Refining 1401

Chapter 1401 – I am the Trap

The reason for this was simple. If she truly wanted to harm Qin Yu, she could have easily done so. She did not need to waste too much effort.

Oh...there was one thing that he did not understand. Through their conversation, the woman in front of Qin Yu was not the same person as the woman in the Shadow of the Sun and Moon.

There was something more to this.

However, Qin Yu decided not to probe further. Sometimes, the less he knew, the better.

He organized his thoughts and bowed towards the woman, "So it was Senior who helped me out before. I am very thankful!"

The woman scoffed, "And that is why you disregarded my warnings and barged in here to ruin the plans we constructed for so many years?"

Um...

Qin Yu was put in a spot and he did not know what to reply. He felt misunderstood. How would he have known that he ruined their plans?

Furthermore, what was the plan? He did not witness anything.

Unexpectedly, the woman knew what he was thinking. This might be because of her powers as a Ruler or her own intuition. She sneered, "Do you feel wronged? Do you think you are right? Do you think that you would have arrived here safely if not for the seal the woman left in your body?"

Suddenly, she sensed something and she stared at Qin Yu. Frowning slightly, she asked, "You learned the five Divine Ways?"

She had changed the topic so suddenly but Qin Yu nodded in confirmation.

She ought to have realized that he was a genius. There were five Divine Ways, five precious treasures that every cultivator would drool over. Qin Yu got all of them and this opened up his path for a bright future.

Who did she say was blind? The woman made the right choice by choosing him. Qin Yu was filled with pride as he thought about this. Yet, he still did not know the full picture.

The woman smirked slightly as something piqued her interest. She slowly muttered, "It has been so many years since someone actually dared to learn all five Divine Ways by himself. Furthermore, you actually met the prerequisites to learn all of them. This must be destiny...Qin Yu, you chose this path. You must rely on yourself to grow even stronger!"

What was this sudden change?

Qin Yu's expression froze. Her words did not make sense to him. What in the world was she talking about? Was there a drawback to learning the five Divine Ways? Was he in danger?

A Ruler's judgment could not be wrong. Qin Yu sighed deeply and anxiously asked, "Is there something wrong with the five Divine Ways? Senior, please guide me!"

The woman snapped, "You spoiled my plans and you want me to guide you? Dream on!" She coughed before continuing, "Anyway, there is not much guidance I can give you. You already learnt the five Divine Ways. You can't turn back time to fix your problems. That is unless you destroy your own cultivation and become an ordinary person."

She glanced at him, "So? What do you think? If you are willing to do so but are afraid to destroy your own cultivation, I can give you a helping hand."

Qin Yu shook his head furiously and denied. He would be mad to destroy his own cultivation. Whatever problems he had now, he would resolve them in the future. With this thought, he decided to change the topic. Hesitantly, he asked, "I was ignorant and foolish to have spoiled your plans and I fully regret it. Is there any way to make up for it?"

"You are already here. How are you going to make up for it?" The woman rubbed her forehead in exasperation. She felt helpless but furious and she lamented, "I waited here for so many years to give the West Desolate and Mysterious Clan a surprise. I can't believe you were the one who arrived here in the end.

"Men can't defy nature and we can't prevent things that are bound to happen. The heavens refuse to give in; why can't they let me win for once?"

She tilted her head up and her eyes burned with rage. It looked like she was quarelling with the heavens...did she lose her mind from staying in this palace for too long?

Smack!

Qin Yu received a strong blow to his head. If not for his tough physical body, his vision would have blurred and the world would have spun before his eyes.

Somehow he had not seen how the woman struck him, and this made him fearful. How was she able to tell what he was thinking? Could Rulers read minds?

"I can't read your mind but I can guess what you are thinking. It isn't that hard." The woman leaned backwards and a chair appeared out of the blue. She sat down comfortably as she sighed, "The plan has been ruined. I can explain it to you if you want to hear. After all, you are somewhat considered to be in the same boat as me."

Qin Yu was respectful and he listened attentively. He was willing to listen to whatever she had to explain.

The woman raised her eyebrows. This brat was so thick-skinned. Her eyes swept across Qin Yu and she said, "Bounded Zero Place is a trap for the West Desolate and Mysterious Clan. It was originally a way to teach them a lesson and make up for the mistake in the past. But I never imagined that you would come here today."

This explanation was way too vague. What trap and lesson? Furthermore, Qin Yu came here and was blamed even though he did not do anything?

The woman's eyes darkened and she said, "I have awakened and the trap has already been set in motion. It cannot be used again. Tell me how you came in."

Qin Yu explained everything from the beginning till the end. He told her about his alliance with the six True Saints to massacre the two clans.

Although he did not go into detail, his brief explanation also took a while.

The woman scoffed, "So everyone from the two clans has been killed? I can't believe that they were beaten up so pathetically by you weaklings."

Qin Yu was at a loss for words.

Don't get angry!

The Ruler called him a weakling. How shameful!

He hesitated for a moment before he asked, "Senior, what is this trap you were talking about?"

The woman casually answered, "It is me."

She pointed ahead, "Do you see the Inextinguishable Flame there? I hid something inside there that the two clans would discover. However, the moment they tried to take it, I would be awakened and ambush them."

Qin Yu's eyes brightened. So the dangerous thing that Stone Pagoda and Fire Spirit warned him about was this woman. Since he and the woman could be considered to be amicable with each other, could he use this to his advantage? If she agreed, the Inextinguishable Flame would be his!

The more he thought about this, the more excited he was. He breathed in deeply and was just about to make his request when the woman stopped him, "Don't tell me you desire the Inextinguishable Flame too?"

Qin Yu replied, "Senior, please allow me."

The woman smiled slightly and surveyed Qin Yu, "The Inextinguishable Flame is very powerful. Do you think you can take it?"

She did not shut him out!

Qin Yu quickly triggered the furnace and revealed it in his hand, "I have this item with me and it will be able to absorb the flame."

The woman's eyes brightened, "Mm, this furnace is not bad." She sat upright and took a closer look at it, "It can even evolve with the flame. Interesting.

"I think I know why you want the Inextinguishable Flame already. Although you spoiled my plans and you are pretty sloppy, since that woman chose you, I will help you too..."

"Thank you Senior!" Qin Yu beamed.

The woman chuckled slightly, "Wait till I finish speaking."

She pointed to herself, "I think you know this already, but I am not her. How do I explain this...hmm. I am an independent consciousness and I have my own will until the trap is activated. However, once it is, I will not be myself again. Everything before me will be my target and my objective will be to destroy all living things."

The woman laughed, "Don't assume that things will be okay since we are on talking terms. Once activated, I will kill you mercilessly as well."

Although the woman's face was still blurry, Qin Yu could tell that she was very beautiful from her laugh. This was insignificant now but Qin Yu felt a penetrating coldness from her that pierced his skin.

Chapter 1402 - Finding Someone to Help

Don't panic! Be calm.

Let's find out what is going on first.

The woman in front of him was the one from the Shadow of the Sun and Moon. But it was also not her real self.

From the information they received, she was most likely a portion of the Ruler's will. This also meant that Qin Yu's guess was right.

The Ruler was not dead. She had faked her death in order to escape. She then took the chance to prepare this entire scene to give the West Desolate and that clan a surprise.

He did not know what this woman did to make the West Desolate and that clan believe it, but Bounded Zero Place undoubtedly existed and it was a real trap.

As for why he firmly believed that the ones being plotted against were the West Desolate and that clan, that was because she knew that cultivators from the Vast Brightness World would not be able to enter this place.

Other than someone like Qin Yu popping up, it was the truth.

But there was no point talking about this now. What was important was she was the Ruler's avatar – she was the trap!

And the Inextinguishable Flame was the thing that triggered the trap. Once someone touched it, the Ruler's avatar would begin her massacre and destroy everything.

This was not rubbish and Qin Yu had to find out what was going on. This was the only way he might be able to find a solution.

Now, things seemed to be at a dead end. If he took the Inextinguishable Flame, the Ruler's avatar would kill everyone. If he did not take it...then wouldn't all his effort go to waste? The meat was right before his mouth. He had to eat it.

Coughing lightly, Qin Yu bowed politely, "Senior, the Inextinguishable Flame is extremely crucial to me. Please give me some guidance."

The woman pursed her lips, "Everything is as you said, there is no guidance to be given. As long as you think your head is hard enough, then take the Inextinguishable Flame."

Qin Yu's heart jolted. What she said was useless. If I were that able, I would not have bothered talking to you!

"Hehe! Let me warn you. Disrespecting a Ruler, even in your thoughts, is a huge crime!" The woman gave a dangerous look, "One more time and I will let you experience what a Poison Dragon Tornado is."

This...although he did not know what it was, the name itself sounded extremely impressive!

Qin Yu coughed lightly, "Senior, is there really no way? Or maybe...hmmm...your current state..."

He stammered as he spoke yet the woman seemed to understand him. She rolled her eyes, "Are you trying to ask how much longer I can live? Sorry but as the Ruler's will, I do not deplete. It is not an issue for me to live for another few million years."

Disappointment filled him as Qin Yu suddenly had another idea. But this was too dangerous and he did not dare to say it.

The woman understood once more. She smiled brightly as her eyes lit up, "Little brat, you are quite quick with your mind. You can even think of ways like this. Now I understand why that woman likes you. Being thick-skinned is indeed beneficial for cultivators."

Qin Yu looked awkward, "Hoo...I was just thinking. I did not mean to be disrespectful."

The woman waved her hands, "You don't understand. Strictly speaking, I empathize with this idea. Loneliness is one of the scariest things in this world. Especially to a woman who has lived for a very long time.

"So if it is possible to end this dry and boring time faster, I will really appreciate it. But it is a pity. That woman has already taken precautions regarding this. I am not able to just make myself disappear, so this will not work."

Qin Yu was speechless for a while. He could feel that this woman was telling the truth when it came to this.

This meant that he could probably forget about trying the 'unorthodox' way.

If he wanted to get the Inextinguishable Flame, there was only one way left – going head on and resisting the Ruler's avatar!

What a headache.

Qin Yu was quite hardy but definitely not as hardy as the Ruler's avatar. Unless there was someone to help him. But where would he find someone to help...

Hmm?

A thought suddenly came into Qin Yu's mind. His eyes flashed as he thought of a plan...this may work!

Taking a deep breath, he put his hands together respectfully, "Senior, was what you said just now the truth?" He was referring to her saying that she actually would like to disappear faster.

This was crucial. If she had only just casually said this and Qin Yu raised his suggestion, it would be equivalent to him putting himself in front of the gun. That would be miserable.

The woman threw him a glance, "Of course." Her eyes lit up as she bent over. She looked down at him from a height and looked extremely oppressive, "Little brat, what have you thought of now? Tell me. If it works, I will help you."

Qin Yu relaxed slightly. From her posture, it seemed like she was not joking. He could bravely say it.

Formulating his words to make sure there were no big mistakes, Qin Yu said, "I told you earlier that I collaborated with several ancient Saints to enter this place. Those people are very strong and all of them are peak True Saints...I am thinking of working together with them. With that, could I resist you for a moment?"

The woman raised her brows, "Peak True Saints?" She thought about it seriously, "How many did you say were here? Hmm, you said six right?"

If Soft Peach was counted, it would make seven!

But after thinking about it, Qin Yu removed her name from the list. Although it would be good to borrow this avatar's power to kill her, no one could guarantee that Peachy would not be affected if Soft Peach was killed.

He could not take the risk!

"Yes, Senior. There are a total of six ancient Saints." Qin Yu repeated what he knew about them.

"A Cultivator from the Ghost Path? Not bad. Those people are quite resilient." The woman nodded in satisfaction. "As for the Xu brothers you mentioned and Wind, Cloud, Rain...hehe. They might be related to my history.

"Back then, during the huge battle, there were some opportunists that ran as soon as they saw things were not in their favor. Great. Let me take this chance to send them along to meet with those other people from back then."

Whew, she spoke of killing so casually and easily. Was it a given? I really know nothing about the Ruler's frame of mind.

This was not important. What was important was that the Ruler's avatar seemed to have agreed to Qin Yu's suggestion. He instantly smiled. But as he thought of how this woman in front of him was about to disappear, he felt bad for smiling and immediately stopped.

The woman snorted, "Hypocritical man. Just smile if you want to. There is no need to hold it in!"

He could not admit to this. Even if he knew it was fake, he had to continue pretending as he said seriously, "I am extremely thankful for your support. Do you have any wishes? If they are within my abilities, I will do whatever I can."

He had to add a constraint. If not, it would be very troublesome if she said something difficult!

The woman thought about it before clapping suddenly, "There is one thing." She reached out to pluck a strand of her hair, "If there is time, bring this out."

Qin Yu was apprehensive, "Just like this?"

The woman snorted once more, "You are unsatisfied? Should I give you something of a higher difficulty?"

Qin Yu quickly grabbed the strand of hair. After storing it carefully, he greeted, "Don't worry, I will definitely do it."

As for what this strand of hair did and what its use was...hmm, it won't be an issue right?!

The woman seemed to smile but did not, "Okay, time to be serious. So how are you planning to trick those people into coming here to become your shield?"

That's right. That was Qin Yu's plan.

Once he touched the Inextinguishable Flame, the Ruler's avatar would begin a massacre. Qin Yu would not be able to resist it by himself. But if a group of peak True Saints collaborated, they may be able to.

Cough cough. Even if they ended up dying, they just needed to last long enough for Qin Yu to leave with the Inextinguishable Flame. It should be possible. Qin Yu could not care less if they really died.

Qin Yu greeted, "I have an idea but I would like for you to help me with something. It is the 'real' key used to enter this place...the Crystal Token I used earlier has been destroyed."

The corners of the woman's mouth curled slightly, "You are pretty confident. I shall not care anymore." As she said this, she waved her hand and the light from her eyes wavered. Soon, 'Ping pong ping pong'. The sound of things falling could be heard as numerous Crystal Tokens fell to the ground. "Is this enough?"

Qin Yu quickly nodded, "Yes, yes. Thank you very much for your help!"

The only gap in his plan had been solved so easily. It was a good omen.

The next part would test his acting. He just needed to make it real and they would fall for it.

Regarding this, Qin Yu was extremely confident.

More importantly, everyone was seeking the treasure. When they were faced with such strong attraction, their ability to judge would be severely reduced and this benefitted Qin Yu's plot greatly.

More importantly, the treasure was moved. When it faced a strong attraction, its ability to judge severely reduces and this benefitted Qin Yu's plot greatly.

The woman waved and yawned, "Since you are so sure then hurry and go...remember. If everything goes smoothly, you have to act quickly when taking the Inextinguishable Flame. You know the consequence if you do not."

Qin Yu put his hands respectfully, "Thank you Senior for the warning. I will take my leave now!" He bowed solemnly before taking a few steps back and turning to leave.

This bow was necessary.

Although the Ruler's avatar admitted that she was happy to vanish earlier, she was still paying a price of dying in order to help Qin Yu. These things were separate issues and he had to remember this favor she did for him.

Her hair...

Initially, Qin Yu was slightly worried that the Ruler's avatar would try to create trouble. But now, he suppressed his worry.

Regardless of whether she had a scheme, he would help her fulfill her wish as a way to repay her.

If not, there would be a knot in his heart from not being able to repay a favor...after all, if nothing went wrong, he would never have a chance to meet the Ruler's avatar ever again.

Hoo -

Letting out a deep breath, he squashed down the conflict he had internally. Qin Yu's eyes glowed. Now was not the time to think about other things. He had to act out a big scene now. If he wanted to succeed, he had to play his part well.

He only hoped that those ancient Saints had not left yet!

Chapter 1403 – I Want Some Compensation

Leave? He he, that was not possible!

Five inheritance Divine Ways had vanished without any explanation. Although both sides had fought for a long time and they were filled with bewilderment and disbelief, there was one thing they were sure of – the inheritance Divine Ways were not in the hands of either group.

But before they could come to terms with this cruel reality, the Crystal Token had gone missing. When both parties first saw this item, they could feel the strong aura coming from it.

It was the Ruler's will!

The real Ruler's residence was not here and they were all aware of this. Initially, they thought that it had been destroyed in the battle back then. However, as soon as they saw the Crystal Token, they knew that the Ruler's residence was still around.

And the Crystal Token was the key to finding it!

When the intense fight broke out, the Xu brothers utilized their advantage of space to first get their hands on the Crystal Token.

So when Gentle Smoke Saint said that they were the ones who found the Crystal Token first, Wind, Cloud and Rain Saints all expressed their rejection. They clearly found it together and it was just that they moved faster.

And that was what led to the fight.

What was more miserable was that while this was happening, the extremely foolish Gentle Spread Saint actually handed the key over to Virtuous Nine, who then took the key and left.

That's right. He just left. Without any trouble or resistance, he successfully left right under the noses of the five ancient Saints.

Unbelievable!

And what was even more depressing was that when they chased after him, they missed him by just that little bit and could only watch Virtuous Nine disappear through the illusion door.

Without any words, everyone knew where he had gone...they could only wait for him to come out.

When will he come out? Will he reappear here? When did they have to wait until? All five ancient Saints did not know.

There was one thing that they were sure of. If the heavens gave them another chance and Virtuous Nine appeared in front of them, the Xu brothers and Wind, Cloud and Rain Saints swore that they would tear him to pieces as soon as they saw him!

They were filled with murderous intent yet they looked lost. The five ancient Saints were waiting but they did not know if they would have any results.

Time passed quietly. Gentle Spread Saint's breathing became even and his face was stupefied. However, his eyes remained red and it was enough to sense the explosive emotions that he kept under his cool exterior.

Virtuous Nine...Virtuous Nine...Virtuous Nine...you will definitely come out. You will!

It was a desire but also a kind of strong instinct.

All of a sudden, Gentle Spread Saint's heart pounded intensely as his head shot up and he stared into the distance. The air shifted in front of him and a door appeared.

Gentle Spread Saint's breathing paused and he did not dare to move. He stared at the door as he hid his aura.

He was coming out! He was coming out!

Sincerity moves the heavens...tsk, this was not suitable here but I hope you all understand.

Basically, Gentle Spread Saint was extremely agitated. But what was more impressive was that he managed to control and hide his emotions even though they were flooding through him.

Nonsense. Of course he had to hide his aura. If he scared Virtuous Nine away, he would have nowhere to cry to.

Finally, a figure appeared and the illusion quickly became real...that's right. It was Virtuous Nine! Even if this figure turned to ashes, he would still recognize it.

"Die!"

Bellowing, Gentle Spread Saint allowed his fury to burst through and there was no holding it back.

Kill him! Kill him! Kill him!

At this moment, this was the only thought that filled Gentle Spread Saint's head.

Qin Yu shouted, "Kill me and none of you will get the Ruler's inheritance!"

Hoo -

The fists, which had caused immense waves in the air, stopped within centimeters of his face. Gentle Spread Saint was panting heavily. In his reddened eyes, he seemed to be struggling.

Across from him, Qin Yu was pale as he panted, looking as if he had suffered great injuries. He rushed to shout, "Don't be hasty. Listen to me first. The illusion door leads to the real Ruler's residence. This is the biggest opportunity in Bounded Zero Place!"

Gentle Smoke Saint pulled on his brother, "Let's listen to him first. If anything is off, it won't be too late to kill him!"

The other three Saints nodded, "That's right. We don't have to rush to kill him now."

Gentle Spread Saint took a deep breath and growled sinisterly, "Speak!"

Qin Yu wiped the beads of sweat that had covered his forehead, seeming to look weak and slightly afraid. His finger trembled a bit. He scored himself full marks for this performance. Especially the trembling, this was a stroke of genius.

Taking a deep breath, he said, "Previously, I activated the Crystal Token and opened the illusion door. When I entered, I found the main body of the Inextinguishable Flame. The whole place was burning hot and the power was horrifying."

"Main point!" Gentle Spread Saint cut him off.

Qin Yu looked annoyed but could only bear with it. He gritted his teeth, "The main point is that after I entered the Inextinguishable Flame, I found a vibrantly colored palace!"

Cloud Saint's eyes lit up, "Vibrantly colored?"

Qin Yu glanced at him, "That's right. I was surprised as to what the palace was made of. Not only is it able to survive and be completely fine within the Inextinguishable Flame, it also seems to be able to absorb the power from the flame."

Cloud Saint took a step forward, "Continue. What did you find in the palace?"

Qin Yu laughed bitterly, "If I said I did not take anything, would you believe me?" He took a deep breath as he looked even more bitter, "That palace emitted an astounding pressure. Just the sight of it caused breathing difficulties.

"But this was only the beginning. The closer I went to it, the greater the pressure. It is almost unbearable. I tried my best but could only reach outside of the main door. Just as I prepared to open the door, there was a voice..."

He then paused and his face looked strange, horrified, and filled with complicated emotions, "She said this place did not welcome me."

This tone and expression was truly what he felt. Because this was truly what the woman had said.

Because the truth has the strongest persuasion. Across from him, all six Saints believed him in that instant.

At this moment, the hairs on their backs stood. Their wide eyes were filled with shock, fear and disbelief.

Qin Yu licked the corners of his lips and his voice was filled with hardship, "It was a woman's voice. She sounded young and her voice was nice to listen to. Do you all believe it? The Ruler was actually a woman! Initially, I did not want to believe it. I struggled so hard to get in and did not want to come out without anything.

"But the Ruler is the Ruler. Even if it was just a shadow, I was not able to withstand her power. She merely waved her hand and I flew out. If not for my life-saving item, I would have been killed on the spot."

Gentle Spread Saint spoke, "Shadow? How do you know it was a shadow?"

Qin Yu replied, "When I was thrown back, I managed to see through one of the palace's windows. I saw an illusion...it was very blurry. It must be a shadow. She then said that I was not the fated one she was looking for. If I went any closer, I would die."

When he said this, Qin Yu could not help but praise himself internally.

His expression now was too appropriate. He brilliantly portrayed the struggle, impatience, pain and regret that a person would feel coming out of a treasure mountain empty-handed.

Hoo...strictly speaking, these were his true feelings.

Because when he saw the palace, Qin Yu was extremely hopeful and expectant of getting a huge reward.

In the end? He got nothing and walked out empty-handed.

There was silence after he finished his story. None of the five Saints spoke. But through their expressions, Qin Yu knew that they at least half-believed him.

He did not need much more. Fifty percent was good enough!

Gentle Spread Saint suddenly sneered, "Nonsense, the Ruler is a man. I am from here, how can an outsider like you know better than me?"

He stepped forward and murderous intent burst forth, "Everyone, let's not waste time listening to him. Let's kill him!"

Qin Yu's expression changed as he quickly shuffled backwards. "A man? That's not possible! The one I met was clearly a woman!"

Hehe, trying to trick me? With your standard, it is not enough.

Of course, a trick was still a trick and if he was really lying, he would be extremely horrified when met with such a murderous reaction.

Woosh -

The three Wind, Cloud and Rain Saints stood in front of Gentle Spread Saint, "Gentle Spread Saint and Gentle Smoke Saint, this is not the time to deal with our personal grievances. I think there must be a deeper meaning behind Virtuous Nine's words."

As he spoke, Wind Saint turned and smiled slightly, "Don't worry Virtuous Nine. As long as you tell us useful information, we promise not to hurt you."

Despicable!

Gentle Spread Saint was bursting with anger. He was just testing Qin Yu earlier and the three Saints should know that. They knew yet they pretended to be benevolent. They were clearly trying to get into Virtuous Nine's good books.

Gentle Smoke Saint sneered, "My elder brother is just being cautious and purposely tested you. Since what Virtuous Nine said has been proven to be true, we will not act recklessly."

He greeted, "If I did not hear wrongly, you meant that we have a way to get through the illusion door and get the Ruler's inheritance?"

Qin Yu nodded, "That's right." He showed his palm and a light appeared on it. A Crystal Token appeared.

Everyone looked over and the temperature in the air increased sharply.

"All of you probably recognize this so I won't explain much. Once you activate this, you will be able to open the illusion door and enter a deeper layer of the True Land to continue to search for the Ruler's residence.

"The Ruler's shadow said that I am not the fated one she is waiting for..." Qin Yu's face dimmed as he paused and took a deep breath before continuing, "But you all still have a chance. If you are the chosen one, I believe I don't have to say more."

Hoo -

The breathing sounds intensified!

They had clearly seen Qin Yu break the Crystal Token and open the illusion door. Yet, he had another one in his hands.

More importantly, they had a chance to obtain the Ruler's inheritance!

"Wait!" Gentle Spread Saint suddenly said with piercing eyes. He stared at Qin Yu and said coldly, "You only have one Crystal Token. Are you saying that it can bring us all in?"

Qin Yu shook his head, "I already tried. One Crystal Token can send at most one person in."

Gentle Spread Saint sneered, "What a good plot! You only have one Crystal Token. How can we split it? I bet you are thinking of a way to get us to fight amongst each other! Your appearance here might be a plot in itself. Maybe you are plotting against us!"

Qin Yu wanted to applaud him for being so smart at a time like this. But this remained a thought. He could not ruin it at this moment!

He looked at Gentle Spread Saint and shook his head, "Saint, you are thinking too much. I have no such intentions..." He paused before opening his hands. Another two Crystal Tokens appeared. "I have three Crystal Tokens and can let three Saints in. So if you want to, please give me your offers now."

Silence!

There were actually three Crystal Tokens...what did he mean by offers?

Gentle Spread Saint frowned, "What do you mean?"

Qin Yu shrugged, "I would like to remind you all that you may not know the attributes of the Crystal Token, but I have already activated one and have some experience. I can easily crush them. So if you want to enter the Ruler's residence, you had better follow my rules. If not, I will crush the Crystal Tokens and you will return empty-handed."

Although Qin Yu wished to be able to give them the Crystal Tokens now and send them to their deaths, these ancient Saints were no fools. Hence, he could not do so.

No one would fall for a trap presented to them. They had to pay a price. The heavier the price, the more likely they would fall for it!

Human emotions were like this.

Gentle Spread Saint looked irritated but he could only suppress the emotions within.

It was difficult to tell if Virtuous Nine was telling the truth but he could not take the risk. If he really broke the Crystal Tokens...he would go crazy!

As they all fell silent, Qin Yu smiled, "Very good. You are all smart people. Then let's begin. I did not get anything helpful from within...hmm, maybe you all will not believe me. I swear that I did not get anything that would help with my cultivation from beyond the illusion door. If not, my Great Dao will forever be restricted and I will never be able to reach the level of a Ruler!"

This pledge was sufficiently harsh and everyone believed him.

"So let's continue." Taking a deep breath, Qin Yu said, "I was the one who brought the Crystal Tokens out. On one hand, after I hand these over to you, our previous debt will be canceled. On another hand, I need some compensation. After all, what I am giving you is a rare and unbelievable opportunity. This is why I need your guarantee to write off the debt so that after you enter, you will not try to get back at me in the future...after all, it will be easy to kill me then."

Wind, Cloud and Rain Saints agreed and spoke sincerely as they told him that it was reasonable. They would erase whatever bad blood they had and no one would ever mention it. They agreed that his other request was reasonable. They would offer him a great price, so please hand the keys over to them.

There were three keys for the three of them. It was perfect!

Unfortunately, Gentle Spread Saint would never agree to such a perfect scenario. He snorted as he said, "Dream on!"

Staring at Qin Yu, Gentle Spread Saint took a deep breath, "We will cancel out whatever happened before. I swear to never pursue you for it!"

Didn't he say that he had to kill Qin Yu? What happened to his bone-deep hatred? Tsk tsk, everything that cultivators said were lies. Not a single word could be trusted!

All of a sudden, laughter could be heard, "How exciting. I was wondering why I could not find anyone. So you are all gathered here."

The flames split open and Close Saint walked into the main hall. He looked calm as his mouth slowly curved up into a slight smile.

Chapter 1404 - A Generous Man

Close Saint, Ghost Path!

Everyone's expressions changed as their pupils shrunk. Fear filled their eyes.

Taking note of everyone's reactions, Close Saint looked at Qin Yu and smiled victoriously, "It seems like Virtuous Nine has told all of you about my identity. I guess that saves me the trouble of introducing myself."

He paused before smiling and saying, "I want one of the three Crystal Tokens."

He was straight to the point and spoke matter of factly, giving the impression that he ought to have one.

It was as if he could take it since he asked for it. The air was silent and no one stepped out to object.

Qin Yu looked at him uglily. He took a deep breath and gritted his teeth, "Fine, but the rules are the same. You have to give me something that I am satisfied with."

Actually, what Qin Yu really wanted to do was rush over to hug Close Saint. However, as the situation was not appropriate, he restrained himself.

This secretive Ghost Path cultivator was one of the most important ones amongst the True Saints he had in mind to go against the Ruler's avatar.

Initially, Qin Yu was having a headache thinking about how he would be able to find him and not make him suspicious. He had several ideas in mind and had been about to try them after tricking the two Xu brothers and Wind, Cloud and Rain Saints.

But reality was always a surprise. It was as if Close Saint was able to understand other people's intentions perfectly and appeared in front of Qin Yu. He would gain full marks for his performance in appearing calm and domineering as he asked for a Crystal Token.

Great, absolutely great!

Qin Yu felt as if a lot of people misunderstood these mysterious ancient Saints. From the short time that he interacted with them, the impression Qin Yu had of them was warm – they were good people!

First, there was Gentle Spread Saint who gave him the key. Then, there was Close Saint who automatically added himself to the list. The other Saints were also cooperating extremely well.

He was so touched!!!

Hooo...it was just that Close Saint's aura was slightly strange. It was different from before.

Qin Yu sampled it and felt his tooth shake. He was in slight disbelief – initially Li Quanji had merged with the vengeful spirit, now...mmhm, the three of them were combined?

Could this be like the rumors, the combination of three? He learned something new today. Even though he did not understand how it happened, he felt as if it was very powerful.

But isn't this combination of three kind of disgusting? Thankfully, this was not important. In Qin Yu's opinion, the stronger Close Saint was, the better. As for how he became so strong, Qin Yu decided not to try and decipher it. It was slightly revolting to think about.

Close Saint never expected that this person in front of him, who was looking at him uglily and impatiently, was actually the same person whose image he had memorized deep inside his head.

He smiled brilliantly, "Of course, Virtuous Nine. Don't worry. I will abide by the rules and give you compensation."

Flipping his hand, his palm flashed and a Blood Jade Coffin appeared.

"I have carried this item with me for many years. It was very important when I started my cultivation in the Ghost Path. It was able to suppress and smelt the ghost puppets and is one of the most precious things I have. Of course, we might have had some misunderstandings before and as a result, I lost all my ghost puppets. Today, I am giving this Blood Red Coffin to you to resolve this misunderstanding."

Was the Blood Red Coffin a precious treasure? Of course! It has been stored by a Ghost Path cultivator for such a long time. Anyone would know that this was extremely precious and was definitely sufficient compensation.

But what was important was that Qin Yu was not a Ghost Path cultivator. No matter how precious this thing was, it was useless if he could not use it.

Everyone looked over and Qin Yu was frowning and looking hesitant. Close Saint spoke slowly, "I have already done as you asked. If you do not agree, it means that you do not keep to your word...we will not be able to trust you and trade with you."

His voice was calm but filled with threat. It was as if he was trying to dare Qin Yu to test him.

Qin Yu internally snorted as he thought that this 'combination of three' seemed to have increased Close Saint's power exponentially. Close Saint was extremely confident.

It was a good thing!

The stronger Close Saint was, the more time he would be able to get for Qin Yu. For Qin Yu, Close Saint was putting aside his beliefs and making a sacrifice. So what was the big deal about a little threat? If Qin Yu was offended by this small threat, how could he be considered generous?

Qin Yu could not be.

Qin Yu took a deep breath as he nodded, "Okay!"

I am a generous man. To those that genuinely want to help me, I am extremely generous and tolerant.

Please praise me!

He took the Blood Red Coffin and passed the Crystal Token over. The first one on the list of people to die.

Close Saint lowered his eyes to look at the Crystal Token in his hands as if verifying its authenticity before turning to go.

Qin Yu said, "I think you should wait."

Close Saint's eyes flashed as he looked at Qin Yu. The corners of his mouth turned up, "Oh? Since you said it, I shall wait."

Qin Yu bet that Close Saint believed Qin Yu had another scheme. But unfortunately, there was none. The main point was that he was worried they would not be able to successfully activate the Crystal Token.

The longer one took, the higher the chance of things changing. He should hurry on with his plan...when it came to such a complicated thing like activating this Crystal Token, Qin Yu was happy to help.

Lifting his hand, Qin Yu said, "Everyone, there are only two left!"

Gentle Spread Saint stepped forward, "I want one!" He lifted his head and his eyes were filled with iciness and intense pressure as he looked at everyone, "I think the three of you will not want to anger me and force us to fight."

He was domineering and seemed to be saying that he was going to get one no matter what.

Tsk tsk, he did seem imposing. But where were you when Close Saint was talking? Did you turn into a mute?

This was a typical scenario of bullying those weaker than you!

Were Wind, Cloud and Rain Saints weak? No. When the three of them joined hands, their powers were astounding.

Looking at all of them, the three Saints really did not lose out to anyone. Even when Close Saint appeared, they were just slightly more frightened.

But just because they were not weak, did not mean that they had to butt heads till the end. Gentle Spread Saint would definitely do as he threatened. The keys were in front of them and would open the illusion door to find the Ruler's inheritance with unlimited possibilities.

It would be stupid to fight now as no matter whether they won or lost in the end, it would be a net loss!

As they looked at each other, the three Saints seemed to have some way of communicating. After a few moments, Cloud Saint said, "Give us the last piece!"

When it came down to it, each side had a piece and was somewhat fair.

So much for what they said earlier about how they should have all three since there were three of them...everyone knew it would not have worked.

Gentle Spread Saint was expressionless. "Fine."

He flipped his hand and a piece of silver white metal appeared. What was strange was that when one looked at it, it seemed to be fluid.

Yet, it maintained its overall shape as if it had some kind of special visual effect.

"This was something I got when I was traveling around the Vast Brightness World. I had to accumulate a lot of energy at one of the places where the power of space was concentrated. This contains an almost perfect space rule. After using it, you will be able to have the power of space."

When it came to time and space abilities, they were very important to a cultivator's future. Even some Saints in the Sea of Bitterness were not able to completely realize it.

But just by using this stone, one would be able to have the power of space...wasn't this precious? However, Qin Yu had already obtained the power of space. Although he could not be compared to the Xu brothers, it was not something extremely significant to him.

This meant that this silver white metal was like the Blood Red Coffin that Close Saint gave. It was so precious it could not be denied, but it was useless to Qin Yu.

This bunch of old bastards. They must have done this intentionally!

Alright, this was just a side hustle that he added to increase the reliability of his story.

Moreover, he said that he would be a generous man. Compared to the price the Saints were paying, this little thing was nothing!

They exchanged the goods. The second name on the list of death.

Gentle Spread Saint backed off as he carefully looked at the Crystal Token in his hands. The good news was that there was nothing wrong with it. It was exactly the same as the one he had previously.

He looked at Close Saint and chose to stay to observe.

Next, things went better than expected. The three Saints chose the oldest one amongst them to get the last key.

Tsk tsk, at this point, we have to recognize the loyalty and trust amongst them.

The Xu brothers were related but these three were not. Moreover, splitting by three was always more difficult than splitting between two.

So it was not easy to be able to decide so quickly and not bicker.

However, it was not like Qin Yu was going to help them – cough, cough. There was no need for them to be anxious. There were a lot of spaces on the name list. Even if they called their friends over, they would all be able to fit. I could always extend the name list.

Just as Qin Yu was thinking about this, Wind Saint coughed lightly and stepped forward. As he was about to reach for the last Crystal Token, Soft Peach appeared.

Her entrance was even more mysterious than Close Saint's. The flames collapsed inwards silently as if getting swallowed by a black hole. Then, there was a blank area and Soft Peach appeared.

All eyes fell on her. Especially Close Saint, who gave a 'complicated' look. Soft Peach looked at the item in Qin Yu's hand, "I want this Crystal Token."

Chapter 1405 – Addicted to Taking Advantage

Alas, not everything would go as one wished.

There would always be accidents!

Soft Peach was one of them.

Qin Yu did not want to kill her by borrowing someone else's strength. At least not for now.

In such a situation, Qin Yu was not able to give her any indication. If he did, he would be blatantly looking down on the ancient Saints.

So he could only frown and pretend to hesitate. He immediately started thinking of a way to solve this.

Thankfully, before Qin Yu could fall short, a supporting actor jumped to the rescue.

Cough cough. Okay, maybe calling a True Saint a supporting actor was too flippant.

Wind Saint turned stoic as fury burned in his eyes. He spoke sinisterly, "This Crystal Token is ours. Soft Peach, don't create trouble for yourself!"

Cloud and Rain Saint stepped forward and looked extremely unfriendly and sinister.

Bom -

A loud explosion could be heard as if a huge rock had fallen from the top of a mountain. Wind Saint, who had been standing right in front, groaned as he flew backwards.

"Soft Peach!"

The three Saints shouted angrily. They did not think that this woman would actually attack them.

They put up with Close Saint because they were afraid of his Ghost Path abilities. They then put up with Gentle Spread Saint in light of the bigger picture. But now, there was Soft Peach.

Once, twice but no more. Did they really think the three of us were pushovers! Moreover, this was the last Crystal Token. There was no way they could back off.

Hoo -

An intense wind caused Soft Peach's long skirt to fly. Her hair flew crazily in the wind and her eyes turned icy. As she looked at the three Saints, she was not panicking at all.

A complicated energy erupted from her body now as if she was slowly turning into a predator and made those around her turn fearful.

The three Saints looked solemn but they had no intention of backing off...there was no way they could!

A huge fight was about to happen.

Close Saint and the Xu brothers watched on. All of them wished that Soft Peach and the three Saints would just fight to their deaths such that they would not need to fight them later on.

But Qin Yu would never let this happen.

The three Saints were extremely important in his list. How could he afford to lose them here...hmph, fine. Qin Yu admitted that he favored Soft Peach.

This was despite the fact that she was fighting the three Saints alone and they were able to reinforce each other's abilities.

Could it be that Soft Peach's Second Personality left a very strong impression on him? Cough, or rather, did he become scared of her abilities?

Getting scared by a woman...fine it was nothing embarrassing. The one in the palace was also a woman. If he was not scared of her, would he need to go through all this trouble?

He would just admit it!

"Everyone, please calm down and listen to me." Qin Yu walked in between them and held the Crystal Token up high. This was a lot more effective than just talking. Both sides controlled their auras.

Qin Yu looked at the three Saints before turning to Soft Peach, "Do you really want to go in?"

This was the last chance. You better cherish it!

Clearly, Soft Peach did not understand Qin Yu's real intentions.

Or perhaps she noticed but chose to ignore.

She was silent for a while before she spoke, "Will you help me?"

There was no start or end to what she said but Qin Yu understood. He immediately frowned and shook his head, not hesitating at all.

Soft Peach's mouth turned upwards, "Then isn't it settled? You are not willing to help me so I have to find my own way. I will get that Crystal Token."

Although the others did not know what they were talking about, they all sensed that these two had a backstory.

A man and woman with a story...damn, anything was possible!

Wind Saint took a deep breath and spoke lowly, "Virtuous Saint, I hope you are aware that if I don't get the key, I will not sit back!"

That's right. I am threatening you. You better not make any rash mistakes.

You better keep yourself in check or the three ancient Saints were going to blow up!

Soft Peach chuckled, "The Crystal Token is mine. Whoever wants to fight with me for it shall die!"

She was extremely aggressive.

Qin Yu had always known that she had a bad temper. Back then, she probably only compromised with him.

But now he finally witnessed what her bad temper was like. It was extremely forceful.

If this continued, they would really fight. Qin Yu glared at Soft Peach, "Stop talking, this Crystal Token is for you!"

Boom -

The auras of the three Wind, Cloud and Rain Saints exploded. All six eyes were locked on Qin Yu.

Are you not afraid of us? You gave them to everyone but us. We will let you have a taste of our fury!

Qin Yu lifted his hand, "Wait, why are you all so anxious? I never said that I won't give you yours after giving her one."

He flipped open his hand and another Crystal Token appeared.

A fourth one!

The whole atmosphere fell silent.

Feeling everyone's gazes, Qin Yu coughed lightly, "Well, I had to leave something for myself. I believe that all of you are smart. You will understand, right?"

Understand your head!

At this moment, Close Saint and the Xu brothers looked sinister. A foolish and sullen feeling came over both of them. The happiness they had when they tricked Qin Yu with their trade disappeared.

There was one more than they originally thought...they did not need to be mathematical geniuses to know this. It was not just about this one more piece, this meant that their understanding was wrong.

There were more than three Crystal Tokens...something changed. This change may also mean that there were a lot more!

If this was really the case, then as people who got the Crystal Tokens first, they paid the highest price – at least more than the rest!

Soft Peach's mouth twitched as she looked at Qin Yu. This man could always surprise her.

Amidst the silence, Qin Yu was unruffled as he clapped his hands and smiled, "Now everyone has something. How great!"

Wind Saint flipped his hand and a broken cloth appeared, full of droplets of blood. He tore it into two, "The blood on this cloth is from a mysterious clan that no longer exists in this world. If you light the blood in critical moments, you will be able to summon a projection of a strong existence. I guarantee that you will be pleased...Virtuous Saint, will you be willing to take this?"

Qin Yu coughed lightly, looking slightly awkward, "Okay!"

Soft Peach blinked, "I don't have anything."

Of course, when it came to comparing shamelessness, no one could beat this woman.

"Forget it. It's yours!" Qin Yu massaged his brows. In the end, he still could not think of a way to get rid of Soft Peach.

But this woman was very powerful. She was so powerful that Qin Yu believed she may not die even in this situation.

This was also a way for him to comfort himself.

At this moment, Close Saint and Gentle Spread Saint looked unhappy. As it was, what they thought of became the reality.

But now, no one could be bothered about their feelings.

Wind Saint coughed lightly as he waved the other half of the broken cloth, "There was one thing that I did not explain clearly earlier. I would like to add on. When the projection of the powerful existence is summoned, its ability will depend on how much of the blood is lit."

He paused before smiling, "So Virtuous Nine, if you still have the Crystal Token, I will happily exchange with you."

Silence filled the air once more. Everyone looked at Qin Yu as he lifted his hand to rub his nose. Wind Saint, this old man was too scheming, he actually tore open everyone's wounds and rubbed salt on them...but, I like it!

Qin Yu had intended to send them all in anyway. Even if Wind Saint did not ask, Qin Yu would have offered. So he flipped his hand another Crystal Token appeared. "Of course. If you are willing, this is yours."

Alas, he still had Crystal Tokens!

Close Saint's mouth twisted as a sinister look filled his eyes. However, he took a deep breath and closed his eyes.

If he did not see it, he would not be affected...damn it. What a lie! This was such a lie!

Angry, angry, very angry!

Gentle Spread Saint snorted as he felt his chest hurt. If thoughts could kill, Qin Yu would be torn to pieces. But now, he had not choice but to suppress his anger as Gentle Smoke Saint still did not have a Crystal Token.

"Virtuous Nine, give me one more Crystal Token!"

Qin Yu's eyes flashed and a sixth Crystal Token appeared, "Of course. As long as you are willing to pay the price I will happily exchange with you. But this time, I hope that you will give me something more useful."

This was an additional request.

His chest ached as he took a deep breath to control his anger. Gentle Spread Saint took out another stone. It was slightly different from the one containing the power of space. This one was completely black like a black cave. When one looked at it, it seemed to draw them in.

"I don't really know what this is but its value is definitely worth a Crystal Token!"

He offered it. Qin Yu did not feel anything strange so he took it.

Heavy!

Although this black stone was only about as big as a finger, its weight was astounding.

A faint motion could be felt...it was Stone Pagoda.

He did not say anything but this motion was enough to express many things.

Qin Yu stored it and handed the Crystal Token over, "Okay!"

As Rain Saint saw Gentle Smoke Saint take the Crystal Token, he could not sit still as he said, "Virtuous Nine, I want a Crystal Token too."

Qin Yu blinked, "What if I said that I only had six and handed them all out....hahaha, just kidding. How can I do such a cruel thing? But I really only have one final piece left. I wanted to keep it as a souvenir. What should I do..."

Rain Saint's eye twitched as he forced himself to smile, "Virtuous Nine, don't worry, I will give you something that will be to your satisfaction."

An incredible leaf that could allow cultivators to accumulate Great Dao and increase the power of their Great Dao...these ancient Saints really had all sorts of strange but extremely precious things. They were like moving treasure chests!

Everything had gone so successfully – but now Qin Yu felt like he was addicted to this feeling.

He had handed out seven Crystal Tokens and everyone had one. Now, they were all looking at him as the air fell silent once more.

Chapter 1406 – A Successful Businessman

They all had Crystal Tokens. Now that they had nothing to worry about, shouldn't they do something? For example, getting rid of this annoying person in front of them!

"Cough!" Qin Yu looked at all of them, "I know all of you must feel like killing me now."

Close Saint's eyes widened as he greeted with a smile, "Virtuous Saint, you are really intelligent!"

A single sentence was sufficient to express his thoughts. An encompassing statement!

The others did not say anything. However, other than Soft Peach, their eyes were all filled with menace.

As she looked at Qin Yu, Soft Peach was not worried. She was extremely confident that Qin Yu was not so stupid to dig his own grave.

Since he dared to so bravely present the Crystal Tokens in this manner, he must have something up his sleeve.

Truth proved that a woman's instinct is right. It was so accurate that Soft Peach almost laughed when she heard what Qin Yu said next.

Alas, things were not so simple!

Qin Yu pointed at Close Saint, "Thank you for your praise. I like it! Close Saint, if you need any service to help activate the Crystal Token, it will be double the cost for you."

Disregarding the mockery, the important point was – activation service!

Everyone was slightly startled. These ancient Saints who were filled with ill intentions looked down at the Crystal Token.

Qin Yu snapped his fingers, "You are all smart people. Then I will go straight to the main point."

The corners of his mouth pulled up and he gave what he would consider a brilliant smile. But to others, it was a scheming smile, "The Crystal Token is indeed the key that can open the deeper layer to find the Ruler's inheritance...however, getting the key does not mean you will be able to successfully enter. This is because the Crystal Token needs to be activated. As someone who has gone through it, let me tell you that it is not easy.

"Of course, you may not believe me just through what I am saying. You all can try and see if you are able to activate the key in your hands. If you can, then forget what I said. If not, you had better start registering for my activation service."

He was really addicted to taking advantage of people and Qin Yu admitted to this...once these people went in, they most likely would not make it out.

Rather than wasting their treasures, why don't they leave them to him to make a beautiful contribution to the Vast Brightness World!

Close Saint looked solemn. He could no longer maintain his calm, slight smile. Taking a deep breath, he concentrated on the Crystal Token...it was a mess!

All he could sense were numerous strands without any head or tail. In a complicated and hopeless way, they tangled with each other with no structure. Only after cleaning out these strands could he successfully activate the Crystal Token.

This did not sound that difficult from a normal person's perspective. However, to cultivators, their difficulty level matched their cultivation level.

They would eventually be able to activate it but they would require time. A lot of time! As he glanced over, he saw that everyone had similar expressions. This made Close Saint's heart sink and he had a bad feeling.

Qin Yu suddenly looked over and smiled brightly, "I will definitely be accountable for my words. So Close Saint, if you require help, you will have to pay extra."

Clapping his hands, he raised his voice, "Fine, now I will officially begin my activation service. I welcome all of you to register. My capabilities are limited and I can only help at most three at one time..."

Pausing, Qin Yu rubbed his nose, "This time I am telling the truth, don't look at me like that...I promise! So the Saint that wants to enter first can offer your bid. If you are not anxious, you can wait for the next batch. Only three each time. To offer my apologies for before, the last Saint can go for free!"

Free things could always make people excited.

However, today, none of the Saints were interested in the free slot. They were frowning as they hoped that it would not be them.

The difference between first and last...if it were other areas there would already be a difference. But now, they were at the Ruler's residence. It was an extremely rare chance.

If they lagged behind, they may lose the opportunities to others and eventually lose the chance to even fight for them.

Fine, although they might also meet with trouble by entering first, all of them would rather take the risk if they had a choice.

After all, if they did not even have this little bit of courage, how would they have reached the cultivation level they were at now!

Close Saint spoke lowly, "Virtuous Nine, I want a spot!" The way he said this was similar to before, albeit slightly less hypocritically and much more domineering.

Qin Yu shook his head, "When it comes to reputation, disregarding once is enough. If it keeps getting disregarded, eventually there will be no reputation left."

He looked at Close Saint and his eyes narrowed, "Close Saint, do you think you will agree if I help all the other Saints activate their Crystal Tokens for free in return for some promise or help from them?"

Close Saint frowned, "What are you trying to say?"

Qin Yu spoke slowly, "For example, killing someone."

Chilliness filled him and Close Saint did not believe that Virtuous Nine would do this given how greedy he was.

But looking at the emotionless eyes in front of him, he could not help but feel his heart clench.

He was being threatened!

Moreover, in such an outright manner.

In his current state, Close Saint was a combination of three beings and his irritability was three times higher than normal. Fury surged through him.

But having lived for so long, one of his advantages was being able to endure more than others and understanding the situation he was in.

Taking a deep breath, Close Saint was expressionless, "What do you want?"

A higher price...in reality, there was no guide and it was hard to estimate the value of things. So when Qin Yu said this, it meant that he already had a target.

Smart!

Qin Yu immediately smiled and took out his Blood Coffin, "Eh, thanks to you gifting this Blood Jade Coffin to me, I am suddenly interested in the Ghost Path cultivation. Why don't you give the next item to me? After all, there are very few Ghost Path cultivators in this world. In case you are not careful, cough, just in case, who can guarantee that the cultivation will be passed on?"

Close Saint frowned harder, "You want my Ghost Path cultivation skill?"

Qin Yu showed the Blood Jade Coffin in his hands, "That's right."

Falling silent for a while, Close Saint chuckled coldly, "Fine, I promise you!"

Lifting his hand, a light flashed in his palm and a Blood Jade quickly formed.

"You can't create a fake Soul Congealing item. I will be able to determine."

Tsk, determine what. Thankfully, he had Stone Pagoda. As soon as he got the Blood Jade, he received a reply very quickly.

"It really is the Ghost Path cultivation skill. Wooo...and it is quite powerful. But there is something strange inside and for the time being, I am unable to decipher it."

Anyway, he was just trying to gain something extra while doing what he needed to do...hmmm this sentence may not be that appropriate.

After all, the amount of 'extra benefits' that he got seems to be huge. It seemed like this was his main point.

Forget it. Was he going to give it back to them? Smiling, Qin Yu put the Blood Jade away and dusted his hands, "Close Saint, you are very quick. You shall be the first on the list to get your crystal activated!"

He looked at everyone else and paused for a moment on Gentle Spread Saint, "Everyone, I am not lying. I can only accept three for the first batch. There are only two spaces left. If you don't fight for it, you won't have a slot."

Soft Peach raised her hand, prepared to speak, but Qin Yu glared at her, "I already gave you the Crystal Token for free; you better not ask for too much!"

This woman was causing trouble for no reason. Only these three positions were of value. She could not ruin it.

Perhaps she recalled how she got the Crystal Token from Qin Yu for free and Soft Peach looked slightly awkward and resentful as she looked back at Qin Yu before backing off.

Gentle Spread Saint took a deep breath and spoke, "Activation service...I want a spot!"

How to be a successful businessman.

First, sell the item.

Second, sell what is required to use the item.

There may be more steps after but Qin Yu had no energy or time to continue. Moreover, if he could successfully do these two steps, he would be considered successful!

As someone who had fallen for the businessman's plot and splurged, it was understandable that Gentle Spread Saint did not feel good about it. So it was normal for him to be slightly cold!

Qin Yu smiled back at him, "Of course, with Gentle Spread Saint's abilities, you are qualified to fight to be first. But your price must be suitable. If not, I believe that the three Saints are willing to take up the next two spots."

As he saw Qin Yu smile and the three Saints return the smile, he cursed internally. Even if Qin Yu was speaking the truth, it was extremely despicable to say such things now! Gentle Spread Saint took a deep breath as he frowned and thought for a while. Soon, he took out a tile.

Hmm, it was that kind of green tile that looked like it had started decomposing and was covered with scars. It looked as if it had fallen from the roof.

"This is the most precious thing I have on hand. It can be a substitute and die for your soul once!"

Dummy pendants were not extremely rare. After all, the Vast Brightness World was big and there were bound to be some. But there were few that were useful to True Saints. Even if it could only be a substitute for one's soul dying, it was sufficiently valuable.

After all, to Saints, their soul was their foundation. Even if their physical bodies were ruined, they would be able to be reborn.

Although they would lose out quite a bit of power when they lost the strength from their physical bodies, compared to losing their souls, the difference was huge.

Taking the tile...or more accurately, a portion of a decomposing tile, Qin Yu's soul could not help but shiver in delight.

Even before Stone Pagoda said anything, Qin Yu knew this was real.

Tsk tsk, it was just extremely difficult to imagine. It was just a decomposing tile, how could it have such incredible abilities that went against natural will?

Where did Gentle Spread Saint get this from? Was this house still around? If just a broken tile from this house could have such great power, who built this house and who was living in it?

As his cultivation level increased and he learned more things, he would also have accidental discoveries. As he imagined how boundless this world was, he could not help but develop some fear.

Eventually, Stone Pagoda confirmed that it was a dummy pendant and it should be stored properly. After all, this thing could save a life at crucial moments; it had to be stored carefully!

Qin Yu lifted another finger, "The second spot will be Gentle Spread Saint's."

Wind Saint got the third spot.

Actually, once he settled Soft Peach, the way to distribute was very simple and all these ancient Saints knew it.

Qin Yu got a fruit from him and it must have come together with the leaf earlier on. Because what this fruit did was to increase the power of Great Dao while the Great Dao was accumulating.

Of course, its effectiveness was a lot stronger than a leaf's.

Strictly speaking, this was probably the most useful thing Qin Yu got in this entire process.

After all, if things went smoothly, the furnace would soon be able to absorb the Inextinguishable Flame and that was when Qin Yu could form his Great Dao.

He had to keep to his promise.

So after the exchange was done, Qin Yu immediately started preparing. Because Fire Spirit had already gone through it once, she was a lot faster this time.

Moreover, activating three at one time was really Fire Spirit's limit. If not, Qin Yu would not have minded doing the same thing with the rest of the slots and selling them.

Under everyone's gazes, Fire Spirit was very busy moving around. Soft Peach suddenly walked over and spoke softly, "So you like this kind!"

Qin Yu frowned as he looked at her. What do you mean?

Soft Peach reached out and gestured, drawing two circles in the air.

Oh, he understood!

This woman. What was she always thinking about? Where was her domineering attitude from earlier? In just a few moments, she had changed completely.

Although they say that women had many personalities, isn't this a little too different!

Seeing how Qin Yu did not speak, Soft Peach spoke softly, "This is not fair! I look like this too, why don't you like me?"

She blinked her eyes at him, "Is it because I am wearing too many clothes and you can't see properly? Why don't you touch me. I can turn around. As long as they don't see."

Qin Yu: ...

Were you sent down from the heavens to torture me? I can't let her continue acting crazily. Qin Yu gritted his teeth, "Shut up and step aside!"

Soft Peach snorted, "You have thieving intentions but don't have the guts. Coward!" Why do I have thieving intentions? Am I a coward for not touching you? What kind of twisted logic is this!

The ancient Saints saw their intimate interaction and Qin Yu took the chance to make them believe that he had reached his goal...regardless, he was using Soft Peach so he would let her say whatever she wanted.

I can't anger her, I shall avoid her!

Qin Yu took a few steps away and cleared his throat, "A bit more time is needed to activate the Crystal Tokens. Let's begin the auction for the second batch...I will say the same. If you are not anxious and don't mind being last, I will give it to you for free!"

He was really addicted to taking advantage...

Although his rewards from the second batch would not be as big as the first, no matter how small the insect was, it was still meat!

Chapter 1407 – He had Been Tricked Too

In reality, the bidding for the spots in the second batch was more enthusiastic than Qin Yu had expected.

All by himself, Close Saint represented the Ghost Path cultivators.

Gentle Spread Saint and Wind Saint could not help but feel apprehensive and they both wanted helpers. Under normal circumstances, Gentle Smoke Saint, Cloud Saint and Rain Saint could form the second batch and enter. Everyone would be okay with this.

However, Soft Peach did not want to be the last. This caused the competition to intensify.

The reason was simple. Wind, Cloud and Rain Saint's powers reinforced each other and was strongest when they were all together.

In the first batch, there was no choice and only Wind Saint could enter. Now that there was a chance in the second batch, the three of them had to try and gather together as fast as possible.

Gentle Spread Saint thought the same. He also needed Gentle Smoke Saint's help.

Neither party was willing to give in and the tension intensified. It seemed as if they were about to fight.

Eventually, it was Qin Yu who spoke up and instructed Soft Peach to be the last. His reasoning was that since he gave the Crystal Token to her for free, he might as well activate it for free as well.

Gentle Spread Saint had some suspicions about whether there was a scheme here. However, as soon as he raised it up, Qin Yu rebutted.

"Gentle Spread Saint, if you are generous, you can give your spot to Soft Peach. I have no qualms about that!"

He would definitely not give the spot. Hence, Gentle Spread Saint merely snorted. At this moment, Fire Spirit was done with setting up.

Qin Yu lifted a finger, "The three of you can enter now!"

Woosh -

Woosh -

Woosh -

Without any hesitation, Close Saint, Gentle Spread Saint, and Wind Saint flew.

In the next moment, the Crystal Tokens in their hands broke simultaneously and an illusion door appeared. It looked a lot bigger and more sturdy than previously.

A sucking force erupted from within and surrounded the three ancient Saints, pulling them into it.

Buzz -

The illusion door buzzed before disappearing.

They had entered!

Cloud Saint took a deep breath and greeted, "Virtuous Nine, please hurry and send the next batch in!"

Qin Yu nodded, "Don't worry, I will do my best."

Nonsense, of course he would send them in as fast as he could.

If not, the first batch might activate the Ruler's massacre sequence and things would be ruined.

Fire Spirit was a little bit tired and did not want to do it. However, after getting stared at by Qin Yu, she felt as if electricity ran through her. It was slightly tingly and felt really good. She gritted her teeth and rushed out to set up.

Alas...Qin Yu's mouth twitched. The good thing was that with this knowledge of Fire Spirit's personality now, Qin Yu knew how to control her in the future.

Having done it a few times, Fire Spirit was a lot faster now. After she was done, Gentle Smoke Saint, Cloud Saint and Rain Saint dashed in.

Buzz -

The illusion door appeared and pulled them in.

Hoo -

Qin Yu breathed out and felt himself relax slightly. At this point, he could say that his plan was completed.

The six ancient Saints were in. A Ghost Path cultivator, the two brothers, and the three Saints with a higher combined power...their fighting power would be incredible.

With them joining forces, they would be able to resist the Ruler's avatar for a while.

The only incident was that Soft Peach was here as well. Qin Yu did not want her to die but did not have any good ideas for how to prevent it.

As he thought quickly, Qin Yu took a deep breath and turned to her, "Soft Peach, I did not tell the entire truth to the ancient Saints earlier. There is a huge danger behind the illusion door. Are you sure you want to go in?"

Soft Peach asked back, "Are you willing to help me?"

Qin Yu frowned and shook his head.

Soft Peach sighed lightly, "Then I will say the same thing. Since you are not willing to help me, I want to continue living and can only find a way by myself." She looked at Qin Yu, "It is normal for it to be dangerous and I have always known it. There is always a price to pay for everything. I cannot miss this chance. So please send me in."

Qin Yu had an impulse to tell Soft Peach about the Ruler's avatar. However, this thought only crossed his mind for a short second before he suppressed it.

He could not take the risk!

If Soft Peach did not believe him or chose to go against him, his entire plan would go to ruin.

Taking a deep breath, Qin Yu said slowly, "This is your choice. I hope you don't regret it!"

Soft Peach replied, "I will not regret."

Dragging her tired body, Fire Spirit started to prepare once more. Thankfully there was only Soft Peach this time and it was not too complicated.

Very soon, she finished it. Soft Peach turned and entered.

Buzz -

The illusion door appeared. While she was being sucked in, she suddenly turned and winked at Qin Yu.

Qin Yu immediately felt guilty, feeling as if Soft Peach had seen through him.

No, that cannot be!

Soft Peach definitely did not know what was going on. Otherwise it would be like she was sending herself to die, knowing that she would be facing the Ruler's avatar.

Taking a deep breath, he suppressed all thoughts. Qin Yu began to wait.

Although they had all been sent off, he needed to wait until all of them were in the main hall before he could begin.

Time passed silently. While waiting, Qin Yu woke the furnace, who was sleeping. A surge of grumpiness hit him like a torrent of rain as the furnace wiped its non-existent drool. He spoke, "Okay, I know you are very angry but I am going to say something that I need you to listen to. If not, we will all die!"

The furnace sent him a 'Hurry up and say it' feeling!

Qin Yu said, "After we enter, I will first confirm what is going on. When I ask you to swallow, you have to release all your power and finish the absorption in the shortest time possible. Do you understand?"

Receiving its acknowledgment, Qin Yu felt slightly more assured. He just reminded the furnace to be on the safe side. In reality, the furnace had gone through all kinds of torture and was now impatient to eat. It would definitely eat at an astounding speed.

After a moment, Fire Spirit, which had taken a short break, started to prepare once more.

Standing on the floor, Qin Yu closed his eyes as he slowed his breathing, adjusting his body to peak performance.

Even though he had already sent the Saints in, Qin Yu was still nervous as he did not know if he would succeed.

If the group of Saints were not powerful enough or they underestimated the Ruler's avatar's abilities, Qin Yu would have to suffer the Ruler's avatar's wrath with them.

It would be extremely dangerous and life-threatening!

Buzz -

The Crystal Token vibrated in his hands. Qin Yu opened his eyes and Fire Spirit was panting slightly as she said, "Master, you can go now."

Qin Yu lifted his hand to store Fire Spirit. He stepped in and the Crystal Token shattered, the illusion door appearing.

Woosh -

He flew in!

The teleportation process was familiar and comfortable, not the least bit rocky. Because he had already gone through it once, he was calm when the heat hit him.

The Inextinguishable Flame burned silently, covering his entire vision. Qin Yu had to suppress the extremely excited furnace as he flew in.

He flew very quickly and soon, Qin Yu arrived outside that brightly colored palace that the Inextinguishable Flame was in.

As his gaze fell, he saw that the main hall's doors were open. This was a signal from the Ruler's will, indicating that the group of Saints had arrived.

Soft Peach was most likely inside as well. This was her own choice and Qin Yu could not do anything. He looked into the main hall and walked away without hesitating. Very soon, the Inextinguishable Flame surged out.

Taking a deep breath, Qin Yu lifted his hand. 'Bam', the furnace had been summoned, "Begin now!"

Boom -

The furnace had been filled with excitement and eagerness. It opened its mouth like a beast, swallowing voraciously.

Boom boom -

Like a huge river, the flames shot up into heaven and turned into a fire pillar. The bottom was thick and the top was thin as it was absorbed into the furnace.

The swallowing process had begun!

Qin Yu looked into the Inextinguishable Flame and his expression was extremely serious. If no accidents happened, in that moment when the furnace started to swallow, the Ruler's avatar would begin its massacre sequence.

....

The main hall containing the Inextinguishable Flame, the Ruler's residence, glowed in vibrant colors.

At the moment when Qin Yu released the furnace to start swallowing the Inextinguishable Flame, the vibrant colors suddenly stopped glowing.

In the next moment, they suddenly reversed!

That's right. The vibrant colors that had been glowing suddenly turned and moved rapidly in the other direction.

Boom boom -

A low and suppressed sound emitted from within the main hall. It was as if a beast had been awakened.

At this moment, Close Saint, the two Xu brothers, the three Saints, and Soft Peach were all in the main hall.

As they heard the low sound, they all started to feel wary and alarmed even though they did not know what was happening.

The Ruler's avatar had been sitting in a languid position. She suddenly blinked and smiled softly, "You brats. What a sneaky situation, I almost could not cover it...however, the game has just begun."

Ignoring the people that stood frozen in front of her, she looked at Soft Peach, "There are clearly seven people yet he said six. He intentionally left you out. Mmhm, that's right, I can sense his aura on you."

The Ruler's avatar laughed lightly, "Alas, men have always been cruel. At critical moments, they can just let go. What a pity that the little brat does not know he has been tricked."

She stood up and slightly bent her body. Her delicate figure made all of them stare, "Life is such a luxury; unless one was helpless, who would give it up? Although I am just a portion of the Ruler, I am not coarse. And you guys are my chance to survive."

Swoosh -

Her eyes suddenly turned red as if they were the most precious blood jades in this world. They were filled with murderous intent. The strange thing was that although such an intense murderous intent descended, the Ruler's avatar's face still maintained a light smile. She had not lost control at all.

She had been lying!

Swallowing the Inextinguishable Flame had indeed triggered the massacre sequence. However, something odd had occurred and the Ruler's avatar was able to maintain its conscience.

Close Saint flew back.

At the same time, the air around the Xu brothers broke in that instant. As strong users of the power of space, when the two of them joined hands, their speed of retreat was astounding.

It was a pity that the two of them were facing a slightly impure Ruler's avatar. Although she was not as strong as the Ruler, Saints were still no match for her.

Bom -

A loud sound could be heard as the Xu brothers were forcefully held back. Both their faces paled as they fell to the ground.

Soon, Close Saint followed suit. The force he suffered was a lot stronger and when he hit the ground, cracks opened everywhere. Blood appeared from the corners of his mouth.

Boom -

The hall's doors closed as the Ruler's avatar walked down from her seat. She was slightly smiling and her eyes were an alluring scarlet color, "Today, none of you will escape."

Chapter 1408 – The Death of the Six Saints

The flame column reached to the heavens and it was entering the furnace at the top. Qin Yu could clearly sense the excitement from the furnace.

He could also sense the inside of the furnace which was quickly awakening. More accurately, it was a huge power that was forming from the transformation.

Qin Yu had been waiting for this moment for a long time. He should be extremely happy. However, instead of feeling happy, he felt uneasy.

As he looked at the Inextinguishable Flame, Qin Yu knew that a massacre was about to happen.

Just as this thought crossed his mind, he felt his heart clench with an intense pressure...

The Ruler's avatar had begun to act!

Qin Yu frowned but remained calm. He felt his body stiffen slightly like a marble. His inner emotions were unlike the calmness he portrayed.

Scary, it was extremely scary!

Although it was quite a distance away and the Inextinguishable Flame was in between them, Qin Yu could still sense that demolition power.

The feeling it gave Qin Yu was like...a black hole!

That's right. It was like a black hole that had a strong suction force occurring twenty-four seven, sucking everything around it into itself.

It also gave a feeling as if a horrifying beast was staring at him and it would be impossible for him to escape.

The only thing that made him slightly reassured was that the power of the black hole was now concentrated at one point and had yet to spread.

He guessed that the boundary was the palace that was shining vibrantly. If not, the Inextinguishable Flame before him would have been swallowed completely.

Was this the massacre sequence mentioned by the Ruler's avatar? This was slightly different from what Qin Yu had imagined.

Because at this moment, the horrifying power of the black hole gave him a feeling like the true swallowing...as soon as he thought of this, his heart sped up and the uneasy feeling intensified.

He felt as if the scenario that he was most afraid of had occurred.

Qin Yu was not new to the cultivation world. The fact that he had been able to survive till this day and have a glimpse of the Ruler's power was because he had been cautious.

He would never fully trust anyone that he met for the first time. Even if the other party was a Ruler and had some connection with him.

So although Qin Yu seemed to trust the Ruler's avatar, he still had his doubts.

But in Qin Yu's opinion, if the Ruler's avatar had meant him ill, there was no need for her to go through all this trouble. So he leaned towards trusting her.

However, now it seemed that perhaps she had another reason for not making a move on him back then...but all this was just Qin Yu's guess. He could not confirm his assumption. But since there was a possibility, he had to treat it seriously.

Taking a deep breath, Qin Yu growled, "Furnace, I need you to move faster, a lot faster than now!"

Boom -

While the furnace swallowed the Inextinguishable Flame, it vibrated. Its meaning was clear, this was the fastest it could go.

Stone Pagoda frowned, "Master, have you noticed something wrong?"

Qin Yu replied, "You have as well."

Stone Pagoda took a deep breath, "From the start, I felt something was wrong..." Pausing, he continued, "After all, staying alive is something no living thing would say no to."

Qin Yu waved his hand, "Stop pretending to be an academic, if you have an idea, hurry up. I believe you don't wish for us to suffer in the end."

Stone Pagoda spoke lowly, "Okay!"

Buzz -

His illusion immediately descended and landed on the furnace. He did something to the furnace and with a 'buzz', the swallowing power of the the furnace increased by more than two fold.

Boom -

The flame tower that reached to the heavens grew thicker and its speed increased by at least three times.

Qin Yu frowned. This was already very fast but he still felt like it was not fast enough.

He lifted his hand and touched the air. The flames shifted and Fire Spirit appeared, "Master."

Qin Yu was already familiar with dealing with her and spoke coldly, "Find a way to increase the rate at which the furnace is swallowing!"

He was cold and firm, leaving no room to argue.

An invisible flush appeared on Fire Spirit's face. She bit her lips as she screamed internally. Although Qin Yu was her master, his attitude was too much.

She could not give in and had to rebut him. She had to teach him what kind of attitude to use towards a lady.

But logic could not win over her innate personality. Her happiness washed away all thoughts of wanting to rebel and she gave in.

"Yes, Master!"

The only thing she could do was to try not to let the happiness be heard in her voice...that would be embarrassing and miserable!

Fire Spirit moved and entered the furnace. In the next moment, the fire column grew fatter.

The rate at which it was swallowing exploded!

Hoo -

Qin Yu let out a breath, and the anxiety and unease he was feeling lightened a little. He glanced up to look into the Inextinguishable Flame; the flame was burning intensely but it felt like night was going to fall forever...everything was going to be swallowed!

••••

I am Close. My name is very weird but a long time ago, I climbed out from a pile of bodies and my teacher accepted me and gave me this name.

According to my teacher, a strange name often made it seem mysterious. This was what a cultivator from the Ghost Path needed.

But I always thought that this name was horrendous. So three thousand years ago, I took a chance to get rid of my teacher.

After that bloody night, I wanted to change my name and I already thought of a few. I don't know if it was because I was used to my old name, but the new name I chose felt unsuitable.

In the end, I just accepted it. Then I lived for many many years with this new name.

This was not just a broad description. I really lived for a very long time. It has been such a long time that I can no longer count.

Living for so long is a very lonely thing. It is torturous, and many ancient Saints that I knew could no longer take it and eventually committed suicide after going crazy.

But I am different.

I have always felt that living is an extremely blissful thing. Perhaps it was because of how I struggled to survive back then and became a Ghost Path cultivator.

But this is not the main point. The main point is that I have lived for a long time and know more secrets than others.

For example, Bounded Zero Place!

The place where a Ruler died and that was rumored to contain the Ruler's inheritance. It was the thing that would help to break through realms. Initially, I did not believe it. But as I got closer and found out more, my soul started to shake.

It was actually true!

Thereafter, I waited for a long long time. It is because there were two extremely strong parties in Bounded Zero Place – they came from another world and possessed an ability to not die. They controlled many strong cultivators.

After I found out about them, I felt hopeless for a very long time and thought that I did not have a chance...but after living for so long, I had patience. Along with some other ancient Saints that also did not dare to act, I waited for a very long time.

Finally, the opportunity came.

The West Desolate clashed with that group. We did not know the real reason but guessed that it was because a third party interfered.

When the chance came, we acted!

Initially, everything was very successful. We activated the ship and reached the Mountain of Flames.

I thought it was my time to shine. As a Ghost Path cultivator who had been hiding, I had held back my desire for all these years.

But I was wrong. Very wrong!

In the first battle, I actually got duped and lost something very very valuable and it felt like someone grated my head against the ground.

It is hard to describe what happened after...but I actually became a 'combination of three'. Moreover, the other two are of the same gender...although my conscience won out in the end and my power greatly increased...fine, I admit that this actually feels good.

My confidence bloomed once more and I felt like I was extremely lucky. Everyone in the Mountain of Flames shivered in front of me.

But I was wrong once more!

I am a great elder of the Ghost Path and have lived for so many years. I am extremely intelligent and sharp, yet I was duped by the same person twice!

In the previous encounter, I swore never to make the same mistake ever again after losing such precious things.

But this time I made an even greater mistake. Not only did I repeat the same mistake, I lost something even more precious...and even possibly my life!

Bounded Zero Place is where the Ruler died and of course there will be danger. I have always known this. But I never thought that I would really lose my life here.

Ruler, are you the Ruler? She was clearly not the real body but she possessed such horrifying power...it was so scary that it was much stronger than the Rulers I have seen before.

I am called Close. Sorry for being a bit long-winded. But as a True Saint who has lived for a long time, I am about to die.

So everyone, please allow me to be long-winded for once.

.....

Bom -

As the explosion sounded, Close Saint's body exploded in midair. Numerous bones and pieces of flesh gathered together as if trying to regrow.

But just when they forcefully struggled to form a human shape, the horrifying energy once again tore it apart.

This happened three times before Close Saint's disintegrated body truly died.

The ancient Saints in the main hall who were all struggling to escape looked extremely hopeless.

They knew that the reason why they were able to survive until now was not because they were stronger than Close Saint.

It was because this woman in front of them chose to kill the strongest one first.

Close Saint had died. His aura had completely disappeared and the ancient Saints could clearly sense it.

Next, it was their turn.

The Ruler's avatar licked the corner of her mouth, her red eyes looking victorious. She reached out and grabbed. Close Saint's dead flesh formed a ball and turned into a pill as big as a finger joint.

It was red in color and shone. It was an extremely pure gem – it contained all the power of the peak True Saint in it!

Gentle Spread Saint's expression changed as he paled, fear written all over his face. At this moment, the woman was looking at him.

"Wind, Cloud and Rain Saints, help me hold her off for a moment. If I die, you are next!"

Hearing him shout, the three Saints gritted their teeth. They did not hesitate as they dashed out.

"Wind!"

"Cloud!"

"Rain!"

When in the face of death, the three Saints did not hesitate as they activate all their strength.

In the main hall, a strong wind blew through the entire palace, then clouds filled the space and rain started pouring!

Boom booom -

The loud sound was caused by the auras of the three Saints combining together.

They were really giving it their all!

It was not that the three Saints were noble and were willing to help save Gentle Spread Saint. It was the fact that they knew collaborating was their only chance of survival.

Okay, the truth was that there was no chance. By killing Close Saint, the Ruler's avatar showed her incredible might.

But they would not give up till the end. Even if it was a slim and almost impossible chance, they would do their best!

The Ruler's avatar lifted her hand and tapped the air. Her finger was white and slender, giving a delicate feel. However, the power it emitted was enough to destroy everything.

Following her tap, 'bam', the torrent of rain shook and disappeared like a wave. Everything was gone!

"Gentle Spread Saint!"

Wind Saint cried out.

Gentle Spread Saint turned and his eyes landed on Gentle Smoke Saint. He looked pained but it disappeared immediately.

Gentle Smoke Saint took a deep breath and said slowly, "Brother, no matter what you do, I will not blame you."

Gentle Spread Saint frowned, "You...know?"

Gentle Smoke Saint smiled, "After all, I am a Saint." He bowed respectfully, "Thank you brother, for helping me live all these years and allowing me to see the changes on this earth. I can die today without regrets."

He lifted his hand and touched the space between his eyebrows. 'Crack', his entire body turned into an illusion. In the next moment, Gentle Smoke Saint turned into smoke and was absorbed into Gentle Spread Saint's body through his nose.

"Ah!" Gentle Spread Saint shouted. His entire aura exploded at this moment.

Crack -

Crack -

The air around him could not withstand his aura and cracks appeared. The Ruler's avatar looked over with surprise in her eyes. The corners of her mouth pulled up as a light smile appeared.

"Separation of Life...I did not recognize it. What a surprise."

As Gentle Spread Saint landed, he was like a meteorite dropping from the heavens, leaving a burning trial.

Crack -

Crack -

The air cracked. This time it was different from before; in the cracks, there was a horrifying splitting energy.

There was nothing it could not overcome and no being it could not destroy. It spread outwards like a spider web...cracks filled the entire hall!

The Ruler's avatar narrowed her eyes as she reached out and grabbed. 'Pop, pop, pop'. Soft popping sounds could be heard. The flesh on her hand was tearing, exposing numerous tiny cuts like exquisite porcelain that had been overheated.

Chapter 1409 – Furnace Giving Birth to Great Dao

"Little brat, you are quite powerful." The Ruler's avatar smiled brightly.

But at this moment, Gentle Spread Saint felt as if he was experiencing his worst nightmare.

"No!"

His eyes widened as he shrieked, his face filled with fear.

It was not that he had not seen Rulers before. They indeed possessed incredibly strong Divine Ways, but he never reached such a realm.

After taking back half of his life from Gentle Smoke Saint, he regained the power that belonged to him. When the powers of two ancient True Saints merged, although it was not able to help him break through and reach the Ruler realm, his powers had increased by at least one fold.

But even if a Ruler took action, they would not be able to easily push him to the brink...who was this woman?!

Gentle Spread Saint could not understand and he had no time to think about it. The spiderweb of cracks that had spread outwards around him was suddenly shrinking.

It was as if a terrifying energy had appeared around the perimeter and was forcefully restricting its expansion and causing it to shrink.

Gentle Spread Saint could see all these and feel the destruction force from the cracks in the air. He growled and struggled with all his might. However, it was as if he had been locked to the spot and could not dodge.

Hence, he could only watch as the cracks shrunk and edged closer and closer to him until it entered his body. His entire body was torn to pieces and fell to the ground in a heap.

The three Saints paled as their eyes filled with horror and despair. When the Ruler's avatar looked over, they fell to the ground with a 'plop'. "Master, we were in the wrong. Please forgive us. We are willing to do anything for you!"

The Ruler's avatar smiled, lighting up her features, "Okay, since you all offered, then give yourselves up."

Boom -

A huge force fell on the three Saints. It was extremely frightening and a dark red erupted like a flower blooming.

Under their despair, the three Saints lost all resistance and were killed on the spot!

Close Saint, the Xu brothers, Wind, Cloud, Rain Saints...six ancient True Saints. They had lived for an incredibly long time and they could even face a Ruler...

But today, when they faced an incomplete Ruler's avatar, who was still quite different from a Ruler, they were all miserably killed. None of them put up much of a resistance.

Hoo. Perhaps the only battle scar was on the Ruler's avatar's palm, the scar that was rapidly healing.

She turned and looked at Soft Peach. She narrowed her eyes, "I feel that you are not afraid. Why?"

Soft Peach was calm as she stood in a corner of the main hall. Right from the beginning, she had stood there and watched like an emotionless bystander. From the start till the end, her expression did not change.

As she heard this, she took a slow step out and said, "Because we are alike."

The Ruler's avatar laughed lightly, "Really? Maybe. But if you think you can survive just because of this, aren't you too optimistic?"

Soft Peach shook her head, "I have never been an optimistic person. On the contrary, this world is extremely difficult and the only way to survive is to work hard. I am not afraid because compared to using these people to form a physical body, I am a better choice."

Pausing, she said, "Using their power as the source, it can combine us and we will be reborn as one...this is your best option."

The Ruler's avatar fell silent for a while before she sneered, "What if I reject you?"

Soft Peach said, "You can try to kill me but you may not get the result you want."

Silence.

The two women looked at each other and the entire atmosphere was extremely silent. This silence gave an extremely distorted feeling.

It was like the air on top of a volcano crater, twisting and warping in the heat, as if it could erupt at any moment and destroy everything.

Laughter broke the silence as the Ruler's avatar reached out, "I promise you."

Soft Peach nodded, "Trust me, this is the right choice."

Piak -

The two clean, white and slender palms touched each other.

Within the Inextinguishable Flame, the vibrantly colored palace changed as the two held hands.

Boom boom -

A low rumble could be heard like a river gushing through. The light rays started to dance frantically.

.....

The swallowing of the Inextinguishable Flame was at its end.

At this current speed, Qin Yu would be able to retreat in a few more minutes.

But at this moment, his face shifted. The horrifying black hole that he felt suddenly changed.

It was cryptic and unclear, it was like...the black hole was giving birth to something!

Qin Yu did not know what this meant, but fear filled him and it felt like this had something to do with him.

For no reason, Soft Peach's figure appeared in his mind, and instinct told Qin Yu that this fear has something to do with her.

Leave!

He had to leave as fast as possible.

Qin Yu growled, "Faster, even faster!"

Perhaps it was because the furnace, Stone Pagoda and Fire Spirit could sense the change in the atmosphere somewhere deep beyond the Inextinguishable Flame, when they heard Qin Yu, the fire column expanded once more.

The remaining Inextinguishable Flame was rapidly decreasing at a speed visible to the eye. Slowly, the palace that had been hidden within it started to appear.

The unease he felt grew even stronger. If not for the fact that the furnace had to swallow all the Inextinguishable Flame in order to successfully transform, he would have stopped the entire thing and left.

In order to save himself, giving up some rewards was something any rational person would do.

But at this point, he was just one step away from success. The furnace was not willing to leave and Qin Yu would not want to either.

But as the seconds passed, each one felt longer than the previous.

Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!

As the Inextinguishable Flame grew lesser, the palace grew clearer.

Qin Yu could clearly see the whirlpool that was spinning on the surface of the palace. It was like a huge mouth absorbing all the light. As it spun, it emitted a horrifying energy and caused cracks to appear on the surface of the palace.

His pupils shrunk and instinct told Qin Yu that the fear he was feeling was because of this whirlpool.

In the next moment, a horrifying existence will step out of the whirlpool!

Boom boom boom -

The last bit of the Inextinguishable Flame was absorbed by the furnace.

Stone Pagoda shouted, "Master, let's go!" He had very sharp senses and since Qin Yu could sense the fear, Stone Pagoda naturally sensed it too.

Qin Yu reached out and was about to grab Stone Pagoda to leave but his expression changed.

An accident had occurred!

He was unable to store the furnace. It was not because the furnace was rebelling but some unknown energy was forcing it to stay behind.

Qin Yu could sense the furnace panicking and how it shivered slightly, as if suffering some unending pain.

Don't panic!

Taking a deep breath, Qin Yu suppressed the shock he had and concentrated on communicating with the furnace. After a few moments, a strange expression appeared on his face.

Even though having these kinds of silly thoughts was crazy in a moment like this, he could not help it.

The furnace...the furnace...was about to...give birth...

Who can tell him what was going on? A furnace, even though it was a slightly powerful furnace, was it supposed to be able to give birth?

What was the furnace going to give birth to? A small furnace?

Buzz -

The furnace vibrated and Qin Yu could sense its anger.

"Cough!" Coughing lightly as he suppressed the hysterics he felt, Qin Yu spoke lowly, "Don't hold it in, since it is going to come out, then hurry...let it out. We must leave immediately!"

Buzz -

The furnace vibrated. It did not agree. A furnace had its own pride too; how could it give birth?

Moreover, the furnace had always seen itself as a courageous male.

Qin Yu took a deep breath, "Stone Pagoda, Fire Spirit, hurry and force it to give birth!"

He did not bother to sugarcoat it. The whirlpool on the palace was spinning faster and faster. The thing in it was about to come out; there was no time to waste.

Stone Pagoda agreed.

Biting her lip, Fire Spirit looked unwilling. But as Qin Yu had ordered, she could not reject.

Buzz -

Buzz -

Buzz –

The furnace vibrated violently. However, with Stone Pagoda and Fire Spirit's help, it could not stop the thing inside it from being 'born'.

Woosh -

A light shone out from within the the furnace as it cried out in pain.

It was time!

Qin Yu reached out to grab them. The furnace had tears all over its face and looked as if it had no future.

He turned to leave but right at this moment, his face changed.

He looked up sharply as he stared at the ball of light that the furnace had 'given birth' to. He sensed the aura within it and his eyes shone.

This...this was...a Ruler's aura!

No, more accurately, Qin Yu could sense a Great Dao that was shooting up to the heavens.

The Ruler's Great Dao!

A thought flashed through his mind and Qin Yu suddenly recalled what the Ruler's avatar had told him. There was something in the Inextinguishable Flame that was used to lure the West Desolate and that clan. It was what triggered her massacre sequence.

So the Ruler's avatar had not been lying about this. The Inextinguishable Flame really had something worthy of luring the two clans.

It was the Ruler's Great Dao!

But after confirming this point, Qin Yu thought that it was ridiculous.

It was obvious that the Ruler did not die. So where did this Ruler's Great Dao come from?

Qin Yu did not think that one Great Dao could allow two people to become Rulers.

If it was the case, then the number of Rulers in this world would not be so little and everyone would not be fighting for the empty spot.

There was something wrong here!

Taking a deep breath, Qin Yu suppressed all his confused thoughts. No matter what the truth was, he knew that he had to leave now.

The Ruler's Great Dao, with this chance right in front of him...he would regret for life if he did not take it!

Woosh -

Qin Yu shot to the sky and reached out to grab. A loud growl filled the air, "Get lost. The Ruler's Imprint is mine!"

Boom -

An incredible force hit him and Qin Yu's expression changed. He lifted his hand to defend against the loud sound and his whole body was forcefully pushed back.

That voice...it was the Scholartree Saint!

Chapter 1410A – Idle Chess Piece

A long time ago, there was a scholartree and a peach tree. When their consciousness first arose, they were dug out by someone. They swayed their branches and tried to break free from this unknown force but they were eventually dug out from the earth.

"Stop struggling. I don't have a good temper and I will beat you if you continue to be naughty!" This was a charming voice and there was a hint of playfulness in her tone. She was warm and kind but even in their blurry state of mind, the trees felt fear.

"Alright! From today onwards, you two will be my guards!" The voice rang through their minds again and someone started to clap.

"You guys should work hard and grow!"

There was the sound of footsteps as their new master turned to leave.

Despite the birth of their initial consciousness of the scholartree and peach tree, they did not know what they had just experienced. However, there was one point that stood clear to them. From this day onwards, they had a master and a task of guarding the master's place.

They worked hard to absorb nutrients and the two trees grew taller and sturdier. One clear morning, their consciousness fully awakened. Their eyes opened and they finally had a clear view of the world.

This was also the day that they saw their master. She had a small stature as she stood under a tree. She smiled sweetly as she looked at them but her eyes were deep – evidence of her vast knowledge of the world.

Her smile was charming and she clapped her hands, "Congratulations to the both of you. From today onwards, you will be guard generals." From that day, they had their own names. One was called General Scholartree and the other was called General Peach.

Their master was constantly busy and she was always missing for a good period of time.

Every time she went out and returned, she would greet them warmly and say, "Hey, my guard generals, how are you?"

She was always bright and happy every time she greeted them.

The trees thought that they would continue living this peaceful life as their master's guard generals. However, something unexpected occurred.

Strong, violent, and vicious men invaded and mercilessly killed everyone in the palace.

That was the first time they saw their master battle. An outburst of power came from her tiny stature and she was a terrifying killing machine. Every time she raised her hand, she would unleash so much force the heavens and earth would shake.

However, even their powerful master could not handle being surrounded by the invaders.

They were not afraid of death and they were fearless. Despite large numbers of deaths, they continued streaming in like water, flooding the entire battlefield.

The trees were the guard generals for their master and they fulfilled their duty loyally. However, their branches that were typically as strong as stone became as weak as paper during the battle. They were easily broken and destroyed.

Pain and fear filled their hearts and their giant trunks were lifted out of the earth again. Their branches fell to the ground helplessly and the only reason why they did not die immediately after being uprooted was because they were plants.

Before long, they would die!

General Scholartree and General Peach stared wide-eyed as the place that they protected was destroyed bit by bit. Many people died, some familiar to them and some strangers. The pungent smell of blood in the air grew thicker as time passed.

Their master died in battle and the world was dyed blood red. The battle ended with large cracks in the earth and wild winds howling through the sky, announcing the deaths of thousands of creatures.

The generals thought they would die along with their master. The cruel invaders were forced off the land at the sacrifice of their master's life.

Unexpectedly, a piece of her body landed in front of the trees. Her familiar aura was strong and the trees knew that this piece of flesh belonged to their master.

In the face of death, fear terrorized them and they lost all sense of reasoning. Their roots that were completely uprooted uncontrollably started to move and wrap around their master's body.

General Scholartree and General Peach survived after they consumed the energy from the corpse of their master. With that, their power grew exponentially.

This was the strange and unique beginning of their Saint Path. They were once companions, but after the battle, they became entangled with hatred and they went their separate ways from then on.

Nonetheless, they did not forget their origins. Instead, as they grew stronger and stronger, they learned more things. One of them was that their master was an all-powerful Ruler and the Ruler realm was a dream that they could never fulfill.

If a piece of their Ruler's body contained so much energy that they became True Saints after absorbing it, how strong was her legacy?

As such, after so many years, they never forgot their origins and the treasures that were hidden there.

In fact, both of them tried multiple times to search for her legacy but they ended up empty-handed. They could only wait for the moment her legacy appeared.

Perhaps because they absorbed the energy within the corpse, they had a very strong sense that their master's legacy was left in that place!

Many years went by and just when they started to suspect their own senses...traces of their master's legacy appeared!

.....

Back to the present day at the Western Mountain.

This was an ordinary mountain in ancient times. Although it was big and dangerous, there were a few men who could take it on.

After Scholartree Saint appeared, the Western Mountain became one of the strongest places in the Vast Brightness World.

The ancient tree supported the skies as it stood on the mountain. Its thick roots dug deep into the body of the mountain and its lustrous canopy shadowed the light from the earth.

The Scholartree Saint stood beneath the ancient tree with his hands behind his back. There was a strange feeling in the air.

The Spring Master and him lived together for so many years and they absorbed their master to achieve their cultivation realm. They could sense each other.

Not long ago, the Scholartree Saint discovered the Spring Master's secret...his soul was very weak and it was about to break apart.

The arrangement set up in the past was finally going to work. Once the Spring Master died, the Scholartree Saint would possess everything of his.

This might be his chance to break through to become a Ruler!

After so many years of waiting, the Scholartree Saint did not mind waiting just a bit longer. He wanted to strike the Spring Master viciously when the Spring Master had no more choices.

The Scholartree Saint restrained himself and kept as silent as a stone. He had a feeling that the Spring Master would seek him out on the Western Mountain and battle him fiercely right before his death.

In regards to this, the Scholartree Saint had come up with a plan. He would not be dragged down with the Spring Master.

However, things never went according to plan.

As he stood beneath the ancient tree, the Scholartree Saint's expression suddenly changed.

He raised his head and looked upwards; there were small rifts in the space vibrating above him.

He could feel an exciting wave of energy rushing into his soul.

The Ruler's legacy has appeared!

Without hesitation, the Scholartree Saint jumped. His body merged into the ancient tree and in the next moment, a violent earthquake started. The Western Mountain broke apart from the earthquake and numerous thick roots emerged from the earth. The ancient tree lifted into the sky and disappeared without a trace.

The Ruler's legacy also signified the appearance of the Ruler's Great Dao. The Scholartree Saint was determined to get them.

Moreover, the Scholartree Saint would never leave this opportunity to the Spring Master.

If the appearance of the legacy summoned him, the Spring Master must have experienced the same thing.

Was he going to leave the legacy entirely to the Spring Master?

As such, the ancient tree from the Western Mountain uprooted itself from it and took to the skies!

.....

The space next to the ball of light shook violently as a giant shadow stepped out. Numerous cracks formed as the space tore apart.

The Scholartree Saint from the Western Mountain was here!

He ignored Qin Yu and placed all his attention on the bright ball of light.

Tree branches swayed and his leaves rustled together.

The Ruler's Great Dao!

This was it, he could not be mistaken about it. If he managed to grab ahold of it, he could break through and become even stronger.

Boom!

The ancient tree that supported the skies rocked from side to side and its branches stretched out like a net that captured everything within it.

Qin Yu frowned and there was fury in his eyes. He did not know why the Scholartree Saint was able to come here. Regardless of that, he could not have the Ruler's Great Dao!

Stepping forward, an outburst of energy exploded from his body. His black hair fluttered in the wind as his robe floated along. Qin Yu let out all his energy and put his full strength into this blow.

He clenched his hand into a fist but just as he was about to attack, a deafening blow shattered space. The ancient peach tree descended.

"Give it to him."

The voice was low and deep as it rang right beside Qin Yu's ear.

Hesitation and reluctance flashed through Qin Yu's eyes. Without any choice left, he gave up his attack and turned to bow, "Your disciple, Qin Yu greets Master!" He revealed himself when he decided to attack. It was no surprise that the Spring Master recognized him.

The Spring Master was silent. Then, in a soft voice, he said, "Qin Yu, you exceeded my expectations. I didn't imagine that you would find my master's legacy."

After a brief pause, he continued, "Also, I have to admit that I was selfish when I informed you of the Inextinguishable Flame."

The Spring Master did not go on to elaborate. However, when the Scholartree Saint and the Spring Master arrived simultaneously with the appearance of the Ruler's Great Dao, Qin Yu came to a realization.

Perhaps the Spring Master had been using Qin Yu to find the Ruler's legacy from the start. He might have thought that he could prolong his life in this way.

Admittedly, Qin Yu was not happy with the Spring Master's dishonesty in using him. But upon second thought, this was the right move by the Spring Master.

This was not the time to bother about all this. The Ruler's Great Dao was right before him and the Scholartree Saint desperately wanted it for himself.

Sighing deeply, Qin Yu asked, "Why?"

The Spring Master chuckled lightly, "Don't worry. He won't be able to obtain it..." There was a brief pause. Then, the Spring Master light-heartedly said, "No wonder Master was so nice to us back then. It was to make up for today. She had planned this from the start.

"The Ruler's Great Dao is real but there isn't a chance for me or Scholartree Saint to take it. You will understand soon enough."

Chapter 1410B - Idle Chess Piece

Qin Yu frowned as he looked at the large net created by the dense canopy of leaves from the Scholartree Saint. It was trying to swallow the light. He sighed to himself; it was too late to take any action and he could only hope that the Spring Master was right. Otherwise, he would be in deep trouble!

"Hahaha!" Scholartree Saint burst into laughter, "The Ruler's Great Dao, it is finally mine! The world will tremble before me in the future!"

His leaves shook and swayed violently like it was a hand that was forcing the Ruler's Great Dao into him.

The thick branches morphed to form the Scholartree Saint. As he laughed incredulously, he glanced down at the Spring Master in a condescending way, "Did you offer the Ruler's Great Dao to me because your life force is weak? What a smart decision! On this note, if you are willing to crawl in front of me and swear your loyalty to me forever, I may consider giving you life force to pull you back from the brink of death!"

The Spring Master's expression was calm as he stared at the Scholartree Saint. His lips curled and he smirked, "Do you not feel a thing yet? General Scholartree, I feel sorry for you."

The Scholartree Saint frowned as his voice boomed like thunder, "Are you crazy?"

The Spring Master shook his head. "We are Master's guards and we will forever be her guards. We can never compare to her in terms of rank and knowledge. Ever since we were taken by Master and planted in front of the doors, we were a part of her. We were just insignificant pieces in her game for all these years."

The Scholartree Saint burst out laughing, "I don't understand what you are talking about but I have her Great Dao and I will soon be a Ruler! By then, I will be on par with her...no, she doesn't deserve to be my master now!"

Gazing at the Scholartree Saint, the Spring Master fell silent. There was a solemn look in his eyes and he ignored the Scholartree Saint. Turning to Qin Yu, he said, "From today onwards, I will leave the peach garden to your hands...I don't have any other requests but I hope you will remember what you promised me earlier. If you have a chance, please protect Peachy."

He stared intently at Qin Yu, waiting for his answer.

Although Qin Yu did not know what was about to happen, he knew that the Spring Master was resolute. Cupping his hands together, he assured, "Spring Master, don't worry. I will definitely not go back on my promises."

"Good! I believe you!" the Spring Master smiled. Soon, the large peach tree vibrated violently and he shot into the sky along with the Scholartree Saint.

"We have lived long lives and we thought we were unique Saints who were two of the strongest in the world. Who knew we were just chess pieces in another person's game?

"I have my grievances, but if not for Master back then, how would I have become the master of the peach garden today?

"In this life, I owe my cultivation achievements to my master. Returning them to her today will complete the cycle."

A look of horror appeared on the Scholartree Saint and he was clueless as to what was going on. However, when he saw the wide grin on the Spring Master as he approached, he burst into an outrage.

It felt like something terrible was about to happen!

"Get lost!"

Boom!

A fearful aura exploded from the Scholartree Saint. After he obtained the Ruler's imprint, his strength had leaped again.

However, right at this moment, the Scholartree Saint's expression fell.

Like a switch that was shut off, the power in his body was cut off and he grew still.

His expression was as cold as steel and his eyes filled with ghastly horror.

Right then, the Spring Master arrived before him.

The ancient scholartree that lifted up the sky, together with the majestic peach tree, were like two mountains that collided. Unexpectedly, the whole collision was silent. Like two bubbles or rather shadows, the moment they met, their bodies merged together.

A dazzling light blinded the sky as it erupted from their merging. It was like the birth of a sun.

"Ah! No, no way!" The Scholartree Saint cried in agony as his eyes filled with horror!

At the same time, Qin Yu's eyes narrowed.

As an onlooker, he had witnessed everything from a third person standpoint.

The brilliant light that looked like the sun was the Ruler's Great Dao illuminating the sky with dazzling streaks of light. However, it was actually a black hole that was slowly devouring the Scholartree Saint and Spring Master.

Throughout this entire process, the Scholartree Saint and the Spring Master could not resist nor move. Like trapped prey, they were helplessly consumed...what a horrifying thought!

Qin Yu sucked in a cold breath of air as his heart clenched. When he thought of the Spring Master's earlier words, he felt a chill pass through him.

He had mentioned that everything had been arranged by his master and he and Scholartree Saint were tiny chest pieces.

Wild thoughts flooded his mind and a chilling idea grew in him. It was no coincidence that the Scholartree Saint and Spring Master swallowed the corpse of their master back then.

Someone threw the corpse in front of them with a motive.

That person was obviously the Ruler who faked her death and escaped! Based on all the information he had, he could piece together a rough picture of what happened in the past:

Firstly, it was the West Desolate and Mysterious Clan who raised their daggers at the Ruler in Bounded Zero Place. They were the only ones who were strong enough to take on a Ruler.

Ignoring why the two clans decided to attack the Ruler, the massacre back then ended with the Ruler faking her death to escape. However, there were some cracks in the process and the Ruler created the Inextinguishable Flame and left behind the Ruler's avatar in the palace.

It was originally a trap and a surprise for the two clans. At the same time, the Ruler was using this as a way to continue hiding herself.

Qin Yu had been puzzled by the Ruler's avatar's strange actions. Something had not gone according to plan...the Scholartree Saint and Spring Master were the Ruler's backup plan in case anything went wrong!

It was obvious how the Great Dao awakened as the Scholartree Saint and Spring Master were devoured. More accurately, the two of them possessed a large resource of aura that was being activated now.

In other words, the Scholartree Saint and the Spring Master became True Saints and lived for such a long time after absorbing their master's body. All of this was an arrangement their Master made years ago.

If they could not be used, then nothing would happen. However, if something went wrong, the two of them would be summoned along with the appearance of the Ruler's Great Dao. They would provide it with energy.

They were like two work tools that were constructed for today alone...the Spring Master had sensed this and that was why he reacted like he did. However, the Scholartree Saint was in the dark the whole time.

Qin Yu's eyes were filled with fear and shock as he sighed deeply. Once again, he gained a newfound respect for how powerful a Ruler was. Rulers were not only strong cultivation wise, they were also highly intelligent. Two True Saints were played with in the Ruler's palm for such a long time.

"I am a lucky man and I can become a Ruler in the future. How can I be someone else's chess piece? I do not believe it!"

The Scholartree Saint flew into a rage as he shouted angrily. His cries boomed like thunder through the sky. Evidently, he had come to a realization.

The ancient scholartree struggled violently but there was nothing it could do.

As the brilliant light enveloped him, he lost all control of his strength and he could not mobilize any energy.

"No! I don't believe it! I refuse to believe it!"

His voice trailed away. At the same time, the ball of light slowly transformed into a real sun.

The ancient scholartree and majestic peach tree faded away. Finally, they became shadows that were burned away by the light rays from the sun.

Qin Yu's body shivered involuntarily. He could sense that the Scholartree Saint and Spring Master's auras had completely disappeared. The two powerful True Saints perished so silently.

Suddenly, the light disappeared and Qin Yu finally had a clear view of the Ruler's Great Dao.

It was a stone!

That's right, it was a stone with an uneven surface. It looked just like any regular stone that was picked up from a river bank. Strangely, its entire body was pitch black and there was something mesmerizing about it that sucked one in.

Oh, it felt familiar!

However, Qin Yu did not have any time to think as the stone flew towards him in an instant.

It moved too fast for Qin Yu to react at his current cultivation. The stone collided against his chest and merged into it.

This stone, that hid the invincible Ruler's Great Dao and had devoured the Scholartree Saint and Spring Master right before his eyes, entered his body.

Qin Yu started to panic!

Qin Yu had just been wondering how he would get his hands on it. Yet, after witnessing what happened to the Scholartree Saint and Spring Master, he gave up on the thought.

Of course, how scary would it be for him to keep something that devoured other beings on him? Who knew when its mouth would open and consume him?

Stay calm and don't panic.

Qin Yu breathed in deeply and inspected himself. However, his face fell. He could not find a trace of that stone.

The stone seemed to have combined into his blood and flesh, becoming a part of himself.

Suddenly, a crackling sound rang beside his ear, bringing Qin Yu back to reality.

He looked up and realized what he had forgotten. As the Inextinguishable Flame disappeared, the palace collapsed. Streaks of light circled the air and formed a vortex that sucked the broken palace in.

When the vortex disappeared, it revealed Soft Peach.

Shoosh!

Her eyes flung open. Her clear, bright pupils were cold and scary. They were like ice crystals that were at the temperature of absolute zero. There were no emotions at all.

She raised her head and her eyes fell upon Qin Yu. Taking a step forward, she pressed her palm down decisively.

Kaboom!

The heavens shook as a terrifying wave of force was unleashed. She...wanted to kill Qin Yu!