that inherently drew in spiritual energy. As they cultivated, a massive amount of heaven and earth spiritual energy was gathered in their bodies.

They themselves couldn't use this spiritual strength, but after getting married, they could pass this power to their husband, helping their husband's cultivation to rapidly rise.

Now, it seemed that this rumor should be true.

Qin Yu's eyes flashed before he calmed down. Even if some people were coveting Princess Lushy, there shouldn't be anyone that dared to move against her in public. Otherwise once this news spread out, all that awaited them was a pitiful fate.

Lying flat on deck, Princess Lushy's long eyelashes moved for a moment before she fell still once more. A long time passed, and just as Qin Yu thought that some people might not be able to restrain themselves, the Netherworld Ship slightly shivered before the sound of breaking waves rose up once more.

They had arrived at the Netherworld Sea Region!

And indeed, the fog soon parted. A strange sea appeared in front of everyone.

The skies were black and misty, filled with stormy clouds that pressed down on the heart. As the light shone down on the sea, it was nearly black. Angry waves tumbled and roared, and strong gales howled in the air.

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

Without warning, at the moment that the Netherworld Ship stopped, the cultivators on board burst forwards, Qin Yu included amongst them.

At this time, no matter how high or low one's cultivation was, everyone erupted with their greatest speed.

The Netherworld Ship connected the Netherworld Sea Region to the outside world. Every time it did so, it needed to collect a certain amount of sacrifices. And these sacrifices consisted of the cultivators on board. While the sacrifices were randomly chosen, the people who lagged behind the rest in fleeing had a much higher chance of being chosen.

"Ahh!"

With a panicked scream, several cultivators were wrapped in a blood red light; they had been chosen by the Netherworld Ship. Their flesh and blood rapidly dissolved in the red light, before fusing into the hull and becoming part of it.

In ordinary circumstances, once the Netherworld Ship made its choice, it wouldn't target anyone else. But, there would always be unexpected incidents in life. Qin Yu grimaced. He suddenly felt as if his soul had been locked onto, and this feeling aroused his instinctual loathing and disgust.

Hum –

The blood red light appeared, covering him and Princess Lushy. He didn't know why, but his intuition told him that he was a bystander who had been dragged into this mess! But thinking of these things was impossible and the blood red light obviously wouldn't care about his thoughts. And, it was also impossible for him to toss away Princess Lushy.

Numerous gloating looks fell on Qin Yu. Qin Yu shouted out loud and his aura began to suddenly rise. A large invisible hand seemed to tear open the blood red light. The Netherworld Ship trembled slightly, and at this moment Qin Yu's hairs stood on end. He felt as if he had been locked onto by death, but this feeling vanished as quickly as it appeared, never to return again.

Countless cultivators revealed expressions of dread.

Instances of people refusing to be made sacrifices to the Netherworld Ship had happened numerous times in the past, and each one of those people had been an absolute powerhouse with a horrifying level of strength.

It seemed that besides what this Qin Yu had revealed, he had also been hiding more of his strength!

What a sinister man!

Many cultivators cursed inwardly, but also quietly rejoiced that they hadn't recklessly moved against him earlier.

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

The cultivators on the ship rapidly dispersed. Some went out in groups, but even more people chose to go alone. The Netherworld Sea Region was perilous and the mortality rate here was extremely high. A good portion of these people were also here to prey on those who died, or perhaps they were even manipulators who tried to get others killed.

If one went with others, while it might seem safer, it wasn't necessarily so.

Qin Yu lifted Princess Lushy and soared away. But at this moment, a towering figure blocked his way. White hair and sword – this was White Demonblade. His eyes were cold and obstinate. "Fellow daoist Qin, I hope that from this point on, you and I do not meet again." His words percolated with a cold chill.

With the sound of a ringing sword, White Demonblade flew away.

Qin Yu remained expressionless. With several flickers, he disappeared from sight.

After a moment, when he was far away from the Netherworld Ship, Qin Yu finally stopped. He frowned.

Hum –

Countless threads of blood erupted from Princess Lushy's body, drilling into both their bodies and leaving behind an icy cold feeling. She had opened her eyes at some unknown time, and while her expression was harsh, her eyes seemed to be relieved.

Qin Yu's complexion darkened, "Princess, I think you had best give me a reasonable explanation for this."

Princess Lushy gnashed her teeth, but she restrained herself from saying too much. “This is the Thousandthread Everknot. You should know that even if it cannot achieve mutual death, there is still the concept of shared losses. If you dare to misbehave against me in the least, I will immediately commit suicide. At the very least you will be severely wounded!”

Qin Yu’s forehead was covered with heavy lines. This sea monster royal princess was really too full of herself.

He coldly said, “Don’t worry. I have exactly zero intentions towards you.”

Princess Lushy was stunned for a moment before she was immediately enraged. What did you mean that you have zero intentions towards me? Do you think that I’m too ugly or something? Damned human cultivator!

Concerning these things, women always had a convoluted set of reasoning. If one looked for specific reasons, it was best to refer to stories about animals and how people were even inferior to them.

Qin Yu let go of her. He drew back one step. “I will abide by my promise. I will let you go here, but I should caution you to be careful and not be caught by anyone.”

Princess Lushy sneered. “Are you afraid you’ll be implicated?”

Shouldn’t this be the time that she was jumping in joy at being released? Indeed, Qin Yu realized that he really couldn’t guess the logic of women. He was disinclined to say anything further to her and turned to leave.

Princess Lushy stomped her feet in anger. “Despicable human cultivator! Wait until I go back and gather a team of masters! I will definitely capture you and bring you back to the royal palace where you will suffer for the humiliation I endured!”

Whoosh –

Princess Lushy fell into the sea. After several moments, an eerie light lit up as she was restored to her true form. Impressively, her true form was that of an elegant single-horned flood dragon. The jade bright scales reflected a faint halo of light in the dark sea water.

With a sweep of her tail, the flood dragon sank into the deep sea and rapidly departed.

By the time Qin Yu had flown several hundred miles away, he had already forgotten about Princess Lushy. At this time he was being blocked by a lobster monster. In truth, this was a giant lobster that was hundreds of times larger than normal and was covered in an eerie monster energy. Its scales were black and its blood red eyes were cruel and violent. It clearly wasn’t too bright a creature.

Seeing Qin Yu, the lobster monster cried out loud and broke free from the water. Its powerful pincers came snapping upwards, its blood red eyes filled with excitement.

It had attacked without a single word, crude, simple, and direct. It seemed that all the sea monsters of the Netherworld Sea Region were extremely dangerous beings!

Qin Yu flicked his sleeves and the lobster monster was sent flying away with a bang. Fierce fluctuations spread out from within his storage bag, slightly different from before.

Revealing an astonished look, Qin Yu waved his sleeves. With a flash of light, two items appeared: the Soul Burying Flag that had been ruined by the Soul Burying Arrow, and the black short sword – the Hundred Nether Sword.

Whoosh –

The Hundred Nether Sword flew out on its own. It stabbed into the lobster monster's flesh, and a black flow of energy entered the sword. The Hundred Nether Sword hummed in excitement. As its master, Qin Yu could sense the desire emanating from it. After so many previous killings, the Hundred Nether Sword had never produced such a response before. Could it be that the sea monsters of the Netherworld Sea Region were different and could enhance the power of the sword?

This idea lit up Qin Yu's mind. He beckoned with his hand and took back the Hundred Nether Sword. Suppressing his thoughts, he first looked at the Soul Burying Flag. When he first boarded the Netherworld Ship and the yin chill energy had formed a bead, the Soul Burying Flag had sent out a weak fluctuation. He turned his hand, producing the black bead. However, this time there was no response from the Soul Burying Flag.

Qin Yu pondered for a moment. He pressed the bead atop the Soul Burying Flag. After several breaths of time, he happily smiled as the bead began to melt into the flag, slowly integrating into it. Perhaps this ruined treasures had a chance of recovering. But, what about the Blacksky Demon that was still within it?

After some time, the entire bead was fused into the Soul Burying Flag. Although he couldn't sense any differences he believes that there would inevitably be changes occurring within it.

He put away the Soul Burying Flag and picked up the Hundred Nether Sword. Thinking a bit, he began to release his aura. Since the sea monsters of the Netherworld Sea Region might have a strength within their bodies that could enhance the Hundred Nether Sword, he naturally wanted to verify this. If it was true...

Reality proved that the Netherworld Sea Region's sea monsters had extremely sharp senses. As soon as Qin Yu released his aura, a fish monster came rushing out. This fish monster had a flat body and its mouth was located in its abdomen. Its mouthful of fierce fangs looked strange and its entire body was covered in monster energy; it was clearly on a higher level than the lobster monster.

It opened its mouth wide, but before it could even cry out a black light came flashing towards it. Monster energy emerged from the fish monster's body, but in front of the black light, that frail barrier was immediately broken.

Puff –

With the sound of tearing flesh, the Hundred Nether Sword pierced through the fish monster's eye and directly into its brain. Variation sea monsters were infamous for possessing potent vitality, but this one had perished in a single strike.

Qin Yu's eyes brightened.

The Hundred Nether Sword had moved on its own volition to kill the fish monster. He carefully observed and saw that the scales of the fish monster's corpse began to darken in color, as if some strength within it was being extracted and wrested away.

It really could be used!

Whoosh –

The sea's surface broke apart and a third sea monster ran out. There was a giant circular shell on its back; it was a sea snail monster with amazing defensive abilities. But beneath the power of the Hundred Nether Sword, these defensive abilities were just useless. The sword pierced the spiral gaps and thrust into the monster.

Weng –

Weng –

Three sea monsters had died miserable deaths. The Hundred Nether Sword seemed as if it had recovered some past memories as it began to shake with excitement. If Qin Yu didn't recall it, then according to the current trend, it would likely slaughter this entire area clean!

There was nothing else it could do; it was that hungry!

If it had been anyone else that had been tossed into some god forsaken underground land for over a thousand years and had finally obtained freedom and sustenance, they would also be the same.

Qin Yu held onto the unwilling Hundred Nether Sword and smiled as he lightly caressed the sword blade. "Don't worry. Since I came here, I will naturally allow you to eat your fill. But, eating these little things is meaningless. We're going to find a good and filling meal for you."

Seeming as if it could sense its master's intent, the Hundred Nether Sword cried out one more time before quieting.

Qin Yu lifted his hand and a jade slip appeared in his palm. This was a map of the Netherworld Sea Region that was a summarization of knowledge and experience from the cultivators of the past. But, several danger zones were actually not mapped out. Originally, this was an indication to stay as far away as possible, but now...

Whoosh –

A brilliant light flashed. Qin Yu howled away, crossing hundreds of miles rapidly. Although the boundless sea was the same everywhere, if he looked at the shadows in the distance and the direction of the currents and then contrasted that with the sea map, he could approximate his current position and direction.

He wouldn't go towards the shadows on the horizon for now. First, he would look for a place to rest and allow the Hundred Nether Sword to eat again.

An hour later, after cutting down 17 more sea monsters, Qin Yu stopped.

In front of him, the sea's surface was covered with swirls and the rumbling of water filled the air as it fell deep towards the seabed.

This place was called the Nine Nether Winding Path. At the seabed there were countless holes extending in all directions, forming an incomparably complex terrain. Many formidable sea monsters of the Netherworld Sea Region were gathered here. If a cultivator entered, they would have nine chances of death and one chance at life.

Qin Yu had no intention of entering. With a flick of his sleeve, he summoned the thunder magic sword and stabbed it into the sea!